# 2009-2010 Annual Report



# SIMSBURY

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## A Message from the Chairman of the Board of Finance

This is the 148th Annual Report of the Town of Simsbury. The goal of this report is to convey to our citizens, business owners and other stakeholders a description of the significant events and activities that have occurred during the year. By town charter it is the responsibility of the Board of Finance to produce this report, and as Chairman, I am pleased to deliver this report for your review.

Our report includes financial information for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010; as well as a description of significant events, activities and accomplishments that occurred in our community during calendar year 2010.

While 2010 was a challenging year, it also was positive in many aspects as you will read from First Selectman, Mary Glassman, Diane Ullman, Superintendent of Schools, and Jack Sennott, Chairman of the Board of Education. The Boards of Finance, Education and Selectmen have acted carefully to provide town services to the varied constituencies that make up our town. Given the financial strains

on Connecticut's cities and towns, we have acted prudently and proactively to balance the Town's Finances with the needs of our citizens. While carefully monitoring the revenue side of the budget, the Boards have taken action to control and reduce budget expenditures. Simsbury has continued to prepare for the future by proactively investing in our infrastructure, open space, and educational programs. When you read this report, you will learn about these actions and how they enhance our Town.

Again, it continues to be my pleasure and honor to serve as Chairman of the Board of Finance. I continue to be grateful for the fine support of the town staff in preparing this 148th Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Paul Henault

Chairman, Board of Finance

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## Our Town

## A Message from the First Selectman



Dear Simsbury Resident:

We are pleased to present the 2009-2010 Annual Report for the Town of Simsbury. As a resident, it is critical for you to have an accurate accounting of your tax dollars and a thorough summary of accomplishments. It continues to be the top priority for us as town and elected officials to provide quality services while reducing costs and finding smart solutions during difficult economic times.

Once again, I wish to thank the town employees, especially our public safety officials, social services staff, managers, secretaries, highway workers, and clerks, for continually supporting our town throughout this financially difficult period. The success of the Town of Simsbury can be directly attributed to the collaboration of these individuals.

During 2009, we continued to address important projects such as improvements to Simsbury Farms, maximizing use of the Performing Arts Center, and enhancing the Farmington Valley Greenway. We remained dedicated to carrying on regional initiatives and partnerships to consolidate efforts and save money.

Simsbury continues to be recognized statewide and nationally for its excellence in historic preservation and its recreational resources, culture, arts, and education. Simsbury has been the first town in Connecticut to be designated as one of a Dozen Distinctive Destinations by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Also in the fall of 2010, our town was selected as the first "Bicycle Friendly" community in the state.

While we look back on the accomplishments of the past year, we are always planning for the future. 2010 was the year of the Simsbury Charrette, a comprehensive hands-on town center strategic planning exercise driven by the complete engagement of our residents. Over 200 people participated in this dynamic and creative process, the results of which are intended to represent a consensus vision for the Simsbury Center.

While an annual report contains detailed financial data, it also reflects the value of our most important asset—our community volunteers. Volunteerism is the cornerstone of Simsbury and an intrinsic part of the fabric of our town. Countless volunteers serve on important boards and commissions, representing Simsbury citizens in land use decisions, library administration, or environmental stewardship. We are fortunate to benefit from their countless contributions and are grateful for the widespread commitment to public service and our town.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I thank you for choosing Simsbury as your home. Our community offers an unmatched quality of life, and we are honored to serve you and provide the very best for you and your family.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman

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## Our Town/Town Government

# A Message from the Chairman of the Board of Education and Superintendent

It's a math problem with no simple solution—rising costs in areas like pension and health and uncertainty about the state budget equals problems for town budgets. Given these variables, we have had to make do with less, so the question is how can we improve our school system in this economy and still continue to provide uncompromising quality in curricular and extracurricular offerings, attract and retain the best teachers, keep up with technology, and give the community a significant return on its investment in our public schools?

It is with great pride that we report that 2009-2010 was a year in which, despite a very modest budget increase of 1.6%, we managed to find ways to tighten our belts that would not adversely impact our programs or students. Furthermore, many areas experienced improvement. For example, through a state grant, we were able to implement a biomedical sciences series of courses at the high school. This means that students with an interest in medical careers can get a head start on their dreams of being a doctor, emergency medical technician, pharmacist, or researcher. Our Chinese program, also funded largely by a grant, has grown. Students can now take a world language that will open doors for them in this global economy. In 2009-2010, our Engineering program grew from just 10 students in 2004-2005, when the program began, to 148 students. In a world looking for answers to global problems, engineers will be in high demand.

We can attribute much of our growth to our hard-working staff and faculty. Many of Simsbury's teachers are your own neighbors, whom you run into at Andy's or Fitzgerald's or have coffee with at Peaberry's or Starbucks. Each week these dedicated teachers work in teams called "Professional Learning Communities" to share knowledge and skills with each other, thereby improving their ability to meet the diverse learning needs of students and improving the quality of teaching system-wide. You entrust your children to our teachers, and in return, they strive to give your children the brightest possible future.

Technology is often the first area to be cut during tough times. Despite some painful budget cuts, there were significant accomplishments nonetheless: we decreased our student to computer ratio across the district with the purchase of additional laptops; all of our K-6 classrooms were equipped with document cameras; and in response to an earlier Grade 5/6 study, we increased the multimedia and computer skills of 5th and 6th graders to better prepare them for the middle school. The needs of our struggling students were addressed as well. For our English as a Second Language (ESL) learners, we provided Rosetta Stone software and Netbooks, and through a grant, were able to outfit special education classrooms with the technologies they needed. Finally, student response systems came into popular usage to assess student skills and guide and pace learning.

Each of these improvements happened during a troubled economy. We are sure you share with us the fervent hope that the economic climate will improve for all of us in the near future. In good times and in bad, we thank you for your continued support.





Please visit our website at www.simsbury.k12. ct.us or email us at JSennott@simsbury.k12.ct.us or DUllman@simsbury.k12.ct.us if you have a question or want to give us your feedback. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jack Sennott, Chairman, Board of Education

Diane D. Wilman

Dr. Diane Ullman, Superintendent

## Town Elected Boards

#### Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen is the legislative body of the Town of Simsbury. The Board consists of six members, including the First Selectman, and members are elected to two year terms. The Board of Selectmen derives its authority through the Town Charter and Connecticut General Statutes.

#### **Board of Finance**

Boards of Finance in Connecticut perform a significant role as an elected citizen oversight board whose charge is to balance the municipal expenditure requests with the available revenue. The task of Simsbury's six member Board of Finance, as outlined in the Connecticut General Statutes and our Town Charter, is two fold: act as the budget making authority and be responsible for financial and taxation matters.

The Board of Finance works on an annual basis with the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education in order to put both operating and capital budgets before the voters. During that process, the Board is responsible for holding public hearings for the presentation of operating and capital budgets by the First Selectman and the Chairman of the Board of Education. These meetings provide an open forum for public comment before further action, either at Town Meeting or Referendum.

The Board of Finance is also responsible for gathering all relevant financial data pertinent to local, state and national economic health, in order to establish budget guidelines and establish the mill rate on an annual basis. Finally, the Board works with the Finance Director to oversee the Town's accounting systems, provide for the annual budget audit, and assist the First Selectman's Office in preparing the Annual Town Report. The work of the Board of Finance provides essential checks and balances that ensure the long-term financial stability of the Town.

The recession economy with higher than normal unemployment, a depressed housing market, little growth of the town's Grand List coupled with unsure revenues/grants from the State of Connecticut have challenged the Board of Finance during 2009/2010. We have adopted a conservative, low tax increase posture for several years. The current budget, adopted in May 2010, resulted in an increase of less than 2% and provides funds to maintain quality education and exceptional town services. Simsbury has maintained its "rainy day" reserve fund balances at nearly 10% of the operating budget. Moody's Investment Services recently upgraded the town's debt to the highest rating: Aaa. Simsbury has won awards for excellence in financial reporting. Our current focus is on improving risk management. Major spending initiatives include: funds for sewer main extensions, replacement of the Tunxis Pump Station, replacement of the Latimer Lane School roof, School District Network Infrastructure, and \$2.4 million for road paving maintenance.

## **Board of Education**

The Board of Education is the governing and policy making body of the Simsbury School District. The Board derives its power from the Constitution and General Statutes of the State of Connecticut as well as from the State Board of Education and the Charter of the Town of Simsbury.

The Board of Education is responsible for establishing policy and educational goals and objectives that guide the school system toward the continuous improvement of the educational program for Simsbury's children. The Board is also responsible for the ongoing evaluation of the school program against its



goals and objectives and for the evaluation of the Superintendent. The Board of Education, by Conn. Gen. Statute 10–222, must prepare an itemized estimate of the expenses for operating the schools in the upcoming year. Once the municipality has approved the appropriation of funds to the Board of Education, the Board has the discretion and responsibility for the expenditure of those funds.

The Board consists of eight elected members who meet twice a month at the Board of Education offices. Agendas and minutes of the meetings are posted on the Board of Education page of the district website http://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1675.

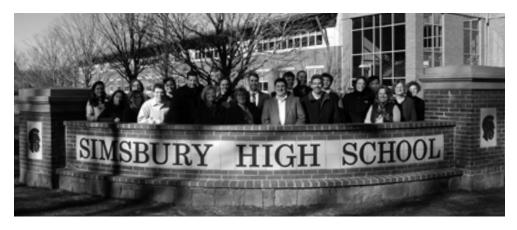
The Board has adopted 5-year goals (2009–2014) to provide direction and focus to the improvement work of the district. The goals address both student achievement and organizational quality. Several initiatives were implemented in 2009–2010 that reflect these Board Goals. Furthermore, the honors and recognitions that our students, teachers, and district received in 2009–2010 are illustrative of the progress we have made. Following are some highlights of our achievements as they relate to each Board Goal.

**Board Goal #1:** Integrate and align content area curriculum with the higher-order, 21st Century critical thinking skills needed for success in learning, work, and life.

 The Simsbury Arts Academy (SAA), in its second year, increased enrollment and expanded offerings by 31%.







- University of Hartford College of Engineering, Technology & Architecture partnership provided Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) workshop for female SHS and HJMS students.
- Students completing Algebra by Grade 8 increased from 29% in 2004-2005 to 49% in 2009-10.
- Students completing four years of music or art at SHS has grown from 25% in 2005 to 32% in 2010.
- Students completing four years of a world language has increased from 38% in 2005 to 43% in 2010.
- The Engineering program has grown from 10 students in 2004-2005 to 122 students in 2009-2010.
- SHS Math League team finished third in Capitol Area Mathematics League and sent two members to the regional competition, where Hong Jin Park won a first place medal.
- SHS senior Rebecca Soja earned "Most Innovative" award at 2010 CT Home Remodeling Show.
- Two SHS Engineering students qualified for the Society of Women Engineers Academic Achievement Award.
- Five SHS students placed first in the state
  Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
  competition.
- Senior Sarah McPherson, FBLA President, awarded Who's Who in FBLA.
- SHS students won Best Animated Film, Best 40-Hour Film Challenge, and Best in Animation awards at the CT Film Festival.

**Board Goal #2:** Ensure that every student is engaged in a rigorous and engaging learning

experience that recognizes and challenges him/her to balance their academic progress with expressive, personal, physical, civic and social development.

- Simsbury scored #1 in its district reference group for percentage of students at or above goal on all four content areas (Reading, Writing, Math & Science) of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT).
- The "Simsbury Enrichment and Extended Day" (SEED), which provides beforeand after-school child care and enrichment activities, expanded to 5 sites.
- SHS won the Michaels Achievement Cup in Class LL for 2009 for overall athletic excellence. SHS has won a total of 11 times, 7 times over the past 10 years.
- SHS Wrestling Team won CCC West Wrestling Championship, with two academic All-State wrestlers.
- SHS won CCC West Football
   Championship, qualifying for the LL playoffs.
- Simsbury Rugby Club won CT Valley Conference title and fielded its first ever girls' rugby team.
- The First Annual Town-wide Cross Country Fun Run took place in November 2009;
   152 elementary and middle school students participated. In October 2010, participation increased to 180 students.
- 150 SHS students were chosen to participate in national and local music festivals.
- SHS inducted 137 students into the National Honor Society.
- SHS had 7 National Merit Semi-Finalists and 23 National Merit Commended Scholars.
- SHS had 5 All-State choral students.

- SHS had 7 medal winners and HJMS had 1 at the CT Council of Language Teachers (COLT) Poetry Recitation Competition.
- 18 SHS students were State Latin Exam Award winners.
- SHS had 2 Gold Portfolio winners, 1 Best in Show for Mixed Media and 2 scholarship winners in the Scholastic Art Awards;
   10 students earned honors overall.
- SHS student Ethan Kyzivat designated Governor's Scholar, marking the third year out of four that an SHS student has earned this designation.

**Board Goal #3:** Attract and retain the highest quality staff by providing a vital, challenging, and consistently focused professional environment.

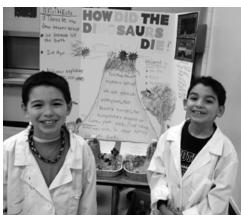
- Implemented Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) at Simsbury High School to improve the quality of teaching.
- District named member of Confucius Classroom Network, which provided grant funding for a native-speaker Chinese teacher as well as funding for community outreach cultural activities, technology, and other program enhancements.
- Selected to showcase SHS Student Learning Plans at New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Model Program Conference.
- Simsbury designated one of 2010's Best Communities for Music Education.
- U.S. News & World Report awarded SHS a silver medal as a top performing high school in a national comparison of high schools.
- Three SHS World Language teachers earned Best of Conference Award for their presentation at the 2009 COLT Conference.

**Board Goal #4:** Continuously improve the systems that promote effective communication among and between the administration, staff and community and ensure that the deployment of resources efficiently supports the district's mission and priorities.

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## Departments & Services





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- Earned CABE Board of Distinction Award.
- Awarded CABE Award of Excellence for Educational Communications for the Henry James Memorial School Program of Studies.
- Earned CABE Honorable Mention in Excellence for Education Communications for Department of Continuing Education and Simsbury Arts Academy (SAA) summer brochure.
- Created "Budget Update" area of the website to provide a transparent budget process to the community.
- Implemented district-wide SchoolConnects automated call service.
- Implemented SHS automated absence calling system.
- "School Windows" program invited community into Tootin' Hills Elementary School, Henry James Memorial School, and Simsbury High School to learn about Readers & Writers Workshops, Classroom Technology, and Professional Learning Communities, respectively.
- Opened Grading Portal for SHS and HJMS so that parents/guardians and students could more accurately monitor academic progress.
- District established weekly communications with parents/guardians via listserv system.
- Quick mobilization and preparation of resources in reaction to H1N1 crisis.
- Concentrated effort to invite senior citizens into our schools through district-wide volunteer program (initiated Senior Citizens Assisting Education [SCAE]); provided free admission to athletic and music events through the VIP Pass program; and

- individual school community outreach.
- Simsbury Superintendent featured in September 2009 profile article in American Association of School Administrators (AASA) publication.
- Tariffville School fifth grade teacher Terry
  Henault led effort to provide used computers
  to needy families.
- SHS students selected to Simsbury Youth Advisory Board.

## **Administrative Services**

The Director of Administrative Services recommends management policy to the First Selectman and to the Personnel Subcommittee. Under the direction of the First Selectman, who serves as the Town's Personnel Director, the Director of Administrative Services administers and evaluates the staffing program for approximately 146 full time and up to 50 regular part time employees. In addition, the Director of Administrative Services provides management support to the First Selectman and Board of Selectmen in the administration of Town operations.

## **Animal Control Officer**

Animal Control is a service provided by the Police Department. It is comprised of responding to domestic and non-domestic animal related needs, insuring animal related compliance with public health and safety concerns, quality of life issues and education. The Animal Control Officer is licensed and certified by the Department of Environmental Protection for nuisance wildlife control.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

#### Public Health and Safety

- Completed Annual Dog License Survey to promote vaccination and licensing compliance.
- Hosted annual rabies vaccination clinic to provide convenience and reduced fees.
- Facilitated the adoption of pets.

#### Public Awareness and Education

- Educational presentations for the public at Eno Hall, to all residents via SCTV and the Department website, to civic organizations, residential care facilities, and other groups in town.
- Participation in Department wide Community Relations programs.
- · Distribution of Bear Brochure.
- · Addition of links to the Department website.
- · Advisor to the Dog Park Committee.

