

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen currently includes Douglas P. Gillespie, Michael H. Harrity, and Christopher E. Houston, who was elected to a three-year term at the Annual Town Election in May. As it is the custom of the Board to rotate leadership positions, Mr. Harrity was subsequently elected as Chair of the Board and Mr. Houston became Clerk.

Agendas and minutes of meetings of the Board are available in the Selectmen's office and are posted on the Town's website (www.weston.org) under the "Town Government" tab. Highlights of actions taken and issues addressed by the Board of Selectmen in the 2015 calendar year include:

Fiscal Management

As has been noted in previous years, Weston underinvested in infrastructure in the 1970s through the early 90s like many state and local governments, spending too little on maintenance and renovations at a time when our population and student population were both dropping. Over the past 20 years Weston has carried out substantial renovations or replacements to virtually all of the town's buildings. With the replacement of the police station and planned Case House renovations, that work is largely done. We have caught up. It has taken significant effort to do so, and the Town has had to incur considerable debt in the process. The debt level is high on an absolute dollar basis but as a percentage of the budget it is well within the range established by the bond rating agencies that continue to give Weston the highest possible ratings (more on that below).



*Newly elected Selectman
Christopher Houston*

Importantly, the financial leadership of the Town – the Town Manager, Town Treasurer, Board of Selectmen, and Finance Committee – has undertaken a range of fiscally prudent steps to ensure that we are not “kicking the can down the road” again.

- The Town's bond and note issues in February received Aaa bond ratings from Moody's, the highest rating issued by this agency. This high rating allows the Town to borrow at the most favorable tax-exempt interest rates for its capital projects as evidenced by the net borrowing cost of 2.6895 percent for a \$24.027 million bond issued on February 1, 2015, and 0.162 percent for \$9.148 million one year note.
- At the Annual Town Meeting in May, Weston adopted an operating budget of \$74,811,525, a 3.8 percent increase over the fiscal year 2015 budget. Salary increases of \$931,917, increased costs for school expenses of \$1,081,289, group health insurance of \$662,106, a higher pension contribution of \$131,087, and increased funding for roadway maintenance of \$100,000 were offset by savings in one-time capital projects, so the overall increase was \$2,710,294. As has been true for many years now, no Proposition 2 ½ override was necessary because new construction in town contributed \$1,196,208 in additional tax revenues allowing increases in the existing tax base to be kept below the cap. In addition, the Town has accumulated approximately \$5.2 million in unused tax levy capacity that can be used, if needed.
- The budget continues to include funding of several reserve accounts and in fiscal 2016 this reserve account funding totaled \$3,073,213, the largest amount being \$1,606,925 to fund the Town's long-term liability for retiree health insurance.
- Nearly 85 percent of the Town's revenues come from residential property taxes and only 5.5 percent comes from state aid, so any decline in state aid has less impact on Weston than most cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

- The property tax rate decreased modestly from \$12.28 per \$1,000 of valuation in fiscal 2015 to \$12.16 per \$1,000 of valuation in fiscal 2016. The median residential valuation was \$1,152,000, up 4.8 percent.
- Salaries and health and pension benefits for municipal and school employees comprise more than 80 percent of the Town's budget, and most of these costs are subject to collective bargaining agreements with the 12 unions that together cover approximately 77 percent of the benefit eligible employees.

Town Administration

Weston is managed by an experienced team led by Town Manager Donna S. VanderClock, Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director, Lisa J. Yanakakis, and Finance Director/Treasurer and Collector Sarah F. Johnson. These professionals have served the Town for many years and they are supported by skilled department managers who work with dedication and teamwork to provide services to our residents.

All managers and members of this team continue to focus on dual goals: 1) maintaining the level of services that Weston's residents expect, and 2) seeking efficiencies in the delivery of these services to control costs. Ongoing examples of this effort are the shared resources between the School and Municipal departments for facilities management, technology, and vehicle maintenance.

Town Infrastructure

Under the direction of Public Works Director Tom Cullen, the Town continued to make well-planned and considerable investments in the maintenance of its infrastructure – roads, sidewalks, water, parks and cemeteries, and stormwater management, which is now governed by newly mandated federal and state regulations. With the Town's building stock in good shape as noted above, we will be able to focus more time and resources in the coming years on catching up on maintenance of our roadways where we have lagged somewhat. The fiscal 2016 operating budget includes an additional \$100,000 in funding for roadway maintenance.

Town Buildings

Weston is at the forefront of municipal government in the state with its Permanent Building Committee and a town-wide Facilities Director who oversees the construction and maintenance of all town buildings. Together they provide Weston with dedicated building expertise that enables us to design and build better, more cost-effective buildings. In addition, with detailed long-term maintenance schedules, we are able to take better care of our buildings, maximizing their useful lives.

- The new Police Station was completed on time and under budget and opened in December of 2015.
- Progress was made by a Working Group in the search for uses for the Josiah Smith Tavern and Old Library buildings. The Working Group includes representatives from five Town boards and committees and five at-large members chosen from a pool of volunteer applicants, as well as a liaison from the Finance Committee. By year end, the Working Group had made recommendations on uses for each building, after going through a lengthy process of requesting statements of interest and reviewing the information submitted. Future Town Meeting action will be needed to advance each of these recommendations.
- Construction has been underway most of the year to convert three buildings on Warren Avenue, formerly used by the Water Department, into seven units of affordable housing. This work is being overseen by the Permanent Building Committee, in consultation with the Weston Affordable Housing Trust, a part of Town government. Occupancy of the units is expected in 2016.

Energy Conservation Efforts

Weston was designated as a Green Community on December 21, 2011. This designation qualifies the Town for receipt of state funds to support the implementation of a five-year plan to reduce the Town's energy consumption by 20 percent. To date, Weston has received approximately \$382,000 in funds with which it has replaced the Middle School boilers, the Fire Headquarters boiler, and will be doing work to improve the efficiency of the four existing school heating systems.

The Solar Photovoltaic Panels Exploratory Committee, appointed jointly with the School Committee, negotiated with a vendor to place a solar energy installation on the site of the former landfill which, in addition to reducing its carbon foot print, is projected to save the Town millions of dollars in energy costs over the next 20 years. This project was nearly complete by the end of the year. The committee is now exploring placement of photovoltaic panels on top of certain Town-owned buildings.

Land Use/Development Projects

The Town's acquisition of the 62.5 acre Case Estates from Harvard University has continued to be delayed. In 2014, the Board filed a lawsuit against Harvard to compel Harvard to fulfill the terms of the purchase and sale agreement and seeking damages. That case was settled by agreement in May 2015, after which Harvard began environmental remediation of the soil on much of the property, which was contaminated many years ago by use of certain pesticides. The settlement agreement also called for a reduction in the purchase price of \$5,760,000 because of certain activity and use limitations that have been imposed due to contamination that will not be remediated at this time. The closing of the sale of the property to the Town is anticipated no later than June 2016.



Chair Michael Harrity took the lead to move the Town forward to purchase the Case Estates from Harvard worked towards the settlement deal

Work on the Case Campus Master Plan continued, including further discussion of improvements to roadway configuration, parking, and pedestrian safety on the busy Case Campus, which includes three elementary schools, the Public Library, Community Center, and the school administration building known as the Case House. Additional work included design of pedestrian walkways and accompanying tree and other plantings, to be funded through the Community Preservation Act.

The Board appointed a Housing Production Plan Steering Committee in April to work with a consultant and develop a draft Housing Production Plan. This plan is a proactive and studied means toward developing affordable housing that is in keeping with the Town's own affordable housing policies and preferences, and contains three elements: 1) a comprehensive assessment of Weston's housing needs; 2) affordable housing goals to meet the needs; and 3) strategies to achieve the goals. By year end, the Steering Committee completed the draft Housing Production Plan and forwarded it to both the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board for their consideration. Both boards need to approve the plan prior to submitting it to the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development for its approval.

