2015

Cumberland Maine Annual Town Report 2015

Cumberland, Me.
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In November 2014, Cumberland voters approved the acquisition of 22 acres of waterfront property along Broad Cove. The purchase includes two thousand feet of shoreline, a 200-foot pier, and eight acres of wooded land near Route 88 and was acquired as part of the proposed seven-lot Spears Hill subdivision project. The land purchase ensures Cumberland residents will have access to the shore and waters of Casco Bay. Equally important, the property contains a prehistoric Native American site and was once the location of Cumberland’s town farm, thereby providing a connection to the area’s original inhabitants and the early history of the town.

In 1979, Art Spiess and Bob Bradley of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission surveyed the Cumberland shoreline and identified an area of archaeological resource potential, designated ME 14.63, stretching from approximately 1,500 feet south of Town Landing Road to the end of Wildwood Blvd. in Wildwood Park. The presence of the archaeological site, and historical documents placing the location of the town farm on the parcel, resulted in a mandated archaeological investigation of the approximately 105-acre Spears Hill Subdivision area. The archaeological investigation was conducted in accordance with cultural resource management practices as required on the federal and state levels. Surface and subsurface investigations were performed in portions of the project area that were considered potentially sensitive for archaeological resources, resulting in the discovery of a number of prehistoric and historic artifacts, including prehistoric pottery and evidence of stone tool manufacture. There are plans to excavate the prehistoric site further.

Nineteenth-century Maine law authorized the building of work houses for the employment of the “idle and indigent,” and anyone receiving support from a town was liable to be sent to a work house. Town records show that on April 3, 1837, Cumberland voters approved the purchase of “a suitable farm on which to keep and maintain the paupers belonging to this town…” The Scales farm, situated on Lot 59 of the original settlers’ lots of 1727, was purchased from the five Scales siblings. A workshop and new building were added, and from 1837 to 1864, the town farm provided Cumberland’s paupers with a place to live, raise produce and livestock, and perform other work to offset the cost of their care. Archaeological investigations at the Spears Hill subdivision area uncovered stone foundations believed to be remnants of the town farm.
On February 26, 1866, Cumberland voters approved a measure to “sell the Town Farm and all the appurtenances thereof...” The reason for the sale is clearly stated in the 1864 overseers report, being that the last town farm residents had either died or left the home. Cumberland would purchase another town farm in June 1888, on Blanchard Road, and operate it until 1904.

The Foreside town farm was sold to Ephraim Sturdivant, an abutter, on May 19, 1866, for $1,900. Three years later, his widow Mary sold it to Albert Drinkwater for $1,800. Drinkwater and his brother, Joseph Drinkwater, sold the farm in 1873 to Maria Dalton for $1,100, and in 1904 Maria and Asa Dalton sold the property to their daughter, Mary Dalton. From 1904 to 1919, when Herbert J. Brown bought the property, the Daltons rented the farm to Linwood and Gertrude Cram, who lived there with their children Robert, Marshall, Elton and Lydia. The Daltons also maintained a cottage on the property.

Gertrude Targett Cram photographed the Dalton farm and cottage when she lived there with her husband and children, and Elmira Cram Willson, Robert Cram’s daughter and Gertrude’s granddaughter, shared the pictures with Prince Memorial Library. The images are the only existing visual record of an institution that served the town’s most disadvantaged residents for 27 years.

In addition to renting the farm to the Crams, Mary Dalton signed a five-year lease in February 1912 that allowed Ernest Jones to maintain a 500-square-foot lot with cottage for $1 per year. The lot was on the southerly side of the road leading to Town Landing and had a frontage of 20 feet. The cottage and premises were to be used solely as a dwelling house, and Jones had the option of removing the cottage at the expiration of the lease.

On August 2, 1919, Maria L. Dalton and Edith L. Dalton sold the farm, other buildings and approximately 105 acres to Herbert J. Brown of Portland. The heirs of Herbert Brown’s daughter, Marion, sold the property to 179 Foreside LLC, the developers of the Spears Hill subdivision project, and the Town of Cumberland purchased part of the parcel for the Broad Cove Reserve.
Dear Cumberland Citizens,

FY 2015 for the Cumberland Town Council was one of the busiest and rewarding in recent years. During this period, I was fortunate to be the Chairperson and had a very supportive Council, who contributed in so many ways for this successful year, as well as our Town Manager and his staff. Let me share some of the highlights of the Council’s accomplishments over the Fiscal Year, July 2014 through June 2015.

There were two citizen driven referendums. First was the authorization of the bonding for the purchase of a portion of the former Payson Property, now named Broad Cove Reserve. It was a close vote with many valid points on both sides, but in the end the majority of the citizens of Cumberland approved the bonding and an Ocean Access Committee was formed to review the Conservation Easement associated with the property and make recommendations to the Town Council and the Cumberland/ Chebeague Land Trust. The committee has been meeting monthly for the past year and coordinates with the Coastal Waters and Lands and Conservation Committees.

The second referendum pertained to the right of way that would connect Tuttle Road to Longwoods Road (Route 9) via Harris Road. As a result of the referendum, the Town was authorized to enter into a Contract Zone Agreement with Justin M. Fletcher, Inc. for the property located at 3 Longwoods Road to Harris Road as recommended by the Planning Board. The connector road will be completed during the fall.

Another exciting accomplishment during this fiscal year was the adoption of a Conservation Easement for Knight’s Pond/Blueberry Hill property. Through a collaborative effort with the Cumberland and Chebeague Land Trust and North Yarmouth, this beautiful gem will now be conserved for use by the public to enjoy year-round.

By following the guidelines in Cumberland’s Comprehensive Plan, the town purchased 13.13 acres of property located off of Tuttle Road from the Maine Central Railroad for the town’s future use.

Additionally, through the efforts of the Cumberland Housing Authority, a bond was approved for our Senior Housing for roof replacements and heating systems. Speaking of seniors, the Council approved the formation of an Aging in Place Committee that will address and recommend to the Council services and programs that are important for our aging community. This committee is extremely engaged and meets often in sub-committees besides their regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

The Council also approved the town for the execution of a lease agreement with Verizon for the placement of a cell tower at the Val Halla maintenance building that will guarantee annual revenue to the town for at least the next 10 years. Also, on the revenue side of the leger: two new Tax Incremental Financing Districts (TIF) for Natural Gas Pipeline #6 and Natural Gas Pipeline West #7.
The Council also approved the road acceptance of Bud’s Trail and Rooster Ridge Road along with the town’s involvement with Falmouth on the Mill Creek Pump Station that is necessary for the increased demand for public sewers.

Some exciting news pertaining to our Town Staff: Chris Bolduc our Public Services Director was appointed as the Town’s Assistant Manager. Brenda Moore, the Executive Assistant to our Town Manager, Bill Shane, was appointed as the Human Resources Director. Both of these positions were previously held by Alyssa Tibbetts who accepted a position at Jensen Baird Legal Firm and is now with the firm representing our town. And I would be remiss if I did not report that our town librarian, Thomas Bennett, completed much research and presented his findings to Council on the prehistoric archaeological resources present on the Spears Hill site and the Town Farm that was on this site from 1837 to 1866.

Cumberland is an exciting place to live and, as it goes, hopefully we all will grow along with it and enjoy all that this community offers.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Gruber, Chair
Cumberland Town Council
Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It’s an honor to represent you in Congress. Thank you for the chance to update you on my work there and in Maine.

Like many here at home, I find the current partisan environment in Washington and Congress to be very frustrating. Attempts to take away people’s health care, weaken environmental protections, and stoke controversy have been put ahead of more meaningful work to create jobs, help people through tough times, and give our children a better future.

Still, I have tried to find opportunities to work on issues where my colleagues across the aisle and I can find agreement. As a member of the minority party, I’m very proud that these efforts have earned several legislative victories that benefit the people of our state.

One of the most significant was passage of a Farm Bill containing many reforms I introduced to help the kind of small, diversified, family farms that we have here in Maine. These included more funding to help these farms meet the growing demand for healthy local food, as well as better insurance to fit their needs and helping SNAP recipients use benefits at farmers markets.

Another bill I introduced was signed into law, initiating a study of the York River to see if it is a good candidate for the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program. The classification would help protect this important natural resource while potentially bringing more visitors to the area and an increased amount of federal investment for its conservation. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I’ve worked to secure other investments for the state as well, including $20 million to replace a crumbling, unhealthy and outdated tribal school in Washington County.

But not all the work I do is from Washington. My offices in Portland and Waterville assist hundreds of constituents every year who have issues with federal agencies and programs—veterans benefits, Social Security, and passports among them. If you have a problem where I might be of assistance, I encourage you to call (207) 774-5019. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to serve you.

Again, it’s a pleasure to represent you in Congress. Please keep in touch.

Best wishes,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress
Friends and neighbors of Cumberland,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the people of Cumberland in the 127th Maine House of Representatives. Having the opportunity to represent you in Augusta is a great honor which I take very seriously. While I have worked in schools for over thirty years, this is my first time working in State Government, and each day I learn more about the process and difficulties we face in our community and across the state.

I have been assigned to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This committee is responsible for reviewing all bills related to the Department of Public Safety; law enforcement; Maine’s Criminal Code; sentencing; firearms; the Department of Corrections and county jails; and victim’s rights among numerous other things.

As a Representative of the people, it is vital that I stay up to date on the happenings and concerns of your community. Please do not hesitate to call or email with information, questions, or concerns. The House of Representatives is positioned to be the most available and responsive branch of government, and I hope to be a resource to each citizen, school, business and town in our district. I will be sending out a weekly email update detailing important news and information from Augusta. If you would like to receive these updates, please email me directly at Michael.Timmons@legislature.maine.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Timmons
State Representative

District 45  Cumberland and Gray (part)
Town Council & SAD Board of Directors elections are held in June and positions are three-year terms. Committee & Board appointments expire as of December 31 of the designated year. Terms are for three years unless otherwise noted.

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<tr>
<th>TOWN COUNCIL</th>
<th>BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW</th>
<th>CUMBERLAND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE</th>
<th>LAND USE COMMITTEE</th>
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The Town of Cumberland would like to thank the many board and committee members who so generously give their time and effort to assist in maintaining the character and beauty of our great community. Thank you!
To the Citizens of Cumberland:

Fiscal year 2015 was all about the beach! The Town Council was successful in acquiring 22 acres of wooded, waterfront property along Broad Cove. With nearly 2,000 feet of shoreline, a 200-foot pier, eight acres of wooded land near Route 88, this will soon become yet another spectacular piece of Town-owned land. When you consider what we have to date:

- Val Halla Golf and Recreation Center 154 acres
- Rines Forest 223 acres
- Twin Brook Trails and Recreation Area 252 acres
- Town Forest 100 acres
- Knight’s Pond (Fall 2015) 150 acres

We are truly one of the most desirable communities in Maine to live and raise a family. While legal challenges are still before us on the former Payson property, I am confident that public access will be granted soon, and parking and minor site improvements will be in place in the near future.

This past year saw our first customers connected to natural gas and first appraisal of nearly $10 million in taxable infrastructure. We continue to grow our commercial tax base and are quickly approaching 8% (only 2% just 13 years ago!).

Steve Moriarty led a large group of committed citizens through the update of our Comprehensive Plan, and many thanks to those citizens who dedicated countless hours to helping protect and preserve the rural qualities and character that Cumberland is so fortunate to hold onto while continuing to grow responsibly.

I have been extremely fortunate to have such an amazing team. Native, Chris Bolduc was promoted to Assistant Town Manager this year, and longtime employee, Brenda Moore was promoted to Human Resources Director, while still functioning as Executive Assistant to my office and the Town Council. Tammy O’Donnell, our Town Clerk continues to be one of the premier Town Clerks in Maine and is now serving and rising through the ranks at the New England level. Our Finance Director, Heather Perreault, a Certified Public Accountant, developed and implemented with Bond Counsel a debt schedule and refinancing plan that saved the Town nearly $500,000 and maintained our Capital Improvement Plan.

Our biggest challenges ahead are finding a new site for the Town garage, closing out the demolition landfill on Drowne Road, reconstructing Middle Road with a water main to connect to Falmouth and adding onto the Central Fire Station.