#### Service Development

- Extended information and specialized services to the Patrol Division for a more prepared and comprehensive departmental response to animal related needs within town.
- Participation in Regional Animal Response Team exercise for emergency preparedness.
- Completion of FEMA courses and numerous professional development classes.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- Continue annual participation in Dog License Survey and hosting of rabies vaccination clinic.
- Provide broad based educational
  presentations and information concerning
  wildlife safety as well as domestic animals,
  such as "Preventing Dog Bites", "Aggressive
  Dogs" and "Keeping Your Pets Safe".
- Host training for patrol officers and area Animal Control Officers.
- Enhance professional growth and service.

Incident Statistics 2009 – 2010		
Animal Complaints	851	
Dog Licenses Issued	2320	
Animal Bites	15	
Animal-related Arrests	3	
Impounded Animals	59	



#### The top ten taxpayers on the October 1, 2008 grand list were, as of July 1, 2009:

Name	<b>Nature of Business</b>	Net Taxable Valuation
E and A/I and G Simsbury Commons LP	Shopping Center	\$32,375,000
Simsbury Associates Limited Partnership	Real Estate Holdings	\$29,865,500
Hartford Life & Accident Ins Co	Insurance Company	\$28,599,710
Executive Risk Indemnity Inc.	Real Estate Holdings	\$21,036,020
Simsbury Hopmeadow Street LLC	Real Estate Holdings	\$16,311,710
Connecticut Light and Power Co.	Public Utility	\$15,111,390
Hoffman, Phyllis W., Trustee	Real Estate Holdings	\$9,784,490
Simsbury Commons North E and A LLC	Supermarket Property	\$9,625,000
McLean George P Estate	Real Estate Holdings	\$8,271,820
Powder Forest Homes LLC	Residential Development	\$7,791,760

#### Assessor

The assessor's office is responsible for discovering, listing, and valuing property and administering exemption and tax relief programs as required by applicable state and federal law or local ordinance.

The list of October 1, 2009 was completed on time, January 31, 2010. The net taxable grand list as reported to the State of Connecticut on April 15, 2010 was \$2,599,461,854.

In the six months ending December 31, 2010, most of the field work and some of the real estate valuation for the October 1, 2010 was completed; personal property declarations were sent out, received and processed and nearly all of the values estimated.

Under the current provisions of state law, the next revaluation must be completed for the list of October 1, 2012, and must include the re-inspection of residential and commercial/industrial buildings. This is subject to a possible deferral. Without a deferral, the revaluation process ought to be under way during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

## **Building Department**

The Connecticut Building Code is really a number of model codes including the electric, fire, safety, mechanical, plumbing, energy and existing building codes, as well as a number of reference standards including

those for accessibility. The bottom line is that we enforce a tremendous amount of very technical requirements in a way that we hope is understandable and attainable by the people who need to follow them. We do thorough plan reviews and thousands of site inspections, respond to inquiries, provide information and, when needed, issue orders to get compliance with all of the code requirements. We coordinate our efforts with other departments including Zoning, Wetlands, Historic, Health, Water Pollution Control, Tax Collector and Assessor, so that a permit to construct can be issued by the Building Official. We also interact and support the enforcement of the State Traffic Commission, DOT, Department of Consumer Protection licensing, OSHA, and State and Federal Environmental Protection regulations. The process can be daunting but our goal has been to make the permit process as simple and seamless as possible for each applicant while protecting the public interest and assuring the safety of our built environment. We support the Fire Marshal in responding to fires, are the liaison with public utilities for service approvals and connections, and have the authority to condemn a building or structure.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

In an effort to streamline the permit process and administration of the department, we have been working with our IT department, eight other town Building and IT departments in the region, and representatives from the regional council of government to obtain and finetune permit software to enhance our service capability. In short we hope to offer better service to homeowners and contractors while becoming more efficient and effective in our own offices.

During the first six months of this past year, we provided services to the Town of Canton as their Building Official with all of the functions mentioned in the paragraph above. When Simsbury reduced its Building Department staff from three to two, Canton and Simsbury chose to end the agreement.

We modified and extended a mutual aid agreement between Simsbury, Canton, Granby, East Granby, and Suffield to provide services during vacations, emergencies, and consultation on large projects. This agreement has been used by communities across the state as a template for their own agreements.

As one of two Building Official members of the Connecticut Codes and Standards Committee, we have heard appeals to the State Building and Fire Codes, participated in the production and hearings for the 2009 amendments to the state codes, commented on the proposed State Fire Prevention Code, and worked extensively on the State Energy Code to meet the requirements of the State statutes for sustainability and the Federal Stimulus funding as well as State initiatives for high performance buildings and electric vehicles. Time constraints have forced the director to differ responsibilities as director for several regional and state code associations and committees but he is still available to those organizations as needed.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

We hope to have the new permit software in place and actively utilized. Our plan is to close out and file as many open permits as time allows. We will actively pursue a long-term solution that is consistent with our new permit tracking software to address the organization

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## Departments & Services

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and access of documents and information in our files. This would include the potential integration of new and legacy land use files. The ability to accomplish these goals will be related to staffing levels and budget constraints. we hope to continue involvement in code development at the State and National level. Better, more usable and accessible codes, not just more regulation, must be diligently pursued.

## Computer Department

The Simsbury Computer Department supports technologies throughout all municipal departments, including offices of Board of Education and Law Enforcement. The department oversees the daily IT operations and maintenance of these departments, as well as Simsbury's satellite locations: Senior Center, Water Pollution Control Facility, Public Works, Building and Maintenance Facilities (educational & municipal), Simsbury Farms Recreational Complex, and Simsbury Public Library. With the continued growth in government usage of technologies and its demand for providing and utilizing various information streams, the department is focused on researching innovative ways to develop existing and researching new technologies to provide informational benefits to supervised departments and the citizens of Simsbury.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

- Successfully completed pilot implementation
  of CRCOG's (Capital Regional Counsel of
  Government) Regional Permitting Program
  within the regional sharing arena. This
  "cloud-based" application will allow online
  registration of Building Permits as well as
  scheduling inspections, planning and code
  enforcement, as well as online payments.
- STEP Program Participation in the STEP (Supported Training and Employment Program) at Simsbury High School that provides work experiences for students with disabilities within the field of technology. Students assist in the digitalizing of 1984 and indexing assessment information for historical archiving and retrieval.

- Supervised the web site development and implementation for the Simsbury Housing Authority's first ever web site. Services provided were domain registration and deployment, web design and layout, and instruction on content management.
- Successful implementation of a Hybrid telephone application for all municipal offices within Town Hall that provides better customer service features for serving the Town's residents and business community while granting cost savings initiatives.
- Completion of IT services agreement with the Town of Canton, providing them support and services within Simsbury's Regional IT Sharing initiative.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- Continue the expansion of telecommunications, including telephony, among remote municipal locations, as well as providing secure and cost effective network segments to support and enhance municipal
- Continued participation and completion of pilot phase of CRCOG's (Capital Regional Counsel of Government) Regional Permitting Program. Allowing the Building Department to utilize a web-based Building permitting application with various modules.
- Incorporate the supervision of Simsbury's municipal cell phone inventory and usage within the Computer Department, providing centralized management and cost savings initiatives.
- Research and development of Simsbury's Internet presence to include an expanded array of features and services in providing Simsbury's citizens with information in a timely and cost efficient manner.
- Continued promotion of upgrades for network servers, operating systems and business software to remain aligned with current technologies.

## Culture, Parks and Recreation

The Culture, Parks and Recreation
Department is responsible for the
administration of the town's parks, recreational
facilities, and recreational programs. The
Department attempts to provide a wide range
of programs and recreational opportunities
which contribute to the environment, needs,
and interests of the community.

The Simsbury Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission provides direction and oversight to the Department, as well as recommending policy to the Board of Selectmen. The Commission is assisted by the Simsbury Farms Complex Committee, a sub-committee that advises on the operation and programming at the Simsbury Farms Recreation Complex.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

- Completed construction of the new parks/ golf maintenance facility.
- Paved the existing access road at Simsbury Farms and improved the parking and lighting at the golf course clubhouse.
- Continued marketing initiative to increase play at the Simsbury Farms Golf Course.
- Completed design development planning for improvements and renovation of the main building at Simsbury Farms.
- Increased volume of programs and on-line registration through the Department's website, www.simsburyrec.com. Utilized website to market programs to a database of over 5,600 families.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- Secure funding for and begin renovations to the Main Building at Simsbury Farms.
- Organize and administer the 10th Annual Simsbury Celebrates event in November.
   Last year's event drew over 10,000 for indoor and outdoor entertainment, a fire truck parade, and fireworks display.
- Continue marketing initiative to continue to make Simsbury Farms the "Heart of a Great Community".



## Department of Engineering/ **Capital Projects**

The Department provides design and management services for community projects and administrative and design support for Capital Projects. During the past year, we worked closely with the Board of Selectmen, Public Building Committee, Simsbury Public Schools and several Town agencies in order to advance several projects to the bidding and construction phase.

#### **Capital Project Services**

The Tariffville School, dedicated in November 2009, includes new 6th grade classrooms, a modern, multi-use kitchen and cafeteria; special education suite; and health/main offices; as well as energy efficient heating system and windows; life safety code improvements, including fire sprinklers; and an improved bus drop off.

Two projects designed to improve user safety and maintenance efficiency were completed at Simsbury Farms Recreation Facility. A combined Golf and Parks Maintenance Building, featuring equipment service bays, energy efficient used oil heating, shop areas, training areas, and accessibility, provides space for all golf and park equipment and operational requirements. The new drive to the Russell Shaw golf clubhouse and restaurant provides

direct access to the clubhouse. A \$200,000 grant front the State's Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) funded the drive construction.

#### **Project Professional Services**

The Engineering Department staff of design professionals provided survey, engineering, and contract management and inspection services for 20 projects, valued at \$2.1 million.

Resurfacing the Iron Horse Boulevard and repairing the pavement on the route 315/ Wolcott Road sections of the Farmington Valley Greenway were completed. This work provides important functional and safety improvements to the popular trail. Preliminary design work is expected to begin on a Tariffville connection trail which will ultimately connect to the East Coast Greenway. Simsbury was recognized as a "Bicycle Friendly Community" for its continuing support of bicycle/pedestrian facilities. Simsbury is the first community recognized in Connecticut.

In cooperation with community groups, the Department managed the Town's financial contribution and design reviews on four projects that contribute to the quality of life and provide important facilities for Simsbury. Thanks are well deserved to the Garden Club

for the sculpture at the Performing Arts Center Circle Garden; Tariffville Village Association for the Tariffville Green gazebo; Simsbury Soccer Club for the Curtiss Park field; and Rotary Club for the Greenway Pavilion on Iron Horse Boulevard.

Addressing the need for neighborhood sanitary sewers, the department worked closely with the Water Pollution Control Authority to install sewers in High Hill Circle and parts of Bushy Hill Rd. and to design sewers on Pheasant Lane and Bushy Hill Road near Sand Hill Road.

These projects, which addressed residents' travel, environment, and recreation needs, included the use of grants and donations. These efforts allowed Simsbury to realize important program savings, and benefited Simsbury and the surrounding communities.

#### **Development Services**

Development Services comprise plan review, periodic observation of work, performance bond administration and data base management for the land uses commissions. Fourteen projects, with site improvements valued at \$14 million, were managed during the year.

While overall site construction declined, several projects, such as Hoffman Auto Center and the Powder Forest housing, saw continuing construction in the past year. Several significant projects with potential for future community revenue were reviewed. Among these projects were Dorset Crossing, McLean Village, Drake Hill Plaza, and Hopbrook Housing.

#### **Special Services**

Special Services encompass support activities for various Town departments. Major initiatives included the following:

Center Area Charrette Infrastructure -The Department worked closely with the Community Planning Department, the Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Capital Region Council of Governments

(continued on page 12)

#### **Capital Project Services**

During the year, the Department provided support for the following Capital Projects:

Project	Activity	Project Values (\$Millions)
Squadron Line School Emergency Generator	Construction	0.15
Curtiss Park Soccer Field	Construction	0.23
Henry James Boilers	Design	0.70
Eno Fire Suppression & Entry Plaza	Construction	0.20
Tootin' Hill Roof Replace	Construction	1.26
Simsbury Farms Main Building	Design Developmen	t 0.05
HopBrook to Drake Hill Road Greenway	Construction	0.66
Park & Golf Service Center	Construction	0.55
Central School Stair Restoration	Construction	0.15
Tunxis Pumping Station	Design	0.67
Golf Clubhouse Drive	Design & Constructi	on 0.20
Town Offices Telephone System	Construction	0.06
		Total Value: \$4.88 Million

## Departments & Services

(continued from page 11)

on the Center Area Charrette process, which brought together a large cross section of residents to develop a vision for development and renewal in Simsbury's Center.

During the coming year, we will undertake Streetscape infrastructure improvements and participate in a DOT funded corridor study which will examine Hopmeadow Street's ability to provide transportation for various development types and levels.

Grant applications, with a value in excess of \$2.4 million, were administered for 12 projects, including the Clubhouse Drive, Energy Efficiency Grant for Town Offices' lighting, the pavement management program (LOCIP), the Firetown Culvert (FEMA), improvement of the Greenway at Hopmeadow Street & Drake Hill Road, Eno Memorial Sprinkler & Code Improvements, and for acquisition of Ethel Walker and Hall Farm Open Space.

Open Space Grants in the amount of \$730,000.00, were received to help reimburse the cost to preserve over 100 acres of forest, meadows, and wetlands at the Flamig Farm in West Simsbury and Laurel Hill in Tariffville.

Environmental Testing, Studies, and Mapping Services were provided to numerous Town departments to assist in their presentations, data management, and community activities. A continuing commitment to the Town's Geographic Information System allowed the updating of assessor maps based on the regional aerial photography. Ground and surface water tests were completed for several sites, as required by the DEP's Clean Water regulations. Results were all compliant with standards. Maps were updated for the Assessor, public work's utilities, and School District boundaries. Data bases and map files were maintained for subdivision and site developments, surety bonding, excavation permits, and state aid road maps and mileage records.

#### Looking Back and Ahead

With the completion of a needs assessment for facilities at Simsbury Farms, the Public Building Committee will be proceeding with Design Development Plans for the main building. The plans will include an Energy Star design for the development of modern, accessible space for serving the pools, ice rink, and a complete range of recreational programs.

On a regional basis, the Department staff actively participated on the Board of Directors of the Farmington Valley Health District, the Call Before You Dig system, the Capitol Region Council of Governments' Transportation Committee, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's stormwater management program. We continue to realize greater efficiencies & savings from these regional and state alliances.

In the coming year, we will work with elected officials, commissions, staff, and facility users to complete a Senior Center needs assessment to guide the development of plans for the space needed to accommodate the requirements of a modern senior and community center.

With completion of improvement to the oldest sections of the Farmington Valley Greenway trail and completion of the Hopbrook to Drake Hill section, the Greenway is fast approaching completion of its planned 72 mile route connecting New Haven and Northampton. We will be investigating a trail extension to Tariffville which will ultimately link the trail system to the East Coast Greenway.

While the current economic environment demands ever more efficient use and management of resources, we also believe that the prudent selection of projects will result in construction cost savings and will provide improved services to our residents.

## Department of Finance

The Finance Department has three distinct divisions – Assessor's Office, Computers, and Tax Collector.

In addition to the administration/accounting/ payroll functions, the Finance Department, in cooperation with the Board of Finance, has responsibility for all aspects of the Town's financial affairs. This includes risk management; purchasing preparation and monitoring of the annual operating and capital budgets; establishment and monitoring of internal control procedures; investment of Town funds; and coordination of debt financing.

## Simsbury Public Library

In its second year in the newly expanded and renovated 42,600 square ft. building, the library saw a veritable explosion of interest from all segments of the community. We topped a quarter million visits as the public beat a path to our doors attracted by services, collections, and programs tailored to their needs. Parents seeking toilet training and phonics kits, babies learning socialization and pre-reading skills, pre-teens working on girl scout badges, teens enjoying improvisational comedy workshops, college graduates looking for help in landing their first job, adults eager to capitalize on the promise of social networking for business and personal interests, seniors learning to use their digital cameras and other technology. It all played out here, proving once again that the Simsbury Public Library is truly the hub of this vibrant community. We are hugely indebted to the 288 volunteers who generously supported





and complemented the work of the staff by doing everything from tending our gardens to running the Chess Club.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

#### Self-Service

· Tagged entire collection with radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. 42 volunteers assisted in tagging 145,000 items. Installed and implemented RFID self-check out with a credit card payment option. Exceeded expectations of patron usage of the system by 100%. Within three months of operation, we achieved 53% patron self check out.

#### Website

• Developed the prototype of the new pages which are in the process of being populated with updated information, photos, videoclips and other media. We expect to go live with our new website at the end of FY 2011.