Relocation of the Tavernside playground to Lamson Park, approved at the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting, ran into some difficulty when the design concept originally presented proved to be cost prohibitive and not feasible for the originally proposed site location. The Recreation Commission proposed an alternative design that called for playground equipment to spread out over much of the green space on Lamson Park, which proved to be quite controversial, especially among those who are concerned about the history of the park. At year end, a compromise plan was being developed, with input requested from the Planning Board and Historical Commission.

The Board appointed a Town Center Planning Committee at the end of 2014 that worked this year to develop a set of recommendations for possible infrastructure changes and improvements for Boston Post Road from Church Street to Linwood Avenue and surrounding areas. Such improvements might include drainage and water line improvements, burying electrical, phone and cable lines, pedestrian safety, parking improvements, sidewalks, curbing and handicap ramps, lighting, and general aesthetics.

Other

The Selectmen's Town Meeting Advisory Committee submitted its final report and was dissolved by the Board. Acting on one of the final recommendations, the Board created a Weston Alternative Voting Exploration Committee for the purpose of exploring alternative voting methods for Town Meeting, not currently allowed by law. Members are being recruited for that committee.

Acting on the recommendation of the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee, a one-year pilot Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program was implemented in October 2015. Volunteers are asked to purchase a reduced cost transfer station permit and place non-recyclable waste in special bags that are available at local retail outlets. The goal of the pilot program is to encourage participants to reduce the amount of trash being disposed of at the transfer station and to increase recycling, composting, and donations.

Communication Efforts

The Board continued the practice of devoting the first 10 minutes of each meeting to open public comment. Due to open meeting laws, any discussion by the Board of issues brought up during the public comment period must be added to an agenda for a future meeting. The Board also continued to hold open office hours most months, with each Selectman serving in rotation.

The Town makes a considerable effort to keep the public informed about what is happening in Town government:

- Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Community Preservation Committee, Finance Committee, Josiah Smith Tavern/Old Library Working Group, and School Committee meetings, as well as other public informational meetings and Town Meeting are recorded and televised on the local public access cable channel (Verizon channels 41 and 45 and Comcast channel 9) and also made available online by Weston Media Center Inc., a non-profit organization
- A wealth of information, including Town Projects coming before Town Meeting, is provided on the Town's website at www.weston.org, which was revamped and moved to a new platform in the fall of 2015.
- The Town's new website is designed to support civic engagement and provides multiple opportunities for residents to keep informed, from immediate news topics to meeting posts and subscriptions to various committee agendas when they are posted. Notification can be either by email or text messages. With the new website, Town Hall was able to release its first electronic newsletter, and other departments, like Conservation, Council on Aging and Recreation, are developing their own. To sign up, visit www.weston.org/list.aspx and select the topics of interest.
- The Town is continuing to use Facebook and Twitter to promote faster communication within the town and to engage residents with Town government.



Selectman Douglas Gillespie served as the Town's representative on the Minuteman Regional High School Committee and worked, along with other member town selectmen representatives, on a new regional agreement for all 16 member communities

- Town Hall is continuing to use MyGrapevine, a free email and text service that enables residents to select topics of interest about Town and School activities. Eventually the new website email and text notification system will replace MyGrapevine.
- News is provided to and reported by the Weston Town Crier.

Personnel

The Board wishes to recognize that during 2015, the following employees retired from Town service:

Renee Hake	Library Assistant	10 years of service
Douglas MacDougall	Recreation Director	25 years of service
Paul Nicholas	Fire Captain	31 years of service
Robert Sinclair	Firefighter/EMT	35 years of service

Closing Comments

The Board of Selectmen continues to work on the challenging task of maintaining Town facilities and services at a level Weston citizens expect, while limiting the rise in property taxes. Weston has the distinction of both the highest average home value and the highest average property taxes in Massachusetts, and these characteristics require special attention to programs that support diversity and support for those on limited and fixed incomes.

Although debt service constitutes a manageable 10.7 percent of the annual operating budget, the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee are focused on carefully managing the level of debt the Town incurs. A significant percentage of the Town’s outstanding debt has been and will be incurred on four building projects: the Public Works facility, the High School Science Wing, the new Field School, and the Police Station. Together, these projects represent the completion of a program begun in the late 1990s to update or replace the outdated and worn-out infrastructure of the Town.

The Town continues to benefit from so many of its citizens who generously volunteer their time on elected and appointed boards and committees, or related non-profit organizations. Each time the Board has advertised for volunteers to serve the Town on various boards and commissions, we have been gratified by the response from well-qualified and generous residents. We are sometimes put in the awkward position of having to turn down volunteers and we hope they will maintain their interest in Town government because new opportunities for volunteer service arise each year. Without these scores of volunteers and the Town’s talented and dedicated employees, the Board of Selectmen could not accomplish its goals.

LICENSES AND PERMITS ISSUED BY THE SELECTMEN IN 2015

Common Victualler’s License

Off Center Eateries Inc.	436 Rear Boston Post Road
David Gray Associates Inc. - <i>d/b/a</i> Cedar Hill Dairy Joy	331 North Avenue
Bruegger’s Enterprises Inc. - <i>d/b/a</i> Bruegger’s Bagel Bakery	31 Center Street
Ye Olde Cottage Restaurant Inc.	403 Boston Post Road
MOTAB LLC - <i>d/b/a</i> Theo’s Pizzeria and Grill	456 Boston Post Road
Roche Bros. Supermarkets Company - <i>d/b/a</i> Brother’s Marketplace	21 Center Street
DiDi Kendall Square LLC - <i>d/b/a</i> Dumpling Daughter	37 Center Street
P&P Donuts LLC - <i>d/b/a/</i> Dunkin Donuts	84 Boston Post Road

License to Dispense Food and Beverages

Hazel Hotchkiss Wightman Tennis Center Inc.	100 Brown Street
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Club License for Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages to be Drunk on the Premises

Pine Brook Country Club Inc. - *d/b/a* Pine Brook Country Club
Weston Golf Club

42 Newton Street
275 Meadowbrook Road

Special One Day Liquor License

All Alcohol Beverages (*not for profit entities only*)
Wine and Malt Beverages Only

Granted - 14
Granted - 81

License to Operate Public Vehicles for Hire

Oneif O. Samuels
Veterans Taxi of Newton LLC

45 Georgian Road
224 Calvary Street, Waltham

Sign Board Permits

Granted - 87

Parades, Bicycle Tours, Road Races, etc.

Weston High School Student Council	Spring Fling	May 2, 2015
National Brain Tumor Society	Bicycle Race	May 17, 2015
Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program Inc.	Susan McDaniel's Run for Lovelane	May 26, 2015
Weston High School Class of 2016	2014 Graduation Reception on Town Green	June 5, 2015
Marathon Sports 5-Miler	Road Race to Benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society	July 16, 2015
Weston Council on Aging	Alzheimer's Awareness	September 26, 2015
Rotary Club of Weston and Wayland	Antique Car Show on Town House Road	September 26, 2015
Weston United Methodist Church and other Churches in Weston	Crop Walk	October 18, 2015
Weston Community Children's Association (WCCA)	Halloween Parade	October 31, 2015

License for Public Entertainment on Sunday

Weston Friendly Society of the Performing Arts	Performance of "State Fair"	January 20, 2015
Weston Wayland Open Spring Horse Show Inc.	Horse Show	May 3, 2016
Southern New England Carriage Driving Association	Carriage Driving Event	May 28, 2015
Weston Wayland Open Spring Horse Show Inc.	Horse Show	September 20, 2015
Weston Friendly Society of the Performing Arts	Performance of "Bye Bye Birdie"	November 22, 2015

REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION



Wellington Farm's summer harvest of melons

The Agricultural Commission was enabled in a vote of Annual Town Meeting in 2005 with the adoption of the Right to Farm By-law, Article XXX of the General Town By-laws. The Commissioners are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three year terms to represent and implement the purposes of the By-law specific to the preservation and promotion of agricultural activities in the Town and to mediate in disputes involving agriculture.

During 2015, the Commission held three meetings involving the discussion of the strategic planning of Land's Sake's use of Municipal Purposes land at 40 Acre Field; the investigation of the possible agricultural uses of the Case Estates; and the preparation and creation of a website to share agricultural information.

