

# TOWN OF FARMINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT  
2015~2016

## Cover Picture

This issue of the Town of Farmington Annual Report continues the series of historical pictures on the cover. This is the tenth in the series.

### Public Schools in Farmington

The cover picture depicts school buses lined up outside the Center School, now Noah Wallace School, in 1915.

~ Cover Photo courtesy of "Farmington - New England Town Through Time"  
Farmington Land Trust

"Throughout the 19th century and well into the 20th, most Farmington children received their formal education in small, scattered schools, as the town was too spread out for consolidation.

In 1795 Farmington had 12 school districts; by 1861 there were still 10. For children of the well-to-do, good education was available for a price. Boys could attend academies like Simeon Hart's Farmington school and girls could study at "female seminaries" like Miss Porter's. For the children of ordinary farmers and industrial workers, such intellectual stimuli were beyond reach. After their days at the small district school were over, there was no place for them to continue. While Hartford opened a public high school in 1847, the Farmington area had none until the 1860s, when fast-growing Unionville erected the town's first public secondary school.



A horse-drawn school bus picks up children from Scott's Swamp in 1915.

A Board of Visitors inspected the public schools and field annual reports. Around 1900 these became highly critical of one-room schools, citing their poor attendance records, lack of supplies (few books, no blackboards, in some cases) and generally low standards.

The old Center School, which served Farmington village, was replaced by a new, larger building in 1905 and nine years later students from East Farms and Scott's Swamp entered it as their one-room schools were closed. The Center School is now called Noah Wallace School. In the western part of town, West, or West District, School continued until 1920. Then it, too, closed, and its students went to Union."



Unionville High School sometime after 1917

~ All Public School narrative and  
historical photographs courtesy of  
"Farmington - New England Town Through Time"  
Farmington Land Trust

## *The Old Stone Schoolhouse*



The Old Stone Schoolhouse, at Red Oak Hill and Coppermine Roads, was a schoolhouse from 1790 to 1872. From 1875 to 1956, it was used as a chapel and community center.

Around 1790 a schoolhouse to serve the West District (area) was built on a triangular plot of about a quarter acre, taken mostly from land designated for the highway. Brownstone from a quarry off New Britain Avenue was brought to the site by ox-drawn wagons, and men of the District helped to build and furnish the school. Deacon Calvin Hatch, the first schoolmaster, had a class of seven pupils when the first session began. American Indian children who lived nearby were among those attending.

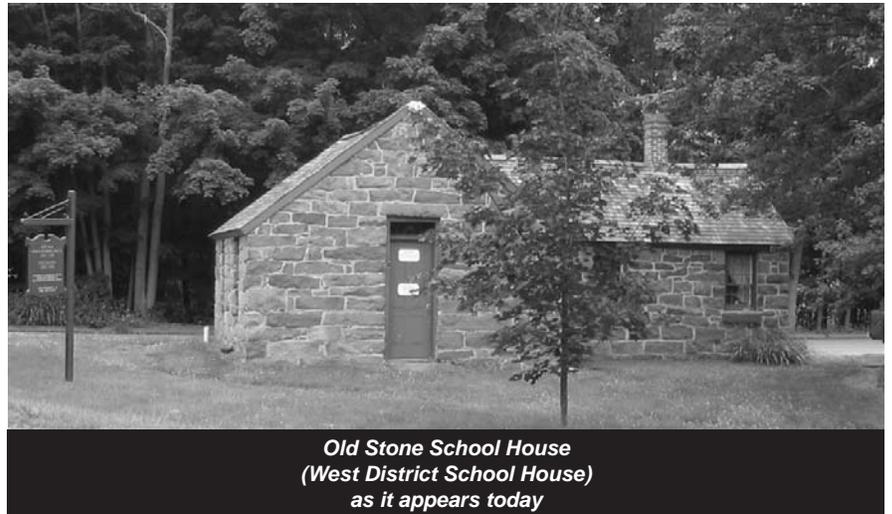
By 1872 enrollment was exceeding 40 students and the small brownstone building was overcrowded. The West District built a new frame school house just up the road, now a residence at 102 Coppermine Road. The stone schoolhouse was deeded to George North. However, there is no record of its use under his ownership. Ownership by North was short lived, and he deeded the building to Simon Manus, a former slave who had fought in the Civil War (1860-1865). During the time that Manus and his wife lived there, a child was born to them.