I hope to have new housing initiatives before the Town Council in the new year. Our Town is solidly committed to developing programs and housing for our seniors, as well as attracting young families to our vibrant community. It has been a busy year again but a very exciting and productive year.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Town Manager. I have an amazing staff and seven great Town Councilors who work and lead as a team. I am always proud to say “I’m from Cumberland!” and will continue my efforts to ensure the pride in our community and schools continues for many more years.

Respectfully submitted,
William R. Shane
September 9, 2015

Dear Citizens of Cumberland,

The 2014-15 school year is now only a memory, but it proved to be a successful and vibrant experience for our students, staff, and entire school community.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my initial year as superintendent of MSAD #51. The warm welcome I received from so many members of our school community has made my transition to the district seamless.

Here are some highlights from the 2014-15 school year:

- A three-year Strategic Plan was adopted that encompasses four goals, twelve objectives, and twenty-three action steps to be taken in moving the school district forward during the years 2015-18, thanks to the Board of Directors, Strategic Planning Committee, and Leadership Team for their hard work and support in developing this plan
- The following Strategic Goals were adopted by the Board of Directors:
  - Every Child, Every Classroom, Every Day
  - Investment in Our Team
  - Community Partnerships
- A “Community Dialogue” event held in November 2014 was attended by 120 stakeholders to help define the future direction of the school district
- The Superintendent’s Entry Plan meetings were held with nearly 700 stakeholders, who weighed in regarding the district’s current and future status
- The closure of the North Yarmouth Memorial School was finalized with 4th and 5th graders successfully moving to GMS in August 2014, transitioning that facility to encompass grades 4-8
- The 2015-16 fiscal budget was approved by voters in June 2015, calling for a $642,000 increase on the heels of a state subsidy reduction totaling $642,000
- Greely High School staff completed graduation standards for all GHS content areas in preparation for the school’s transition to proficiency-based education
- The teacher and principal evaluation initial stakeholder group began its work in order to meet the state mandate of a fully functioning evaluation system by 2016-17
- A Development and Community Resources Office was initiated in November 2014 that has yielded a development plan, emphasis on public relations, and greater connections with area businesses
- The district-wide Energy project with Siemens Industry was completed, including the implementation of energy-efficient measures and the conversion to natural gas for all district facilities
- Other major facility upgrades during the year include completion of the GMS classroom addition, new bleachers at GHS, replacement of the reader board sign on Main Street, new playground at GMS, Greely pool repairs, and refinishing GHS gym floor
- Advances made in the area of STEM education, including the middle school STEM curriculum, 48 girls attending the UMaine STEM Conference, GHS students attending UNUM’s Tech Night, MIW STEM Family Night, and the VEX Robotics competition

Engage - Empower - Inspire

www.msad51.org • 357 Tuttle Road, PO Box 6A, Cumberland, ME 04021 • Phone 207-829-4800 • Fax 207-829-4802
State championships in Girls Cross Country, Girls Swimming, Girls Basketball, Girls Tennis, and Boys Baseball were all won by our talented student athletes and their coaches, along with several individual student athletic recognitions that include the Gatorade Award, Miss Maine Basketball, and Western B Goaltender of the Year.

This year marked the inaugural year of the Unified Basketball program, a combined team of special needs and regular education student athletes.

The advent of the Ranger Connection, a district newsletter sent out electronically each month and once annually to all households in both Cumberland and North Yarmouth.

GHS theatrical productions “Anything Goes” and “When The Lights Were Out” were enjoyed by many, along with “Sleepy Trudy” at GMS.

Various musical performances graced the ears of our school community over the year, with students receiving accolades at regional and state music events, including the All-Eastern Music Festival.

Individual student honors earned in many areas, including National History Day contest, Ford Automotive Challenge, and New York Times essay contest.

Student exchanges and homestays with Namibia, Japan and Barr, France helped our students to experience global connections.

GHS awarded an honorary diploma to 90-year-old WWII veteran Philip Roy, a D-Day survivor, who symbolizes the legendary “Ranger” tradition.

The district expanded collaborative efforts with other districts in areas of budget, payroll, and accounting, generating additional revenue for the district.

The special education department was merged with other student support services to create the office of Instructional Support.

The district continues to make headway on recommendations from the Opuda Report, including re-designing special education programming that best meets the needs of identified students.

A new position of pathways specialist was realized through the budget process to serve students with unique learning needs in grades 7-12.

Continued technology upgrades, including the purchase of new student chromebooks, firewall, switches, and wireless access points.

The PTO, Foundation 51, Arts Alliance, and Athletic Booster organizations continued to enhance the educational experience for all students, especially through fundraising efforts.

Special thanks to the PTO for their very successful “Fill a Bus, Fill a Belly” campaign that helped support 94 families through the community food pantry.

A joint meeting between the Board of Directors, Cumberland Town Council, and North Yarmouth Board of Selectmen was held in September 2014 to enhance communication and collaboration between these three governing boards.

We are proud to announce these recognitions received by the district in 2014-15:

- MSAD #51 named the 5th best school district in Maine (Niche.com)
- MIW, GMS 4-5, and GMS 6-8 all placed in top 5 schools in Maine (Niche.com)
- GHS named the 97th best high school in the United States (Newsweek)
- GHS one of only 547 schools in the United States that made the most growth on Advanced Placement exams in the last year.

I wish to thank all students, staff, parents, and community members for their support and commitment to the ideals of our high-performing school district. I look forward to the promises of the 2015-16 year.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey J. Porter
Superintendent of Schools
The Town Clerk is the keeper of the public record and the major reference resource for the past as well as the present. The Town Clerk is responsible for all elections, both State and local, held within the community; records and issues marriage, hunting, fishing, dog, non-profit temporary Victular’s Licenses, cemetery deeds and burial permits; and issues certified copies of marriage, birth, and death records. The Town Clerk’s office also registers all motor vehicles for the residents of our town, and processes all tax payments and tax lien processing.

The Town of Cumberland contracts with Opportunity Alliance for our General Assistance program. A representative is here in the Town Office every Wednesday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Town of Cumberland is a very kind, compassionate, and giving community. During the holidays, its various organizations, churches, and private citizens come forward to provide meals and generous gifts for many in the community.

This year, the Community Food Bank has served over 1,600 families. The new location is at Town Hall in the back of the building near the Police bays. There has been such an outpouring of support and donations, and we are extremely grateful. The Food Bank is open every Friday, from 2-6 p.m.

The staff of the Town Clerk’s office consists of Ms. Anne Brushwein, who has served our town for 17 years, and Ms. Debbie Flanigan, who has served our town for 28 years!

The Town Clerk’s Office is here to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 829-5559.

STATISTICS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

VITAL RECORDS:
- Boat Registrations: 537
- ATV Registrations: 66
- Snowmobile Registrations: 188
- Births: 68
- Deaths: 39
- Marriages: 43

LICENSING:
- Hunting/Fishing Licenses: 332
- Clam: 56
- Dogs: 1167
11/04/2014 STATE OF MAINE GENERAL AND REFERENDUM, MUNICIPAL REFERENDUM ELECTIONS

UNITED STATES SENATOR
Bellows, Shenna (D) 1325
Collins, Susan (R) 3201
Blank 67

GOVERNOR
Cutler, Eliot (I) 530
LePage, Paul (R) 1980
Michaud, Michael (D) 2051
Blank 32

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS
Misiuk, Isaac (R) 1597
Murphy, Richard (I) 279
Pingree, Chellie (D) 2530
Blank 187

STATE SENATOR
Breen, Catherine (D) 2154
Manchester, Cathleen (R) 2222
Blank 217

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LEGISLATURE
Denno, Dale (D) 2195
Timmons, Michael (R) 2172
Blank 226

JUDGE OF PROBATE
Mazziotti, Joseph (D) 3366
Blank 1227

SHERIFF
Joyce, Kevin (D) 3386
Blank 1207

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Anderson, Stephanie (R) 3570
Blank 1023

COUNTY COMMISSIONER
Gordon, Stephen (I) 3438
Blank 1155
QUESTION 1: CITIZEN INITIATIVE
Do you want to ban the use of bait, dogs or traps in bear hunting except to protect property, public safety, or for research?

Yes 2454
No 2062
Blank 77

QUESTION 2: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor an $8,000,000.00 bond issue to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based, industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service?

Yes 2639
No 1748
Blank 206

QUESTION 3: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor a bond issue to provide $4,000,000.00 in funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses to spur investment and innovation and to provide $8,000,000.00 in funds to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy?

Yes 2740
No 1631
Blank 222

QUESTION 4: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor a $10,000,000.00 bond issue to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by $11,000,000.00 in private and other funds, to build a research center and to discover genetic solutions for cancer and the diseases of aging, to promote job growth and private sector investment in this State, to attract and retain young professionals and make the State a global leader in genomic medicine?

Yes 2905
No 1487
Blank 201

QUESTION 5: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor a $3,000,000.00 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by $5,700,000.00 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity?

Yes 2485
No 1867
Blank 241
QUESTION 6: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor a $10,000,000.00 bond issue to ensure clean water and safe communities across Maine; to protect drinking water sources; to restore wetlands; to create jobs and vital public infrastructure; and to strengthen the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage?

Yes  2849
No  1544
Blank  200

QUESTION 7: BOND ISSUE
Do you favor a $7,000,000.00 bond issue to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, to be matched by at least $7,000,000.00 in private and other funds?

Yes  2749
No  1618
Blank  22

MUNICIPAL REFERENDUMS
Shall the Town purchase certain property at 179 Foreside Road in Cumberland pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Agreement with 179 Foreside LLC and authorize the issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Notes in an amount not to exceed $3,000,000.00 to finance the costs related to the acquisition and use of said property.

Yes  2372
No  2126

Do you support the following Town Council action on July 14, 2014: Adoption of Ordinance approving Contract Zoning amendment for property located at 3 Longwoods Road, Cumberland, Maine, to create two lots and to convey to the Town of Cumberland a Right-of-Way from Longwoods Road to Harris Road.

Yes  2344
No  2044

06/09/2015 MUNICIPAL AND MSAD #51 BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM ELECTION

| Total voters | 545 |
| Registered Voters | 6146 |
| % Turnout | 8.87% |

TOWN COUNCIL- (ALL SEATS UNOPPOSED) 3-YEAR TERM

Ronald W. Copp Jr.  439
Shirley Story-King  427
George Turner  431
MSAD #51 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (ALL SEATS UNOPPOSED) 3-YEAR TERM

Vickie Bell 386
Karen Campbell 387

MSAD #51 BUDGET VALIDATION REFERENDUM

Cumberland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>292</td>
<td>251</td>
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North Yarmouth

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>214</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>506</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Finance Department is responsible for processing and reporting all financial transactions for the Town of Cumberland, as well as estimating future revenues, expenditures, and cash flow requirements. In addition, the Finance Department assists all departments in the preparation of annual budgets.

Once again, the Finance Department received the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the audited financial statements of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. This national award recognizes the highest standards of preparation for state and local government financial reports, and is awarded after intensive review by national technical and peer review teams.

The following discussion relates to the unaudited financial results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015 (FY2015). The most recent audited financial statements available are for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. To obtain a copy of the audited financial statements, please contact the Finance Department and request a copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW AND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The Town experienced unusual growth in the total assessed value of real estate and business’ personal property (machinery and equipment) for the FY2015 tax year, with an increase of more than $45 million. This is based on assessed values as of April 1, 2014. Approximately $10 million was added as a result of installation of utility infrastructure by Summit Natural Gas; the balance is due primarily to new residential construction that has occurred throughout the Town in a variety of previously approved subdivisions. For several years the Town has been experiencing robust growth. It is anticipated that FY2015 is probably going to be the last year in which there will be such dramatic increases in assessed value, as the majority of residential subdivisions have now been built out, and infrastructure projects are winding down. Residential real estate continues to be the largest category of property within the Town, making up 88% of total assessed valuations in FY2015. Increases in taxable assessed value directly increase the amount of property tax that the Town is able to collect, and thus reduce the effect of budget increases on future years’ tax rates.