Three new members were added to the Commission this year, allowing us to pursue new agricultural outreach opportunities. During the appointments of our new members, the Board of Selectmen asked that the Commission study the soon to be acquired Case Estates land for agricultural use potentials. The Commission is looking forward to this new charge in its mission.

2015 Agricultural Commission Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Alexander Anza	2017	Charlotte Donaldson	2018
Avery Chaplin	2016	Julie Hyde	2018
Diana Chaplin	2017	Anne Wiedie	2017
Yet-Ming Chiang	2016		

REPORT OF THE CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

During 2015 the Cable Advisory Committee monitored the performance of Comcast and Verizon with respect to their cable television license arrangements with the Town.

In addition, because the cable license arrangements are scheduled to be renewed in 2018, the Committee took steps to begin the license renewal processes. In particular, in the fall of 2015 the Committee drafted and circulated to residents of the Town a survey intended to gather information on the performance of Comcast and Verizon. The Committee will be discussing the results of the survey in Committee meetings scheduled for January and February of 2016. The Committee expects to begin negotiations with Comcast and Verizon during 2016 and will schedule a public hearing on the renewal process in due course.

The Committee also monitors the operations of the Town's cable access corporation, Weston Media Center Inc., a non-profit corporation. During 2015, Gloria Cole, executive director of Weston Media Center, continued to create and develop local programming. In addition to coverage of Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and School Committee meetings, Weston Media Center expanded its government coverage to record Community Preservation Committee meetings and special

project committee meetings, including the Housing Production Plan Steering Committee and Josiah Smith Tavern and Old Library Working Group. All of these recordings are available on demand on its new website.

2015 Cable Advisory Committee Members

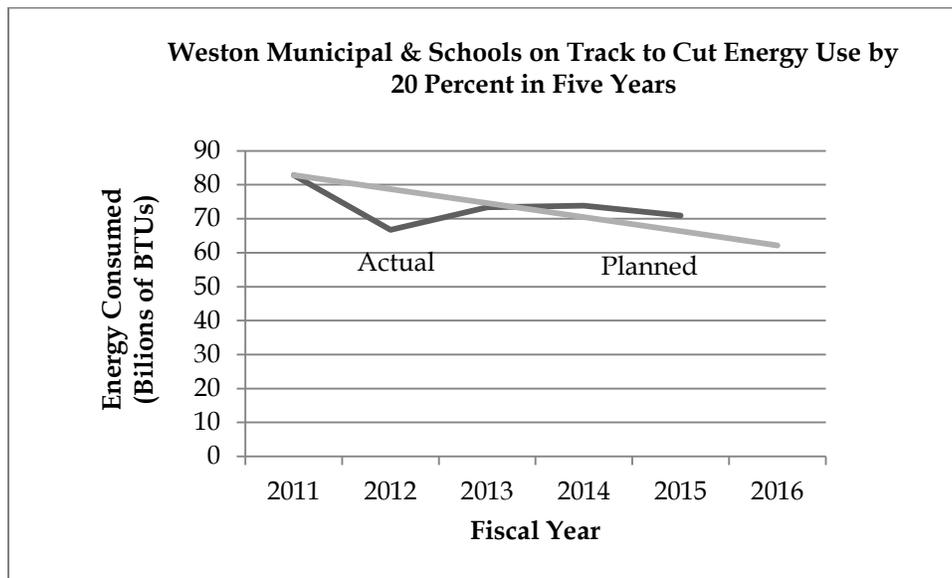
Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Edwin E. Smith, Chair	2018	Michael Glynn	2016
Joel Angiolillo	2018	Lee McCanne	2018
Thomas Benson	2018	Paul Zorfass	2016
Roland Boucher	2017		

REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE COMMITTEE

For five years, Weston has monitored the fuel consumption of the Town, including all municipal and school buildings, outdoor spaces, water pumps, and town vehicles. The result is a database useful for measuring changes as the Town continues to invest in upgrades and repairs of its property.

After establishing 2011 as our baseline year, we now have data for four years showing a 14 percent reduction in annual energy consumption by municipal and school operations. In turn, proportionally less carbon dioxide is produced along with lower fuel bills. Our plan is to achieve a total five-year reduction by 20 percent so we can comply with the state’s Department of Energy Resources objective for all Green Communities, which Weston was designated in 2011.



No other energy reduction plans are in place at the municipal level of government in Massachusetts, so it is not surprising that similar measures like the total energy consumed by all users in Zip 02493 are at best level or increasing. Corrected for variations in fuel use due to weather, Zip 02493 had level demand for 2011 to 2014.

2015 Environmental Baseline Committee Member

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Donald Stewart

REPORT OF THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

The Town and School Information Systems staff works to ensure the network communications and server infrastructure can meet the needs of every department and to provide a pathway for the integration of data systems for efficient use by Town departments and residents. We continue to invest in infrastructure projects that both meet immediate departmental needs, as well as our long term goals focused on anticipated future demand for information and communications services. Collaboration by School and Town Information Technology Services has enabled us to share equipment and services to the benefit of both.

Information Systems Department Highlights

- Assisted in the implementation of new technologies and the move into the new police station
- Updated the email system (Microsoft Exchange, version 2013)
- Completed a disaster recovery and business continuity plan
- Updated the Munis accounting enterprise resource software to a new version (10.4)
- Made significant improvements to the Public Library wireless access by adding 10 access points
- Accomplished the Public Library's reorganization and virtualization through new domain controllers, new staff data server, and new backup system, all of which are virtualized on Town-hosted servers
- Implemented a room-based Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) system for the Town Hall server room/communication room
- Assisted the Public Library's implementation of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) resource (book) tracking

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Highlights

- Created an online database system for the Town Clerk's office to track Marriage and Death Certificates
- With input from the Town Manager's office and the Town Clerk's office, an online database of Town Committee Officials was further developed to better track and maintain the status of each member and every committee, as well as the ability to generate and email appointment letters to the committee members. This allows staff in two departments to coordinate and organize efforts in one centralized location.
- Trail mapping was added for public use to provide access to the network of conservation trails for mobile users at www.mapsonline.net/westonma/trails.html
- Continued work with the Land Use Department to incorporate the as-built documentation of projects into the GIS system
- New online databases for the Conservation Department were added to allow for live inventory of assets in the field
- Fire Department's Open Burn Permit applications are now available online

Planning in Action

During the years ahead, the Department will build on the Town's core network infrastructure to support individual departmental goals, as well as the overall core mission of municipal government. Our aim is to ensure the efficient operation of communications, processes, and records management throughout Town departments and the Schools.

REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

Memorial Day is set aside each year on the last Monday in May to remember and honor those men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice defending us and our country from tyranny and destruction. This year was the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam conflict and was especially important and poignant for us.

The ringing of the 1801 Paul Revere Bell each year at the First Parish Church by three Weston Girl Scouts calls the town to gather in Sears Hall at the Weston Town Hall for the annual Memorial Day remembrance and parade. This year's was observed on May 25th.

At 10:00 a.m., the 100-member strong Weston High School Marching Band led the participants of this remembrance ceremony into the hall. The Weston Police and Fire departments' Honor Guard, under the direction of Police Chief Michael Goulding and Fire Chief David Soar, began the ceremony. Donald Bumpus, co-chair of the Memorial Day Committee extended a warm welcome to our honored guests including Representative Alice Peisch, Town Officials, and all participants and attendees and a thought provoking invocation was delivered by the Reverend Dr. Thomas Wintle, Senior Pastor of the First Parish Church.



The day's guest speaker was Mr. Harvey Boshart of Weston. Mr. Boshart is former Captain U.S. Army Field artillery, 1st Armored Division and 1st Infantry Division. His military service awards include the Army Commendation Medal, twice, and the Meritorious Service Medal while serving in numerous leadership roles in the 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment. Mr. Boshart's remarks were engaging and thought provoking.