Later in the same year, a group of neighbors bought the building for use as a religious and social center. Recorded on the deed are the following names: Alpheus Porter, et al, William Porter, Mrs. H. Webster, Allen Webster, W.A. Webster, I.N. Davis, W. Vickers, Henry Ibell, Robert Brown, Robert Morley. The group called themselves the West District Ecclesiastical Mission and called the building the West District Hall. Sabbath School was held regularly, and the ministers or deacons were brought from Farmington Village and Unionville to conduct services after their regular Sunday duties were completed.

The annex to the original schoolhouse was built by John Knibbs in 1912 of brownstone from the same local quarry to match the original building providing more space for the increasing activity and membership. The schoolhouse room was redecorated and modernized to match the annex, a preacher's platform was built, and electricity was installed. A dozen Windsor benches were bought for seating. Activities within the building

included the women's sewing society that met weekly, suppers, plays, socials, food and fancy work sales along with song fests. There was absolutely no card playing or dancing.

In 1956 members of the West District Evangelical Mission, ... proposed deeding their property, which was by then falling into disuse, to the Historical Society with the belief it would be better preserved and maintained. The Society accepted the offer ... and watch closely over this historic site which is now on the state registry of historic buildings.



*~ All "Old Stone School House" narrative and photographs courtesy of Farmington Historical Society*



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Animal Control	860-675-2440
Assessor	860-675-2370
Building	860-675-2315
Board of Education	860-673-8270
Community Center	860-675-2490
Economic Development	860-675-2395
Engineering	860-675-2305
Finance - Accounts Payable	860-675-2339
Finance - Main	860-675-2335
Finance - Payroll	860-675-2337
Finance - Purchasing	860-675-2335
Fire & Rescue Services	860-675-2322
Fire Marshal	860-675-2320
General Info.	860-675-2300
Highway & Grounds	860-675-2550
Housing Authority	860-675-2390
Library	860-673-6791
Plan & Zoning	860-675-2325
Police (Routine)	860-675-2400
Police (TDD)	860-673-2527
Probate Court	860-675-2360
Public Works	860-675-2330
Recorded Info.	860-675-2301
Recreation	860-675-2540
Registrar of Voters	860-675-2367
Senior Center	860-675-2490
Social Services (Sec. VIII)	860-675-2390
Tax Collector	860-675-2340
Town Clerk	860-675-2380
Town Hall (TDD)	860-675-2314
Town Manager	860-675-2350
Water Pollution Control	860-675-2545
Youth Services	860-675-2390

# TOWN COUNCIL CHAIR'S MESSAGE



*Farmington's 375th Birthday Celebration*

The Town Council is pleased to provide you with the Annual Report for the Town of Farmington for the July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 fiscal year. As you read through the report, you may note the wide range of important services that we provide our citizens and business community. I know that I speak for the entire Town Council when I express the pride we have in our community, schools, and our Town employees. We hope that you find this report useful and informative.

During the past year, a number of significant goals have been advanced in relation to the Strategic Plan. This year, the Town Council continued to take major steps to invest in our infrastructure. Nationally, many towns and cities are suffering from infrastructure degradation. In Farmington, we have focused resources on specific capital projects to sustain our infrastructure.

Farmington has seen a surge in the number of infrastructure improvement projects over the last year. This is due to a deliberate effort to increase capital spending to improve our town wide infrastructure. In May of 2016 Farmington voters overwhelmingly approved a \$4,000,000 road bond which will enable the Town to continue our road construction projects.

The Town has also been successful in securing federal and state grants for infrastructure improvements. In addition to a 60 million dollar Water Pollution Control Facility upgrade,

which began in the spring, the Public Works Department has been busy designing, implementing and overseeing numerous town-wide infrastructure projects.

Each department has equipment replacement plans. These plans support replacement of equipment throughout Town. This critical equipment keeps our volunteer firefighters safe when responding to calls for services. It allows our roads to be plowed during winter emergencies. It also keeps our parks and golf course looking clean and ready for play during the warm weather months. Equipment replacement ensures the Town's ability to offer high quality services to our residents and businesses.