#### Collections

- Improved every part of the children's collection by weeding vigorously and selecting judiciously the best of new materials for children from babies through 6th grade.
- · Focused on Young Adult materials. Invested heavily in that collection.
- Added 2,000 e-books to collection.
- Acquired two Kindles, an Ipad, a Sony e-reader and a special e-book download station where patrons can get help in downloading their selections. This was funded through grants and gifts.
- · Received two large memorial gifts to improve and expand the display and collection of large print and audio books.
- Reconfigured the North Wing by removing little used items such as books-on-tape and videos and allotted more space to books on CD, Books on MP3, lecture audios, TV series on DVD and Young Adult collection.

#### Services

• Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Business Resource Center by adding tax

- consultation services, math tutoring services and entrepreneurship classes for young adults. Simsbury Community Television routinely records and broadcasts the Wednesday Night Business Programs. Community volunteers are heavily invested in these efforts.
- Maintained a regular class schedule of 20 classes/month in the Technology Learning Center focusing especially on skills for job seekers through programs such as: LinkedIn for Job Seekers: Leveraging Connections and Job Hunting in the Library: Researching Companies and Preparing for Interviews.
- Ran a summer teen program focused on the arts with improv theater, animation, dancing and slam poetry workshops. 30 workshops attracted 350 teens, more than doubled from previous year.
- Established excellent working relationships with school media and reading specialists to determine the best materials and services for Simsbury's children, especially those who need extra help in our fast-paced school system.

#### **Programs**

- Planned and hosted our first ever TEDx program, giving local organizations and individuals an international platform to share ideas and stimulate dialogue.
- · Vastly expanded our involvement with local schools: Visited 95 classes and presented to 2,200 students in elementary, junior and senior high schools.



- Added children's programs for the very young children and their caregivers. This is an area of explosive demand. Successfully met that demand through cross training staff members.
- Ran a fantastic summer reading program during which children read books to raise funds for books for the CT Children's Medical Center. Solicited donations from businesses and the Friends of the Library to match books read with dollars for the cause. 2,700 children participated and read 39,000 books.

#### **Buildings and Grounds**

- Received approval for new outdoor library sign and obtained funding for it through gifts. This has been a three year project. Work on the sign will begin in April 2011.
- Maintained beautiful grounds at minimal cost by utilizing volunteers and securing private funding.

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Statistics	2009	2010	Difference	% Change
Hours Open	3,341	3,138	(203)	-6%
Library Visits	245,000	251,040	6,040	2%
Registered Borrowers	12,161	12,636	475	4%
Use of Public Internet Computers	81,520	95,709	14,189	17%
Questions Answered	52,161	52,555	394	1%
Programs	670	1,222	552	82%
Program Attendance	24,640	25,049	409	2%
Print Collection	132,789	129,941	(2,848)	-2%
Non-Print Collection	17,719	15,669	(2,050)	-12%
Items Borrowed	459,260	461,232	1,972	0%
Library Budget* \$	1,321,686	\$1,386,116	64,430	5%
*(includes \$42,000 in grant funds)				

## Departments & Services





(continued from page 13)

- Re-graded lower level parking lot to eliminate pooling.
- Addressed community need for meeting spaces by converting a staff lounge into a 40-seat program room, funded by Friends of the Library donations.

#### Honors and Recognitions

- Ranked 5th in State in a national library survey (Library Journal Index) ahead of all other libraries in our peer group
- Named as one of the State's Public Libraries that will receive fiber optic cable through the Connecticut Education Network.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

#### User Experience

- Achieve 75% self service at self check-outs.
- Convert the circulation desk to customer service desk to triage inquiries, suggestions and complaints.
- Upgrade all our computers to Office 2007.
- Provide interactivity on the Library's website so patrons can more easily resolve issues with their library accounts.
- Integrate technology/automation duties into the skill sets of all staff.
- Investigate grant funding to help staff and users understand and use new technology.
- Implement new children's page on our website.

- Initiate entrepreneurship training for young adults 18–25.
- Expand job seeker services through face-toface and on-line networking options.

#### Collections

- Work regionally to acquire ebooks, audio and video in downloadable formats at discounted rates
- Focus on upgrading special collections such as phonics kits and parenting materials.
- Re-think the layout of the popular collections as some materials increase and some decrease in popularity.
- Plan for expanded Teen space.

#### **Buildings and Grounds**

- Paint all outside stairs to parking lots with reflective paint to eliminate potential accidents.
- Add light to parking lot on upper side parking.
- Replace carpeting in foyers.
- Work with HVAC contractor to implement the recommendations of the energy consultants.
- Obtain permissions from land use commissions for parking project.
- Paint worst of scuffed areas with durable paint.
- Install more interior lighting to illuminate trouble spots.

# Planning and Land Use Department

During the fiscal year 2009-2010 the Department of Community Planning and Development continued to provide assistance to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission, Economic Development Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Design Review Board and the Historic District Commission. In this role the Department's staff meets with applicants, reviews development applications and advises these boards and commissions as they review them. Staff also provides guidance on a wide variety of specific matters, land use policy issues, plans and applicable regulations and ordinances.

The Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) as required by CGS 8-23 was completed and adopted on October 9, 2007 and became effective on November 3, 2007. The Zoning Commission has restarted a significant reorganization and revisions to the Zoning Regulations which were originally begun in 2003 and placed on hold in 2005. This work is now scheduled for completion in 2011. This work was placed on hold until the POCD was completed. The Zoning Commission is also working on the following: an Incentive Housing Zone study for possible adoption of a workforce housing regulation; a Planned Area Development (PAD) zoning regulation to allow mixed use development as an overlay zone as well; and it is implementing the Town Center charrette, which was completed in September of 2009.

The Department staff also continues to meet with applicants or potential applicants to advise and assist them regarding the process and procedures for their contemplated projects. The Department staff also provides advice to all other departments as well as to residents and the general public. The review and administrative processing of all land use applications by the staff provides coordination necessary for the efficient processing of all land use applications.



The Department staff will continue to coordinate efforts with surrounding town land use agencies, regional planning organizations and state agencies. The Department staff continues to strive to further improve the necessary coordination and communication between the land use commissions and all other departments in order to optimize the land use application process.

## Police Department

The Simsbury Police Department is a State of Connecticut Accredited agency providing law enforcement and public safety services to Simsbury residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including operation of the E-911 Public Safety Answering Point. The department employs 35 sworn officers, 10 fulltime and 2 part-time civilian employees. The department provides a full range of services with 32 first responders and 3 Emergency Medical Technicians. During FY 09-10 there were 28,139 calls for service with an average response time of under three minutes for medical calls. The department is staffed by highly qualified and extensively trained personnel. Department personnel received 4,099 hours of training during FY 09-10.

In spring of 2011 the Simsbury Police Department will be completing the final process relating to our goal of achieving National Accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). This process will conclude in April with an onsite review of our policies and procedures by Assessors from CALEA. Successfully achieving National Accreditation will place the Simsbury Police Department in with a small group of police agencies that offer state of the art professional law enforcement to the communities that they serve. The department has already successfully achieved State Accreditation Certification.

The Officers and Civilian members of the Department are proud of their work and the relationships that they have established with the community, and look forward to continuing

and expanding these positive associations through daily interaction with the public, and through programs like the Citizens Police Academy, Youth Academy, Senior Picnic, Skate-and-Share, Explorer Program, Toys for Tots, Special Olympics Tip-a-Cop, and Salvation Army Holiday Store Stuff-a-Cruiser. The department and its members have served the community for over 50 years and ensuring the safety of Simsbury's residents and visitors is the department's first priority. It is our mission to continue to increase the quality and level of service whenever possible and to ensure that the residents of Simsbury have a police department to be proud of and one they can always rely upon.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

The most significant highlight of Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010 is the continuation of the dedicated traffic officer in response to citizen concerns regarding motor vehicle speeding. Since this position was put into place, we have experienced a marked decrease in motor vehicle speeding in Town.

Other highlights include:

- · Everbridge Emergency Notification System implemented
- Response training specific to situations involving individuals with mental health issues - (5) Officers
- Active Shooter Training all Officers
- · Handling Aggressive Animals Training
- Red Plan/Emergency Operations Training
- · Avon Driving School Participation by Patrol
- Three Public Safety Telecommunicators recertified in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocol

- · Participated in Regional Incident Dispatch
- Participated in Regional Traffic Safety Program
- · Specialized DWI Training
- Accident Reconstruction Training
- · Basic Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training
- · Career Development Initiatives
- Crime tips and information that continually update police department website
- Youth Driver Education Program/SIDNE -Simulated Drunk Driving Experience vehicle
- · Animal Control, Community Services and Traffic Enforcement Officers regularly appeared on SCTV education segment
- Held 9th Annual Junior Police Academy
- · Held 10th Annual Simsbury Citizens' Police Academy
- "Stuff-A-Cruiser" Toy collection for Salvation Army
- Continued to support established Simsbury Police Explorer Program
- · Presented "Officer Phil" Safety Program in both public and private schools
- · Continued increased effort in bike patrols
- · In an effort to address residents' concerns increased selective enforcement focusing on traffic issues, traffic studies, and traffic calming solutions
- Participated in State of Connecticut seat belt educational/enforcement waves
- Participated in Multiple Sclerosis "MS Walk for the Cure"
- · Co-sponsored the 12th Annual "Skate and Share" Christmas Party with the Social Services and Recreation Departments to benefit the Simsbury Food Closet

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Incident Statistics					
	<b>'</b> 05-'06	′06-′07	′07-′08	′08-′09	'09-'10
Part I Crimes	234	272	236	214	221
Motor Vehicle Accidents	744	714	756	724	661
Medical Calls	1,088	1,025	1,129	1,216	1,300
Motor Vehicle Enforcement	3,635	4,235	4,949	5,242	4,740
Alarm Responses	862	812	797	866	837
Total Incidents	23,518	24,158	25,703	28,055	28,139

## Departments & Services

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- Sponsored Senior Picnic with more than 200 seniors in attendance
- Participation in 2010 Food Share Program (Turkey Trot)
- · Bicycle Safety Program in schools
- Halloween Safety presentation
- Participated in "Tip-a-Cop" for Special Olympics
- Participated in Special Olympics "Torch Run"
- Assisted and organized 11th Annual David Vidal Road Race for St. Jude's
- Offered certified child car seat inspections and held annual clinics
- Held 9th Annual Top Dog Contest in cooperation with Town Clerk's office
- Senior Citizens/Community Groups informational talks and presentations
- · Advocacy for elderly program
- Updated Nexgen Software (Information Management System)
- AED Training All Officers
- Effective Police Interactions with Youth –
   Patrol Officer
- Crisis Intervention Team Training –
   (2) Officers
- Job Shadow program participant 2009
- Multiple College/University Criminal Justice Internship programs

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- Continual expansion of Department Community Oriented Policing/Problem Solving initiatives.
- Completion of CALEA and State reaccreditation, achieving certification in both.
- Implement the use of CAPTAIN/NEXGEN Mobile Data interface report writing.
- Implement and complete Active Shooter Training for all sworn members of the Simsbury PD.
- Re-evaluate the role of the School Resource Officer in relationship with the needs of the Board of Education.
- Establish a 3 year Departmental Strategic Plan.

#### **Probate Court**

On January 5, 2011 the Simsbury Probate Court became part of the Simsbury Regional Probate District which encompasses the towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Simsbury. The new court is located in the Simsbury town hall and is open during the regular town hall hours of operation. Paul J. Knierim retired as Judge of the Simsbury Probate Court at the end of his term, January 4, 2011, and Cynthia C. Becker, former judge for the Avon Probate Court, was elected as Judge of the Simsbury Regional Probate District for the term commencing January 5, 2011.

The mission of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court is to assist individuals and families residing in the district who require the services of the court in an efficient and compassionate manner. The probate court strives to ease the process as much as possible knowing that during stressful times it is difficult to cope with the unknown.

Although the staff and judge cannot provide legal advice to the users of the court, informational pamphlets are available and questions are always welcome. In addition, Judge Becker, in her capacity as Judge of Probate, is available to speak to community groups about probate matters.

#### Jurisdiction of the Court

Connecticut probate courts have jurisdiction over the probating of wills, administration and settlement of decedent's estates, overseeing the carrying out of the terms and provisions of testamentary and living (inter vivos) trusts, and reviewing the accountings of trustees. In addition, probate courts appoint, supervise and remove conservators of the person and estate of individuals incapable of managing their personal or financial affairs due to mental or physical disability. These areas represent over half of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court's workload.

The probate court also has jurisdiction over the appointment and supervision of guardians of the property and persons of minors and persons

with developmental disabilities; the removal of unfit parents as guardians of their children; the termination of parental rights of parents who cannot fulfill their parental responsibilities; the adjudication of paternity of children born out of wedlock and the finalization of adoptions. These matters make up about one third of the court's caseload, but are some of the most sensitive and time-consuming responsibilities of the court.

While probate courts have jurisdiction to authorize the commitment of those suffering from mental illness, or drug or alcohol addiction to appropriate hospitals or facilities for treatment, these cases represent a small percentage of the court's workload due mainly to the absence of psychiatric facilities in the region.

#### **New Developments**

The probate court for the new consolidated district is located in the Simsbury town hall and has jurisdiction over matters from the towns of Avon, Canton, Simsbury and Granby. The staff from the individual courts are employed by the regional court so residents will recognize familiar faces and the staff's expertise and professionalism has provided for a smooth transition. The goal of the court is to schedule and hear matters in the same timely manner that users of the individual courts have experienced. In light of the increased workload and the many tasks remaining to be done in merging the cases of the four individual courts, passports will no longer be processed by the probate court, however, Simsbury's post offices offer this service.

#### **Probate Court Website**

On-line information about the courts is available on our website, located at www.jud. ct.gov, click on "probate". Many of the forms used by the probate courts are now available through the website.



## **Public Works Department**

The Public Works Department is comprised of four divisions: Administrative, Highway, Building and Grounds Maintenance, and Landfill and Recycling. The Department has a combined staff of 28 and has a \$3.7M combined operating budget. The Administrative Division has responsibility for budget preparation, administration, operational planning, contracting, purchasing, and personnel.

#### **Highway Department**

The Highway Division maintains 164 miles of Town accepted roadways including 3,850 catch basins, the storm drainage system, roadside mowing, sign and guide-rail maintenance, and care for trees within the Towns roadway right of way. The Highway Division also performs fleet maintenance for all vehicles and heavy equipment utilized by the Public Works Division, as well as the Engineering, Building, and Police Departments. Some fleet maintenance has also been performed for the Board of Education in an attempt to help control costs for that department.

Beginning in the winter of 2009/2010 the Town began to use treated salt for our winter road maintenance in place of the traditional sand salt mixture. We have continued to build on our success with this new material that has provided cleaner roads during the winter months and lead to substantial savings in our spring street sweeping. The Department has also continued our popular "Snow Plow Ride Along" program that allows interested residents to get a first hand look at the Town's snow plow operations.

Following the approval of a \$2.6M Pavement Management Referendum, the Department





has been working to dramatically increase our roadway resurfacing projects. This past year, the Department was able to treat 55 miles of roadway, with the following methods:

Treatment	Miles of Roadway
Resurface (Traditiona	l Paving) 8.8
Heat Scarification*	
Chip Sealing	2.0
Crack Sealing	35
*hot in place asphalt recycling	

Our drainage crews rebuilt 165 catch basin structures to provide adequate roadway drainage. Most of this work was in conjunction with our paving program to assure that the structures below the newly paved road will not fail, requiring excavation with the newly paved roadway.

The Department replaced six underground fuel and oil tanks located at the Public Works Facility on Town Forest Road with above ground tanks. The two largest tanks at 10,000 gallon each had surpassed the manufacturers warranty. In removing the tanks and replacing them with above ground tanks, we have reduced the administrate reporting functions required by CT DEP and also reduced the Town's liability. During the removal process, the soil in the area around each tank was tested. Fortunately, all of the tanks were in good condition, and the soil testing confirmed there was no leakage from any of the tanks. Additionally, as part of the installation of the new fuel tanks, the Town implemented a Town wide fuel management program to better track the fuel usage of the various Town equipment.

As part of the DEP's Municipal Small Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program, 1300 catch basins and 10 sediment chambers were cleaned, along with the sweeping of all streets.

#### Landfill and Recycling Center

The Simsbury Landfill at 66 Wolcott Road was closed in 1998, and an application has been approved by the Department of Environmental Protection for continued operation as a bulky waste and recycling materials Transfer Station. The Town conducts annual monitoring of ground water and storm water at this site, and the site is also used as a composting area. This year an area for residents to pick up leaf compost and woodchips has been added to the facility. This addition to the services at the facility will benefit residents at no cost.