Collection rates on assessed property taxes continue to improve. The percentage of taxes collected in the year they were assessed dipped after the recession, and has been gradually improving over the past few years. With a tax commitment of around $20 million, each ½ percentage difference is equivalent to over $100,000 of additional cash in the bank. The collection rate for FY2015 was 1.4% higher than the low point in FY2012, resulting in an increase of more than $300,000 of available cash over that period. This increase contributes to the Town’s improved cash position and decreasing reliance on short term borrowing to bridge cash shortfalls between property tax due dates in March and September each year.
Overall, the Town’s General Fund performed well in FY2015. Although expenditures were over budget for the year in a few areas, they were more than offset by higher than anticipated revenues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY15 Budget</th>
<th>FY15 Actual</th>
<th>Over (Under) Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Revenues</td>
<td>$1,498,793</td>
<td>$1,763,797</td>
<td>$265,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses &amp; Permits</td>
<td>$142,465</td>
<td>$159,681</td>
<td>$17,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental Revenues</td>
<td>$830,878</td>
<td>$910,974</td>
<td>$80,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenues</td>
<td>$266,700</td>
<td>$324,371</td>
<td>$57,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Department</td>
<td>$98,700</td>
<td>$68,615</td>
<td>$(30,085)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Department</td>
<td>$187,000</td>
<td>$277,650</td>
<td>$90,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>$257,000</td>
<td>$319,217</td>
<td>$62,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>$582,826</td>
<td>$650,729</td>
<td>$67,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>$4,700</td>
<td>$7,870</td>
<td>$3,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,869,062</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,482,904</strong></td>
<td><strong>$613,842</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some of the most significant revenue and expenditure variances include:

- Automobile excise tax was about $250,000 over budget for the year. The budget for this line was again raised for the new fiscal year, however, we anticipate seeing this revenue begin to decline as pent up demand from the recession is gradually satisfied.

- The Town received $35,000 more in State Revenue Sharing than was anticipated for the fiscal year. Although we anticipate receiving a similar amount in FY2016, there continues to be substantial uncertainty around this revenue line for future years.

- Collections of rescue billing, 90% of which are from insurance companies and Medicare/Medicaid, have improved since the Town switched from in-house billing to a third party billing service. The expertise that the billing service brings in negotiating with these institutional payors resulted in the Town receiving $45,000 more revenue than budgeted for this line in FY2015, an increase of almost $70,000 when compared to FY2014.

- Legal fees incurred in FY2015 exceeded budget by about $28,000. The primary causes of this are the ongoing challenges to the proposed Town use of a portion of the former Payson property. Although approved by a majority of the voters of Cumberland during a November 2014 referendum vote, a few citizens continue to protest making the property available for public use.

- Due to the length and severity of the 2014-2015 winter season, the Public Works department exceeded its budget by almost $37,000. However, the Town applied for and received about $29,000 of FEMA/MEMA aid to offset some of these costs.
• Excess expenditures in the Recreation Department of about $98,000 were partially offset by higher than budgeted revenues in the After School Program (ASP) of $69,000. Due to the reconfiguration of 4th & 5th grade classrooms, the ASP was extended to include 6th grade for the first time in FY2015.

• Debt service expenditures were $153,000 under what was budgeted for FY2015. $25,000 of the savings were a result of the Town once again not using a Tax Anticipation Note, due to an improved cash position. $110,000 of savings was realized due to the re-structuring of new and existing debt to maximize savings and minimize pressure on the tax rate.

The majority of the Town’s revenues are generated by property taxes. In FY2015, 89% of revenues were from taxes: real estate taxes, property taxes on commercial equipment, and boat and vehicle excise taxes. Intergovernmental revenues include State Revenue Sharing, Homestead exemption reimbursements, and assessments paid by North Yarmouth for Library and Recreation services. The largest item in Charges for Services is resident and non-resident payments for programs run by the Recreation Department. This category also includes amounts paid for emergency medical and ambulance services, pay-as-you-throw trash bags, and Fire and Police services for large events held within the Town, such as the Cumberland Fair and sports tournaments at Twin Brooks Park. The distribution of revenues has remained fairly consistent for the past several years.
The largest expenditure for the Town General Fund is the annual assessment received from the MSAD#51 school district. In FY2015, this assessment totaled $14.3 million. Over the past several years, this expenditure has been increasing faster than the overall General Fund budget, resulting in other departmental expenditures making up a decreasing % of the total General Fund budget. The major exception to this is the amount budgeted for Capital Transfers, which was reduced during the recession, but is now being increased in order to re-establish sustainable road maintenance throughout the Town.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**CASH:** Improving the overall cash position of the Town continues to be a top priority. The amount of General Fund balance that has been restricted because of deficits in other funds has almost been completely eliminated as of the end of FY2015. Correspondingly, the General Fund balance available and unencumbered continues to increase, as well as the available cash balance. A higher cash balance has resulted in the Town having to rely less on short term borrowing in the form of Tax Anticipation Notes in order to cover current expenditures throughout the year.

**FUND BALANCES:** The Town’s goal is to achieve a minimum unrestricted/unassigned General Fund balance of 16.67% of total revenues; this is equivalent to approximately two months’ worth of expenditures. At the end of FY2012, the unassigned fund balance in the General Fund was $617,000, or 3% of revenues. The fund balance that is unassigned at the end of FY2015 is $1.9 million, or almost 8% of revenues.

**DEBT ADMINISTRATION:** The Town currently has an AA+ rating from Standard & Poor’s, and an AA3 rating from Moody’s. Growth and increasing diversity in tax base, as well as financial management and performance, have contributed to the Town maintaining these ratings.

Generally accepted best practice is that expenditures for annual debt service be less than 12% of the General Fund budget. The Town has a history of remaining well below 12%, and will continue to do so even with the issuance of new debt in FY2015 to fund the purchase of a portion of the former Payson property.

*If you have any questions or need additional financial information, we would be happy to assist you. You can contact the Finance Department at 207-829-2205, or via email at financeoffice@cumberlandmaine.com.*
Another busy and productive year was realized by the Information Technology Department during 2014-2015. The past year began with the replacement of 15 computers. At the Town Office, eight workstations and two laptops were replaced. In the Police Department, one police cruiser computer was replaced and at the Fire Department three fire engine computers were also replaced. Public safety vehicle computers are primarily used for Computer Aided Dispatch as they communicate directly with Cumberland County Regional Communications Center. Last but not least, one computer workstation was replaced at the Val Halla Pro Shop.

This past year the Cumberland Cemetery Association procured PONTEM cemetery software, a very robust addition to our software suite. PONTEM will allow us to better manage cemeteries within the Town as well as the historic burial archives of the Town.

In December, we began an ambitious five-year plan to scan and catalog all of the Town’s large format, 24”x 36” and larger, maps and plans. During the week of scanning in December 2014, we successfully digitized some 12,000 individual sheets of Town documents. We plan to continue this project in the fall of 2015.

Cumberland TV2 also had a very busy year, with the addition of two new Greely High School students to run the cameras and record the meetings. During the past year, TV2 produced and uploaded 41 videos of Town meetings to the VIMEO platform for on-demand, online viewing.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Crosby
I.T. Director
The last year was a busy year for the Codes/Building Department. Many new subdivisions were approved during the last ten years and those lots are now being purchased and built upon. Over the past year (ending June 30) 42 new residential units were permitted and many of those are now finished. Along with the new residential construction the Town has experienced a number of new commercial projects like Pack Edge, Friends School, Storey Bros. Equipment Building at Blackstrap Pit, Main Line Fence Addition and an addition at Norton Insurance. The increased residential and commercial building permits and fees also increase the issuance of both plumbing and electric permits and those permit fees have substantially increased as well.

**PERMITS:** The owner or agent must complete and submit an application for a building permit to the Building Inspector. If plumbing is required, you must obtain appropriate permits from the licensed Plumbing Inspector. A separate electrical permit must be obtained by a licensed electrician or by the owner if work is done by the owner. Applications for building permits are available at the Building Inspector’s office, and on-line. For building permits, a full set of construction plans showing elevations, section drawings, and/or floor plans may be required. A site plan must be submitted. All construction must meet the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as adopted by Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC). A Site Plan Review by the Planning Board may be required prior to the issuance of a non-residential building permit; non-residential building plans must meet the 2009 International Building Code (IBC). A Special Exception may be required by the Board of Adjustment and Appeals prior to the issuance of a Building Permit. A Zoning Permit is required if construction takes place within the shoreland area. Inspections associated with permits issued are normally done on Tuesday or Thursday unless they fall on a holiday, training day, or vacation day for the inspector.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bill Longley*
Code Enforcement Officer/ Building Inspector
Telephone # 207-829-2207 or
Email : wlongley@cumberlandmaine.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Construction</th>
<th>Number of Permits</th>
<th>Construction Costs</th>
<th>Permit Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access. Structure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$160,000.00</td>
<td>$523.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$2,630,900.00</td>
<td>$10,735.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antenna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$45,000.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn / Storage</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$74,000.00</td>
<td>$395.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$5,322,835.00</td>
<td>$11,167.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion - Duplex</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$322.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deck</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$105,618.05</td>
<td>$545.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demolition</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$84,850.00</td>
<td>$435.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fence</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$58,000.00</td>
<td>$671.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$577,600.00</td>
<td>$1,666.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garage - Addition</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$11,956,577.00</td>
<td>$30,005.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House - Modular</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$550,000.00</td>
<td>$1,064.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$232,000.00</td>
<td>$625.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Porches</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renovation</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>$2,580,195.00</td>
<td>$16,979.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shed</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>$750.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoreland</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temp. Structure</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>266</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,320,674.05</strong></td>
<td><strong>$77,086.60</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Construction</th>
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<th>Permit Costs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Permits</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td>$18,475.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing Permits</td>
<td>186</td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,340.00</td>
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</table>

**Total Fees** $120,902.25
The Board held no meetings during the fiscal year 2015.

- Variance: 0
- Special Exceptions: 0
- Back Lot Reduction: 0
- Special Permits: 0
- Expansion of non-conforming use: 0
- Interpretation Appeal: 0
- Reconsideration of Interpretation Appeal: 0
The Cumberland Housing Authority is governed by a seven member Board of Directors, appointed by the Town Council. The responsibility of the Board of Directors is to oversee the management of the 30 age-restricted (55+) rental units at Cumberland Meadows Senior Housing which are located adjacent to the MSAD #51 Middle School.

The units are a mix of one and two bedrooms, and they feature an attractive, one-story floor plan with attached garages. The Housing Authority offers 8 subsidized units to those who meet eligibility requirements. Since their development in 1992, the units have been at full occupancy with lengthy waiting lists. If you would like more information on Cumberland Meadows, call 829-2206.

The Housing Authority meets several times throughout the year. Current Housing Authority members are Joyce Frost, Bill Hansen, Robert Clifford, Norman Maze, Eileen Wyatt, Connie Bingham, and Peter O’Donnell. Bill Stiles serves as the Town Council Liaison.

Pam Bosarge, Administrative Assistant, does a great job assisting tenants on a day to day basis with questions or concerns, and Jonathan Carpenter was hired this past year to provide routine maintenance and repairs and to oversee capital projects such as the roof replacement project currently underway. Jonathan has been a great addition to our team.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla A. Nixon
Executive Director
Cumberland Housing Authority
THE ROLE OF THE TOWN PLANNER IS TO:

- Provide comprehensive reviews of development proposals requiring Planning Board approval, including subdivisions and site plans;
- Assist the Planning Board in its review of residential and commercial development proposals;
- Provide staff support to various appointed committees such as the Comprehensive Planning Committee;
- Provide research and technical assistance to the Planning Board, Town Manager, Town Council, departments, and residents;
- Draft ordinance changes and develop policies for Planning Board and Council consideration;
- Serve as a liaison for developers, the Planning Board, residents and regulatory agencies;
- Assist residents and developers with questions about land use and the various review processes.

If you have any questions regarding land use issues in the community, please contact me at 829-2206 or email to cnixon@cumberlandmaine.com

Respectfully submitted,

Carla A. Nixon
Town Planner
The Cumberland Planning Board is an independent board of citizens which reviews development projects for compliance with zoning and development standards established by the Town Council. It also makes recommendations to the Town Council on a variety of zoning and development issues being considered by the Town Council.

Seven experienced members served during the second half of 2014; namely, Jeff Davis, Josh Saunders, Teri Maloney-Kelly, Gerry Boivin, Peter Sherr, John Ferland and Chris Neagle. John Ferland’s term expired in December, and in January, former Town Councilor Steve Moriarty joined the Board. Town Planner Carla Nixon and her administrative assistant, Pam Bosarge, continued to provide tremendous support to the Board. Former Vice-Chair John Ferland’s intelligence, calm demeanor and overall wisdom were much appreciated during his six years of service. Thanks John!