The current Capital Budget includes funds for significant equipment purchases including a bond appropriation for two large fire engines at the Farmington Fire Station. Equipment purchases include a large dump truck, a road maintenance truck, a backhoe loader, and mowers in the Public Works Department. This Capital Improvement Plan continues to fund the Town's road reconstruction and paving plan, miscellaneous bridge repairs, repairs and replacement of the Senior/Community Center walkway and funds to replace existing fence along the rails to trails which has been damaged over the years.

This year the Town of Farmington web page was updated. The site was redesigned to create a more intuitive layout that will help all residents and visitors find information quickly. Highlights of the new page include a new calendar that will have public and government meetings and events, a "How Do I?" page, and a solid content management system that allows staff to quickly and easily update the site. All work was done with an eye towards enhancing public services through an efficient and effective website design. Check out the new site at [www.farmington-ct.org](http://www.farmington-ct.org).



# TOWN COUNCIL CHAIR'S MESSAGE--continued

The Town Council established the Farmington High School Building Committee in January 2016 to resolve deficiencies in the school identified by the Board of Education through multiple studies and reports, including the New England Association of Schools and Colleges recent review. The FHS Building Committee's responsibility is to recommend a project scope with cost estimates to the Town Council for consideration. The Committee has been very successful in reaching out to the community for opinions and advice. They experienced an enthusiastic response from the community. There are many stakeholders in this project, from Farmington's children and parents to its teachers and taxpayers.

As you review the various sections of this report, you will understand why Farmington is recognized as an outstanding community that offers exceptional quality of life to its residents. Our schools continue to offer nationally acclaimed programs to our children, we have a broad spectrum of recreational and cultural offerings, and the Town government provides outstanding services.

Farmington is a great place to live, work and prosper. Many businesses continue to locate here because of its attractiveness as a community. I want to assure you that all of us involved in Town government remain committed to offering outstanding "customer service" to our citizens.

Best regards,

*Nancy W. Nickerson*

Nancy W. Nickerson  
Town Council Chair



*Nancy Nickerson, Town Council Chair, with  
Scott Zenke, Highway & Grounds Superintendent*



# TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE



*Farmington Police Department Torch Run 6-9-2016*

The 2015-2016 Annual Report will provide you with details of the accomplishments achieved by elected and appointed officials as well as Town of Farmington employees during the fiscal year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #4, and the Resident Survey of Town residents indicated an important priority: operate with balanced budgets supported by stable equitable revenues collected from varied public and private sources. The Town made significant advances in this area.

At the close of the 2016 fiscal year, Farmington continued to be in a strong financial position with one of the highest tax collection rates in the State. We have continued to maintain our Aaa bond rating from Moody's and equivalent ratings from other agencies which allows the Town to borrow money at favorable rates. The grand list also saw growth this year and is an indication of the strong economy in Farmington.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #2, and the Resident Survey of Town residents indicated two important priorities: continuation of the preservation of open space, and improve and ease the traffic situation within Farmington without disturbing the character of the community. Below is a summary of work that was completed this year on both topics.

Farmington has seen a surge in the number of infrastructure improvement projects in Town over the last few years. This is due, in part, to the Town Council's deliberate effort to increase capital spending to improve our Town-wide infrastructure. Town staff has also been successful in securing state-wide grants for infrastructure improvements. In addition to the Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade, the Public Works Department has been extremely busy designing, managing, and monitoring infrastructure improvement projects throughout Town. Following is a summary of projects that the Public Works Department has been undertaking during the year:

The Town was informed that the Department of Transportation is working to close the statewide gaps in the rails-to-trails system along the East Coast Greenway with funding available for the trail from Red Oak Hill to Plainville. This project will be 100% reimbursed for the design and construction of the project. Construction has begun and is anticipated to be completed by September 2017.

The Town of Farmington received approval for the Reconstruction of South Road through the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG). This grant is for the reconstruction of South Road from Two Mile Road to Fairview Drive. Construction is underway and is anticipated to be completed by the summer of 2017. This \$1.6 million dollar project is funded by the State of Connecticut.