Several patriotic selections were beautifully played by the Weston High School Marching Band under the direction of Mr. Christopher Memoli and two student drum majors. One of Weston's Boy Scouts played Taps and Mrs. Patricia Siek, a long-time resident and widow of a heroic World War II veteran, made a few remarks to conclude the ceremony and the Reverend Dr. Thomas Wintle performed the Blessing.

Upon conclusion of the remembrance, the band led guests out of doors where the parade assembled. A Weston Boy Scout from Troop 157 and a Weston Girl Scout laid a wreath at the World War I memorial at the foot of the Town Hall flag pole. The Police and Fire Color Guard then led the parade, followed by the Weston High School Band, the veterans, the Weston Boy and Girl scouts, and numerous other groups.

Four members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Wayside Inn Chapter, Mrs. Sandra Herring, Mrs. Lucinda Potter, Mrs. Diana Warren. and Mrs. Siek were driven by Mr. Richard DeVito, Sr. Each year, the DeVitos, father and son, provide vehicles and drivers for veterans and their widows as an honor and to facilitate those who would have difficulty marching the full parade route. The family has been very generous in providing this transportation over the years and much gratitude goes to those who bring their vintage autos to participate and augment the motorcade.

Wreath laying ceremonies were performed during the parade march at Fiske Memorial, Old Farmers' Central Cemetery, and Linwood Cemetery by a Boy and Girl Scout and assisted by Weston Veterans.

Taps was sounded in Linwood Cemetery. The parade then marched back to the Town Hall concluding the ceremonies and parade. Refreshments were served compliments of the Daughters of the American Revolution as part of their partnership with the Department of Defense Vietnam Memorial Program.

Outside of Sears Hall there was a wonderful display of books by Adolph Caso and his wife Margaret with the stories of Weston Veterans who served in World War II. It was a great opportunity for the community to meet these two authors and publishers who have done our community such a great service in gathering the history and great stories on Weston's Veterans who served during WWII.

The Committee is greatly appreciative of Beverly Dillaway, who has served as the Memorial Day Committee co-chair for 18 years and who offered her wise advice and assistance after her retirement from the Committee. We also greatly appreciate the involvement of Gloria Cole and the Weston Media Center for coverage of this special occasion for local cable television viewing and the Weston archives. Additionally, we thank all the groups who participated including the Wayside Inn Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and consulting by Michael King. Memorial Day is a community effort, well attended and supported. It was an honor and pleasure to serve.

2015 Memorial Day Committee Members

Appointed by the Moderator

Harvey Boshart Glenn Cardozo
Donald Bumpus Patricia Siek

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE

During the calendar year 2015, the major projects and progress undertaken by the Permanent Building Committee included the Field School Replacement Project; the Police Station construction phase; the Warren Avenue Affordable Housing Project and building renovations; the Old Library Exterior Stabilization Project; the preliminary design phase of renovations for the Council on Aging; energy upgrade projects at various municipal buildings; the Brook School Apartments boiler replacement; and the Central Fire Station's roof replacement, as well as ongoing maintenance of all Town-owned buildings.

Field School Project

Construction funds approved by 2012 Special Town Meeting with additional funding for demolition approved by 2014 Special Town Meeting

The demolition of the old Field School was the final phase of the new Field School building construction project. This phase of the project was delayed due to complications resulting from a change in state regulations applied to the removal of hazardous materials. These delays, however, did not affect the opening or operation of the new Field School or its ancillary programs. The old school was finally demolished in the spring of 2015 and the project was closed-out during the summer of 2015.



Demolition of the old Field School was delayed due to a change in the state regulations for the removal of hazardous materials. Additional asbestos was discovered in mastic found under the base of walls



The old Field School finally came down in late March

Police Station Project

Construction funds approved by 2014 Annual Town Meeting

The appropriation included the funding for the new station and the demolition of the existing station, as well as funding for a temporary station to be used for the duration of the construction work. G&R Construction was awarded the contract for construction and began work by erecting the temporary station trailers, which were successfully occupied in November of 2014. Despite large snowfall accumulations in the beginning of the year, the project remained on track and was completed and occupied by the Police Department by the end of the year. Joint Dispatch will be located in the new Station at the beginning of 2016. The project remains open as of the end of the year, awaiting some minor site work, close-out documents, and paperwork, but came in under budget.

Warren Avenue Affordable Housing Project

Construction funds were approved by 2014 Special Town Meeting

The Committee contracted with Pinck & Co. as the owner's representative and B.C. Construction Company Inc. as the general contractor. The construction portion of the project started in January of 2015 and continued throughout the year. The project met with some challenges, including roof damage that apparently occurred during the exceptional snow encountered in January and February of 2015. The project is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2016.

Old Library Stabilization Project

Additional funding approved by 2014 Annual Town Meeting

This project restarted in the spring of 2015 with exterior envelope repairs to help stabilize the building and to deter any further degradation of the building's exterior. The majority of the work was completed in 2014, with some remaining elements completed in early 2015. The Committee worked closely with the Historical Commission throughout the project design and construction phases.

Council on Aging

Design funding approved by 2014 Annual Town Meeting

The Council on Aging requested assistance from the Recreation Department so that the most efficient use of all spaces within the Community Center building would be considered in order to achieve a more cost effective solution; however, due to the retirement of the Recreation Department Director and the need for updated feedback on the programmatic logistics of the building, it was collectively decided among department staff and Town administration to delay the planning work until the new Recreation Department Director was acclimated to the operations and needs of the Community Center.

This project remains on hold, anticipated to resume in 2016.

Energy Conservation and Improvement Projects

Funding received through the Green Communities Designation Grant Program

Through the Facilities Department and in consultation with Donald Stewart of the Weston Environmental Baseline Committee, the Town received an energy grant in July 2014 from the Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division in the amount of \$243,707. The grant identified three projects: the Fire Department Headquarters Boiler Replacement; energy management systems software upgrades and remote monitoring and control for four schools; and recommissioning of the four schools. Currently the Fire Headquarters boiler replacement has been successfully completed. The school building automation and recommissioning projects are nearing design completion. These projects are scheduled for implementation in 2016.

Brook School Apartments Boiler Replacement Project

Funding provided through the Brook School Apartments' Enterprise Budget

The Elderly Housing Committee requested assistance to develop designs for the replacement of the aging boilers at Brook School Apartments. The boilers are beyond useful life and are inefficient. The Permanent Building Committee contracted with BLW Engineers Inc., a firm that has successfully completed other boiler replacement projects for the Town. Designs are completed and the project is scheduled to be bid for construction with a contractor selection for construction by spring of 2016.

Central Fire Station Roof Replacement

Funding provided through the Town Facilities Budget

A section of the roof of the building had a large skylight that was causing problems with water and cold air leaking into the men's locker and shower room. The affected roof area and a large window were replaced with a more conventional and energy efficient enclosure. The project was completed in the fall of 2015.

Additional Activities and Involvement

Working with the Director of Facilities Jerry McCarty, an overall Town Building Maintenance Budget was developed and submitted to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is greatly appreciative of Mr. McCarty and his staff for exemplary performance of their duties in support of the Town of Weston.

The Committee is grateful to the individuals who have worked with, and are temporary members of, the Permanent Building Committee as project specific representatives. The Committee is also thankful for the assistance of Mr. Donald Stewart of the Environmental Baseline Committee and Weston Climate Group for his continued support and diligence.

In December of 2015, John Messervy a member since 2010 tendered his resignation, citing increased work responsibilities that would interfere with his ability to attend many meetings. Mr. Messervy's contributions to the Committee are numerous, and his insight and focus on helping the Town secure the best and most cost effective solutions toward the betterment of the Town's facilities will be greatly missed. We wish him well in all his future endeavors and welcome his continuing input and involvement in the future of Weston's valuable infrastructure.