JULY: The Board denied a request to eliminate the approved landscape buffer for Louie’s Grille on Main Street.

AUGUST: It approved a new 10,000 square foot commercial building for Pack Edge, LLC at 68 U.S Route One. It also approved a modification to the site plan approval for Louie’s Grille to relocate the dumpster. Finally, it began review of a new 10 lot proposed residential subdivision on the 100+ acre former Payson property on Route 88 for 179 Foreside LLC.

SEPTEMBER: The Planning Board approved a revision to the Old Colony Estates subdivision off Blackstrap Road, approving four new lots that required no new roads or other infrastructure.

OCTOBER: It continued its review of the former Payson property subdivision on Route 88, granted some minor application waiver requests, and tabled the application after considerable discussion.

NOVEMBER: The Board approved a new 3,925 square foot building for Main Line Fence at 268 Middle Road and approved two new greenhouses for Liberty Farms LLC Commercial Growers at 93 Lower Methodist Road. It also continued its review of the proposed Payson property subdivision and discussed requested road construction waivers in particular. The application was tabled again.

DECEMBER: It completed its review of the proposed Payson property subdivision, granted some reduced road construction waiver requests, and gave final approval to the 10 lot residential subdivision. John Ferland was given a hearty “thank you” for his six years of service.

JANUARY: The Board elected Chris Neagle to continue serving as chairperson, and elected Gerry Boivin as its new vice-chair. It held a sketch plan review of a new residential subdivision for 49 single family homes on U.S. Route One for Cumberland Foreside Village LLC that was subject to a contract zone previously approved by the Town Council, and recommended an amendment to the contract zone to the Council. Finally, it gave approval for site work to begin on about 45 acres of land where the project is proposed to be developed. No meeting was held in February.

MARCH: It approved an after the fact amendment to the Windsor Lane subdivision that became necessary due to an error in recording certain deeds. The Board began review of a proposed 3,710 square foot expansion of the Norton Financial Services building at 275 U.S. Route One. It also made a recommendation to the Council for an amendment to the Fire Protection Ordinance related to requirements for sprinkler systems in large commercial buildings. Finally, it heard the annual presentation from the Town Manager on the Town’s five year Capital Improvement Plan.
APRIL: The Board approved a relocation of the Liberty Farms greenhouses at 93 Lower Methodist Road. It continued its review of the Cumberland Foreside Village 46 lot subdivision and tabled the application pending a site walk on May 6th. The Board approved a new 4,350 square foot storage building for the Storey Brother’s gravel pit off Forest Lane that drew considerable neighborhood interest. Finally, it recommended adding and amending certain food service definitions in the Zoning Ordinance to the Town Council.

MAY: The Board held its site walk for the Cumberland Foreside Village subdivision on Route One on May 6th. At its regular meeting, it gave final approval to the 45 single family house lot subdivision with conditions. It also gave final approval to the Norton Financial Services expansion at 275 U.S. Route One. The Board approved a minor amendment to the Bernard Booker subdivision off Long Hill Road. It also recommended two changes to the Town Council: (1) a modification to the contract zone for Osgood Village Condominiums, and (2) modifications to the outdoor seating parking requirements in the zoning ordinance.

JUNE: The Board was scheduled to begin its review of the Town of Cumberland’s proposed Broad Cove Reserve public parking and access facility on the portion of the former Route 88 Payson Property now owned by the Town. The application was tabled at the request of the Town, and a site walk was scheduled for July 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Neagle, Planning Board Chair
On May 12, 2014, the Town Council appointed the Ad Hoc Land Use Advisory Committee and charged the Committee to study and present recommendations on a number of zoning and land use related issues.

**MEMBERS**

- Steve Moriarty, Chair
- Bob Waterhouse, Vice Chair
- Adrienne Brown
- Beth Fitzgerald
- Tom Foley
- Chris Franklin

- Lynda Jensen
- Bob Maloney
- James Orser
- Sally Pierce
- Jeff Porter
- Sally Stockwell

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS**

- Chris Neagle
- Peter Sherr

**TOWN STAFF**

- Carla Nixon, Town Planner
- Pam Bosarge, Committee Secretary

**TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON**

- Peter Bingham
- Shirley Storey-King

The Committee met frequently between June 2014 and March 2015.

The final report of the Committee was presented before the Council on Monday, June 15, 2015. Among other things, the Committee recommended zoning changes for the office commercial zones along the Route 1 corridor to allow for restaurant and retail uses and recommended mandatory Design Standards for all development in the two commercial zones. The Committee recommended retention of the current boundaries and permitted uses in the existing Rural Residential 1 and Rural Residential 2 zones, and described in detail with an accompanying map the boundaries of the three Growth Areas in the Foreside, Town Center, and West Cumberland which had originally been defined in the 2009 Comprehensive Plan. Finally, it recommended that the Council appoint another committee to study and develop a proposed Conservation Subdivision Ordinance and provided the goals of such an ordinance as well as the issues to be addressed.

The Council will now refer the report of the Committee to the Planning Board for further discussion, review, and public input. The Board will then make its recommendations to the Council, and public hearings will be held in connection with any possible changes to the existing Zoning Ordinance.

The town is fortunate that so many of its residents from diverse backgrounds were willing to devote substantial time and energy to the charges presented by the Town Council. All members of the Committee look forward to the opportunity to discuss their recommendations with the Planning Board and the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Moriarty, Chairman
In 2014, The Town Council established the Ocean Access Committee for the purpose of making recommendations and providing guidance to the Town Council pertaining to the use, improvement and preservation of the Broad Cove Reserve. The Broad Cove Reserve is the portion of the former Payson property on Route 88 that the Town purchased in 2014. Such recommendations shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- Exploration of opportunities for passive recreation
- Preservation of the conservation values of the property
- Maintenance of the property to facilitate approved uses

The Committee has adopted the following mission statement: Broad Cove Reserve will be managed for the citizens of Cumberland to provide for their access to and appreciation and enjoyment of this special seaside environment, consistent with the conservation of its scenic value, diverse habitats and natural communities.

Since its formation in 2014, the Committee has had regular monthly meetings that were open to the public. At the meetings, the Committee has been briefed by legal, environmental and engineering experts on the nature of the property and other matters such as the Conservation Easement on the property that is owned and managed by the Cumberland and Chebeague Islands Land Trust. The Committee has also taken public comment from abutters such as the Wildwood Association and other interested parties. It has also walked the site as a group and individually.

The Committee has summarized its findings and recommendations in a Management Plan. This Plan describes the natural resources and historic uses of the property. It further sets out a matrix detailing its recommended uses for the Broad Cove Reserve. The Committee presented the Management Plan to the Town Council at its April 13, 2015 meeting and requested the Council schedule one or more public hearings, leading to the adoption of the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Denny Gallaudit, Chairman
On behalf of the officers and staff of the Cumberland Police Department we extend our sincere appreciation for the continuing support of the community. The department’s commitment to provide quality law enforcement services along with the support of an engaged community continues to make Cumberland one of the safest and attractive towns to live and recreate in. On behalf of all the staff we thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Since the last report there have been no personnel changes within the agency. Currently the department employs 11 full-time officers, five of which are cross trained as Emergency Medical Technicians, with two additional officers completing EMT training at the time of this report writing. Cross trained officers provide rapid response to medical calls as they are already mobile. This means that police officers are usually the first responders to arrive at a medical call and can provide immediate care at the EMT level. Over the years this has proven to be a value added lifesaving service to the community.

On the following pages you will find information about the types of calls the department has responded to along with the most recent crime report. And as in the past a focus topic that I hope you find informative.

FOCUS TOPIC: “HUMAN TRAFFICKING”

Each year I strive to provide our community with a report on a particular criminal activity that affects all of us. This year’s report will focus on one of the fastest growing criminal activities in Maine, “Human Trafficking.” In mid-2014, I was provided the opportunity to participate in a training program designed to develop, train and mobilize quick response teams of sworn Maine law enforcement officers, into groups of approximately 10 officers each designated as Human Trafficking Task Force Officers. All officers assigned to the task force operate under both state and federal authority. Under federal authority we come under the Department of Homeland Security, Immigrations and Customs enforcement.

Our main focus is the detection, investigation and apprehension of individuals involved in the trafficking of human beings. One of the most alarming forms of human trafficking involves young females being forced through threats, drug addiction and other means of control to engage in prostitution. The following news release serves as an example.

Two Individuals Plead Guilty to Transporting an Individual with the Intent that She Engage in Prostitution

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Thomas E. Delahanty II announced that Shawna Calhoun, 24, of Lewiston, Maine and Alvin Houston, Jr., 27, of Auburn, Maine pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Portland to transporting an individual in interstate commerce with the intent that she engage in prostitution.

Court records reveal that on December 23, 2014, Calhoun and Houston arranged to rent a car in Maine. On the same day, Houston drove Calhoun, another individual, and a 13-year old girl from Maine to Boston, Massachusetts, where they stayed with Calhoun’s family. While in Boston, Calhoun and Houston drove the 13-year old girl to various hotels in the Boston area to engage in prostitution. On December 30, 2014, Calhoun and Houston learned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was looking for the 13-year old. They drove her in the rental car back to Maine and ultimately to Bangor, where the 13-year old again engaged in prostitution. Early in the morning on December 31, 2014, Calhoun and Houston drove the 13-year old to a hotel in the Bangor area so that she could meet with a client for the purposes of prostitution. The purported client turned out to be a member of law enforcement. Calhoun and Houston were arrested outside in the parking lot, where they were waiting in the rental car.

Both defendants face up to 10 years in prison and a $250,000 fine, and will be sentenced after the completion of a presentence investigation report by the U.S. Probation Office.
This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Homeland Security Investigations Human Trafficking Task Force, the Lisbon and Bangor Police Departments, and the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency.

All we ask is that if you suspect something do the right thing and say something. Listed below are red flags that may indicate the presence of a trafficking situation. If you suspect something please report it.

**IDENTIFY AND ASSIST A TRAFFICKING VICTIM**

Everyone has the potential to discover a human trafficking situation. While the victims may sometimes be kept behind locked doors, they are often hidden right in front of us at, for example, construction sites, restaurants, elder care centers, nail salons, agricultural fields, and hotels. Traffickers’ use of coercion – such as threats of deportation and harm to the victim or their family members – is so powerful that even if you reach out to victims, they may be too fearful to accept your help. Knowing indicators of human trafficking and some follow up questions will help you act on your gut feeling that something is wrong and report it.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING INDICATORS**

While not an exhaustive list, these are some key red flags that could alert you to a potential trafficking situation that should be reported:

- Living with employer
- Poor living conditions
- Multiple people in cramped space
- Inability to speak to individual alone
- Answers appear to be scripted and rehearsed
- Employer is holding identity documents
- Signs of physical abuse
- Submissive or fearful
- Unpaid or paid very little
- Under 18 and in prostitution

**QUESTIONS TO ASK**

Assuming you have the opportunity to speak with a potential victim privately and without jeopardizing the victim’s safety because the trafficker is watching, here are some sample questions to ask to follow up on the red flags you became alert to:

- Can you leave your job if you want to?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been hurt or threatened if you tried to leave?
- Has your family been threatened?
- Do you live with your employer?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Are you in debt to your employer?
- Do you have your passport/identification? Who has it?
WHERE TO GET HELP

If you believe you have identified someone still in the trafficking situation, alert law enforcement immediately at the numbers provided below. It may be unsafe to attempt to rescue a trafficking victim. You have no way of knowing how the trafficker may react and retaliate against the victim and you. If, however, you identify a victim who has escaped the trafficking situation, there are a number of organizations to whom the victim could be referred for help with shelter, medical care, legal assistance, and other critical services. In this case, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center described below.

911 EMERGENCY

For urgent situations, notify local law enforcement immediately by calling 911. You may also want to alert the National Human Trafficking Resource Center described below so that they can ensure response by law enforcement officials knowledgeable about human trafficking.

1-888-3737-888 NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER

Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, a national 24-hour, toll-free, multilingual anti-trafficking hotline. Call 1-888-3737-888 to report a tip; connect with anti-trafficking services in your area; or request training and technical assistance, general information, or specific anti-trafficking resources. The Center is equipped to handle calls from all regions of the United States from a wide range of callers including, but not limited to: potential trafficking victims, community members, law enforcement, medical professionals, legal professionals, service providers, researchers, students, and policymakers.