The Engineering Division completed the design of a sidewalk replacement project along the east side of Route 177 from Depot Place to West District Road. The Town was awarded a grant in the amount of \$425,000 for the project from the State's Main Street Investment Fund, which is administered through the State Department of Housing. The project was completed in the summer of 2016.

The Engineering Division submitted a grant for a pavement rehabilitation project for Brickyard Road and was awarded 100% funding through the LOTCIP program. The grant funding totaled approximately \$900,000 and will include a portion of full depth reconstruction, milling and paving. The project will start at the intersection of Route 4 and head north towards the Rails to Trails crossing.



# TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE--continued

The Highway Division has undertaken extensive road construction projects during the year. The Highway Department preps all roads for paving which includes rebuilding catch basins, adding new catch basin tops, coordinating traffic control, and loam and seeding of disturbed areas.

The following roads have been paved this year: Cooke Street, Half Acre Drive, Fawn Drive, Ben Court, Rocky Ridge Lane, White Circle, Carriage Drive, Morea Road, Tall Timbers Drive, Olde Pond Lane, Ships Oak Lane, Hartfield Lane, Cope Farms Road, Cutler Lane, Pine Hollow Road, Greencrest Drive for a total of 4.11 miles of paving. The next set of roads to be paved are in the Lake Garda area including Sunset Drive, Circle Drive, Colony Road, Ravine Road, Pine Drive, East Shore Blvd., Lido Road, and Birch Street. Farmington Center streets including Garden Street, Meadow Road, Winchell Smith Road, Pearl Street, Maple Street, Maiden Lane, Mill Street, Porter Road, and Hobart Street. Additionally, Canterbury Lane, Cedar Lane, Burke Crossing, Virginia Lane, and Larchwood West.

In 2014 the Strategic Plan survey confirmed that one of the most important issues facing the Town were traffic related. In February 2016, the Farmington Town Council approved the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan and goals. At that time, the Town Council included Goal # 8 which directed the Town Manager and Police Department to work towards creating a separate traffic unit in order to increase enforcement and compliance of traffic laws, and work together with the community to address neighborhood traffic concerns. A new traffic officer position has been funded in the FY 2016/2017 Budget and the Police Department is presently working towards creating a separate traffic unit. This unit will undoubtedly yield positive results in terms of community satisfaction, coordination, responsiveness and increased roadway safety.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #3, and the Resident Survey of Town residents also indicated that Economic Development was an important priority. The Town of Farmington continues to succeed in this area. Throughout the past year, Farmington maintained its strong commercial base, attracted notable businesses, and moved forward on some key development projects while maintaining the second lowest tax rate in the Hartford region.

## Economic Status

Farmington continues to be an economic leader in the Hartford region. Of the almost 40 towns and cities in the Metro Hartford region, Farmington consistently has the lowest mill rate. Farmington saw a reduction in its unemployment rate from 5.5% to 3.5% in 2015. At year end, Class A office vacancy rate was 15.8% and is 5% lower than the greater Hartford Region

New Businesses in 2015 included: Ducci Electric relocated their corporate headquarters to Farmington and UTC completed their renovations and their corporate headquarter relocation from Hartford. Polar Manufacturing Corporation purchased the vacant EDACT manufacturing building, YRisk Insurance, All Star Insurance, The Doctor's Company, Kelli Dease Photography, MVP Systems Software, Gallery on Main, The Landing at Farmington, Meadow Asian Cuisine, Front Row, Cure, 4 food& drink, and Artistica Pizza, Amped Fitness, Anytime Fitness, Zen Yoga Barre, and Somo Movement.

Over the past few years, the Economic Development Commission and staff have worked diligently to take the Business Breakfast Program, generously hosted by Farmington Bank, to a higher level by recruiting new businesses to the breakfasts and by having relevant speakers. The Economic Development Commission hosted three very successful business breakfasts during this past year.

At the end of each Business Breakfast, the Economic Development Director collects feedback of the event which consistently ranks "excellent", both in networking opportunity and speaker quality. The Business



*Kathy Eagen, Town Manager, with Mary-Ellen Harper, Director of Fire & Rescue Services, at Fire Safety Training*



# TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE--continued

Breakfast series has become the "place to be" for our local business community and elected officials. I encourage our business community to participate and attend a Business Breakfast.