The Town issued a request for proposals for the operation of the landfill facility, and Paine's Incorporated was selected to continue operations at this facility. The decision to continue working with Paine's was based both on their pricing and long history of quality work operating this facility.

The Town participated in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection program with the cooperation of Avon, Granby, and Bloomfield. This year 353 residents participated in this program run through the MDC.

#### **Building Maintenance Department**

Building Maintenance is responsible for 4 Town Buildings (Town Hall, the Library, Eno Memorial Hall, and Scout Hall), 6 rental (continued on page 18)

## Departments & Services

(continued from page 17)

properties, a service facility, a commuter bus shelter, and the Old Tariffville Cemetery. Extensive work was done on the Town's low income residential rentals to prepare them for new tenants.

The Department hired a property management firm to oversee and manage all aspects of the town's six residential rental properties. Having the professional management company overseeing these rental properties will increase our occupancy rates and reduce the town's liability.

Eno Memorial has seen significant renovation work with the complete exterior painting, repairs to the clock that had not been working in years, and re-gilding of the gold dome on the cupola. Additionally, the window mounted air conditioning units have been replaced with high efficiency units that do not detract from the historic character of this important building.

The exterior lighting at Town Hall is currently being replaced with high efficiency LED lighting, due in part to the Town's receipt of an energy efficiency grant. This project, including the repaying of the parking lot will be completed in Spring 2011.

## **Registrars of Voters**

The operations of the office of the Registrars of Voters are governed by the Secretary of the State's office and state statute. The Registrars of Voters are jointly responsible for the administration of State Election Laws.

They direct all local, state, and federal elections and primaries, and the town's budget referendum, including staffing, equipment testing and operation, and absentee voter counting, reporting of results, and records retention. Registrars supervise voter registration, maintain the list of qualified electors, and conduct the annual canvass of registered voters.

Simsbury was selected for a random audit following the November 2010 election. The hand count conducted confirmed the results of

the machine count and verified the accuracy of the optical scanners used at the polls.

Young residents were made part of the election process in 2010. Students from Simsbury High School worked as election officials and as student volunteers for the August 2010 primary and the November 2010 state election. Registrars conducted the annual registration drive at Simsbury High School in May, and enrolled over 60 new voters.

In 2010, the Registrars continued to work with the Government and Elections Administration committee of the Connecticut General Assembly to reduce statute-driven mandates, including the reduction in number of polling places used for primaries, and streamlining the audit process. Should these initiatives pass, it would result in cost savings for all 169 towns in Connecticut.

Voter Registration Summary			
Town of Simsbury - February 7, 2011			
Democratic:	4,642		
Republican:	5,153		
Unaffiliated:	5,484		
Other:	62		
TOTAL:	15,341		

## **Social Services Department**

The Social Services Department provides assistance to individuals, families, and elderly residents in a professional and confidential manner.

This has been another difficult year for Simsbury families, and we have continued to see a tremendous increase in requests for assistance. Thankfully, we have been able to meet this increase in need thanks to the wonderfully generous residents of Simsbury.

The Department offers a variety of services to Simsbury residents, which include: Financial Assistance, Medical Assistance, Cheese Day, Bread Day, the Food Closet, the Holiday Program, Energy Assistance, Emergency Shelter, Counseling, Eviction Assistance, Medical Transportation, Renter's Rebate,



Family Therapy, Youth Services, Notary services, Trigger Locks, Cell Phones, and Emergency Beacon Lights.

The Department also provides vital outreach services to our senior population through the Senior Outreach Program; we provide transportation to seniors and persons with disabilities five days per week through our Dial-A-Ride Program, and operate a very active and diverse Senior Center for our residents over 50 years of age.

Our Youth Service Bureau continues to offer after-school events for middle school students on early release days. In addition, we have sponsored drug and alcohol awareness programs, character development and mentoring programs, Teen Center programs, graduation celebrations, Family Day, Skate and Share, and the Senior Center/Teen Center dance.

The Department's work continues to be generously supported by the donations of time, money, food, gifts, and products from various civic organizations, businesses, churches, schools, families, and individuals. A special thank you to Fitzgerald's Foods, Panera Bread, Brookside Bagels, and Starbucks for their weekly donations to our Bread Day Program, and to Stop & Shop for their annual Food For Friends donation.

Since the vast majority of our assistance programs are funded by donations, we would like to thank the many Simsbury residents who



have made financial donations during the year. It is through your generosity that we have the ability to assist our Simsbury neighbors who are struggling.

#### Senior Center

The mission of the Simsbury Senior Center is to provide a community focal point where older adults come together for programs that reflect their experience and skills, respond to their diverse needs and interests, enhance their dignity, support their independence, and encourage their involvement in and with the Center and their community.

The Center offers opportunities for health and wellness with the use of a Fitness Center and exercise classes for varied fitness levels. Health screenings and clinics are offered for blood pressure, hearing, vision, flu, and pneumonia vaccines.

A variety of educational and informational programs are offered, including a writing group, book club, an investment group, and guest lecturers. Opportunities to participate in artistic and creative programs are available with such activities as painting, choral singing, knitting, and writing. A variety of ongoing recreational and social activities are offered as well as special events to celebrate holidays and occasions. The Center also offers opportunities to travel with a variety of day and overnight trips. Souper Tuesday Lunches are provided six times a year, sponsored by the Aging and Disability Commission.

The Senior Center's weekly congregate meal program, "Lunch @ Eno", continues to be popular and provides guests with nutritious seasonal menus and an opportunity to socialize with peers.

A wide variety of computer/technology classes are offered, including: computer for the beginner, using the internet, email, digital camera, social networking, using webcams, and computer safety.



The Senior Center enhanced its intergenerational programs this year by partnering with the Simsbury Public Schools to offer opportunities that link students with older adults to help dispel inaccurate stereotypes, increase cooperation, and encourage interaction between generations.

The Senior Center offers assistance and support with income tax, Social Security benefits, bereavement, and care-giving.

The Center, located in Eno Memorial Hall, 754 Hopmeadow Street, is open year round, Monday, 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM and Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. For further information, call us at 860–658–3273 or click on www.townofsimsbury-ct.gov/seniorcenter.

The Simsbury Senior Center welcomes all members of the diverse and growing older adult population (age 50 and over), their families and friends.

#### Dial-a-Ride Program

The Social Services Department has operated the Dial-A-Ride Program for Simsbury's elderly and disabled residents since 1980. During the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year 7,848 passengers requested 7,077 trips, and traveled 43,014 miles. Buses run daily, Monday through



Friday providing door-to-door transportation within Simsbury for such things as shopping, hairdresser and medical appointments, the Senior Center, the Library and local functions. Further, the buses provide rides to doctor's appointments in Simsbury and Avon, shopping trips to the Simsbury Commons, and stores along Route 44. In addition, the Program provides service for Simsbury residents to local medical appointments, physical therapy, and transports several disabled residents to and from their place of employment.

During 2009-2010 the Social Services
Department received a grant from the
Connecticut Department of Transportation to
provide additional services to the elderly and
disabled residents. With these grant funds, the
Enhanced Dial-A-Ride Program was able to
provide 255 out-of-town medical trips; 9 joint
trips with the Canton Senior Center; 10 Senior
Center trips; and 7 Mobile FoodShare trips,
serving 189 passengers and traveling 12,153 miles.

Reservations can be made by calling 860-693-6876 between 8:00 AM and 12:00 Noon at least 24 hours in advance.

#### **Elderly Outreach Program**

The Senior Outreach Program provides outreach services to Simsbury's homebound (continued on page 20)

## Departments & Services

(continued from page 19)

senior and disabled residents. Since its inception in 1981, the Program uses volunteers to make weekly visits to those homebound who might need socialization, comfort, and friendship. The Program lets our homebound residents know that they are cared about. Successful matches have been made throughout the year resulting in 21 volunteers who made 758 visits.

In addition, our Senior Outreach Program provides information and guidance to residents and their families regarding local, state and federal resources they may benefit from. The emergency 911 medical incident reports provided by the Simsbury Police Department are followed up on. Home visits are made and information given on services including homecare, alternate housing, medical and financial assistance. Assistance is provided with Energy Assistance, ConnPace, and Medicaid applications. Finally, we maintain a current list of frail elderly and persons with disabilities, which is activated each time we experience severe weather conditions. We will continue to strive to better serve our seniors and disabled residents, and with the continued assistance from our wonderful and committed volunteers, our Program will continue to thrive.

## Tax Collector

Taxes, a compulsory governmental charge for the purpose of defraying the cost of services provided for common benefit, is the major source of revenue for Town Government. As such, the Tax Collector is responsible for collection of both current and delinquent taxes (real estate and motor vehicle, sewer use and assessment and some water assessments.)

We are also responsible for the collections and balancing of all Fire District taxes. Concern and understanding continue to be the department's driving force. We also strive for quality of personal contact with the taxpayer. If at any time there is a problem or concern please feel free to contact us at 860-658-3238.

These duties, when performed in an efficient manner, should reflect the financial well being of the Town. which is the backbone of any municipality in regard to the fiscal debt and bonding capacity.

2008 Grand List Mill Rate	
Town	30.10
Fire District	1.05
Total	31.15

#### Statistics for 2008 Grand List Number of Accounts to be collected

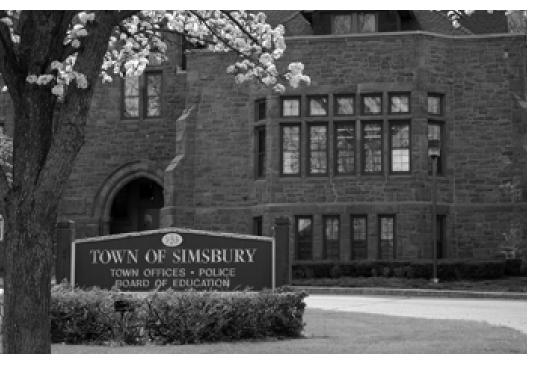
Maniber of Accounts t	o be conceted
Real Estate	8,557
Personal Property	1,096
Motor Vehicle	20,814
Motor Vehicle Supp.	2,822
Total \$ to be collected	\$78,443,794.84

## **Town Clerk**

The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for receiving and maintaining extensive records concerning real estate transactions; births, deaths, marriages and civil unions; elections, primaries and referenda; meeting minutes for Town boards and commissions; military discharges; hunting and fishing sport licenses; dog licenses; liquor licenses; notaries public; justices of the peace; trade name certificates; and other historical documents that date back to the seventeenth century. State statutes, the Town Charter, and local ordinances govern the implementation of duties for this office.

On August 12, 2008, a Republican Party Primary was held for the office of State Senator. At the November 4, 2008, State Election, which included the offices of president and vice president, voter turnout was 88 percent. The Town Clerk's staff issued a record number of absentee ballots (2,040), which was an increase of 19 percent over the amount issued at the 2004 presidential election. On November 3, 2009, 42 percent of Simsbury voters participated in the Municipal Election.

Annual budget and special town meetings were held on May 5, 2009. Operating budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, were presented. At the special town meeting, capital projects were approved to construct a combined parks and golf maintenance facility; to renovate





portions of Central School; to replace a generator at Squadron Line School; and to replace core switches that service the schools and the Town. At the budget referendum held on May 19, 2009, voter turnout was 13 percent. All operating budgets were approved.

In cooperation with Chief Peter Ingvertsen, Animal Control Officer Mark Rudewicz. and the Simsbury Police Department, we conducted our eighth Top Dog Contest during May 2008. The four happy winners received dog treats, and their owners received a 2008 dog license at no charge.

Statistics for Fiscal Year 2009-2010			
Total Revenues*	\$845,486		
Birth Certificates	180		
Death Certificates	207		
Marriage Licenses	259		
Military Discharges	24		
Trade Names	82		
Dog Licenses	2,353		
Land Record Pages	21,066		

<sup>\*</sup> The Town of Simsbury forwarded a portion of these revenues to various state agencies in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut.

## Water Pollution Control

Simsbury Water Pollution Control is responsible for the operation and maintenance of over 70 miles of collection system, five pumping stations, and the treatment facility. Wastewater from Granby and portions of Avon are also received for treatment. The department is staffed by a superintendent, five operators, two maintainers, an administrative secretary, and engineering technician. During the summer seasonal staff is used primarily for easement maintenance.

The treatment facility is designed to provide secondary treatment and biological nitrogen removal. During the reporting interval the discharge limits were achieved, with insignificant exceptions. As an energy and budget conservation effort, one-half of the biological nutrient removal capacity (requiring

Parameter	Influent	Effl	uent
		Permit Limit	7/09 to 6/10
ADF, mgd		3.8	2.26
CBOD, mg/L	217	25	3
TSS, mg/L	257	30	4
TN, lb TN/day	676	107	65

ADF, Average Daily Flow CBOD, Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand

TSS, Total Suspended Solids TN, Total Nitrogen

230 horsepower) has not been operated. As flows increase, this practice will not be possible. The current expectation is that this additional capacity will be required during winter operation starting the winter of 2010/11. The biological treatment process depends upon bacteria, and their activity slows down in the cold water. Thus, it becomes necessary to have more of them in the winter.

During the reporting period, wastewater treatment for a population equivalent of 23,900 was provided. In addition to clean water, the other end result of treatment is sludge. An average of 58 dry tons of dewatered sludge per month was transported to the Metropolitan District Commission's Hartford facility for incineration.

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is in the process of developing phosphorus limits for wastewater treatment facilities that discharge to receiving streams with impoundments (Rainbow reservoir). DEP also administers Simsbury's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which expired February 2010. When the permit is reissued it will provide a compliance schedule for design and construction of the structures/equipment required to achieve the permitted Total Maximum Daily Load phosphorus limit.

Sewer easement maintenance continues to be a priority. Most of the overgrown easements have been cleared. The easements need to be kept open to allow access for inspection and maintenance.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

- Sewer easement maintenance was continued.
- The U.S. EPA DMRQA28 evaluation was passed. This is an annual evaluation of our laboratory procedures.
- Received \$12,229 for sale of nitrogen credits in 2009.
- · Design and specifications for the rehabilitation of Wolcott Pump Station and replacement of Tunxis Pump Station were completed.
- · Provided data and input regarding sewer service for the Simsbury Center Zone
- Completed several sewer allocation analyses for proposed development in the sewer service area.
- A number of tours were provided to school and civic groups throughout the year.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- · Complete the construction phase of the Tunxis Pump Station replacement project.
- · Continue documenting the location and condition of manholes and sewers. Integrate sewer data and mapping into the Town's GIS.
- · Document need and obtain funding to stabilize the Farmington River stream bank in the Hazel Meadow area.
- · Enhance and expand safety training efforts. Tours of the Water Pollution Control Facility can be scheduled. Public information presentations are also available to groups.

Information on connections, permits, or sewer line locations can be obtained by visiting the facility or calling 860-658-1380.

## Boards & Commissions

## Aging and Disability Commission

The Aging and Disability Commission is an advisory group whose purpose is to study the needs of and evaluate services and events designed to enhance the quality of life for Simsbury's older adults and individuals who are disabled. Its focus is to be advocates for the elderly and disabled by promoting sources that provide appropriate information, assistance and support services.

To that end, the Aging and Disability Commission was involved with numerous activities and events during the 2009-10 fiscal year. They include:

- The Commission conducted a Disability Needs Survey to evaluate the needs, services and events of persons with disabilities in the Town of Simsbury. Fifty-one respondents completed the survey, and the results were presented to the Board of Selectmen.
- The Commission met with the Registrar of Voters to discuss ways of making the polling stations in town more accessible.
- · Members of the Commission continued to provide consultation to the town with regard to the renovation of the existing Senior Center as well as plans for a potential new Senior Center.
- The Principal of Simsbury High School appointed a junior year student to act as the student liaison to the Aging and Disability Commission.
- The Commission conducted a Picnic in the Park event, which is a community event for persons with disabilities, their friends, and families. The event took place at St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Simsbury and had over one hundred individuals participating.
- The Commission presented their Senior Service Award Award to Mr. Frank Joclyn at a Board of Selectmen meeting in May of 2009.
- The Commission sponsored Souper Tuesday luncheons held six times a year at the Senior Center. The luncheon consists of a special soup, sandwich and dessert and is rounded out by local entertainment. Over eight

- hundred seniors attended the Souper Tuesday luncheons.
- The Commission received \$1,500 from the town to provide additional Souper Tuesday luncheons as well as to offset the costs of the Picnic in the Park event.
- The Commission participated in the Simsbury Volunteer Expo held in April at Eno Memorial Hall.
- The Commission presented its first Business Recognition Award at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. The award was presented to Auto-Bon, Inc.
- · Members of the Commission were guests on Deputy Selectman John Hampton's show on SCTV.
- The Chairman of the Commission represented the Town of Simsbury on the North Central Region Mental Health Board.
- Members of the Commission participated on the Senior Outreach committee along with the Simsbury Board of Education and Simsbury Social Services Department. The Senior Outreach program provides opportunities for seniors to participate in school activities free of charge.
- The Commission provided consultation and support to the Coordinator of the Simsbury Senior Center.
- · The Commission, in an effort to keep abreast of current happenings in the field of seniors and persons with disabilities, had as its guest several community speakers who are acknowledged as experts in their field.