1-888-428-7581 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WORKER EXPLOITATION COMPLAINT LINE

Call the U.S. Department of Justice’s dedicated human trafficking toll-free complaint line at 1-888-428-7581 (weekdays 9 AM - 5 PM EST) to report suspected instances of human trafficking or worker exploitation or contact the FBI field office nearest you. This call is toll-free and offers foreign language translation services in most languages as well as TTY. After business hours, the complaint line has a message service in English, Spanish, Russian, and Mandarin.

GENERAL INDICATORS

Trafficking victims are often lured into another country by false promises and so may not easily trust others. They may:

- Be fearful of police/authorities
- Be fearful of the trafficker, believing their lives or family members’ lives are at risk if they escape
- Exhibit signs of physical and psychological trauma e.g. anxiety, lack of memory of recent events, bruising, untreated conditions
- Be fearful of telling others about their situation
- Be unaware they have been trafficked and believe they are simply in a bad job
- Have limited freedom of movement
- Be unpaid or paid very little
- Have limited access to medical care
- Seem to be in debt to someone
• Have no passport or mention that someone else is holding their passport
• Be regularly moved to avoid detection
• Be controlled by use of witchcraft e.g. Ju Ju

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
Be aware: Ordinary residential housing/hotels are being used more and more for brothels. People forced into sexual exploitation may:
• Be moved between brothels, sometimes from city to city
• Sleeping on work premises
• Display a limited amount of clothing, of which a large proportion is sexual
• Display substance misuse
• Be forced, intimidated or coerced into providing sexual services
• Be subjected to abduction, assault or rape
• Be unable to travel freely e.g. picked up and dropped off at work location by another person
• Have money for their services provided collected by another person

FORCED LABOR
Where all the work is done under the menace of a penalty or the person has not offered himself/herself voluntarily and is now unable to leave. They may experience:
• Threat or actual physical harm
• Restriction of movement or confinement
• Debt bondage i.e. working to pay off a debt or loan, often the victim is paid very little or nothing at all for their services because of deductions
• Withholding of wages or excessive wage reductions
• Withholding of documents e.g. passport/security card
• Threat of revealing to authorities an irregular immigration status
• Their employer is unable to produce documents required
• Poor or non-existent health and safety standards
• Requirement to pay for tools and food
• Imposed place of accommodation (and deductions made for it)
• Pay that is less than minimum wage
• Dependence on employer for services
• No access to labor contract
• Excessive work hours/few breaks

CHILD ABUSE
“An abuse of a child’s vulnerability by a person’s position of power or trust, exploiting that position to obtain sexual services in exchange for some form of favor such as alcohol, drugs, attention or gifts” – Engage Team, Blackburn
You may notice a child who is:

- Often going missing/truanting
- Secretive
- Has unexplained money/presents
- Experimenting with drugs/alcohol
- Associating with/being groomed by older people (not in normal networks)
- In relationships with significantly older people
- Taking part in social activities with no plausible explanation
- Seen entering or leaving vehicles with unknown adults
- Showing evidence of physical/sexual assault (including STD’s)
- Showing signs of low self-image/self-harm/eating disorder

CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES
The person is recruited and forced/deceived into conducting some form of criminal activity such as pick pocketing, begging, cannabis cultivation and benefit fraud. Same indicators as for forced labor but for cannabis cultivation you may also notice:

- Windows of property are permanently covered from the inside
- Visits to property are at unusual times
- Property may be residential
- Unusual noises coming from the property e.g. machinery
- Pungent smells coming from the property

DOMESTIC SERVITUDE
A particularly serious form of denial of freedom; this includes the obligation to provide certain services and the obligation to live on another person property without the possibility of changing those circumstances. They may:

- Be living and working for a family in a private home
- Not be eating with the rest of the family
- Have no bedroom or proper sleeping place
- Have no private space
- Be forced to work excessive hours; “on call” 24 hours a day
- Never leave the house without the ‘employer’
- Be malnourished
- Be reported as missing or accused of crime by their ‘employer’ if they try to escape...
FROM LIEUTENANT MILTON CALDER

The Lieutenant for the Cumberland Police Department assists in the overall day to day activities and operations of the department.

I am very proud of our officers and the way they continue to serve the citizens of Cumberland. This last year we were involved in Underage Drinking Enforcement programs in and around Cumberland County, Bureau of Highway Safety funding to combat the growing problem of non-seat belt use, dedicated target areas to enforce Operating Under the Influence violations, just to name a few programs we are dedicated to.

I am proud to say that after a lengthy process we have a new antenna installed off the Route 88 area. This antenna not only enhances the police radio coverage in the area but the fire/EMS units as well. This unit will better assist us in serving the citizens of Cumberland east of Middle Road.

Our officers again stepped up to the plate and participated in the demolition derby at the Cumberland Fair. Chief Charron along with Officers Woodcock and Young battled it out until the end! The demolition derby monies won by our officers goes to a local charity of their choice. In years past, we have given monies to Casco Bay Can as well as Maine Special Olympics. Please come out and join us for this terrific event.

Our officers strive for perfection. We provided the time and money for Officer Christopher Woodcock to participate, plan and implement an “active Shooter” scenario at Mabel I. Wilson School. Participants included area Police Departments, EMS, School Personnel, Greely Drama Club, Public Works, as well as our entire Police Department. The end result was great way to plan, participate, and learn from each other should this type of an incident occur.

I would like to thank Town Manager Bill Shane and the Town Council for their support of our Police Department.

REPORT BY OFFICER THOMAS ADAMS

AGING AND LIVING SAFELY AND INDEPENDENTLY

AARP conducted a study in 2011 that reported 90% of people 65 and older wanted to stay at home for as long as possible. Most of us have experience with this topic in some way, either through a family member, ourselves or both. A report from the Administration on Aging in 2010 reported 29% of older adults lived alone and 47% of women 75 and older were living alone. One of the dangers associated with older adults living alone is social isolation. A study by the University College London found that loneliness and infrequent contact with friends and family can independently shorten a person’s life. In addition Health in Aging stated in a paper in January that 2.3 million older Americans are involved in accidents in their homes each year, with approximately 7000 deaths of ages 65 and up. Falls, burns and poisonings were the top three most common accidents for older adults.

What are some things that can be done to help lessen the risks?

For everyone, but in particularly those who may not have family or friends that visit or call regularly, get to know your neighbor. Neighbors can often be the first to notice that something is not right, whether it’s not seeing you come out for mail or paper or notice a variation in your daily routine.
Keep emergency numbers handy and if possible preprogrammed into your phone. These numbers should include 911, poison control, family and or friend in case of an emergency and Doctors office.

Prevent falls by keeping stairways and hallways clear of objects and well lit. Use railings on stairways and use nonskid tape on stairs and other smooth surfaces. Do not place scatter rugs at the top or bottom of stairs, and make sure all rug edges are securely taped down to floor to avoid edges curling up and causing a tripping hazard. Use slippers with rubber soles rather than socks when walking around inside.

Prevent fires by replacing appliances with frayed electric cords. Never place too many plugs into one socket. Replace batteries in smoke detectors twice a year. Know two ways to get out of your residence.

Prevent poisoning by never heating your home with an oven, stove or grill, since these can give off carbon monoxide, which cannot be seen and produces no odor but is extremely dangerous. Have a working carbon monoxide detector and replace batteries twice a year. Have pharmacist print large print labels on medications if possible.

For more tips visit: http://www.healthinaging.org/resources/resource:home-safety-tips-for-older-adults/.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Charron, Police Chief
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<th>12-13 FY</th>
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<td><strong>9090</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Adult (A) vs Juvenile (J)</strong></td>
<td><strong>A/20 J/6</strong></td>
<td><strong>A/46 J/13</strong></td>
<td><strong>A/57 J/13</strong></td>
<td><strong>A/51 J/13</strong></td>
<td><strong>A/73, J/16</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Warnings Issued</strong></td>
<td><strong>624</strong></td>
<td><strong>674</strong></td>
<td><strong>925</strong></td>
<td><strong>955</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Citations Issued</strong></td>
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I am pleased to submit the annual report for the Cumberland Fire Department for the fiscal period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. The members of the department have once again shown their level of professionalism to our community. Their sustained commitment to training and responding to emergencies at all hours of the day offers our town a tremendous level of comfort and protection. It is with great pride that I have had the opportunity to serve for thirteen years as the Chief of such a fine organization.

Every year we continue to experience an increase in our emergency responses. For the period included in this report the fire department responded to 996 medical and fire incidents with about 2/3 of those occurring during the daytime hours. Our three most active responses are medical emergencies, fire alarm activations and fires in buildings. In addition to our emergency responses, the department also provides fire and medical safety coverage at several events over the course of the year. Activities include football games, running and bicycle races, multiple athletic events at Twin Brook Recreation Facility and several events at the Cumberland Fairgrounds, to name a few.

Six members of our department attended State of Maine Emergency Medical Services (EMS) classes to obtain their licenses. These classes require six months of classroom time as well as ambulance ride-along time and clinical time spent at local hospitals. The continued completion of EMT programs has ensured that the Cumberland Fire Department delivers a very high quality level of care to our citizens. The fire department did not compensate any of the individuals for their personal time devoted to any portion of these classes. This saved the town about fifteen thousand dollars and exemplifies the commitment that this department has for our tax payers.

More than 50% of the firefighters have an EMS license. When a medical emergency occurs in town several members from the fire department and five from the police department, with two additional in training, are licensed to respond when available.

We continue to improve the level of safety for our staff. A tremendous amount of time is spent training on appropriate OSHA and Maine Bureau of Labor mandates. The department evaluates and subsequently identifies areas to maintain, as well as build upon, our safety. Internal reviews are conducted by the officers to ensure our safe readiness for responses as well as our capabilities at our emergency scenes. In a further effort to maintain preparedness, the department has been involved with working directly with the Maine Bureau of Labor’s “Safety Works” division to assist with maintaining a high level of consistency with our mutual aid departments. At the Maine Fire Chiefs Association’s annual meeting in March, because of our high level of safety procedures, our department was asked to participate with a joint safety presentation with the Bureau of Labor to the conference attendees.
New and renovated buildings are constructed to the applicable codes and town ordinances. Many projects require several reviews prior to acceptance as well as subsequent follow-up field inspections. We are privileged to have an outstanding relationship with our code enforcement and planning departments, and we back each other up on inspections to ensure a responsive, quality product for developers, contractors and citizens who are performing work in our community.

The department offers a student live-in program for five students. This program offers housing to students enrolled in either fire science or paramedicine at Southern Maine Community College by living at one of our two fire stations. These students live at our stations free of charge while providing the community with emergency responses while they are at the station. The students must fulfill pre-determined minimum shift coverage at both stations, with no compensation, in return for the housing agreement. This program provides the students with real life emergency fire and medical experiences by assisting our on-duty firefighter/paramedics, as well as our other on-call members, during training and emergency responses. All five of our students graduated from SMCC and another group of five have been chosen to start the two-year program for this coming fall semester.

Three of our paramedics have completed a year-long intensive training on “Community Paramedicine.” This new program will provide certain medical evaluations and care within a person’s residence instead of at a medical facility. Although this service will be billed to the person’s insurance, it is a planned part of a nationwide program to reduce Medicare and other insurance costs. The savings will be realized because it will cost less than fees incurred at a medical facility. This is in the incipient stage, as our department was one of only eight departments in the State of Maine to complete this training. We will be working with the Maine Emergency Medical Services to identify the parameters of this service.

Fire and medical emergencies are delayed if we cannot make immediate, non-destructive, entry into your residence. A key box program is regulated by our department that requires a key that only our department has in the entire country. The box is a 4” by 5” safe that is mounted on your residence with your entry key located within it. There are several businesses and residences equipped with these boxes within Cumberland, and they prevent costly damage to buildings. Please contact the department if you have any questions regarding this program.

Although the Town of Cumberland is a relatively small community, we are vulnerable to both natural and man-made disasters. Transportation accidents and severe weather-related events are our most likely candidates for these disasters. We have two highways in our town, we are in the flight path to the Portland International Jetport and we have Amtrak passenger trains (33,327 passengers in 2014) traveling through our town at 70 miles per hour. Our department remains prepared to effectively respond to events that could impact the safety of our citizens and those traveling through our community.
Over the past 14 years our department has received $787,930 in competitive state and Federal government grants. The grants have provided facility improvements to both of our stations, replaced worn out firefighting apparel and other safety equipment, provided funding towards a combination full-time firefighter/advanced EMT position, provided funding for technology equipment and through regional efforts have provided us safety training of our personnel.