The Town of Farmington Strategic Plan, Goal #5, and the Resident Survey of Town residents also indicated that "Best Practices" in government was an important priority. The Town of Farmington continues to succeed in this area.

The Farmington Gateways Committee made enormous strides towards engaging the community to formulate a vision for the Farmington Center Gateway study area. The Committee hosted a three day charrette in the spring of 2015 to engage the community and solicit their input concerning their vision of the future of Farmington Center. Consultants facilitated these workshops and produced the Farmington Center Study. A community meeting was held in September 2015 to review the Study and provide new insights and comments. This Study was finalized and at a June 2016 Town Planning and Zoning Commission public hearing, the Gateways Committee requested that the Plan of Conservation and Development be amended to include the Farmington Center Study into the Plan of Conservation and Development. The Connecticut Main Street Center awarded a Merit Award for Planning and Community engagement to the Town of Farmington for the work accomplished with the Farmington Center Project.

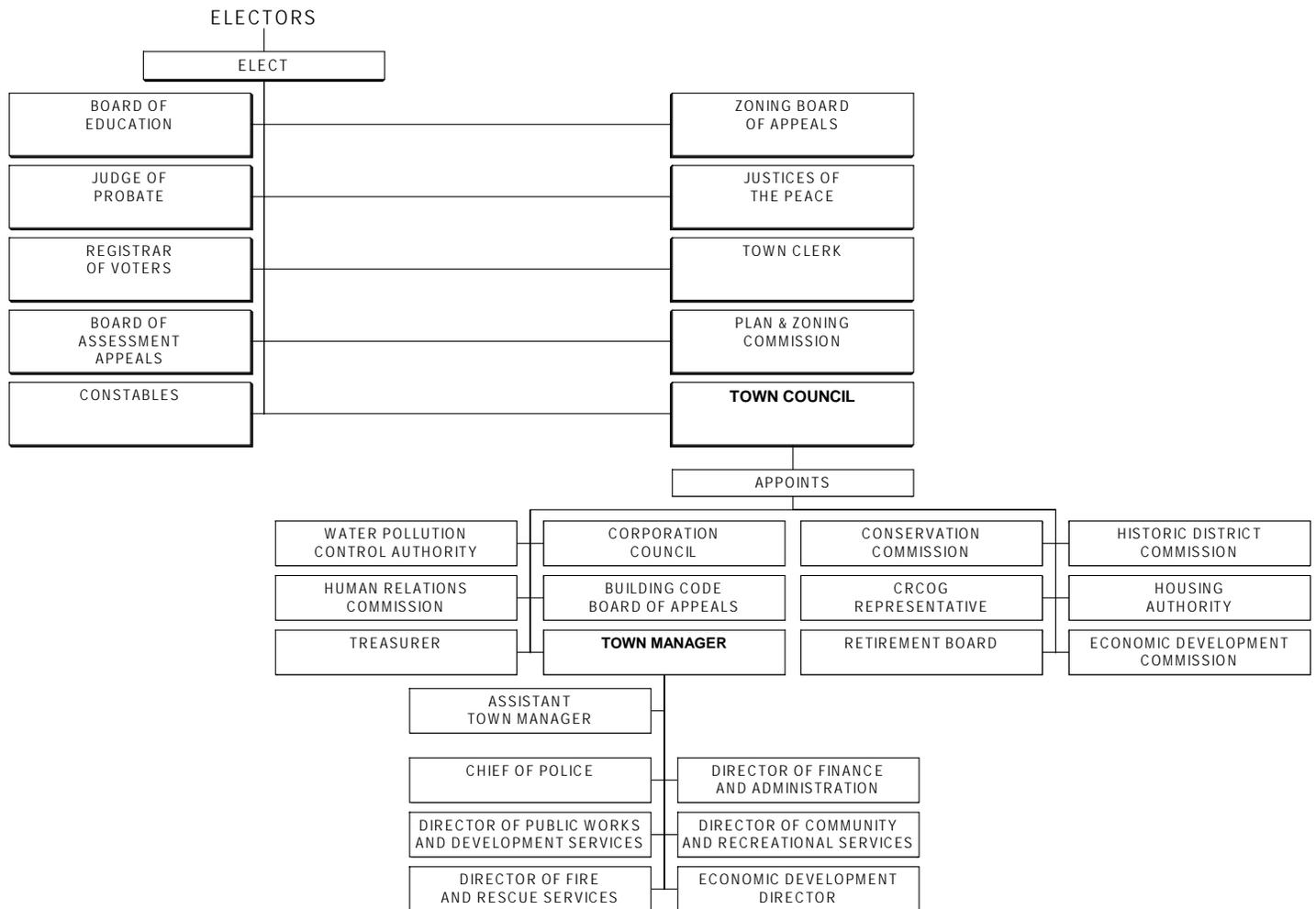
As always, working with the residents of the Town of Farmington continues to be a satisfying experience. I look forward to working together with the community to meet the facility, the land, and the service needs of the community without significantly burdening the residents with higher taxes. I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to give me a call at 860.675.2350 or email me at [EagenK@farmington-ct.org](mailto:EagenK@farmington-ct.org).