2015 Permanent Building Committee Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee

James N. Polando, Chair	2017	Neil Levitt	2018
Dante Angelucci, Jr.	2017	John Messervy	<i>resigned</i>
Josef D. Gazzola	2018	Gerard McCarty, Director of Facilities,	ex-officio

Temporary Members:

Edward Heller, Field School; Leslie Glynn, Police Station; Sarah L. Rhatigan, Warren Avenue Affordable Housing Project; Henry Stone, Old Library; Melissa Galton, Council on Aging; Thomas Timko, Brook School Apartments Boiler Replacement

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTEE

Comprised of representatives from Weston’s three garden clubs, the Public Spaces Committee is charged with overseeing how key public green spaces within the Town are managed. These areas include the plantings at Town Hall, Town Green, various high-visibility traffic islands, planting beds, and memorials. The maintenance and care of existing sites is managed by the Parks and Cemeteries Department, plus a few volunteers. During 2015, the Committee oversaw the transfer of care for the traffic island at South Avenue and Ash Street from the Weston Community League Garden Club to Kenny’s Landscaping Company.

Until last spring the Public Spaces Committee also joined forces with the Tree Advisory Group and the Supervisor of Parks and Cemeteries to replenish ornamental trees on the Town Green as well as some shade and ornamental trees throughout Town. In every situation care has been taken to choose varieties suitable for our New England environment.

2015 Public Spaces Committee Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Else “Tinka” Zeitvogel, Convener

William C. O’Neil, ex officio, Public Works

Representing the Country Garden Club

Cristy Ballou Brackett

Rosemary McCready

Representing the Community League Garden Club

Mary Louise Hatten

Karen Morris

Representing the Weston Garden Club

Diana K. Bonner

Dorothea Santos



The garden behind the Community Center

REPORT OF THE RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

The Recycling and Solid Waste Committee, appointed in April 2014, continued to meet regularly in 2015 in order to fine tune its initial recommendations made to the Selectmen in December 2014, which included: improved signage at the Transfer Station to help residents know where to place recyclables; promote more textile recycling; expand electronics recycling; introduce food waste collection; improve the Swap Shop to encourage more use; assist staff to better enforce state-mandated recycling; and to implement a voluntary pilot Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program.

The committee felt that the majority of the recommendations could be taken forward at any time by the Department of Public Works, as soon as it was able to review costs and logistics. The final topic, the voluntary pilot PAYT program was recommended unanimously by the Committee, as it not only presents the biggest opportunity for Weston to reduce solid waste costs but also complies with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's enforcement of the state's waste ban of recyclable items. The goals and implementation of the pilot program were presented in March 2015 to the Selectmen for their approval. A detailed report, including details all of the recommendations, was made available on the Town's website.

Implemented in other towns across the Commonwealth, the PAYT program has been found by the state to be the most effective tool for reducing waste because it uses a price signal to communicate the cost of solid waste disposal and creates an incentive for households to limit disposing of solid waste. The committee also felt that the program promotes fairness and equity over the flat-rate approach currently used in town, since diligent recyclers are charged the exact same as those who do not recycle at all. Furthermore, the committee supported the idea of an economic incentive to promote greater control over waste disposal. The Selectmen were in support of the recommendations, particularly in light of state bans on recyclable materials in the solid waste stream and additional trends in reducing solid waste. The Selectmen approved the test program and the other recommendations upon review by the Public Works Director. The committee was dissolved in May of 2015, having fulfilled its charge, but a few members remained active in moving the PAYT pilot test and other recommendations forward working as a task force under the Public Works Director.

In September, the Director of Public Works Tom Cullen presented his cost and logistical review of the pilot PAYT program and other recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Cullen, working with the Solid Waste and Recycling Division Superintendent William O'Neil and the task force, was able to implement expanded electronics recycling and better enforcement; however, the improved signage, swap shed, and composting would be difficult to pursue immediately as the solar photovoltaic panel arrays on the old landfill were set to be constructed in the fall and the next fiscal year budget needed to accommodate some of the costs. Textile recycling has always been available and it was determined to be a matter of public education that could be pursued after the solar construction.

As for the PAYT recommendation, Mr. Cullen and Mr. O'Neil were able to move the pilot program forward at the start of the permit cycle on October 1st. Working with a vendor that specializes in the PAYT bags, two local retailers were found to carry the bags required for the one year test program. Volunteers were solicited through an education and publicity campaign and the permit renewal application. Participants were offered a reduced transfer station permit fee plus the cost of the special bags priced at \$1.25 per bag. If participants used less than two bags per week over the course of the permit cycle, they would save over the regular permit price. An area at the transfer station was reserved for a special trash hopper to accommodate only the PAYT bags.

Working with a state-funded representative from the Department of Environmental Protection, the committee was looking to solicit 10-15 percent of current transfer station users to participate in the pilot

and received about 16 percent by the end of December. It was decided that the test would run for six to eight months before preliminary results would be taken.

Prior to being dissolved, the Committee conducted a bulk waste test to obtain the baseline weight of items that cannot fit in a garbage bag vs. bagged waste. The reasoning behind this test was if, after the pilot study period, it is found that bulk waste accounts for a higher percentage of the Town's total solid waste weight for both PAYT and regular users, it was recommended that a modified PAYT program should be explored or the Town should implement a price increase for bulk waste only.

2015 Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Ann Wiedie, Chair	Tom Szekely
David Harmon	Mary Wong
Mary Ann Pappanikou	Thomas Cullen, <i>ex-officio</i>
William Rousseau	William O'Neil, <i>ex-officio</i>
Donald Stewart	Carolyn Dann, Department of Environmental Protection, <i>ex-officio</i>

REPORT OF THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

On December 31, 2015 there were 7,907 active registered voters in the Town of Weston, with 561 voters listed as inactive. Many newcomers register to vote electronically through the Registry of Motor Vehicles. This system automatically certifies each voter's data in the statewide voter registration database. This system has been in effect since 1995 following the state's adoption of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

Any citizen aged 18 or over may register to vote in the Town Clerk's office during regular hours. In addition, the Clerk's office is open until 8:00 p.m. for a special registration session three weeks before each election and Town Meeting. Mail-in registration forms are also available in a variety of public places around the town and the state.

Every year a census of all residents is taken by the Town through the Town Clerk's Office. If the Clerk's Office does not receive census information for a voter, that person's name is placed on an inactive voters' list. If the individual does not vote in two consecutive biennial state elections, the person is then notified by mail that his or her name will be removed from the inactive voters' list. Only registered voters may vote in state and town elections and at Town Meeting.

Following is a summary of all voters by party and by precinct:

Party	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Total
Democrat	532	415	408	428	1,783
Republican	308	333	302	351	1,294
Conservative			1		1
United Independent Party	7	8	3	5	23
Libertarian	1	2	2	1	6
Green Rainbow	1	2	3	2	8
American Independent Party			2		2
Inter 3 rd Party	2	1	1	1	5
Unenrolled	1,093	1,056	955	1,120	4,224
Total Active Voters	1,944	1,817	1,677	1,908	7,346
Inactive Voters	120	150	169	122	561

2015 Registrars of Voters

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Jacqueline Haas, Democrat	2016
A. Richard Hersum, Republican	2018
Nathalie D. Thompson, Democrat	2017

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN'S TOWN MEETING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Weston is experiencing a phenomenon, similar to other towns using Open Town Meeting in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with low and declining attendance rates. In addition, based on the age demographics of the past several years' Town Meeting attendance, as a percentage of registered voters, the 50 year old and under age group is underrepresented at Town Meeting. With that, the Board of Selectmen established the Town Meeting Advisory Committee in June 2013. The Committee was charged to make recommendations regarding Article 1 of the General By-laws of the Town relating to Town Meeting. In addition, the Committee was charged to make recommendations relative to the conduct of the Town Caucus and Town Budget Hearing. The purpose of any recommendation should be to improve participation in these Town events.