Our Emergency Management Agency (EMA) responsibilities prove invaluable during natural or man-made events. Our EMA planning directly benefits our mitigation preparedness as well as financially. Our adequate documentation allows for possible county, state and Federal reimbursement when declared emergencies occur. The “2015 Blizzard” impacted public services throughout the State of Maine and therefore a state of emergency was declared. The town spent $51,630.21 for staff and equipment to keep the roads safe and to remove snow from locations such as the Greely campus. Several staff hours were spent on providing this storm cost and in return 75 percent of our expenses were reimbursed by the Federal government.

Every year, due to our commitment to emergency event planning and preparation, our department participates in a simulated large scale training exercise. This past year we participated with the Cumberland Police Department and many of our mutual aid departments in a field training exercise at the Mabel I. Wilson School. The scenario simulated a large mass casualty emergency caused by an active shooter. The crews dealt with mitigating four different scenarios. The fire department, along with many of our neighboring communities, performed very well during the simulated mass casualty emergency and through after-action reviews we identified opportunities for improvement so we can continue to raise the bar on response procedures.

The Cumberland Fire Department is proud to be involved with the United States of America flag project along Main Street. Each Patriotic Holiday the fire department posts the flags along Main Street between Tuttle Road and Greely Road. These flags show support of our American men and women who have and are serving our country to protect our privileged freedom. Many community members have, and continue to, generously donate money to fund this very important project and their names can be found on the fire department’s web site. Anyone with any questions on this project should contact either the fire department or Brenda Moore at the town office.

Over the past two years there have been over 40 streets in Cumberland where natural gas lines have been installed. Citizens have been afforded an additional source of heating energy. Whether you are utilizing natural gas, propane or heating fuels, we want to remind people to please make sure you keep snow and ice accumulations away from the meters, tanks, regulators and appliance vents. This prevents damage to the equipment and prevents gas or carbon monoxide from accumulating in the residence.

2014 was an extremely unfortunate year with 25 fire related fatalities occurring in the State of Maine. Most of these fatalities could have been prevented with working smoke detectors. At a minimum, smoke detectors should be located on
every level of the home as well as inside and outside each sleeping area. In addition to working smoke detectors, each residence should be protected with working carbon monoxide detectors. Any malfunctioning fuel burning appliance can introduce carbon monoxide into a residence. This colorless and odorless gas is poisonous and effects adults, children and even pets. The smaller the lungs the quicker the negative impact. Additional important detectors are for natural gas and propane. Natural gas is lighter than air so detectors in these areas should be located at the ceiling area. Propane is heavier than air so these detectors should be located near the floors. We want every home owner to make every effort to take care of their detectors. Replace batteries twice a year and test them once per month. This very simple effort could save lives!

The department had the honor to once again organize the town’s Memorial Day parade in 2015. This is a tremendous opportunity to recognize our military veterans and we ask that if you know of any citizens who have served our country in the military that you encourage them to march in this community-spirited event. The town’s Veterans Monument is the focal point of the parade where patriotic music is performed and thoughts are shared with the attendees. This year’s featured speaker, who provided a very powerful speech, was Chris Tyl, who is a retired Navy Seal.

Each year the department staff and our families participate in several community service programs, including the “Toys for Tots” program. One of the biggest efforts is their direct involvement with a fundraising breakfast at the Greene Middle School. We appreciate the opportunity from MSAD 51 to use the facility to use the kitchen and cafeteria to help raise money for families in need.

Our staff wants to prevent accidents before they happen. In Maine, 90% of all car seats are improperly installed. That is why the department offers free car seat safety checks at our Central Station. Call 829-5421 to schedule an appointment to meet with one of our certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians who will check the safety of your child or infant’s car seat and teach you how to properly install it. We will also explain the proper transition process for your child from infant car seats right up through when they can safely ride solely with the protection of a seatbelt without a car seat.

The department is an American Heart Association-affiliated Training Center. We offer CPR, AED and First Aid training every month as well as regular training for EMS professionals. Over the past year the Cumberland Fire Department’s certified instructors have trained over 300 people in our training center. This low cost training is offered to any citizens or businesses and we truly hope you will take advantage of this service---it could save a loved one’s life.

This organization has made tremendous strides in improving our ability to serve our customers. We have several documented cases where people’s lives and property would not be here today if it were not for the expeditious, efficient and effective response of the Cumberland Fire Department. This happens because the staff of the department continually
strives to give the best possible delivery of our products to the citizens and visitors of our community. Due to the efforts of our department we have been certified by the State of Maine as a Heart Safe Community. This is a prestigious recognition and one that we are very proud to have earned.

2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the Cumberland Fire Department. Past and present members, along with the Cumberland Historical Society, have performed research to reflect upon the changes and improvements that have occurred with our department since 1915. During the fall months there will be presentations.

Once again Town Manager William Shane and the town council have shown a true commitment to the fire department. They have devoted many hours working with the public safety departments to ensure that the town’s protection is always a priority. They have an excellent understanding of our department’s needs, and have been instrumental in working with us to achieve our necessary goals.

In closing, I would like to remind the citizens of the Town of Cumberland that we are always looking for people to join our organization. From assisting with traffic control, to driving fire trucks or ambulances, to wearing air packs, to becoming an EMT, it is likely that we have a job for you. To learn more about the rewarding skills and benefits of firefighting and emergency medical services, please contact any of our staff members. The more people involved with our team, the better we are able to perform our job of helping those in need. If you are looking for a way to give something back to your community, please call us at 829-5421 or email me at dsmall@cumberlandmaine.com.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS TO OUR CITIZENS

- Be sure that your street address number on your residence or business is clearly visible with large contrasting colors to the color of the paint on the building. If we can’t easily see your number from the street then our response could be delayed.
- Per Town of Cumberland ordinance, with the exception of State of Maine permitted shows, fireworks are only allowed to be used during the Fourth of July and News Year Eve holidays. Please review the ordinance for more details.
- With the exception of cooking fires on your own property the State of Maine requires a burning permit for all outside burns. Permits can either be obtained at Central Fire Station or for a fee on the state’s web site.
- We offer a reassurance program for any Town of Cumberland resident who lives alone. Contact us if you would like to learn more about this beneficial program targeted toward the safety of our seniors and those with medical issues.
- CPR saves lives—please contact us if you are interested in taking a class.
- If you or your business is interested in providing an AED in your facility, please contact us for more information.
- Our annual fire prevention open house is always the second Saturday in October.
- The department hosts birthday parties at the stations for a small fee.
- All businesses are inspected twice annually to ensure the safety of all occupants.

The fire department’s web site and Facebook page offer a tremendous amount of information. Please visit them regularly for updates on programs or during large-scale weather events to improve your safety.
Christopher Bolduc – Assistant Town Manager, Director of Public Services
Toby Young – Val Halla Golf Course Superintendent
Steve Googins – Public Works Foreman
Ted Bosarge – Parks Superintendent
Laura Neleski - Administrative Assistant

It’s my pleasure to submit the 2014-2015 annual report on behalf of the Public Services Department. The Public Services Department consists of three independently supervised departments consisting of the Public Works Department, Parks Department, Val Halla Golf Course Maintenance Department as well as the Buildings Maintenance Supervisor who oversees the general maintenance of all town-owned buildings. There is also a public services administrative assistant who oversees all the towns’ storm water and OSHA compliance as well as the day to day administrative operations of all three departments. As the Assistant Town Manager, I have the honor of overseeing and working directly with all three departments on a daily basis. The department’s biggest challenge this year was snow; it started early in the year and really seemed to never end. However, when it did end we had the challenge of removing it from school and municipal parking lots to make room for parking. This removal project resulted in a mountain of snow at the Twin Brook Recreation facility that dwarfed all others. It was a tiresome winter and I commend all the departments for an excellent job.

One of the biggest projects the department started in the spring of 2015 is the reconditioning and construction of trails in the Town Forest located behind Town Hall. When completed, this 1.7 mile loop will consist of eight foot wide compacted gravel trails that will be accessed from Town Hall, Drowne Road, the little league fields as well as from the Village Green Senior Housing facility. The trails will be user friendly and built in such a way that they will be safe and easily accessible to all our residents.

I would like to recognize five graduating seniors from Greely High School for their outstanding community service effort for the Town of Cumberland. Miles Shields, Andrew Theriault and Ben Ingraham spent two weeks in the above mentioned Town Forest battling heat and black flies assisting our public services crew with clearing brush in preparation for the trail reconstruction work. Nick Piacittini and Nick Dubois spent 80 hours cleaning up trash and debris on the Cumberland coast line from Yarmouth to Falmouth and in addition built a bench at the end of Town Landing Road for residents to use. This was an excellent community service project and I wish all five great successes in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Bolduc, Assistant Town Manager
The Public Works Division of Cumberland Public Services performs many services for the Town. In the spring and summer months the Department maintains over 70 miles of roads and 4.7 miles of sidewalks. The roads are swept and repaired and their ditches are cleaned and inspected. Storm water management continues to be a priority with the Department. This not only involves cleaning and maintaining the ditches but also maintaining an intricate catch basin and fallout network in order to ensure DEP regulations are met and our public waters are kept clean and safe for the environment and for the residents enjoyment. A new waste oil shed will help contain any potential spills as residents deposit their waste oil at the Public Works Garage.

During the winter months, the Public Works Department plows and maintains these same roads. This past winter was a long and harsh winter. Plowing started early this year in November and didn’t finish until the end of March, with several late season snow events. Many of the storms were small events that were hard to plow and required large quantities of materials to keep the roads safe.

This past year, the Department held a Hazardous Household Waste collection event. Cars were lined up from Tuttle Rd. to the Public Works Garage from opening to the moment the event closed. Over 270 propane tanks and hundreds of gallons of hazardous paint, resins and liquid adhesives were collected. It was a very successful event.

In addition to maintaining the road and drainage systems for the town, the Public Works Department serves as a support for all other town departments and is the home of the Town’s Brush Dump and composting facility. The Department also provides support to MSAD 51 with plowing and sweeping and grounds maintenance when asked.

Services Provided by Public Works:

**Interdepartmental Services:**  
North Yarmouth Sidewalk Plowing  
Fire & Police Vehicle Maintenance  
Heavy Equipment support at Val Halla  
Installation of drainage at Val Halla  
Ongoing cart path revitalization  
Project Support at Twin Brook

**Road Maintenance:**  
Snow Removal for Roads  
Sidewalk Clearing  
Street Sweeping  
Maintaining culverts and drainage  
Patching and Repair  
Brushing and Ditching

**Environmental:**  
Waste Oil Recycling -  
Residents may bring their used oil to the Public Works Garage during Brush Dump hours  
Storm Drain Inspections and Maintenance  
Street Sweeping & Catch Basin Maintenance
The Parks Department maintains the 3 parks in town and their trails; over 4 miles of walking trails through the Rines Forest, 1.5 of trails through the woods at the Town Office and over 4 miles of wooded walking trails at Twin Brook. The Department also maintains the grounds at the Prince Memorial Library, Town Monuments, Cumberland Commons, West Cumberland Recreation fields, Town Hall, Drowne Road Fields and the Fire Stations.

There are over 22 acres of mixed athletic fields, baseball and softball fields, and soccer fields that are maintained by the Department. One of the bigger projects this year at the park was adding irrigation to the two back multi-purpose fields on the Tuttle Road side of the park allowing more practice times for Lacrosse and Soccer. And this past year, 2014, The Greely boys’ soccer team won the class A State Soccer Championships.

The park staff also maintains the shelter building and more than 4 miles of wooded walking trails in the Twin Brook Recreation Area. All athletic fields at Twin Brook and the West Cumberland facility are mowed 3 times a week during the growing season. This combined with the over 60 acres of park area means our large 12-foot mowers can be seen operating almost daily around Town. In the winter months the staff will groom many of the Twin Brook trails for cross country skiing, assist with repairs around town and supports the Public Works department in plowing the town’s roads and clearing the sidewalks, all of which demonstrates this is a flexible and well trained group of employees.
VAL HALLA GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE
Toby Young
Val Halla Grounds Superintendent

After a very long winter, the greens at Val Halla came through significantly better than last year. We opened the course with no temporary greens as compared to the 5 temporary from spring 2014. The Grounds Crew has been working long, hard hours all winter to make the summer better than ever. During this time, the staff removed several dead trees and a select few to improve wind movement and the playability of the hole on holes 2, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 17. In addition to tree pruning, we installed a drain in the 16th green to remedy an issue of standing water, and installed a drain on hole 7 to improve the playability of the hole.