*Kathleen A. Eagen*

Kathleen A. Eagen  
Town Manager



# ORGANIZATION CHART



# MUSEUMS

## The Day-Lewis Museum

158 Main St. (rear)  
Farmington, CT 06032.  
Telephone: 860-678-1645  
Hours: Wednesdays 2:00 – 4:00 pm March through  
November, except August.

The Day-Lewis Museum of Indian Artifacts, owned by Yale and operated by the Farmington Historical Society.

## Lewis Walpole Library

154 Main Street  
Farmington, CT 06032  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 – 5:00,  
by appointment.  
Telephone: (860) 677-2140  
FAX: (860) 677-6369.  
E-mail: [information@stanleywhitman.org](mailto:information@stanleywhitman.org)

## Hill-Stead Museum



35 Mountain Rd.  
Farmington, CT 06032  
Phone: (860) 677-4787  
Web Site: [www.hillstead.org](http://www.hillstead.org)  
Email: [hillstead@hillstead.org](mailto:hillstead@hillstead.org)

Hill-Stead Museum, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1991, is an outstanding example of Colonial Revival domestic architecture set on 152 acres of fields and woodlands. The Museum houses outstanding works by Monet, Manet, Degas, Cassatt and Whistler, which are shown with the furnishings and decorative arts as they were when the Pope and Riddle families were in residence (1901-1946). The main house is complimented by a Sunken Garden with period plantings restored after the original Beatrix Farrand design.

Hill-Stead Museum is open Tuesday through Sunday for house tours: May through October from 10am to 5pm, and November through April from 11am to 4pm. Guided tours begin every half hour; the last tour begins one hour before closing. Admission is charged. On the first Sunday of each month, the Museum invites visitors to tour the house at their own pace. Hill-Stead Museum is located off route I-84 at exit 39. Follow route 4 to the second light; turn left onto route 10 South. At next light, turn left onto Mountain Road. The Museum entrance is at 35 Mountain Road. For more information or a calendar of events, please call (860) 677-4787 or browse [www.hillstead.org](http://www.hillstead.org).

The Lewis Walpole is a non-circulating research library for English eighteenth-century studies. It was bequeathed to Yale by W.S. Lewis, who devoted his life to collecting the letters and works of Horace Walpole, 1717-1797, and to editing the Yale Edition of Horace Walpole's Correspondence. The library is located in a colonial frame house built in 1784, to which new wings have been added.

Almost every aspect of the eighteenth century is covered by the library's holdings, including the most extensive collection of English 18<sup>th</sup>-century satirical prints in the United States. Drawings, paintings, and memorabilia from Strawberry Hill, Horace Walpole's Gothic Revival villa, enrich the print and manuscript sources. The manuscript holdings are strong in the 18<sup>th</sup>-century history of diplomatic relations, particularly between Great Britain and Poland, Germany, and Russia.

Researchers and visitors are welcome by appointment. The staff also provides information by telephone and through the mail and e-mail. The library provides photocopying services. Researchers may also request that items from the Library be sent either to the Beinecke Library or the British Art Center for consultation.