In 2014, the Committee conducted an online survey for residents on their Town Meeting experience and preferences. The survey was open to all registered voters for five weeks and advertised through numerous channels. More than 600 respondents completed the survey, with age demographics fairly reflecting the overall makeup of the voting base. The results provided clarity and helped form several recommendations, most of which have been adopted by the Board of Selectmen or Town Meeting and included:

- using consent agendas at Town Meetings;
- broadcasting Town Meetings live on television (online streaming is still under consideration);
- combining the May Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting components into the single Annual Town Meeting;
- adopting "Town Meeting Time" to govern the conduct of Town Meeting instead of Robert's Rules of Order;
- starting Town Meetings at 7:00 p.m.; and
- limiting formal presentation time limits to five minutes per side with the exception of specified substantial items and providing rules for PowerPoint presentations

Live broadcast of Town Meeting has been handled by Weston Media Center for recent Town Meetings. This allows voters who cannot commit time for the entire Town Meeting to monitor the progress of Town Meeting and at least potentially participate in the warrant articles they are concerned about the most. For similar reasons, the Committee also appreciates the Town's recent efforts to provide ongoing updates of Town Meeting progress on its social media feeds. The Committee also recommends that the video include information on the screen as to the current warrant article. The broadcasts are archived online by Weston Media Center, and the Committee notes that other communities have been able to bookmark the different warrant articles so viewers can jump ahead to the issues that concern them. It would be ideal if this bookmarking capacity were available here as well.

The Committee continued its charge in 2015 to follow through with several other recommendations, which included:

- providing suggested guidelines for Citizens' Petitions and increasing from 10 to 100 the number of signatures required for a Citizens' Petition at Annual Town Meeting, similar to the requirement for Special Town Meetings;

- Considering the use of electronic handheld devices to vote at Town Meeting; and
- Exploring the potential use and ramifications of remote online voting (virtual/hybrid town meeting) or a split debate/ballot approach (Australian ballot), by a new committee

While Citizens' Petitions are a useful tool, the Committee believes they should be used after other traditional avenues have been exhausted. Because the use has become more prevalent, the Committee supports providing suggested guidelines for Citizens' Petitions, which the Committee developed and were posted to the Town's website with clearer instructions. The Committee also recommended increasing from 10 to 100 the number of signatures required for a Citizens' Petition at Annual Town Meeting, consistent with the requirement for Special Town Meeting. Believing that this higher requirement will benefit petitions by demonstrating to voters that the petitions have broader support and warrant time at Town Meeting, the Committee, through its Chair Harvey Boshart, sponsored a Citizens' Petition for the fall Special Town Meeting to change the signature requirement. It was, however, voted down and the 10 signature requirement for Annual Town Meeting remains.

The remainder of the more significant recommendations relates to alternative voting methods. The Committee supports considering the use of electronic handheld devices to vote at Town Meeting. The Committee sees potential benefits of such devices, and the concept was strongly supported by the survey results; however the costs are still quite high. The benefits of electronic handheld devices should be examined again as the financial costs are likely decrease.

Finally, based on their substantial support in the survey, the Committee also recommends exploring the potential use and ramifications of remote online voting (virtual/hybrid Town Meeting) or a split debate/ballot approach, also known as an Australian ballot, by a new committee. In addition, this new committee should explore the steps that would be necessary for state law to be changed to allow either or both of these alternative approaches, along with the level of support for these changes elsewhere, and in turn recommend a process that would put the Town as a whole in a position to discuss and possibly adopt these alternative approaches.

In November, Mr. Boshart presented his Committee's final report and recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and asked that his committee be dissolved and a new committee be formed to further research the final recommendations. The final report is available on the Town's website. The Selectmen agreed and approved a charge for the Weston Alternative Voting Exploratory Committee, as follows:

This is a fact finding Committee to follow up on recommendations made by the Selectmen's Town Meeting Advisory Committee to do the following:

1. Explore the remote online voting and split debate/voting approaches in more detail, including their potential effects on the Town (including its sense of community) and on Town Meeting (including participation levels) if they were permitted by state law,
2. Explore the steps that would be necessary for state law to be changed to allow either or both of these alternative approaches, along with the level of support for these changes elsewhere, and
3. Recommend a process that would put the Town as a whole in a position to discuss and possibly adopt these alternative approaches to the extent permitted by state law (or to pursue changes in state law if the Town desires).

The Committee shall be jointly appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the Moderator, and it shall consist of up to five members at large. The Moderator, Board of Selectmen and Town Manager will be available as resources to the Committee.

2015 Selectmen's Town Meeting Advisory Committee Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Harvey R. Boshart, Chair	John McCahan, Council on Aging
John A. Fiske, At-Large	Leslye Fligor, Weston PTO
T. Alex Shimada-Brand, At-Large	Thomas S. Crane, Moderator, ex-officio
Patricia K. Shotwell, At-Large	Deborah M. Davenport, Town Clerk, ex officio
Christopher Houston, Board of Selectmen	Donna S. VanderClock, Town Manager, ex-officio
J. Barry Tubman, Community Preservation Committee	

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Births, marriages and deaths recorded in the Town Clerk's Office of the Town of Weston for the year 2015:

Births	35
Marriages	52
Deaths	154
Weston Residents	117
Non-Residents	37
Total Population of the Town of Weston (per the 2015 census)	11,391

The following detailed report of births, marriages and deaths recorded during 2015 is printed for the purpose of bringing to the attention of interested persons the facts which appear on the official records of the Town Clerk. Please check the names and other data for errors, and notify the Town Clerk's Office.

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN WESTON IN 2015

January

1 st	Roberta Pearle Lamb and Robert Stephen Roth, both of Weston, Mass.
2 nd	Gloria Cole and Janet Heywood, both of Weston, Mass.

February

None

March

2 nd	Marjorie I. Cohen and Robert Peter Lazzari, Jr., both of Wayland, Mass.
5 th	Janete Venturim and Ivani Maria Garcez, both of Weston, Mass.

April

None

May

16 th	Martha Leonia Bulyk and Preston W. Estep, III, both of Weston, Mass.
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June

13 th	Alexandra Alike Bassett and Patrick Forsythe Shaw, both of Austin, Texas
20 th	Juliet Theresa Fernandez and Thomas Hunter Herndon, Jr., both of New York, N.Y.
27 th	Sarah Lynn Robinson and Christian Paul Hockey, both of Weston, Mass.
30 th	Bettina Igel and Jeffrey Mark Dunn, both of Weston, Mass.

July

4 th	Amber Nichole Dame and Robert James Lindsay, both of Weston, Mass.
5 th	Xiaoqing Li of Boston, Mass. and Kelvin Michael Chui of Weston, Mass.
8 th	Stephanie Kang of Framingham, Mass. and Seung Jin Kim of Weston, Mass.
11 th	Heather Marie Anza and Kenneth Paul Downey, both of Walpole, Mass.
22 nd	Suzanne Debra Sweet and Michael Christopher Sweet, both of Wayland, Mass.

August

6 th	Janice Y. Wong of Newton, Mass. and Robert C. Metzger of Westborough, Mass.
8 th	Heather Marie Redgate and James Patrick Guaragna both of Weston, Mass.
8 th	Alexandra Elizabeth Poulos and Michael DiCosola both of Weston, Mass.
23 rd	Kerry Lynne Meister and Kyle Keith Levesque, both of Woburn, Mass.
26 th	Avery Chaplin and Laura Spetalnick, both of Weston, Mass.
29 th	Nicole Lauren Silver and Jeremy Kohansimeh, both of New York, N.Y.

September

6 th	Maureen Shelton French and Richard Robert Cipolla, both of Chicago, Ill.
12 th	Constance Katherine Wynne and John Robert Gibbons, both of Weston, Mass.
19 th	Jenna Christine Marvel and Harry Glavin Berg both of Boston, Mass.
19 th	Carla Jean Petersen and Ky Xuan Le, both of Boston, Mass.
19 th	Lauren Michelle Antos and Isaiah John Kacyvenski, both of Weston, Mass.
26 th	Tanya Sampson of Rochester, N.H. and Jason Michael Chui of Methuen, Mass.
29 th	Jin Xia and Ke Ke, both of Weston, Mass.

October

2 nd	Yannis Normand and William Thomas McCoy, both of Lexington, Mass.
10 th	Tanyaradzwa Gombera of Sycamore, Ill. and Pfungwa Mahefu of Marlborough, Mass.
11 th	Sarah Carlee Gallenberg and Evan Mitchell Maloney, both of Newton, Mass.
26 th	Amy Lynn Berninger and Michael A. Trivers, both of Wayland, Mass.