In order to improve course play, we did not aerify the greens this spring. Instead, we used a process call DryJect to inject 24 tons of kiln dried sand into the greens. Staff and the grounds crew have worked tirelessly to get the greens back to the quality our golfers have come to expect.

After switching many of the carts to electric last year, this year saw the completion of that project.

The course at Val Halla was not the only improvement. The deck at the clubhouse was expanded, the stairs were relocated and the railings were all redone. This was a much needed improvement that can be enjoyed by golfers and the public at large.
COMMUNITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Cumberland-North Yarmouth Community Recreation had a very busy and productive year. With growth in many of the existing programs and a slate of new programs, Community Recreation is always looking to meet the needs of Cumberland and North Yarmouth residents. Some of the new programs and highlights offered include:

- First Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance in March with over 300 daddy’s & daughters
- Renovation of tennis courts at Val Halla
- Multiple new senior & adult programs including Tea & Talk and area excursions
- Continued growth in the Summer Community Theatre Program
- Over 100 Children now enrolled in the School Age After Care Program
- Highest overall Summer Program Participation rate since we began tracking enrollment through Activenet in 2011
- Use of North Yarmouth Memorial School Gym to expand program offerings for adult, seniors and children
- Acquired a retired mini-school bus from MSAD 51 which will be used to expand programs for senior citizens

We continue to see an increase in youth enrichment programs, senior activities and adult/senior fitness offerings. We continue to work with the Aging in Place Committee to explore additional potential offerings for this segment of the population in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter C. Bingham, Recreation Superintendent
Chris Fitzpatrick, Recreation Advisory Board Chair
CUMBERLAND WASTE AND RECYCLING

New, Larger Recycling Bins are available at Town Hall for $10 each.

Recycling saves money, energy and water, lowers pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, improves air and water quality, preserves landfill space and conserves natural resources. In order to make it easier for our residents to recycle, Cumberland participates in Single Sort Recycling. This means you do not have to separate out your recyclables; however, your recyclables should remain clean and well contained for pickup. In an effort to encourage residents to recycle, Cumberland has made available larger recycling bins for $10 each, available at Town Hall. In response to feedback on the Town trash bags, we have placed an order for the next run of bags to be 1.5 mil. thick instead of the current 1.25 mil. We hope this will alleviate some of the difficulties residents have been experiencing with the bags and recycling containers.

This past year, the Town of Cumberland hosted several events in the month of October:

Confidential Shredding Service Saturday, October 4, 2014

Hazardous Household Waste Collection Saturday, October 11, 2014

Bulky Item Pickup Week October 13 - 17th

Universal Waste Collection (Ewaste) Saturday, October 18, 2014

All events were very well received and very successful. However, due to the expense of these events, not all will be annual events, so please watch the town website for announcements of upcoming events.

Universal Waste Collection Event

Fall of 2014 saw the Town’s third universal collection event. This year we collected 21,000 pounds of universal waste for proper disposal and recycling. Universal Waste, also known as Ewaste, is comprised of computers, monitors, printers and other electronic devices. This event is open to the town residents for no additional fee. The department will look forward to planning this event each fall in conjunction with Bulky Item Pickup Week, as the cost to the Town is minimal yet the benefits are great.

Confidential Shredding

This past year, Cumberland hosted its first annual (we hope) Confidential Shredding event. Over 10,000 tons of materials were brought to the Public Works Garage for disposal. The event was free to residents. The cost to the town was small, but the benefits were huge. We’ll do our best to organize this event each fall. Check the Town website for further information.
Bulky Item Pickup Week
This event is held one week in May and one week in October.

If an item can fit in a town trash bag, it should go in a town trash bag.
A Bulky Item Pickup Week was designed to assist the residents of Cumberland in the disposal of large, oversized items that cannot fit into the Town’s PAYT bags in the weekly trash or be recycled in regular curbside recycling. This program was not designed to be a free trash disposal week. If an item, or group of items, fits in a Town of Cumberland PAYT bag, the material IS NOT BULKY Waste and will not be picked up, unless it is in a Town of Cumberland PAYT bag. Only residential waste is accepted — no commercial trash is permitted.

ITEMS ACCEPTED:
- Bicycles
- 2 Tires (if rims have been removed)
- Washers & Dryers
- Rolled carpet
- Chairs
- Couches
- Tables and other Furniture
- Large Exercise Equipment
- Paint Cans (if OPEN and DRY)

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:
- Gas and Gasoline Containers
- Any Hazardous Waste
- Plastic Bags of Trash
- Cardboard or Glass
- Bags or Boxes of smaller items
- Bags or Boxes of Clothing or Textiles
- Yard or Tree Waste
- Construction Material and Wood Debris
- TV’s & Computers
- Appliances containing Freon

What can be Recycled?

Recycling Plastic:
What Can Be Recycled: #1-#7 rigid plastic containers. To help you determine if the plastic item can be recycled here at ecomaine, we suggest applying these three tests:
  - Test #1 – Is it marked with the chasing arrow triangle with a number from 1-7?
  - Test #2 – Is it rigid or does it have a hard form?
  - Test #3 – Is it a container?

If a plastic item passes all three tests, we can recycle it through ecomaine!
But wait…there are exceptions to every rule: 1. No form of foam (Styrofoam) is recyclable at ecomaine, so even if it passes all three tests, it is still not recyclable, because ecomaine can’t find a factory that will buy it. 2. Plastic shopping sacks are recycled at ecomaine. Although it fails Test #2, we will recycle a shopping sack.

Recycling Paper:
What Can Be Recycled: We can recycle most paper, specifically mixed papers & old mail, newspapers, magazines, phone books, catalogs, paperback & hard bound books, with covers torn off, and paper bags.

Recycling Paperboard and Cardboard:
What Can Be Recycled: Clean food boxes with all metal and plastic removed. Acceptable materials include cereal, rice, & cake mix boxes, salt boxes, plastic wrap boxes (not the plastic wrap), medicine, toiletry, aspirin, Band-Aid & shirt boxes. Toilet paper and paper towel tubes, writing pad backs, poster board, egg cartons and clean, corrugated cardboard boxes.

Recycling Glass:
What Can Be Recycled: Clear and colored glass bottles and jars.

Recycling Cans and Aluminum:
What Can Be Recycled: Metal food and beverage cans, aluminum foil, aluminum trays and pans, and empty aerosol cans.
The most common complaints have been problems regarding mold, bedbugs, and ticks. The commonality is they need immediate attention and resolution.

MOLD is prevalent in New England because of the area’s bodies of water and densely wooded areas. It is unsightly, but for most people it is not a severe health issue. Those with respiratory problems or allergies may be bothered more than most people due to their health issues. (The mold color is not significant.) The best resolution for mold is to find the reason (leaky roof, leaky pipe, etc.), and to fix the problem immediately, with a followup of thoroughly washing the effected area with hot water and a good detergent. If the origin of the mold appears to be from a leaky septic system or other contaminant, it is most important to repair the problem and disinfect the area with hot water, detergent, and chlorine bleach. Use in accordance with manufacturer’s directions.

Regarding BEDBUGS: intense heat is one way to rid a residence of the problem. It is advisable to contact a licensed exterminator to ensure proper remediation. Private homeowners can use certain pesticides, with appropriate gear, but any commercial entity, such as a landlord, cannot employ pesticides, insecticides, or chemical of any kind in or around a rental unit. The law requires that a licensed exterminator be used in these scenarios.

TICKS are quite prevalent in New England. Your municipality has a picture of the various ticks. Lyme disease can be spread by ticks. It is advisable to check any pets when they enter the home. Keep grass cut and shrubbery trimmed. Avoid direct contact with a tick. Use protective gloves, and be sure to kill the tick. They have very hard shells, so it is best to enclose it in a small glass jar of alcohol, or other similar liquid, and dispose of it in the trash. To remove a tick, go to the following website: http://1.usa.gov/1niEF1U

Good housekeeping is always key to maintaining a problem-free environment.

TWO ISSUES THAT ALL PEOPLE SHOULD BE AWARE OF:

Although there have not been any reported human cases of the AVIAN FLU in Maine, there have been birds that have contracted it. According to the USDA, migrating birds can spread this influenza. The public is warned when handling poultry, both commercially and back yard, strict adherence to thorough handwashing is important. Do not handle a sick or dead bird.

PRIVATE WELLS must be tested for bacteria, toxins and heavy metals. For the health of all who obtain their water from a private well, these tests are very important. Bacteria can cause illness. Lead can cause Blue Baby Syndrome; arsenic can lead to severe problems in growing up. All people with weak immune systems are especially at risk. Any certified laboratory can perform these tests. Be sure the water is safe. All municipal water supplies are constantly tested and do not pose a risk.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Anderson, Local Health Officer
PRINCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Prince Memorial Library serves as the community library for the residents of Cumberland and North Yarmouth. Services include the lending of library materials, programming for both children and adults, use of computers and access to the Internet, and community meeting space.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

The 2014 Summer Reading Program, *Fizz, Boom, Read*, ran for the period June 10 through August 27. A total of 287 children and young adults registered for the program, and they recorded 148,690 minutes of reading during the period. More than 700 people visited the library on the day of the program kick-off event, and activities included face painting, kites, make your own lip balm, decorating tote bags, Chalk on the Walk and Lego activities. It was also the first day on the job for Youth Services Librarian Lauren Isele, and she performed well under pressure.

Programming during *Fizz, Boom, Read* included three “Simple Science” programs for grades K-5, with a total of 100 attendees who enjoyed making salt dough, doing math science games, experimenting with coke and mentos, and building cork boats. A concert by musician Buster B and a show by magician Dana Perkins were well attended, as was the Finale Ice Cream Party, with music provided by Duncan Perry, the Banjo Man.

Special thanks go out to all the community members young and old who volunteered their time and energy during a very successful 2014 Summer Reading Program Kick-Off event. The Friends of Prince Memorial Library provided the financial assistance that allowed the library to offer all of the Summer Reading Program’s special events. Their generosity and support are gratefully appreciated.

June 2014 heralded the creation of the PML Teen Advisory Board, which is made up of around 20 teens tasked with programming for their peers. Meeting weekly, the board ate pizza, played games and planned the inaugural Teen Summer Writing Contest, which was judged by a group consisting of Mary Himman and Dina Lattanzi of MSAD #51, students Hannah Perfetti and Siana Emery, and local authors Maria Padian and Jennifer Gooch Hummer. The Teen Writing Party in August had the contest winners reading aloud from their works and the authors discussing their craft. The Advisory Board helped plan the 2015 Teen Summer Reading Program and organized the monthly Teen Writers Group. Teen volunteers provided over 50 hours of volunteer service in the library during the summer of 2014.

Throughout the year, 3,324 children visited the library for Toddler Time, Preschool Playhouse, Baby and Me and other youth programs. Lauren began offering Afterschool Wednesdays Crafts & Games, Lego Club and Minecraft, all of which
have proved popular. In the three month leading up to the 2015 Summer Reading Program Kickoff, Lauren visited with 2,298 young readers in the schools and area daycares and nurseries to promote the program.

**ADULT PROGRAMMING**

The popular Saturday morning Music and Muffins concerts featured such performers as Eleanor Hunter, Scott Thurston and Sarah Cummings, Gregoire Pearce, Boghat, Connor Garvey and Carolyn Currie. The library also hosted a number of talks featuring authors including Jim Nichols, Jason C. Anthony, Michael Paterniti, Dave Holman, Paul Betit, Frank O. Smith, Jim Thatcher, and poets Marcia Brown and Natalie Murray. The Cumberland Historical Society held many of its Lecture Series offerings at the library. Peter McKenney spoke on the history and current activities of the Cumberland Cemetery Association, Ron Romano presented on stonemounter Bartlett Adams, Carmel Croce discussed growing up on Munjoy Hill in Portland, Thomas Bennett presented on his father’s letters home during World War II and Jerry Wiles gave a talk on Joshua Chamberlain. In addition, Joel Fuller gave a presentation on the history of West Cumberland, Chet Blanchard discussed his book *The Spirit of Capt. Reuben Blanchard* and Clark Whittier presented on gardening.