### Stanley-Whitman House

37 High St.  
Farmington, CT 06032  
(860) 677-9222  
information@  
stanleywhitman.org  
Website:  
www.stanleywhitman.org  
Admission charge  
Office and Visitor  
Services



Hours: Open Monday – Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm. Tours of the 1720 historic house take place May through October Wednesday – Sunday 12:00pm – 4:00pm and November through April Saturday and Sunday from 12:00pm – 4:00pm  
Group tours and school programs are available by appointment.

The Stanley-Whitman House, at 37 High Street, was built by Deacon John Stanley in 1720, and opened as a museum in 1935. The House was named a National Historic Landmark in 1961 and remains one of the best-known examples of early New England framed architecture. Recently restored, the house embodies the styles of both the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Constructed around the massive central chimney, the House features an overhanging second story with four pendant drops across the front. A lean-to, added across the back in the middle 1700's gives it the traditional New England saltbox shape.

The Stanley-Whitman House preserves and interprets the history and culture of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Farmington. Adults and children enjoy open-hearth cooking, candle-making, spinning, weaving, and other colonial activities during special events. The House offers a glimpse into colonial life, which can help to make the present and future more meaningful.

### Unionville Museum

15 School St.  
Unionville, CT 06085  
(860) 673-2231  
Free Admission  
Hours: Wednesday,  
Saturday, Sunday 2:00 to  
4:00 pm



Housed in a restored Andrew Carnegie free public library building (the original West End Library) built circa 1917, the Unionville Museum opened in 1984 on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the federal government's official "naming" of Unionville. Through its collection and carefully researched thematic exhibits, the Unionville Museum brings together and celebrates the people, places and events that make Unionville unique. The Museum presents three exhibits a year, prints an annual historic calendar, sponsors annual vintage car parades and Ham and bean suppers, co-sponsors eight public summer band concerts in the nearby gazebo, and participates in other community activities. Friends of the Unionville Museum membership rates: Student or Senior Citizen, \$5.00; Individual, \$10.00; Family, \$15.00; Supporting, \$25.00; Corporate, \$50.00.

### Old Stone Schoolhouse

93 Coppermine Rd.  
(at Red Oak Hill Rd.)  
Unionville, CT 06085  
The Old Stone (West District) schoolhouse is a museum of local history operated by the Farmington Historical Society.  
Information: (860) 678-1645



### Farmington Historical Society Office

71 Main St.  
Farmington, CT 06032  
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 1645  
Farmington, CT 06034  
Phone: (860) 678-1645  
Website: [www.farmingtonhistoricalsociety-ct.org](http://www.farmingtonhistoricalsociety-ct.org)



Founded in 1954 to study and teach Farmington history, the Historical Society collects and preserves documents and artifacts related to local history. The Society maintains two 18<sup>th</sup> century cottages located at 138 and 140 Main Street, Farmington. One of the cottages serves as the Society headquarters where meetings are held, as well as exhibits and the annual tag sale. The Society also maintains the 1790 Stone Schoolhouse at 93 Coppermine Road (intersection of Red Oak Hill Road). The schoolhouse is open to the public on Sundays in July and August. It is also the site of the annual Scarecrow Contest held in October. For more information, call or go to our website.

### Farmington Memorial Town Forest

The Farmington Memorial Town Forest was established in 1926 as a memorial to the men and women who served in the First World War. The Forest consists of 266 acres between Red Oak Hill Road and Plainville Avenue (Rt. 177). Mr. Harry C. Ney of Farmington contributed 188 acres and other parcels were acquired from neighboring owners.



The Forest is owned by the Town of Farmington and at a Special Town Meeting on May 20, 1926 it was established that the Forest be supervised and controlled by a quasi/Town Board of Trustees. The Board, seven in number, decided that use of the Forest be for passive use such as hiking and bird watching, with no hunting, fires or vehicle trespass. As time passed, it was found necessary to manage the Forest in a constructive manner, so a professional forester was asked to draw up a forest management plan, analyzing tree stands, recommending harvest where appropriate, conducting oversight of harvests, conducting replanting and regeneration of desirable tree species and conducting surveillance of the six blocks in the plan. Mel Harder of East Hartland, CT is our forester and has been for many years.