The Aging and Disability Commission would like to thank the following community organizations for their financial support of "Souper Tuesday" and Picnic in the Park.

- · Simsbury Lion's Club
- · Civitan Club of Simsbury
- · First Church of Christ Simsbury
- · Simsbury Woman's Club

The Aging and Disability Commission has as its action plan for FY 10-11 the following:

• Work in concert with the Town of Simsbury to develop and implement a plan for the renovation of Eno Memorial Hall or to

- develop and implement a plan for a new Senior Center.
- · Identify issues and develop a report regarding accessibility of town owned buildings. Educate the community on community inclusion challenges relating to those with various barriers.
- Advocate for affordable housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Investigate accessible transportation options for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- · Advocate for senior tax relief while informing seniors of existing programs.
- Work in concert with the town's emergency management team to investigate and implement programs which will ensure the safety and security of seniors and persons with disabilities.
- · Work in concert with the Simsbury Department of Education for the purpose of providing senior outreach programs.
- Recognize community members who make positive contributions to the town's seniors and persons with disabilities as well as recognizing businesses that do the same.
- · Work in concert with the Registrar of Voters to ensure polling places are accessible to persons with disabilities and seniors.
- Serve as a resource to Simsbury businesses on issues that impact seniors and individuals with disabilities as it relates to purchasing goods and services.
- · Work with state and local officials to advocate for legislation related to seniors and individuals with disabilities.

## **Beautification Commission**

The more than 80 Simsbury Beautification Committee (SBC) volunteers plant and maintain nearly 70 public spaces throughout our town, including planter boxes, traffic triangles, Simsbury Farms Golf Course, Schultz Park, the Library and Town Hall. Every spring volunteers plant flowers in their chosen plots and maintain them all summer. During the hot and dry months, the volunteers are often seen lugging gallons of water to their sites. In the fall the summer plants are replaced by mums and cabbages followed by winter greenery.



SBC continues to recruit volunteers to replace members who can no longer participate. The group provides a way for people who like to be out doors to get involved in the town; there is a great deal of satisfaction in creating an area of beauty. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and volunteers from the local schools are recruited to help with special projects like spreading mulch in the park. Several volunteers have involved their young children in the planting and watering, instilling in them at an early age the importance of working for the good of our community.

## **Board of Assessment Appeals**

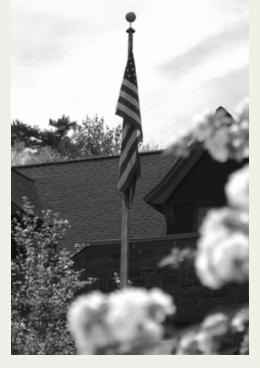
The Board of Assessment Appeals is an elected board of three individuals which hears appeals of property tax valuations. The board meets twice a year, hearing homeowner, other real estate, and personal property and automobile appeals in March, and automobiles only in September. The board works closely with the town Assessor's office.

During the March 2010 meetings, the board (Mark Wigmore, Dennis Farrell and Will Fiske) heard 6 homeowner appeals, 8 appeals from commercial property holders (including 1 personal property appeal) and 2 automobile appeals. In September 2010, the board heard 27 automobile appeals.

For 2011, the board has set hearing days for April 4th, 6th, 7th, & 13th for real estate, personal property and motor vehicle appeals. The September motor vehicle hearing date will be set later in the spring. In November 2011, two board seats will be up for election (Mr. Wigmore & Mr. Farrell).

## **Building Code Board** of Appeals

The Connecticut General Statutes mandate that each municipality offer a means to review and evaluate an appeal of an aggrieved party to a decision rendered by the local Building Official. The Simsbury Building Code Board of Appeals fulfills that requirement.



There are five regular members and two alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen including four with a minimum of five years experience in either building design, building construction, or supervision of building construction, and a fifth member serving from the general public. Membership appointments are for a period of five years and staggered for continuity. A quorum consists of not less than three members.

Appeals must be heard in the jurisdiction in which the Building Official serves and are subject to the FOIA requirements of public notification in Town Hall stipulating dates, time and location for the meeting.

Procedurally, a written appeal must be filed by the aggrieved party stipulating the specific sections of the Connecticut State Building Code being challenged, citing reasons, and must be delivered to the Simsbury Building Official for action. Upon notification by the Building Official the Chairman of the Building Code Board of Appeals must convene a meeting within five working days to act on the specific appeal.

A simple majority vote by Board members at the conclusion of the meeting will affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the Building Official and a formal Notice of Decision is filed with the Town with copies to the Appellant and the Building Official.

The Building Code Board of Appeals meets at a minimum annually to elect a Chairman and

Deputy Chairman from its membership and review any changes to the applicable codes; otherwise the panel meets on an as-needed basis.

## Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force ("CETF"), created by the Board of Selectmen in 2008, is charged with overseeing the town's commitment to new, sustainable, green initiatives and clean, alternate energy sources. The CETF is currently comprised of five acting members: Patrick Boeshans, Bob Beinstein, James Ray, Susan Van Kleef, and Alfred Weisbrich.

In 2010, the CETF created and implemented the first in a series of clean energy education initiatives in support of the Simsbury School District and successfully administrated the state's Clean Energy Options Community Grant Program. Additional programs are poised for implementation in 2011 following creation of a special revenue fund by the Town of Simsbury Board of Finance ("BOF"). The CETF is not directly supported by municipal funds and has successfully obtained a generous donation from Aquarion Water Company to underwrite sustainable initiatives. A special revenue fund is necessary to deposit and access these donations and utilize them for the following town initiatives:

#### **Description of Programs** 1. Simsbury School District Energy

Education Kits (completed project) The CETF, in partnership with the elementary science coordinator for Simsbury public schools, has successfully infused alternative energy education into the established science curriculum for 5th grade students. Alternate energy education teaching kits have been assembled and provided to all Simsbury elementary schools. Each kit includes materials and equipment for multiple small groups within a single, average sized classroom. Students work cooperatively in these groups, assembling small, functional photovoltaic cells and experiencing other hands-on learning

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## Boards & Commissions

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methods. Additionally, a training class was provided to fifth grade teachers, orientating them to the contents of the energy kits and applicable curriculum teaching points. Dr. Diane Ullman, Superintendant of Simsbury Public Schools offered the following thoughts on this initiative. "We are very grateful to the Clean Energy Task Force and to Aquarion Water Company for their generous support of our science curriculum. Such partnerships with the community keep our curriculum vibrant and relevant for students. Alternative energy is a topic of great interest to students and is of vital importance to our country. Our curriculum is designed to engage students in real life problems and we are very pleased that our students will now have the opportunity to explore alternative energy concepts as early as the 5th grade. In a world of limited financial resources, the donation of equipment, supplies and most importantly expertise, by community groups is deeply appreciated."

2. Green Business Certification (Designed in 2010 and slotted for implementation in 2011) The Green Business Certification ("GBC") rating system, designed in 2010 and slotted for implementation in 2011, provides standards for environmentally sustainable Simsbury business operations and services. Businesses recognized for their utilization level of the rating system are permitted to display and use the Simsbury GBC award decal and mark, indicating they have passed the accreditation review as determined by the Town of Simsbury's Clean Energy Task Force. Participating merchants will be listed and promoted in the "Shop Green" Simsbury merchant program. The GBC program assists Simsbury business owners and managers with the process of improving performance on the triple bottom line, encompassing environmental, economic and societal benefits. This initiative is ready for implementation upon creation of the special revenue fund by the BOF.

# 3. Clean Energy Options Program (Ongoing Initiative)

The Clean Energy Option Program ("CEOP")

provides the opportunity for Simsbury residents to choose to bring clean, renewable energy into the power grid. Electrical power is currently generated in New England, through natural gas, nuclear power, oil, coal and other sources. Through CEOP, Simsbury residents can instead choose wind, solar or small hydro electric power through several energy products available in a partnership with local utility providers. The minimal associated costs and significant personal carbon reductions are benefits of this program in addition to the state's municipal reward program, which provides participating municipalities with photovoltaic solar installations on public buildings, Without funding, the CETF has continued to mount a grassroots campaign in support of this commitment to increasing clean, renewable energy levels in excess of 20%. Through library and town hall display opportunities, newsletters, and various media hits the CETF is pleased that the town of Simsbury has consistently been ranked in the state's top ten communities for overall sign-ups.

Upon creation of the new revenue fund, currently under review by the BOF, the CETF can ramp up event participation and get the word out at more local Simsbury events and trade shows such as the Simsbury Home Show, Simsbury Celebrates, Simsbury Farmers Market, Talcott Music Festival and more. With access to the generous donation by the Aquarion Water Company, The CETF will now be able to participate in 2011 events that require entrance or space rental fees. For more information on the CETF or the CEOP, please visit townofsimsbury.com and click on the clean energy options link for residents.

## **Conservation Commission**

The Conservation Commission is comprised of nine appointed members including seven regular members and two alternates. Formed under the auspices of and controlled primarily by CGS Sec. 7-131a through CGS Sec 7-131e, it is responsible for preserving the natural resources of the Town of Simsbury and for keeping a town wide inventory of open

spaces. Under CGS Sec. 22a-42 through 44, the Commission also acts as the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (IWWA) for Simsbury and administers state and local regulations regarding the use and protection of designated wetlands. The Commission endeavors to protect designated wetlands, watercourses, vernal pools and associated upland review areas, as well as the natural habitats and species that they support.

During the 2009–2010 fiscal year, the Commission received 36 applications. Of these 16 were approved by the Commission, 14 received administrative approval as authorized by CGS Sec. 22a-42a(2) and Sec. 12 of the Simsbury IWWA regulations. Three map amendments were also approved by the Commission and 3 applications were withdrawn. None were denied. The Commission may also comment on applications made to the Planning and Zoning Commissions that involve conservation issues.

In September '09, the town conducted a Charrette, to explore the long term potential for the revitalization of the Center Zone. The Commission, in its Conservation role, stressed the importance of incorporating Low Impact Design (LID) in any future development of the area because of its proximity to the Farmington River Floodplain. They proposed that existing outdated storm water infrastructure be retrofitted to improve hydrology and to reduce impact to the river.

The Commission remains active in commenting on the conservation aspects of proposals for regulation changes from the Zoning Commission at this time.

## **Design Review Board**

The Simsbury Design Review Board (DRB) serves as an advisory body to the Planning and Zoning Commissions on site planning, building design and signage. The DRB is responsible for reviewing land use applications and making detailed recommendations consistent with its publication, Guidelines for Community Design.



The DRB recommends to property owners, developers and other commissions ways and methods to preserve Simsbury's visual resources, improve community development, protect significant architectural heritage, conserve value in the built and natural environment, and assist when appropriate to formulate and implement sound planning and design policies.

There are seven regular and three alternate members appointed and qualified to serve by reason of training and/or experience in Architecture, Site Planning, Landscape Architecture, Historic Preservation, Professional Engineering, Graphic Design or other discipline as determined appropriate by the Board of Selectmen. Members are appointed on a two-year basis.

Current projects under development by the Design Review Board include:

- Participating in the Route 10 Traffic Corridor Study in partnership with CRCOG
- · Coordinating with other quality of life organizations such as the Simbury Main Street Partnership

Future projects anticipated include:

- · Assisting in creating design guidelines for the Simsbury Center Code
- · Preparing amendments to the Guidelines for Community Design

In addition to its regular function in the land use process throughout the Town, the DRB will play a primary role in all Simsbury Center applications subject to the form-based code currently considered for adoption by the Zoning Commission.

In summary the Design Review Board functions as part of Simsbury's informed decision-making to revitalize its centers, celebrate its heritage, maintain the natural environment, provide for recreation, build on established landscape patterns, and, most importantly, preserve community identity.



## **Economic Development** Commission

The EDC was created by municipal ordinance for the promotion and development of the economic development resources of the Town of Simsbury. Its powers are defined by Charter and as established by CGS Section 7-136. Its mission is to advise the Town of Simsbury and act as its liaison in order to facilitate expansion of the tax base, consistent with the character of the Town, through maintenance and growth of existing businesses and attraction of comparable new businesses. The EDC's current efforts have been in the areas of marketing the Town consistent with the EDC's business attraction plan: developing a town-wide infrastructure more supportive of business; and as appropriate, advocating approval of commercial development projects that will augment the Town's commercial tax base and help maintain the overall character and quality of life within Simsbury.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

- Supported the Town Center charrette effort, which took place in September 2009 and which work continues at this time.
- Continued to provide input to the Zoning Commission as they continue to work on Zoning Regulation revisions for a new mixed use Planned Area Development zoning regulation and Form Based Code for the Town Center.
- Supported, when appropriate, the expansion and development of local businesses.
- · Attended conferences such as the Community Builder's Institute sponsored by NU, to promote the town and learn more about new trends and opportunities in economic development.

- Continued to support economic development efforts through membership to CERC and the EDDI programs, which provide information to those looking for various development alternatives or looking to locate in Simsbury.
- Continued to support Simsbury Main Street Partnership organization.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

In keeping with our mission to facilitate the expansion of the tax base, we will continue to work collaboratively with applicants, organizations, town staff, boards and commissions and other entities whose common objectives are to foster the economic vitality of Simsbury.

- · Work to help implement policies and regulations which increase the vibrancy of our town center. This work will focus on the results and implementation of the Town Center charrette, which took place in September 2009.
- Work toward consensus on a master plan for the land east of Iron Horse Boulevard.
- Meet with applicants and staff to help determine how best to continually improve the application and approval process.
- Continue to promote Simsbury businesses through a series of outreach activities.
- Support the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, Farmington Valley Visitors Association, Simsbury Main Street Partnership and Simsbury Library's Business Resource Center and Tourism.
- Continue to investigate infrastructure improvements which will improve Simsbury's competitiveness.
- · Continue to utilize CERC to regionally promote and market Simsbury.

## Boards & Commissions

#### **Board of Fthics**

The Board of Ethics administers the Code of Ethics (Chapter 13) for the Town of Simsbury. The Code of Ethics sets forth standards of ethical conduct guiding officials, employees, and consultants of the Town of Simsbury in the conduct of their public responsibilities and develops and maintains a tradition of responsible and effective public service.

In fiscal year 2009-2010, the Board of Ethics held four regularly scheduled quarterly meetings and one special meeting. In April 2010, David Blume joined the Board as a nonaffiliated member.

At a special meeting on April 13, 2010, the Board considered a resident's letter that First Selectman Glassman had referred to the Board. The Board invited the resident to file a Complaint on the Board of Ethics Complaint form, but he declined to do so. The Board reviewed the letter in executive session, decided that no violation of the Code of Ethics was indicated, and declined to initiate its own Complaint or investigation.

On September 13, 2010, the Board considered several Complaints filed by a resident. The Board reviewed the Complaints in executive session and decided that no violation of the Code of Ethics was indicated.

The Board arranged for the State Freedom of Information Commission to make a presentation to Town officials on October 5, 2010 regarding governmental recordkeeping, public documents, and making documents available to the public.

#### Fair Rent Commission

The Fair Rent Commission was established pursuant to State Statute and Chapter 15 of the Town Code of Ordinances. Pursuant to State Law and local ordinances, the Commission has the power to make studies and investigations, conduct hearings and receive written complaints relative to rental charges on housing accommodations, except those accommodations rented on a seasonal

basis, within the Town of Simsbury. The Fair Rent Commission seeks to control or eliminate excessive rental charges on such accommodations and to carry out the provisions of Chapter 15 of the Town Code and applicable State Law.

As the Commission looks to the future, with improving economic conditions, both locally and nationally, there is an increased sensitivity to the historical pattern of increased pressures on rents. The Fair Rent Commission's goal is to retain and encourage the development of a reasonable diversity in rental housing in Simsbury.

#### Fire District

Simsbury is especially fortunate to have a group of dedicated fire volunteers that devote untold hours of specialized training to protecting its citizens. These efforts result in one of the best protected communities in the state. Fortunately, the regular department membership and the cadet program are at strong levels.