The library partnered with the Maine Humanities Council in offering “Let’s Talk About It,” a program centering on five books with a common theme. Joseph Conforti, Professor Emeritus of American and New England Studies at the University of Southern Maine, facilitated five sessions where 26 attendees discussed books centered on New England. The library’s ongoing afternoon and evening book groups have a total of 76 members, and Reference Librarian Elizabeth Tarasevich facilitated book discussions with the two groups 20 times over ten months.

**ADULT SERVICES**

Reference Librarian Elizabeth Tarasevich offers reference and reader services, facilitates the library’s book groups and provides Internet training. Elizabeth conducted 518 sessions teaching basic computer and Internet skills and how to download audiobooks and e-books. She proctored 37 exams and wrote 12 library columns for The Notes.

The Prince Room, the library’s original facility, provides valuable community meeting space, and is used by Cumberland Recreation and Community Education and area groups, in addition to hosting library programs. The Prince Room has for many years hosted a Friday morning senior citizen dominoes group. The Prince Room’s use by the community is increasing as more and more individuals and groups become aware of its availability.
PASSPORT SERVICES

Staff members Carolyn Currie, Pam Copenhagen, Arabella Eldredge, Kelly Greenlee and Andrea Peabbees are certified agents for the library’s Passport Application Acceptance Program, which processes passport applications for the U.S. Department of State. The library processed a total of 553 passport applications during FY2014-15, an increase of 152 applications over the previous year, resulting in $14,120 in revenue and $1,589 in expenses, for a net gain of $12,531.

STATISTICS

Prince Memorial Library ended FY2014 with 6,488 patrons, an increase of 451 patrons, or 7.47%, from FY2013. Cumberland residents, town employees and individuals employed in Cumberland comprise 70.44% of cardholders, while North Yarmouth residents make up 28.39% of the total. MSAD #51 employees, non-residents and institutional borrowers account for the remaining patrons.

The library registered 51,002 visits during the year, an average of 199 for each day it was open to the public. Total circulation of items in the library’s catalog plus digital materials (i.e., audiobooks and ebooks) downloaded from the Maine Infonet Download Library and Prince Memorial Library’s digital reference ebrary catalog was 85,561, a 4.39% increase from the previous year’s circulation total of 81,962. Circulation of catalogued library materials increased 4.9%, while digital usage decreased 3.42%. In addition to catalogued materials, the library loans paperback books and school summer reading list books, but does not maintain statistics on their usage.

Cumberland residents borrowed 57,069 catalogued materials, or 70.69% of catalogued materials circulated, while North Yarmouth residents circulated 20,850 materials, or 25.83% of the total. July was the month with the highest total circulation, followed by August and June. December and November had the lowest circulation totals for the year. The highest circulating material categories were children’s books, adult fiction, and DVDs. The library’s collection of books, videos and audiotapes now totals 52,629. The library subscribes to four newspapers and approximately 90 magazines.
In September 2014, Prince Memorial Library began contributing items to the Digital Maine Repository, a partnership of the Maine State Library and other institutions to share historical content through the Digital Public Library of America. Prince Memorial Library has digitally published a dozen volumes, including such titles as *Locating the Old Houses of Cumberland*, *North Yarmouth 1771 Taxpayers & 1790 Heads of Families*, *Cumberland Congregational Church History and Vital Records*, *Cumberland Overseers of the Poor Documents 1821–1915*, *List of Students 1896*, and *Early Days of the Cumberland Fire Department*, and made them available for download on the Digital Maine Repository. The library has also scanned and uploaded nearly two dozen issues of the *Greely Institute Star*, the *Catalogue and Circular of Greely Institute*, the *Greely Scroll*, the *Greely Annual* and the *Greely Institute Shield*. Scanning and contributing items to the Digital Maine Repository makes them more widely available, and is an effective preservation strategy for rare items.

**FRIENDS OF PRINCE MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

The Friends of Prince Memorial Library provide an important service to the library and the community. The Friends supply the library with memberships to the Portland Museum of Art, the Children’s Museum of Maine and the Maine Wildlife Park, making discounted passes available to families and individuals. The Friends also manage the annual book sale in October, support the children’s book sale and craft session in February, and contribute financially to children’s programs and other library needs.

Library staff would like to thank the Friends of Prince Memorial Library for their generous assistance in offering services to the residents of Cumberland and North Yarmouth, and to members of the Prince Memorial Library Advisory Board for their guidance. Thanks also go out to the Anne H. Russell Charitable Lead Annuity Trust, the Lu and Denny Gallaudet Charitable Gift Account at Schwab Charitable Fund, and the Cumberland-North Yarmouth Lions Club for providing financial support; to Skyline Farm for supporting the library’s family pass to Willowbrook Village; and to all the individuals who donated money and books to the library.

The staff of Prince Memorial Library, including Reference Librarian Elizabeth Tarasevich, Youth Services Librarian Lauren Isele, circulation aides Pam Copenhagen, Carolyn Currie, Arabella Eldredge, Kelly Greenlee, Andrea Peabbles and Sally Somes, and page Bella Bennett, looks forward to serving the library’s patrons and the communities of Cumberland and North Yarmouth during the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas C. Bennett, Library Director
To: Trustees of the Cumberland Cemetery Assoc.  
Copy: William Shane, Cumberland Town Manager  
Re: Treasurer’s Report for 2014

The Association had solid financial results in 2014, but it happened in unexpected ways.

- Revenue from sales of rights of interment and burial administrative fees was $6,725 above budget, partly due to a price increase that went into effect on July 1, but mostly because of sales of three times as many rights of interment than were projected.

- Special project expenditures were $2,800 under budget due to changes in plans for mapping and baseline enhancements. Better means of accomplishing these goals will be done in 2015.

- Routine maintenance expenses were $600 under budget because DC Stilkey and Son did not complete cemetery cleanup in the fall according to its contract terms. These funds will be paid to the corporation in the spring of 2015 once it completes spring cleanup.

- On the other hand, the total return of the Perpetual Care Fund was $6,665 ($7,459-$794) under budget. The Investment Committee has reviewed the 2014 investment performance with the investment manager, and Investment Committee Chair Lad Taylor will issue a separate report on this issue.

- The result of these variances and some other smaller variances was that the net income of the funds was $3,072 better than expected.

- The Perpetual Care Fund’s value at year-end was $279,258, and the General Fund value was $15,857. The combined funds of the Association grew 1.6% in 2014.

**POTENTIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR 2015**

Page 4 of the attachments contains the profit and loss statements for the past seven years and shows average annual revenue and expenditures by categories. The last column projects certain revenue and expense items for 2015. Two important amounts are not yet settled. Based upon earlier communications, it is likely that the Town’s allocation to the Association will increase $4,500 to $26,700. DC Stilkey and Son, Inc., has asked for a 15 percent fee increase for 2015. Based upon the change in the CPI index since the last increase in its fees, there is a counterproposal being prepared at a lower rate, approximately 7.5 percent. Using the above assumptions, and aiming for a 3 percent growth in total CCA assets in 2015, the base amount available to fund special projects would be $12,858. A four-year maintenance program has been created that calls for special projects in 2015: large tree removal/trimming, purchase of a portable computer to use in the field to connect to the Pontem database, purchase license from Pontem for a GPS mapping system, payment to Pontem for professional services related to installing the GPS mapping system, installation of a wooden split rail fence at the rear of Congregational Cemetery, and other special projects to straighten or repair stones, level sunken graves, and loam and seed as needed. The Town will assume responsibility for Pontem’s annual service contract fees as well any cost of
surveying cemeteries for management system purposes. Once the unsettled issues are resolved, more information on the potential costs of special projects for 2015 will be provided.

**PERPETUAL CARE FUND ORIGINAL PAYMENTS**

From the inception of the Association and through 2013, the total amount paid by purchasers of rights of interment for perpetual care was $103,673. In 2014, another $4,500 was paid by purchasers of rights of interment for perpetual care. The total of perpetual care payments as of the end of 2014 is $108,173. The significance of this number: The Association cannot spend money out of the Perpetual Care Fund that would leave the Fund balance below this amount. Currently, the Fund balance is $279,258, well-above the minimum level.

**FORM 990 EZ**

Form 990 EZ for 2014 has been prepared and will be distributed to the Trustees for their reading. It needs to be filed with the IRS by May 15. Unless there are comments or corrections, the form will be filed as distributed.

**PERPETUAL CARE FUND**

The Spending Policy calls for transferring $7,528 from the PCF to the General Fund. See page 6 of the attachments. This should be voted on by the Trustees at the upcoming Annual Meeting.

For the AIP team, 2014-2015 has been what sports teams call a “building year.” We’ve been gathering a lot of information, making important connections and developing a focus for our future activities. We expect to shift gears in the coming year to focus more on implementing actions that will make Cumberland a better place by making it more comfortable for our seniors to remain in the familiarity of their homes and community as they age.

We are in the process of absorbing some leadership changes. Peter O’Donnell, who has served with distinction as co-chair, has had to resign that position. We would not be where we are without his thoughtful leadership. Co-chair Teri Maloney-Kelly, who has been equally critical to our progress, has elected to step down to a vice-chair position. Dale Denno has been elected the new chair of the committee, and he and Teri, along with Councilors Tom Gruber and Peter Bingham, will be making some structural changes to facilitate the new focus of the team. We are very fortunate to have the ongoing active support of our town management, including Bill Shane and Brenda Moore, along with the full support of the Town Council.

We have just completed a survey of the community, which has provided a platform for future actions. Survey results can be accessed by clicking on the AIP link on the town website.

Among the many activities in progress:

- **Forum:** We are working on a community forum to take place in the fall, which will be an opportunity for us to listen to the ideas of our residents, as well as a forum to make the community aware of the services that are already available.

- **SMAA:** We are working closely with the Southern Maine Area on Aging to make sure our seniors are aware of all of their free or low-cost programs and services. We are also contracting with SMAA to have a part-time resource in our town office to facilitate access to services as well as to support the priorities of the AIP committee.

- **Property Tax:** We are exploring possibilities for providing some form of property tax relief for residents whose ability to pay tax increases make it difficult for them to remain in their home. While there are a number of legal and fiscal challenges in any approach, we will explore every creative idea that shows promise.

- **Rides Program:** We are studying the many issues involved in implementing a volunteer rides program, and hope to resolve the threshold issues before the end of the year so we can move in to implementation mode. The survey identified a number of volunteers who are willing to provide rides once a program is in place.

- **DME:** Thanks to the persistent efforts of Evariste Bernier, we have implemented a program to make used, durable medical equipment available to our residents. Residents who need a walker, a wheelchair, crutches or the like can get
them at no cost from the town. Likewise, residents who no longer need an item of DME can donate it to the town’s program.

- **Affordable Housing:** Despite energetic lobbying by Councilor Gruber, the Legislature was unable to override the Governor’s veto of a bond program to fund the development of affordable housing for seniors. Notwithstanding the loss of the bond dollars, Town Manager Shane, along with the Council, are continuing to explore possibilities to increase access to affordable houses, condos and rentals in our community. We are also exploring creative solutions that would leverage the large number of homes occupied by only one or two individuals as a potential source for a co-housing initiative.

- **Health and Socialization:** We are working closely with SMAA and with the town Recreation Department to identify and prioritize programs and services that would benefit Cumberland’s seniors. We are also working with Opportunity Alliance to access their Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent programs. From enhancing interpersonal connections to teaching seniors how to avoid falls, we hope to bring an enriched menu of options to our residents.

- **Vetted Service Providers:** We are starting to work with Yarmouth to develop a list of “vetted” service providers, so that seniors can feel secure that they will be hiring competent and honest contractors, snow plowers, etc.

- **Funding:** We are collaborating with our neighboring communities of North Yarmouth, Falmouth and Yarmouth in pursuit of grant funding opportunities and potential joint programming.

We have an ambitious agenda for the coming year, and we are excited about helping to make Cumberland a leader in adapting its environment and services to the needs of its aging citizens. Not only will our efforts help our seniors to remain in their homes and familiar surroundings as long as possible, but we hope to enhance the sense of community and connectedness among all Cumberland residents.