November

13 th	Anastasia Melnichenko and Marc Voels, both of Weston, Mass.
20 th	Abigail Jean Gagnon and Trevor Joseph Daniels, both of Maynard, Mass.
27 th	Claudelle Edwine Dubuisson and Victor David Goodman, both of Weston, Mass.

December

22 nd	Sze Yinn Wong and Ian Chan, both of Weston, Mass.
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DEATHS RECORDED IN WESTON IN 2015

January			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
1 st	Markson, Elizabeth	Virginia	80
2 nd	Olson, Lois K	Wisconsin	82
2 nd	Karas, Eugenia M	Massachusetts	101
2 nd	LaBombard, Ruth A.	Massachusetts	91
2 nd	Forte, Mary I	Rhode Island	90
3 rd	Christie, Lois W.	Massachusetts	95
4 th	Carmichael, William	Canada	89
4 th	Stoddard, James C	Massachusetts	83
5 th	Milligan, Helen Rose	Massachusetts	91
9 th	Dunne, Patricia Dennen	New York	85

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
9 th	Matson, Kathryn Ruth	India	92
10 th	Kloongian, Elizabeth	Michigan	87
11 th	Gula, John Edward	Massachusetts	99
11 th	Rossi, Arthur Leo	Italy	92
14 th	Bond, Viola	Michigan	91
15 th	Fodor, Geraldine A.	Ohio	82
19 th	Aucoin, Winifred J.	Massachusetts	91
20 th	Lanigan, James J.	New York	93
20 th	Allen, Francis Robert	Massachusetts	89
22 nd	Ditommaso, Robert V.	Massachusetts	79

February

7 th	Patraiko, John	New York	91
9 th	Sher, Richard Gross	Pennsylvania	66
10 th	Gieselman, John E.	New York	78
12 th	Coburn, Harold W	Massachusetts	86
17 th	Kuliopulos, Argirios	Massachusetts	74
17 th	Hurwitz, Sara A.	New York	95
20 th	Bloom, Bernerd J.	Massachusetts	94
23 rd	Casey, Joseph H	Massachusetts	98
24 th	Phillips, Margaret Whitney	Massachusetts	84
24 th	Maurillo, Rodrigo A.	Philippines	64
26 th	Colombo, Gilda F.	Massachusetts	91
27 th	McKearney, Edward J	Massachusetts	90

March

2 nd	Sawaya, Sylvia H.	Massachusetts	86
10 th	Griffin, Helen G.	Massachusetts	94
13 th	Chapman, Amy Genevieve	New York	88
21 st	Cook, Donald Forrest	Massachusetts	79
24 th	Vallucci, Frances M.	Massachusetts	77
25 th	Swift, Paul W.	Massachusetts	61
26 th	Silverman, Edith R	Massachusetts	96
30 th	Frangello, Rena	Massachusetts	81
30 th	Burke, Susan T.	Massachusetts	82
31 st	Desai, Indira S.	Kenya	81

April

1 st	Marchant, Janet M.	New York	84
2 nd	Ingram, Marilyn G.	Massachusetts	78
3 rd	Young, Glenn Lester	Canada	89
7 th	Michaud, Edward C.	Massachusetts	85
13 th	Collins, Mary L.	Massachusetts	92
27 th	Sylvester, Arlene Elizabeth	Vermont	97
28 th	Burkin, Sylvia	Massachusetts	85
29 th	Katsikaris, Diane T.	Greece	78

May

3 rd	Bryson, Francis B.	Massachusetts	87
6 th	Melanson, Joanne	Massachusetts	73
13 th	Paladina, Albert	Massachusetts	84
16 th	Decker, Neil Francis	Massachusetts	86
25 th	Stellinger, Thomas	New Jersey	66

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
26 th	O'Halloran, Dora R.	Massachusetts	96
28 th	McCarthy, Barbara L.	Massachusetts	86

June

1 st	King Jr., Walter R.	Massachusetts	73
2 nd	Shores, Jane M.	Massachusetts	84
6 th	Gelda, Shirley	New York	87
6 th	Wolozin, Allen H.	Massachusetts	88
7 th	Marcus, Marjorie Strauss	Massachusetts	92
9 th	Oelgeschlager, Guenther Karl	New Jersey	81
9 th	Gordon-Lucas, Hazel Mary	United Kingdom	79
13 th	Barker, Frances A.	New Hampshire	84
15 th	Destefano, Rose M.	Massachusetts	89
23 rd	Malley, James Burns	Massachusetts	93
23 rd	Kaplan, Lydia E.	New York	93
24 th	Coburn, Barbara Franklin	Massachusetts	84
26 th	Hunt, Helen P.	Canada	87
27 th	Schwartz, Marvin Leonard	New York	93
27 th	Katsikaris, George Peter	Greece	79
29 th	Esposito SR., Joseph M.	Massachusetts	87
29 th	Mathews, Mary Alice	New York	85
30 th	Macaronis, Nicholas	Massachusetts	85
30 th	Dickinson, Leslie B.	Venezuela	69

July

4 th	Fennell, John Richard	Massachusetts	84
6 th	Murphy, Charles H.	Massachusetts	87
8 th	Dillon, Bernice Y.	Massachusetts	89
14 th	Dimilla, Salvatore J.	Massachusetts	92
21 st	Cassat, Varian H.	New Jersey	89
24 th	Sievers, Werner Edward	Massachusetts	85
25 th	Bumm, Marlene C.	Massachusetts	64
28 th	Stutz, Arthur H.	Massachusetts	67

August

4 th	Hunt, John J.	Massachusetts	91
12 th	Anderson, Florence S.	Massachusetts	88
15 th	Ver Planck, Edward Pattison	Massachusetts	86
18 th	Cacace, Gunhild	Sweden	80
19 th	Wiley, John Rogers	Louisiana	79
24 th	O'Brien, Gerard Charles	Massachusetts	86
25 th	Miller, Betty Ann Greenbaum	California	56
28 th	Conant, Betty Jane	Massachusetts	91

September

1 st	Webster, Irma E.	Massachusetts	92
4 th	McHugh, Joseph B.	Massachusetts	87
5 th	Barton, Jenneke Vreeland	New York	79
5 th	Castoldi, Mary Teresa	Massachusetts	89
6 th	Harris, Elizabeth	Massachusetts	86
7 th	Bradley, Douglas Boyd	Michigan	64
7 th	Kneeland, Gertrude E.	Massachusetts	93
7 th	Palladino, Robert F.	Massachusetts	90

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
16 th	Cleary, Robert B.	Massachusetts	79
19 th	Landau, Harold	New York	96
20 th	Lawitts, Donald	New York	90
24 th	Walsh, Eusebius Corbett	Massachusetts	76
26 th	Feierstein, Shirley	New York	94
26 th	Rousseau, Robert Wilfred	Massachusetts	91
29 th	Bertrand, Raymond G.	Maine	75

October

3 rd	Chasan, Stanley Philip	New York	95
4 th	Glowacki, John	Poland	69
5 th	Hession, James J.	Massachusetts	85
7 th	Reisner, Agnes M.	New York	98
8 th	Butcher, Hilda C.	Canada	99
14 th	Griffith, Mildred D.	Massachusetts	74
16 th	McHale, Ann Kearney	Massachusetts	82
18 th	Caldini, Paolo	Italy	87
20 th	Fyfe, Mary	Massachusetts	86
21 st	Wainger, Susan	New York	76
21 st	Araujo, Robert John	Massachusetts	66
21 st	Hanrahan, Edward Joseph	Massachusetts	89
22 nd	Marshall, Robert J.	New Jersey	58
24 th	Diver, Christina Buchett	Ohio	72
24 th	Cribben, Virginia Hamlin	Massachusetts	96
24 th	Hachey, Russell Leo	Massachusetts	86
26 th	Higgins, John Joseph	Massachusetts	80
31 st	Ferrarini, Robert A.	Massachusetts	70
31 st	Dolan, Margaret P.	Massachusetts	89