Simsbury Fire's volunteers also include the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary and the commissioners and officers of the Simsbury Fire District. The extraordinary efforts of these special residents save taxpayers untold costs each year in labor costs. Their professionalism and commitment to continuing education and expertise is a great source of community pride and results in a high level of security as we go about our everyday lives.

The commitment and work of our paid employees is much appreciated also. The Fire Marshal's office, the building and fleet maintenance staff and the dispatch office staff contributed greatly this year, as in the past, to maintaining the excellence of this department. The community outreach activities of the Fire Marshal's office with public fire education as well as the District have helped the community better understand fire department operations.

• The Simsbury Fire District operated within budget. The District adhered to its longterm goal of meeting both operating and

capital requirements without resorting to borrowing. It is especially important to note that the Main Station replacement project was accomplished without a change in the tax rate or resorting to any borrowing. The Fire District has been planning for this project for the last 10 years and had accumulated sufficient capital reserves,

- · Last year's mill rate was set at 1.03 mills, which represented a decrease of 2% from the prior year.
- The Main Station replacement project was closed out in the late summer of 2010. The Fire District was fortunate to have the capacity to proceed with this critical project at a time of very favorable construction pricing, and the building was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. Aside from the building itself, the Fire District worked very closely with the Volunteer Fire Company to construct a memorial park in front of the station, which commemorates the memory of Frank Bradley as well as all of those deceased members of the community that have volunteered for the fire service.
- The Fire District hosted the Annual Lt. Richard Kelleher Awards Dinner at which 2010 service awards were presented to the department's volunteers (Lt. Kelleher, aged 37, died in the line of duty fighting a fire at the Knights of Columbus Hall, next to St. Mary's Church, on November 6, 1981.)

A total of seven Firefighter service awards were presented, representing 75 cumulative years of volunteer service for the honored recipients. Further, six Ladies' Auxiliary service awards was also presented, representing an additional 95 years of volunteer service. Simsbury can be proud to have volunteers that make this kind of commitment to the safety and protection of the community.

Awards were presented as follows: Chief's Award - The Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary



Carl Banks Engineer Award – JT Huber Lea Hutchinson Service Award - Anson Brown

5 Year Award 30 Year Award IT Huber John Solury 15 Year Award Kellan Boudreau Chris Vervaert Andrew Albert 15 Year Award Ryan Esthus Michael Brown

The following service awards were also presented to members of the Ladies Auxiliary.

10 Year Award

Bobbie Kowalski Pam Kelley 20 Year Award 5 Year Award Valerie North Stephanie Brown Ruth Senger Alison Wilcox

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

30 Year Award

- · Continued enhancements for the department website, which citizens are encouraged to explore at www.simsburyfd.org.
- · Bidding and awarding a contract for the replacement of S-13, a 25 year old pumper.
- · Federally mandated replacement of our breathing apparatus bottles and the replacement of our purified breathing air filling system which has reached the end of its useful life.
- · Maintaining our current volunteer staffing levels.
- Expanding the educational opportunities of our Junior Firefighter program.
- · Continued community outreach via programs sponsored by the Fire District, Fire Company & Ladies Auxiliary.
- Preparation of a strategic plan for fire station capital improvements and maintenance now that all have been replaced under a prior strategic plan.
- Continued commitment to emergency readiness through ongoing training, live exercises, and review of past practices.
- · Continued commitment to the Town of Simsbury safety focus as an active member of the public safety subcommittee.

#### **Historic District Commission**

The East Weatogue Historic District Commission has the responsibility to perpetuate, preserve, and retain the historic features of Simsbury and to promote the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places within the East Weatogue Historic District.

Fiscal year 2009-2010 was a fairly quiet year for Certificates of Appropriateness, as the Commission received two applications. The applications consisted of an agricultural hoop house or greenhouse for the only working farm in the district and home renovation which would affect the street side view of the home. Both Certificates were approved.

In an effort to highlight the historic beauty of Simsbury, the East Weatogue Historic District, aluminum "Scenic Road" signs created by the Department of Public Works, were placed on top of the existing street identification signs on town designated scenic roads which are:

- · Terry's Plain Road
- Ferry Lane
- Goodrich Road
- · Barndoor Hills Road

In addition, three carved, wooden "Scenic Road" sign toppers were commissioned by the same wood carver of the "Historic District" free standing signs. These toppers were painted and placed on top of three existing "Historic District" signs located at the south end of East Weatogue Street, the intersection of Riverside Road and East Weatogue Street and at the north end of the district on the west side of East Weatogue Street. Painting and placement of the signs was done by a dedicated Historic District Commission member.

The Historic District Commission and the Town of Simsbury received a Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant from the Connecticut Commission of Culture and Tourism in the amount of \$30,000. A consultant, Mr. Lucas Karmazinas, was hired to



conduct a Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) of historic structures. The consultant focused his study on the homes built by the Ensign-Bickford Company, and between December 2009 and April 2010, Lucas conducted his research of 150 E-B homes. His final product, An Historic and Architectural Resources Inventory For The Town of Simsbury, was presented at the May 27, 2010 Historic District Commission meeting. The HRI contained information as to who designed, built, and lived in these homes and any other historic events that may have taken place in or near the homes. The completion of this project greatly assisted in the Commission's goal, which is to document all of the historically significant structures in Simsbury.

An additional Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant was also awarded to the Commission in 2009, in the amount of \$2,800. This grant will be used to hire a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) consultant to create a data layer on the town GIS map using the research information from the Historic Resources Inventory.

Historic District Commission members and staff attended a seminar entitled. "The R.O.I. (Return On Investment) of Historic Preservation" whose presenter was able to show mathematically, how it makes more economic sense to save historic structures than to tear them down to build new. Also, mean values

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## Boards & Commissions

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of homes located within historic districts, typically retain mean values of between \$59,000-\$67,000 higher than homes located outside of districts.

Objectives for FY 2009-2010 include the completion of a GIS map layer to highlight the research from the Historic Resources Inventory. The Historic District Commission, with their knowledge of historic preservation, will be involved with the Simsbury Town Center Charrette and advisors to the development of the Town Center Code Regulation. The Commission will also continue their efforts to be a resource to the residents of the Town of Simsbury to help answer any questions regarding historic building renovations. The Historic District Commission looks forward to partnering with other historic and business organizations in town to promote Simsbury as a heritage tourism destination.

## **Housing Authority**

The Simsbury Housing Authority, located on 13 beautifully wooded acres at 1600 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury is a non-profit organization responsible for operating the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments and the Virginia Connolly Residence.

We are dedicated to providing affordable, safe, decent, sanitary and drug free housing for our residents. Our facilities provide subsidized housing for the elderly and persons over 18 with disabilities meeting certain income limitations. The Authority consists of five (5) commissioners appointed by the Board of Selectmen (as required by the State of Connecticut General Statutes) that oversee operations and provide strategic direction to the Authority's staff. The Authority employs five (5) full time, permanent staff and a number of part time workers.

The Authority receives no funding from the Town of Simsbury. Revenues are derived from rents, subsidy from the Department of Economic and Community Development and grants and donations from individuals, commercial, private and civic organizations.

#### Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments

The Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments provides housing for elderly persons, age 62 and over, and persons with disabilities receiving Social Security Disability Income. There are 70 garden-style wood frame construction units (49 efficiency units and 21 one-bedroom units) designed for independent living. The first phase consisting of forty (40) units was constructed in 1970 and the second phase consisting of thirty (30) units was constructed in 1974. There is also a Community Building for social functions and two gazebos on the property where residents gather to socialize in nice weather. Many of the residents of the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments participate in activities and programs conducted at the Virginia Connolly Residence such as Bingo, Jewelry, Stamping, etc.

In 2010 we received a donation of a new computer, which is housed at the Virginia Connolly Residence but frequently used by Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartment's' residents.

Currently, all 70 units are occupied. At the end of 2010 we maintained a Waiting List of over 30 applicants for our 70 apartments. In order to satisfy all of these applicants prior to accepting any new applicants we have closed the Waiting List and are not accepting any new applications.

#### Virginia Connolly Residence

The Virginia Connolly Residence provides Congregate housing for persons aged 62 and over. Constructed in 1990, it is a two story brick building consisting of forty (40) efficiency units designed for independent living with services. Services include one main meal each day which is prepared on-site and wait staff served in a central dining room, weekly housekeeping service and 24-hour security. There are also many activities for the residents including a weekly Armchair Exercise Program, Tai Chi, Bingo, Book Group, Men's Coffee Hour, and a Coffee & Donut Social. Currently, all 40 units are occupied.

An Assisted Living Program is available for residents who require assistance beyond the basic Congregate Program. The services are provided through the State Department of Social Services Home Care Program for the Elderly and are designed to help elderly residents age in place.

In 2010 we participated with the outreach efforts of the Town of Simsbury to coordinate activities between the Simsbury School System and our residents. Residents became volunteers at the schools, attended theater and sports events and met several times with students from the Henry James middle school. One particularly successful activity was the building of ginger bread houses, which was widely publicized. Further, we participated with students from the Westminster School on two community service projects during the fall which included leaf raking, serving residents in the Dining Room, nail polishing and much more.

#### **Construction Projects**

There were no major construction projects in 2010.

#### Property

None of our housing was sold, leased or transferred during the past year and all units remain as rental housing for low and moderate income residents.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

We continue to develop a long-term strategy for maintaining and expanding both properties in order to be competitive in the housing market. We have scheduled workshops with an outside facilitator to determine the long-term needs in our demographic area and to plan a course of action.

We are upgrading our overall marketing strategy including advertising, brochures, news articles, local public television, our web site, etc.

We are actively participating in supporting current legislative matters that relate to public housing, assisted living concerns and most importantly, funding for rental assistance,



congregate subsidy and resident services. In particular, we are supporting legislation that requires a thorough background check on all healthcare workers and homemakers who provide assistance to the elderly and disabled.

#### Human Relations Commission

The Human Relations Commission is an advisory group whose goal is to eliminate discrimination based upon race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or national ancestry. The Commission seeks to foster mutual respect and understanding, offers community-wide education and awareness, and encourages equality of treatment. It seeks compliance with federal, state, and other governmental laws and regulations, and assists public and private agencies in the implementation of those goals. In April 2010, in conjunction with the YMCA, the Simsbury Social Services Department, and the Simsbury Library, the Human Relations Commission co-sponsored the Stand Against Racism event.

## Juvenile Review Board

The Juvenile Review Board was established in 1982 by the Simsbury Police Department to provide an alternative and early means of identifying and assisting Simsbury youths, age 15 and under, who come in contact with the police for being involved with minor violations of criminal statutes.

The function of the Board is to divert Simsbury youth from the Juvenile Justice system. A referral to the Juvenile Review Board provides an opportunity for professionals, who work with children to ensure that the child understands that he/she will be held accountable by the community for minor violations of the law.

Historically, the Board has had a high rate of success. The vast majority of children who are referred to the Juvenile Review Board are not again involved with the police.

In fiscal year 2009-2010, the Board met with 15 Simsbury youths and their families. A total of 189 community service hours were assigned and performed.

## **Library Board of Directors**

The Simsbury Public Library seeks to provide free and equal access to reading and electronic materials and reference information for all residents and businesses of Simsbury. The Library Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the philosophy of Library Services, setting policies to implement this philosophy and monitoring funds appropriated by Simsbury for the Library.

During the 2009/2010 fiscal year, the Library Board conducted a survey of Library patrons to help plan for the next five years and beyond. Among our findings were the following: Two thirds of library patrons are female and one third is male, with adults over age 35 accounting for 70% of book borrowing with the next largest group being children and young teens. The distribution is very similar for DVD and CD borrowing and computer/WiFi usage. The survey showed the most underserved groups are older teens and younger adults.

The level of interest in internet and digital media was a theme throughout the survey with requests for more audio and electronic books, e-readers and DVD's. Also popular were requests for new books and media of all types. Many patrons requested extended evening and weekend hours. A key finding of the survey was the very high utilization of the Library website.

Approximately 70% of respondents across all age groups use the Library's website to reserve and renew books, conduct research and check the calendar of programs.

The Library Board is nearing completion of its long range plan that takes into account the findings of the survey. We foresee a growing need for additional digital services and media to take advantage of developing trends in this area. A further important aspect of our plan will be the development of new programs and services to capture the interest of young

people between the ages of 18 and 35. As in most communities, the Library faces challenges with budget constraints and will endeavor to maximize services to the community within the scope of the funds available.

## **Open Space Committee**

The Open Space Committee was established by Town Charter Section 716 to assist and advise the Board of Selectmen in identifying land suitable for acquisition or preservation. The Committee is comprised of the First Selectman, the chairmen of the Planning, Zoning and Conservation Commission and one other member as may be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee acts on requests made to it by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee has been active in discussing the Hopmeadow Streetscape effort and the use of the Town Farm Dairy property. It has also met with and discussed the Simsbury Tree Committee and the use of the Meadowood open space triangle of land on Firetown Road. The Committee has also discussed the use of other town open space which was part of the Meadowood development on Barndoor Hills Road.

#### Pension Committee

The Pension Committee, which consists of six appointed members, meets quarterly to monitor the investment of the assets for the General Government Employees, the Board of Education, and the Police Pension Plans. The Committee also reviews that the assets are performing in accordance with their benchmarks and are invested in the appropriate asset classes.



## Boards & Commissions

## Performing Arts Center Board

The Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows ("PAC at SM") is an entertainment facility built to enhance the quality of life in Simsbury.

#### **PAC Board**

The Performing Arts Center Board ("PAC Board") was established by resolution of the Board of Selectmen in May of 2008. The duties and responsibilities of the PAC Board are to set policies and annual objectives, to plan future growth, to motivate the management to meet the objectives and to report annually on performance. All income and expenses of the facility are managed through a Town of Simsbury Special Revenue Fund, which means that the PAC at SM is a self-funding operation.

The five 2010 Talcott Mountain Music Festival Concerts realized a significant increase in attendance over 2009, with six concerts. Per ticket fees received were \$47,930, compared with \$40,869 last year. The HSO management team expressed great appreciation for the facilities and the personnel support of the Performing Arts Center. Better weather was undoubtably a factor in the increased attendance over 2009. However, improved marketing and operations by the HSO and the PAC management was also important evidenced by the fact that attendance was way up over the years prior to 2009.

Overall, the PAC at SM ended the year with a positive cash flow of \$2,561. Town labor allocations from other departments totaled \$9,021, and GASB depreciation was \$34,047. The PAC Board voted to recommend the establishment of a non-profit corporation whose purpose will be to raise funds for the enhancement and expansion of the Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows. The PAC Board recognizes that it is essential to make investments that will reduce annual operating costs for the TMMF, and that will make the facility more competitive to attract additional entertainment events. Additional events will add to the quality of life in Simsbury and will help amortize fixed annual operating expenses.



The PAC Board is undertaking marketing and capital needs assessments that will guide fundraising and expansion programs.

On July 28, 2010, the "red barn" storage building on the PAC site burned, with the cause yet undetermined. The PAC Board, at its September 22nd meeting, passed a motion to recommend that it be re-built to be ready for the 2010-2011 season. Insurance, less a \$10,000 deductible, will cover the rebuilding cost.

At the end of the season, the PAC Board issued an RFP for a PAC Manager for the 2010-2011 Season.

## **Planning Commission**

The Planning Commission is an elected body of nine members which includes six members and three alternates. In accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes the Commission prepares, adopts and amends the Plan of Conservation and Development at least every ten years. It also makes findings and sends recommendations to the Zoning Commission and the Board of Selectmen under CGS 8-24 with regard to municipal improvements

including the construction of facilities, acquisition and disposition of real property and acts upon application for the subdivision of land.

The Commission which meets regularly on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month also makes recommendations to the Zoning Commission on proposed zone changes and text amendments to the Simsbury Zoning Regulations as required by the Connecticut General Statutes under CGS 8-3.

During this fiscal year the Commission approved 1 subdivision modification. In addition, the Commission received and acted on 3 zoning referrals under CGS 8-3a during this time as well. The Planning Commission continues to play a key role in commenting on development applications.

The Commission has begun to implement various aspects of the 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development. It has begun consideration of a Fee in Lieu of Open Space Subdivision Regulation. In addition the Commission has continued to play an active role in the implementation of the Town Center charrette activity with the goal being to recommend adoption of the new Town Center Form Based Code in the near future. Drafts of this regulation are under consideration at this time. The Commission will also begin work on revisions to the subdivision regulations in the 2010–2011 fiscal year as well.