November

5 th	Kerwin, Carlotta	New York	89
6 th	Latto, Roslyn Perluck	New York	93
7 th	Mui, Sun Yung	China	89
11 th	Brennan, Joseph F.	Massachusetts	89
18 th	Myers, Carolyn Elnora	Pennsylvania	101
22 nd	Smith, Catherine F.	Massachusetts	96
22 nd	Richards Jr., Robert J.	Massachusetts	85
28 th	Nelson, Arthur H.	Kansas	92

December

1 st	Conconnon, Joan Marie	Massachusetts	73
3 rd	Kushner, Marilyn Pearl	New York	91
4 th	Banghart, Ruth Helen	Wisconsin	96
6 th	Conzo, Joseph R.	Massachusetts	83
10 th	Harvey, Leonard W.	Massachusetts	91
14 th	Warner Jr., Richmond Perez	Minnesota	90
17 th	Somani, Saroj	India	80
18 th	Dailey, Nancy M.	Massachusetts	88
20 th	Merrill Jr., Henry M.	Massachusetts	89
22 nd	Sheffer, Albert Lester	Pennsylvania	86
23 rd	Russo, Agrippino J.	Massachusetts	95
24 th	Crawford, Carter Miller Bottjer	Virginia	95

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Place of Birth</i>	<i>Age</i>
25 th	Levy, Jacob Arthur	Connecticut	73
25 th	Palmisano, Joseph Redfield	Connecticut	41
27 th	Markiewicz, Edward A.	Ohio	85
31 st	O'Neil, Kathleen M.	Canada	96

LICENSE REPORT - DOGS

Number	Type	Fee	Total
88	Male/Female	\$ 25.00	\$ 2,200.00
852	Spayed Females/Neutered Males	15.00	12,780.00
34	Late Fees	25.00	850.00
<i>Total collected</i>			\$ 15,830.00

REPORT OF THE TREE ADVISORY GROUP

Weston's Tree Advisory Group was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to oversee the planting and maintenance of new trees on streets and public spaces. Each year the committee works with the Town's Tree Warden, Town committees, boards and departments, and homeowners to choose appropriate locations for new trees. We continue to meet the standards established by the National Arbor Day Foundation and have received Tree City USA designation for the Town of Weston for the past 11 years. This year we welcomed two new members, Laura Perry and Kevin Bernier.

Planting Projects

This year there was only one planting project. The tremendous snowfall in February, followed by extreme cold, inhibited our ability to carefully assess potential planting sites and as such the group decided to focus on the Arbor Day Tree only. Case Park was chosen as the location for the planting as the area lost two large hemlocks this year due to wooly adelgid. A *nyssa sylvatica* "Wildfire" was planted near the apex of the park on April 21st. Sadly this tree did not have a generous root ball and concern grew with its ability to thrive. Despite diligent efforts by our group, the tree was declared dead in June. A lovely warranty replacement *nyssa sylvatica* was received in September from Weston Nurseries and the tree was planted by Weston's Public Works and members of our group. It appears to be taking quite nicely.



We are grateful for the assistance of Tom Cullen, director of the Public Works Department and Tree Warden, who generously allows the use of Tree Warden funds for our plantings. We are also grateful to Facilities Director Jerry McCarty and his team for digging, planting and assisting with all parts of the delivery process. Their help is invaluable.

For information and locations of trees planted by the Tree Advisory Group, the Town's MapsOnline program, found on the Town's website, has a map layer entitled "Town Planted Trees".

New Projects

This year, the Tree Advisory Group was invited to join discussions regarding plantings at the evolving landscape on the Case Campus. We have taken an active role advising and commenting on the selection, role, and maintenance of trees in this new, vital landscape. We feel our committee has been received with enthusiasm and we have initiated awareness in sizes of beds necessary for trees to survive and the perils of soil compaction when designing paths and roadways. This is an exciting new role for our group, which we hope to expand further with Town projects.

Ongoing Tasks

We continue to monitor the health of trees in Weston. Case Park is an example of an area where increased monitoring of trees is needed. We have discovered poor pruning techniques and depleted soil conditions that are impacting the health of the trees. Through education and action by our group we hope to improve the conditions in this lovely park.

Removals

This year many trees were removed in Weston, including the two very large hemlocks at Case Park. We continue to work closely with Mr. Cullen on advising the selection of new trees to replace the trees that have been lost due to age, disease, or damage. We are enjoying this expanding collaborative effort.

2015 Tree Advisory Group Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Beth Jakubowski, Chair	2017	Laura Perry	2017
Kevin Bernier	2016	Edward J. Recka	2017
Cynthia K. Chapra	2018	John J. Skillman	2016
Marilyn Doyle	2018	Thomas Cullen, ex-officio, Public Works Director	
Deirdre A. Freiberg	2018	Nea Glenn, ex-officio	
Barbara I. Landy	2016		

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE MERRIAM FUND

The Merriam Fund originated in a gift made by Charles Merriam in 1865 who wanted to modestly assist Weston residents caught in a temporary situation of financial hardship. The gift was accepted at the Annual Town Meeting held in 1865. Trustees of the Merriam Fund are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of three years.

In Weston today there are more people on limited incomes for whom paying the basics, like utilities, can be a problem. Sometimes it can be embarrassing for them to ask for help, even from relatives and friends. The Merriam Fund continues to give assistance to Weston residents in difficult, short-term situations. There is not a lot of money in the Merriam Fund, currently about \$27,459 with income only to be distributed. In fiscal year 2015, the Trustees of the Merriam Fund made two distributions in the amount of \$659. As of December 31, 2015 the Trustees had \$3,432.73 to distribute in the coming year. By making a tax-deductible donation to the "Town of Weston-Merriam Fund" you can help the Merriam Fund Trustees help our neighbors in need in quiet and confidential ways.

2015 Trustees of the Merriam Fund Members

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Linda J. Perrin	2016
Patricia K. Shotwell	2017
Reverend Dr. Thomas Wintle	2018

REPORT OF THE WEST SUBURBAN VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT

The West Suburban Veterans' Services District includes the towns of Weston, Wayland, Wellesley, and Needham and the district board is comprised of four members each designated by the Board of Selectmen from each community. The district office is very busy assisting and facilitating the needs of veterans and their families with benefits and services that they need or to which they may be entitled.

The central office is located in the Wellesley Town Hall with satellite offices in each town in order to provide services more conveniently for veterans and their families. Office hours in Weston are 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Council on Aging. A full range of benefits and services are available to veterans and their families based on certain qualifications and eligibility requirements. Further information is available on the district website at www.WestSuburbanVeterans.com. The office may also be contacted at 781-489-7509 with questions or to schedule appointments.

Director Stanley W. Spear, Jr. and Interim Deputy Director John MacGillivray carry out the functions assigned to the Veterans' Office by Chapter 115 of the General Laws of Massachusetts. Together, they provide assistance in applying for U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs benefits; maintain a depository of discharges and records of veterans; and oversee the disbursements of veterans' benefits to veterans and their families.

During 2015, Mr. Spear and Mr. MacGillivray spoke with many Weston veterans and spouses or relatives of Veterans either in person, on the telephone, or through email, regarding many inquiries such as picking up flags and markers for the graves of a family member and obtaining a copy of discharge papers to file for veteran benefits, burial benefits, and various other benefits that are available.

2015 Highlights

- Provided \$40,195.25 in Chapter 115 Benefits to Weston residents
- Hosted district-wide benefits presentations that were attended by many Weston Veterans
- Attended the annual Massachusetts Veterans' Service Officers Association's Legislative Luncheon at the Massachusetts State House
- Expanded community outreach
- Attended several veteran-related events at the Council on Aging
- Advised and assisted many veterans with the veteran benefit application process
- Offered support to the Memorial Day and Veterans' Day Committee
- Attended formal training sessions provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services on current veterans benefits and services



*Director Stanley W. Spear,
Jr. and Interim Deputy
Director John MacGillivray*

West Suburban Veterans' Services District Board Representative

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Donna S. VanderClock, Town Manager