## **Police Commission**

By Connecticut State Statute and Simsbury Town Charter provisions, the Simsbury Police Commission has the requirement of general management and supervision of the Police Department (through the auspices of the Chief of Police). In pursuit of that requirement, the Commission reviews citizen matters involving the Police Department and submission of annual budget to the Board of Selectmen. It further participates in the collective bargaining process and is the final authority for all personnel and disciplinary matters within the Police Department.



#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

- · Supported National Accreditation activities.
- · Participated in department leadership through the Administration of the department.
- · Reviewed monthly activity reports wherein criminal events and officer activities are summarized. Made recommendations for actions to enhance positive trends.
- · Made recommendations as to desired direction of the department in order to achieve goals in safety, performance and reduction in criminal activity.
- · Reviewed and supported department Community Policing initiatives.
- · Reviewed communications from citizens.
- · Attended various functions established by the Police Department such as Citizens' Police Academy Graduation, inductions of new officers and promotions.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

- · Achieve National Accreditation.
- Continue activities to further support department goals.
- Provide additional support for Police Department involvement in the community.
- · Support Community Policing initiatives.

## **Public Building Committee**

The Public Building Committee, which is made up of nine appointed members, met at least once a month throughout the year to oversee the design and construction of all major school projects. The Board of Selectmen also assigns major addition and/or renovation projects of town-owned buildings to the Public Building Committee for oversight.

Activities of the committee are listed below:

• Dedication of the \$6.2 million Tariffville School addition and renovation was held in November. The project provides a fire sprinkler system, new instructional, kitchen, cafeteria and administrative space, and an energy efficient heating system. The installation of new energy saving windows restored the original architectural exterior of the building.

- Prepared Design Development & Cost Estimates for Simsbury Farm's main building. It is expected that construction funding will be sought next year.
- · Completed construction for a new combined Parks and Golf Service Facility, valued at \$0.55 million. This new facility provides an efficient space for storage and maintenance of equipment which is critical for maintaining golf and parks' grounds investment.
- · Completed the Town Offices' design for energy efficient lighting under an Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant of \$97,000.00.
- Completed the Construction for a \$0.35 million roof replacement at Tootin' Hills School.

We foresee a very busy schedule next fiscal year, with the completion of design for the Latimer Lane School Roof; construction of energy efficient lighting for the Town Offices; preparation of construction documents for the Simsbury Farm's Main building renovation and addition; and completing a needs assessment study for the Eno Memorial Hall senior and community center.

## Recycling Committee

A new Swap Shoppe and the most successful Nike-Reuse-A-Shoe Campaign to date were two of the highlights in 2010 for the Simsbury Recycling Committee. Dedicated to supporting residents, schools, and businesses in their efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle, in 2010 the Simsbury Recycling Committee focused on expanding current programs and identifying next actions.

This past spring, visitors to the Simsbury Transfer Station off Wolcott Road were greeted by the new Swap Shoppe building as they entered the site. The enhanced visibility, easier access, and convenient parking contributed to a spike in shoppers and donated items. The Swap Shoppe allows residents the opportunity to give a range of new or gently used items,

which are then offered free to shopperskeeping these objects out of the waste stream. In 2010, over 568 visitors browsed the Swap Shoppe, a 70 percent increase over the last full year of operation. In addition, over 783 items were reused, a phenomenal 98 percent improvement in activity. Thank you to the Civitan Club of Simsbury and the Farmington Valley for their exemplary volunteers and to the Recycling Committee members who staffed the Swap Shoppe. The Swap Shoppe is open on Saturdays, from 8:30 am until 2 pm, April through October.

Breaking last year's record setting collection, the annual Nike-Reuse-A-Shoe Campaign kept over 1,400 pairs of rubber-soled shoes out of our local waste stream. Held in the late spring, bins placed throughout town allow residents and people who work in Simsbury to drop off shoes they no longer wear. Once collected, Nike Company reconstitutes the rubber soles for use in making new sports surfaces. Shoes were collected at Simsbury High School, Henry James Memorial School, the elementary schools, Hopmeadow Nursery School, Simsbury Town Hall, Simsbury Library, Eno Hall, both Battiston's Dry Cleaners, Big Sky, Farmington Valley Racquet Club, Gymnastics Training Center, and Simsmore Tennis Center. Thank you to all the schools and businesses that supported this effort. Also, kudos to Jan Manchester for once again providing significant support to this Campaign.

This year, the annual Simsbury Recycling Award was presented to both the Simsbury High School Environmental Club and their faculty advisor Robert Avery and to the Litchenberger family. The Environmental Club and Robert Avery work to expand recycling at Simsbury High School, participate in town clean up efforts, create awareness about the Clean Energy Options program, and elevate understanding of conservation efforts. The Club also assisted the Recycling Committee in the 2010 Nike-Reuse-A-Shoe

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## Boards & Commissions





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Campaign. The Litchenberger family was selected by Disney to represent Connecticut at an event honoring volunteers throughout the country due to their environmental efforts. Through the encouragement of their son Ethan, Colleen and Eric worked with students at Squadron Line Elementary School to create a Recycle Time Machine. Students enter with an item to recycle and exit with the new recycled product. It is encouraging to see such enthusiasm and dedication in Simsbury's young people, and we look forward to seeing their future environmental successes.

The Simsbury Recycling Committee includes: Joyce Banks, Cathy Barnard, Lori Fernand, Liz Melvin, Gwen Moraski, Lonni Schulz, and Mary Turner. In addition, Ana Jahrstorfer and Shivani Mandavilli of Henry James Memorial School and Becky Brown and Emma Teed of Simsbury High School serve as Student Representatives to the Recycling

Committee and act as liaisons to their schools on environmental issues.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

- Continue our efforts with regards to the Swap Shoppe and Nike-Reuse-A-Shoe Campaign.
- Host a Gifford's Green Conversations on Recycling.
- Enhance recycling educational resources for residents.
- Update the Recycling Committee's website.
- Identify potential recycling collaborative efforts with our schools.

# Simsbury Farms Complex Committee

The Simsbury Farms Complex Committee was commissioned in 1998. The committee was established to evaluate existing facilities at Simsbury Farms and provide specific recommendations to meet the present needs and future expectations of the community.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

#### **Financial**

 Total revenues at Simsbury Farms were \$1,777,033. Total expenses were \$1,770,197 resulting in a revenue fund surplus of \$6,836. Positive pool and summer camp revenues offset minor decreases in golf revenues.

#### Projects

- Construction of the centralized maintenance facility was completed on schedule and within budget.
- Demolition of the park maintenance building, attached to the golf cart barn, has been completed. The cart barn will remain in the present location with minor modification to the structure to facilitate golf cart maintenance.
- Paving of the new access road from the golf parking lot has been completed. In addition, guard rails and new lighting were installed to address potential safety issues.
- A master plan defining several options for the future role of Memorial Pool was

- completed. The study is available to the Town for integration into the town's development plan for the downtown area.
- A golf course improvement plan, incorporating the result of the golf survey conducted last year, has been finalized. The plan focuses primarily on improving bunker, leveling tees and addressing remaining drainage issues.
- The Committee unanimously endorsed the necessary capital expenditures to renovate the forty year old main building. Several tours of the facility were conducted with town personnel involved in the capital appropriation process.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

- Provide necessary support to obtain capital funding for the renovation of the main building.
- Recommend fee rates consistent with operational expenses.
- Recommend new incentives to non resident golfers to increase rounds played at Simsbury Farms.
- Oversee operational expenses and revenues to achieve a balanced revenue fund budget.

#### **Tourism Committee**

Established in 1994, the Tourism Committee's mission is to "help facilitate efforts towards enhancing the vitality and broadening the economic base of Simsbury through the development and promotion of tourism." Through this effort, employment opportunities and local revenues will be increased while the integrity and character of Simsbury as a traditional New England town is maintained.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

Visitor Center closed officially but
the Tourism Committee took over the
responsibility for picking up phone calls at
860-658-4000 when the receptionist at
Town Hall was not on duty. We continued
to promote our website and to distribute
information at the library and Chamber.
Plans were underway to use both the Rotary
shelter at the Meadows and the bike kiosk on



Wilcox St. to post maps, calendars and tourism items of interest. Future plan is to reestablish a permanent home perhaps in the Simsbury Historical Society.

- Helped in the planning and staffing of Simsbury Celebrates.
- Continued to market our postcards with 9 scenes of Simsbury in circulation. Bookmarks were redone and printed. Coloring books, crayons and Simsbury prints continue to be sold around town.
- · Ongoing discussion regarding the town website to enhance tourism. Terry Boulton continues to update and improve the content. It is now easier to go directly to the tourism page and there are many links to the various organizations and events.
- · Very involved in the application by Main Street of the Dozen Distinctive Destination award and the aftermath. Wonderful publicity in the Washington Post and Boston Globe.
- Continued involvement in the Farmington Valley Film Commission which is working on a production guide, a locations gallery and a uniform town permit. The intention is to have each town link to the FVFC website.
- The second Volunteer Expo was held at Eno April 28 from 6-9 pm to invite people to sign up to join various committees, commissions and interest groups. Therewas a large turnout of potential "volunteers" and a great response from organizations wanting to be represented. It is hoped it will become an annual event.
- Attended the CT Conference on Tourism May 6.
- · Tourism participation in the Farmers' Market with an information table. Our hope is to take part more often during the summer.
- Simsbury designated a Bike Friendly Town. Hope to attract a national conference here next spring.
- · Began work on a fall foliage driving tour to be offered online with photos and mapping.
- · Participated in many group meetings such as those of SCOC, Main St Partnership, The Bridge of Flowers, the Tariffville Village Assoc. and the EDC. Continued our support of plantings on the Flower Bridge.

· In addition we attended meetings of FVVA, and Liz Banco was appointed the representative to the newly constituted River Valley Tourism District.

#### Goals for 2010 - 2011

- · To increase marketing of the Town of Simsbury souvenir coloring book, prints and postcards in new locations, including the Simsbury High School and Town Hall.
- To maintain an active presence in the planning and execution of town events and in the publicizing of outside groups coming to town for various activities.
- To further our relationship with TVA and the Simsbury Historical Society.
- To continue the Volunteer Fair at Eno with tables represented by organizations in town.
- To continue expanding our tourism web site.
- To actively seek new committee members interested in tourism.
- To contribute in any way to the economic development of Simsbury through the avenue of tourism and to serve as a link to all the groups who have that as a common goal.

## Volunteer Ambulance Association

Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association has served the emergency medical needs of the community for more than fifty years. Over the years, our history demonstrates a continuum of increased levels of service provided to our community. The volunteers of SVAA proudly continue the tradition of service to the community begun a half century ago by our founding members.

The Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association was founded in 1957 and the first ambulance was provided by the Kiwanis Club whose members went door to door to solicit contributions. The first ambulance was housed in a barn on property adjacent to the Holly Hill Convalescent Home, presently known as Governor's House, and members held only an American Red Cross first aid certification. In 1965 a facility on Old Mill Lane was built as a



one bay structure on land owned by the VNA. By 1967, as the Association celebrated its tenth anniversary, members had responded to a total of 1600 calls. By comparison, we currently respond to approximately 1600 calls per year.

SVAA is comprised of over fifty active volunteer members whose dedication to our community is demonstrated by an aggregate of more than 30,000 hours per year of scheduled duty, training, recertification, stand-bys and meetings. The volunteer EMT staff is augmented by a paid staff of Paramedics. SVAA has provided Paramedic level service 24 hours per day since 1997, dramatically reducing the time it takes to get advanced lifesaving measures to the patient.

Earlier this year we recognized our member's exceptional dedication with awards for 1000 Hours of Service and 100 Call in 2010. A total of twelve members received these awards. EMT of the Year 2010 was awarded to Diane Luff for her work as Facilities Officer, in addition to her awards in the prior two categories.

Beyond providing emergency medical responses to 911 calls, the Association has several other public functions. Throughout the year, SVAA conducts CPR and First Aid classes as well as an annual EMT course. You may also see the ambulance on stand-by at major public functions like the St. Mary's Carnival, and First Night. Annually, SVAA provides on site tours and demonstrations for sixth grade

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## Boards & Commissions

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students at the town's elementary schools.

As Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association serves the town's emergency medical needs, we continue to rely on, and appreciate, the ongoing financial support of local citizens, businesses, and organizations. Please visit us at our web site: www.simsburyems.com.

## Water Pollution **Control Authority**

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is a body of seven members, appointed by the Board of Selectman, responsible for establishing and reviewing the policies and fees that are applied by Simsbury Water Pollution Control for the operation and maintenance of Simsbury's sanitary sewer system and wastewater treatment facility. The treatment facility also receives wastewater from Avon and Granby. Each of these towns are financial partners in the Water Pollution Control Facility. Intermunicipal agreements have been established to administer these relationships.

Regular WPCA meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Water Pollution Control Facility on Drake Hill Road, unless otherwise posted.

#### Accomplishments of 2009 - 2010

The WPCA conducted 10 meetings, including 2 public hearings, during which they:

- · Reviewed, approved and accepted sewer extension projects and assessments on Bushy Hill Road, Elaine Drive, Cornfield Road, and Wolcott Road.
- · Adopted the revised Simsbury Sewer Use Ordinance.
- · Did not increase the annual sewer use fee for FY 2010-11, given the current economic climate.
- · Adopted the Sewer Use Billing Policy, which established customer categories of residential and non-residential. Non-residential customers will receive sewer use bills for the year ending June 30, 2011 based on water use.

• Authorized replacement of the Tunxis Pump Station and approved Pheasant Lane sewer extension project.

The closing for financing the Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade was accomplished in the spring of 2008. The completion of Phase I of the upgrade in 2006 resulted in the facility being in compliance with the nitrogen discharge limits set by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection for the year 2015. Accomplishing this goal enabled Simsbury WPCA participation in the state nitrogen credit trading program and reduced the environmental impact on the Farmington River and ultimately Long Island Sound.

#### Goals for 2010-2011

- Complete the revision of the Simsbury Sewer Use Ordinance and present to the Board of Selectmen for adoption.
- · Evaluate and possibly establish a nonresidential sewer customer billing policy that is based on water use.
- Prepare the Water Pollution Control Plan and gain consensus from other Town committees. Submit the final version to CT Department of Environmental Regulation.
- · Complete the construction phase of the Tunxis Pump Station replacement.

## **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Simsbury Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is an elected body of nine members including six regular members and three alternates. The powers and duties of the board are established under CGS Chapter 124. The Zoning Board of Appeals hears and decides on requests for variances from the Zoning Regulations in harmony with their general purpose and intent with due consideration for conserving the public health, safety, welfare, convenience, and property values solely with respect to a parcel of land where, owing to conditions especially affecting such parcels but not affecting generally the district in which it is situated, a literal enforcement of such regulations would result in exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship

so that substantial justice will be done and public safety and welfare secured. The ZBA also hears and decides on appeals of zoning enforcement decisions as well as decisions made by the Building Official. It also decides on Special Exceptions under CGS §8-2g as specified in Article Twelve of the Zoning Regulations.

During FY 2008-2009 the Zoning Board of Appeals received:

- 28 Variance Applications
- 18 Approved
- 7 Failed to Approve
- 2 Withdrawn
- 1 Application partially approved/partially denied

The Board always welcomes any member of the public contemplating a Variance to attend a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Board meets every 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Hall.

## **Zoning Commission**

The Simsbury Zoning Commission is an elected body of nine members including six regular members and three alternates. Among the powers and duties of the Commission which is established under the Simsbury Town Charter and with the powers and authority granted by CGS Chapter 124 has the additional duty of Aquifer Protection Agency. The Zoning Commission regulates land and buildings within the Town based on the adopted Zoning Regulations. It also adopts, amends and repeals regulations, hears and decides applications to change regulations and decides on site plan and special permit applications. The Zoning Regulations also provide for the manner in which the regulations are to be enforced. The Zoning Commission also makes recommendations on other matters that may come before it, including requests from the Board of Selectmen.

The Zoning Commission is the designated Statutory Aquifer Protection Agency in

## Town Finances

accordance with Chapter 4 of the Town Code. In this regard the Commission and Commission staff performs the required overview, inventory and regulation of land uses located on the mapped aquifer areas. These aquifer areas are given due consideration during review of any application which proposes to use or change a land use in a mapped aquifer area to insure the activity proposed meets the requirements of the Aquifer Protection Regulations.

During the 2009–2010 fiscal year the Commission received 45 applications. As part of these applications, the Commission reviewed 23 site plans, 12 special permits, 3 zone changes, and 2 zoning amendments. Of these 45 applications, 4 were withdrawn, 1 was denied and the rest were approved.

The Commission is also considering adoption of a Planned Area Development (PAD) zoning regulation. The PAD regulation would encourage mixed use development of appropriate size and scale in various non-residential zones in Town. In addition a Form Based Code regulation, which will implement the work resulting from the charrette in September 2009, is under way and expected to be adopted in the first half of 2011.

In addition to its other business, the Commission continues to work on a complete reorganization and revision of the Simsbury Zoning Regulations. This process will result in new Zoning Regulations, which previously have not been comprehensively revised since 1964. The present regulations do not meet current standards in many areas or the needs of the community. This task is an important one in that the regulations are enacted in order to meet the needs of the Town and to allow for expansion of the local economic base while maintaining the character of the community. This work is now scheduled to be completed in 2011.

#### Fiscal Year 2009-2010

The annual fiscal report of the Town of Simsbury for the year ended June 30, 2010 is submitted and on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

I believe the data presented is accurate and is presented in a manner designed to fairly set forth the financial position and results of operations for the various funds of the Town.

The Board of Finance established a tax rate of 30.1 mills, which was levied on the Grand List of 2008. The General Fund budget is prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting.

Encumbrances are recognized as a valid and proper charge against a budget appropriation in the year in which the purchase order, contract or other commitment is issued, and accordingly encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reflected in budgetary reports as expenditures in the current fiscal year.

The Town's amended budget was \$86,261,125. Total expenditures were \$86,170,875. Operation for the year resulted in a change to Undesignated Fund Balance to \$8,679,564 for the period ending June 30, 2010.

#### **General Fund**

A comparative tabulation of General Fund (budgetary basis) expenditures classified by main function is presented below:

	Year Ended		Year Ended	
	June 30, 2009	%	June 30, 2010	%
General Government	\$17,715,224	20.8%	\$17,888,192	20.8%
Education	60,608,232	71.2%	61,362,608	71.2%
Debt Service Transfers	6,258,285	7.4%	6,114,025	7.1%
Other Transfers	551,590	0.5%	806,050	0.8%
Total	\$85,133,331	100.0%	\$86,170,875	100.0%

#### Debt

As of June 30, 2010, the Town had bonds outstanding which mature serially to the year 2020, as follows:

\$21,975,000 Public Improvement 11,290,000 \$33,265,000

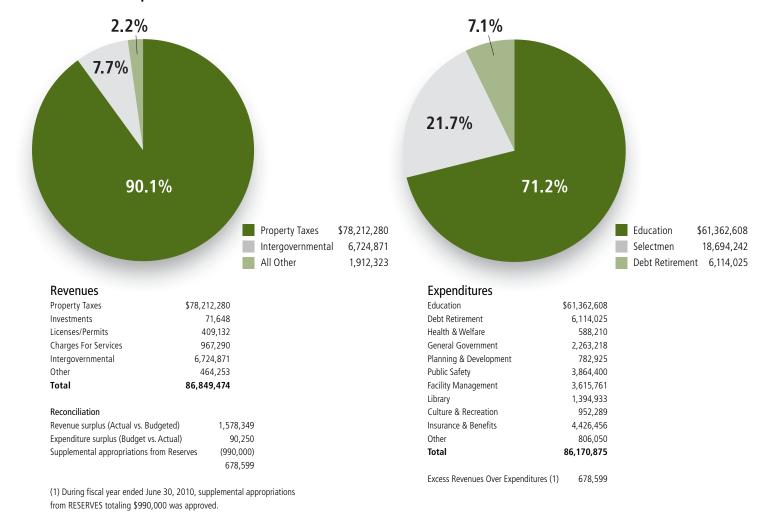
A summary of statutory debt limits in excess of outstanding and authorized debt is presented below: \$276,489,901 General Purpose \$161,057,461 Sewers Urban Renewal \$255,610,436 Schools \$323,042,665

## Schedule of Debt Principle and Interest Maturities by Year – June 30, 2010

Year Ending June 30	) Principal	Interest	Total Principal & Interest
2011	4,840,000	1,212,605	6,052,605
2012	4,440,000	1,054,263	5,494,263
2013	4,430,000	895,237	5,325,237
2014	4,425,000	731,913	5,156,913
2015	4,415,000	568,967	4,983,967
2016-2020	10,715,000	825,288	11,540,288
	Total: \$33,265,000	\$5,288,273	\$38,553,273

## Town Finances

## Revenues and Expenditures for the Year Ended June 30, 2010



## Net Grand Lists and Tax Rates - 2001-2010

Per statutory debt limitations, total indebtedness shall not exceed seven times annual receipts from taxation, which is \$543,238,564.

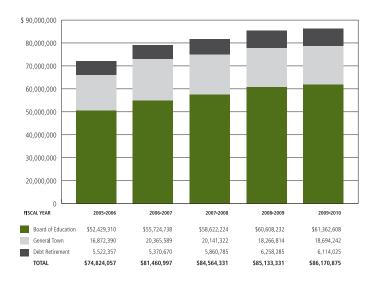
Year End	Grand	Mill	General	Board of	Debt	
June 30	List	Rate	Town	Education	Retirement	Totals
2000	1,419,110,606	32.40	14,463,516	36,638,070	1,846,206	52,947,792
2001	1,456,028,736	34.40	14,322,754	40,610,016	2,519,429	57,452,199
2002	1,481,996,519	36.30	14,869,912	42,768,525	2,911,891	60,550,328
2003	1,500,146,075	39.10	14,823,992	46,072,296	2,928,111	63,824,399
2004	1,911,380,612	32.60	14,818,826	48,290,928	5,025,232	68,134,986
2005	1,911,949,429	34.00	14,740,952	50,176,680	5,158,210	70,075,842
2006	1,935,322,272	35.20	16,872,390	52,429,310	5,522,357	74,824,057
2007	1,985,359,901	35.90	20,365,589	55,724,738	5,370,670	81,460,997
2008	2,010,867,186	36.90	20,141,322	58,562,224	5,860,785	84,564,331
2009	2,584,781,826	29.60	18,266,814	60,608,232	6,258,285	85,133,331
2010	2,581,459,147	30.10	18,694,242	61,362,608	6,114,025	86,170,875

## Capital Projects Funds

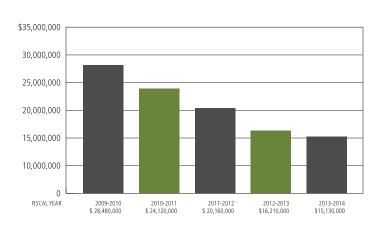
A summary of expenditures and encumbrances compared with appropriations for the Town's various Capital Projects Fund is presented below:

Projects	Appropriations	Expenditures	Balances
Capital and nonrecurring	\$2,563,727	\$1,725,899	\$837,828
Sewer extension projects:			
Project 2010	260,000	22,215	237,785
Town projects:			
Library Expansion Design Services 3/05	200,000	197,063	2,937
Library Expansion 5/06	6,100,000	5,857,470	242,530
Triangle Land Purchase 5/08	2,750,000	1,029,664	1,720,336
Streetscape 10/167 5/08	325,000	106,063	218,937
Eno Hall Improvements 5/08	1,000,000	504,746	495,254
Water Extensions 5/08	170,000	14,959	155,041
Tunxis Pump Station 5/10	670,000	-	670,000
Paving Management 5/10	2,400,000	-	2,400,000
Education projects:			
Simsbury High School Addition & Alteration 5/02	43,178,567	36,224,368	6,954,199
Modular Classrooms 5/02	340,000	331,484	8,516
Computer technology improv 5/06	450,000	413,934	36,066
Tariffville Expansion 5/06	6,200,000	5,878,371	321,629
System Telecommunications, Security Upgrade 5/06	420,000	415,023	4,977
HVAC Boiler Replacement 5/08	700,000	7,577	692,423
Tootin Hills Roof Replacement	1,257,500	1,020,645	236,855
Squadron Line Generator 5/09	150,000	10,393	139,607
Latimer Lane Roof Replacement 5/10	1,277,500	-	1,277,500
District Network Infrastructure 5/10	450,000	52,077	397,923
	\$70,862,294	\$53,811,951	\$17,050,343

## Total Expenditures – 2006-2010



## Total Principal Outstanding – 2009-2014



## Board & Commission Members

#### **Elected Boards and Commissions**

(as of October 14, 2010)

#### Board of Selectmen

John K. Hampton -Deputy First Selectman Lisa L. Heavner Robert S. Hensley Tom Herlihy Moira K. Wertheimer

#### **Board of Assessment**

Appeals

Dennis J. Fallon William Fiske W. Mark Wigmore

#### **Board of Education**

Robert Michael Goman Chris M. Kelly Charles Moret Susan B. Salina John L. Sennott, Jr. Lydia A. Tedone Michael T. Wade Tara Willerup

#### **Board of Finance**

Peter K. Askham Candace V. Fitzpatrick Paul W. Henault Nicholas B. Mason Anita L. Mielert Kevin A. North

#### Library Board of Directors

Jeffrey Blumenthal Ann D. Erickson Charmaine E. Glew Joy Himmelfarb Bertram Kaplan Diane Madigan Marianne O'Neil

Gail K. Ryan

#### **Planning Commission**

Tina Hallenbeck Charles D. Houlihan, Jr. Ferguson R. Jansen, Jr. John M. Loomis Michael Paine Gerald Post Alternates Sean Askham Carol A. Cole

#### **Zoning Board** of Appeals

Mark S. Drake

Carol Bingham Nancy Haase Thomas Horan Katie Martin John McCann Peter Stempien

#### **Zoning Commission**

Bruce H. Elliott James Gallagher Edward J. Pabich Robert D. Pomeroy Amy Salls John F. Vaughn

#### Additional Boards and Commissions

(as of October 14, 2010)

#### Aging and Disability

Grace Comeau Kathleen Fallon Mona Herman Michael Jennings Marvin Koff Carrie Jan Kramer Edward LaMontagne Mary Ellen Long Mona Martinik Charlotte Steptoe Ann Walters Thompson Lynn Veith

#### **Board of Ethics**

Todd Burrick Peter Kellogg Louis A. Norton Richard Order Barbara Petijean

#### **Building Code**

**Board of Appeals** Emil Dahlquist William Eagan Harvey Goodfriend Paul Holland Charles A. Warren, Jr.

#### Clean Energy Task Force

Robert Beinstein Patrick Boeshans Lori Fernand James Ray Susan Van Kleef Alfred Weisbrich

#### Conservation Commission

Andrew Bucknam Darren Cunningham Ryan Mihalic Richard A. Miller Jr. Margaret Sexton Margery Winters Dominick Zackeo Alternate Patrick Kottas Donald Reiger, Jr.

#### Culture, Parks and **Recreation Commission**

David Bush

## Joseph Grace Linda Johnson

Kelly Kearney Barbara Koff Mary Liljedahl John Pendergast Harry Ryan

Karen Cortes

#### **Economic Development** Commission

Kevin Crimmins

Mark Deming Thomas Frank Louis George Nancy Haase Alan Levesque Charles Minor Alan Needham Derek Peterson

#### Fair Rent Commission

Ruben Acosta Madeline P. Gilkey Geraldine Muench John F. Paddock David A. Richman

#### Historic District Commission

Kenneth Feder David Freitas Dianne Mead Elizabeth Woollacott Evan Woollacott Alternate J. Paul Lanza Marc Lubetkin James W. Oliver

#### **Housing Authority**

Kathleen Coffey Melvin Cote Oliver Dickins Woodrow Eddins Patricia Howland

Police Commission Edward Cosgrove Carl Eisenmann Harvey Goodfriend

#### Michael T. Long Brendan Walsh

**Public Building** 

Committee Richard Cortes Richard Derr Lucian M. Dragulski

Francis Kelly Michael Laureno Richard Ostop Mary Lou Patrina Alice Rowland John Salvatore

#### Water Pollution **Control Authority**

Warren Coe Paul Gilmore Edward J. Kelly Michael A. Park Philip Richardson Loren Shoemaker

#### Design Review Board Emil Dahlquist

William Gardner Kevin Gray Mark Naccarato Richard Schoenhardt Charles Stephenson John Stewart Alternates Rita Bond John Carroll

#### Insurance Committee

Anthony Drapelick

Stanley Cataldo Nicholas Mason Paul Mikkelson Jr. Peter Peterson Edward Sparkowski Raymond Wahl Jonathan Yeisley

#### **Open Space Committee**

Mary Glassman John Loomis Helen Peterson Margery Winters

#### **Pension Committee**

Nicholas Mason Paul McAlenney Donna Parker Susan Royles Kevin Schultz Phil Schulz

## **Performing Arts**

Center Board Leo Collins Janet Goman Ken Mason John Paddock Greg Piecuch David Ryan Adam Sharaf

#### **Recycling Committee**

Lori Fernand Gwendolyn Moraski Andrew Rose Lonni Schulz Mary Turner

## Simsbury Farms

**Complex Committee** Antonio Braz David Dell Dennis J. Fallon Chuck Ford Marc Lubetkin Maribeth Mortillaro Ronald T. Patterson Gerald Post Tom West

#### **Tourism Committee**

Dominique Avery Elizabeth Banco Terry Boulton Gina Cadorette Patricia Carbone Paulette Clark Joyce Howard Laurie Matczak Steven Mitchell Katherine Oakes

Barbara O'Connor

## Our Town Today

## **Important Phone Numbers**

# Area Code 860 Emergency Phone Numbers Fire Department 911 Routine Information 658-1971 Police Department/Ambulance 911 Routine Information 658-3100 933 Hopmeadow Street

Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Assoc.

## Town Management (As of 12/31/10)

First Selectman	Mary A. Glassman
Police Chief	Peter Ingvertsen
Director of Finance	Kevin Kane
Town Engineer	Richard Sawitzke
Dir. of Administrative Services	Thomas Cooke
Dir. of Culture, Parks and Recre	eation Gerry Toner
Dir. of Planning	Hiram Peck III
Dir. of Public Works	Thomas Roy
Dir. of Simsbury Public Library	Susan Bullock
Dir. of Social Services	Mickey Lecours-Beck
Town Clerk	Carolyn Keily

## Town Meeting Dates (As of 12/31/10)

#### **Board of Selectmen**

The second and fourth Monday of each month

#### **Board of Education**

The second and fourth Tuesday of each month

#### **Board of Finance**

The third Tuesday of each month

#### **Planning Commission**

The second and fourth Tuesday of each month

#### **Zoning Commission**

The first and third Monday of each month

\* Subject to change - verify meeting dates and times by calling the Town Hall

## Town Map

658-7213

64 West Street	555 / 2 . 5
04 West street	
Department/Service	Phone Number
Assessor	658-3251
Board of Education	651-3361
Building	658-3234
Chamber of Commerce	651-7307
Continuing Education	658-3870
Engineering	658-3260
Eno Hall, Basement Pay Phone	658-7073
Farmington Valley Health District	676-1953
Finance	658-3244
Fire Marshal	658-1973
Historical Society	658-2500
Housing Authority	658-1147
Judge of Probate	658-3277
Landfill	658-9481
Library, Simsbury Public	658-7663
Planning	658-3245
Police	658-3100
Public Works	658-3222
Recreation	658-3255
Simsbury Farms Complex office	658-3836
Simsbury Farms Golf Club	658-6246
Recorded Information	658-2512
Registrar of Voters	658-3267
First Selectman	658-3230
SCTV-Simsbury Community Television	658-1720
Sewer Treatment	658-1380
Social Services	658-3283
Tax	658-3238
Town Clerk	658-3243
Town Hall	658-3200
Aquarion Water Company	658-6707
Visitors Center	651-8994

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MICLEAN GAME REFUGE  MICHAN GAME REFUGE  MICHA
MICLEAN/GAME REFUGE
HOSKINS
STATION
GREAT POND STATE LOREST
WESTMANSTER WESTMANSTER OF PARK
WESTERN HOWANDS
MASTERS SCHOOL STATE WILDER MANAGEMENT AREA
THE HEIGHANG SIMSBURY FARMS REC COMPLEX PARMS REC COMPLEX TOWN
SIMSBURY HIGH SCHOOL
TANK WEST SIMSBURD WEST SIMSBURD
CHION HOUNTAIN PARK  PARK  LASTERN HIGH-ANDS
ETHEL WALKER
THEL WALKER SCHOOL SCHO
TALCOTT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK
WEATOGUE
STATE WILDLING MANAGEMENT AREA
A PIETO A PIET
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# Heritage. Charm. Adventure.



# SIMSBURY CONNECTICUT

933 Hopmeadow Street / P.O. Box 495 / Simsbury, CT 06070 860-658-3200 / www.simsbury-ct.gov