# ELECTED OFFICIALS

## TOWN COUNCIL

Nancy W. Nickerson, Chair  
Jon Landry  
Peter Mastrobattista  
Gary Palumbo  
Amy Suffredini  
Meredith Trimble  
John Vibert

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Christopher Fagan, Chair  
Christine Arnold, Vice-Chair  
William Baker  
William Beckert  
Mark Blore  
Liz Fitzsimmons  
Mecheal Hamilton  
Paula O'Brien  
Ellen Siuta

## BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Robert Bezz, Chair  
Elizabeth Giannaros  
Christopher Mathieu  
John Simoneau  
Mark Simpson  
Ronald White

## CONSTABLES

Geno Avenoso  
Robert Parker  
Diane Rogers

## REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Barbara Brenneman  
Edward J. Leary

## TOWN CLERK

Paula B. Ray

## TOWN PLAN & ZONING COMMISSION

Philip Dunn, Jr., Chair  
Barbara Brenneman  
Donald Doeg  
Jay Fraprie  
Robert Jarvis  
Diane Tucker  
Bruce Charette, alternate  
Hilary Donald, alternate  
David Houf, alternate

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Sharon Mazzochi, Chair  
Kerry Callahan  
Johnny Carrier  
Edward Giannaros  
Ronald Llewellyn  
Katy Perry  
John Brockelman, alternate  
Christopher Forster, alternate  
Jon Schoenhorn, alternate



## STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS

### U.S. SENATE

Richard Blumenthal  
Christopher Murphy

### STATE SENATOR

Beth Bye (5<sup>th</sup> District)  
Terry Gerratana (6<sup>th</sup> District)

### U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Elizabeth Esty (5<sup>th</sup> District)

### STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Brian Becker (19<sup>th</sup> District)  
Mike Demicco (21<sup>st</sup> District)



# TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTED OFFICIALS

## **BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS**

Wilbur Charette  
Donald Hammerberg  
George Santos  
Ned Statchen  
Vacant (R)

## **CONSERVATION and INLANDS WETLANDS COMMISSION**

John Hinze, Chair  
Paul Amato  
Robert Hannon  
Robert Isner  
Allen Quigley  
John Radasci  
Mark Simpson  
Philip Markuszka, alternate  
Guy Wolf, III, alternate

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Augusto Russell, Chair  
Brian FX Connolly,  
Vice Chair  
Ronald Bernard  
Joseph Howard  
John Karwoski  
Daniel Kleinman  
Robert Reeve

## **FARMINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Hilary Donald, Chair  
John Bombara  
James Calciano  
Kathryn Cox  
Holly Holden  
Bruce Charette, alternate  
Dorothy Haviland, alternate  
Jaye O'Leary, alternate

## **UNIONVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT AND PROPERTIES COMMISSION**

Sheryl Horton, Chair  
Robert Hoffman  
Lisa Johnson  
Matthew Pogson  
Matthew Ross  
Christopher Forster  
alternate  
Howard Martin, alternate

## **TOWN HISTORIAN**

Betty Coykendall

## **HOUSING AUTHORITY**

John DeMeo  
Sally Hatzenbuhler  
Christian Hoheb  
Cheryl Lawless  
Cynthia Mason  
Justin Pagano

## **HOUSING PARTNERSHIP**

John Karwoski, Chair  
Barbara Brenneman  
Dennis Brown  
John Hangen  
Jane Inrig  
Justin Pagano  
Peter Van Beckum

## **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

Ruth Grobe, Chair  
Ray Elling  
Donna Mambrino  
Christine Mergenthaler  
Zalman Nakhimovsky  
Jolanta Silwinski

## **LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE**

Peter Mastrobattista, Chair  
Evan Cowles  
John Hinze  
Richard Kramer  
Allen Quigley  
Amy Suffredini  
William Wadsworth

## **RETIREMENT BOARD**

Peter Mastrobattista, Chair  
Robert Brochu  
Douglas Clark  
Robert Ingvertsen  
Steve Egan  
Edward Leary  
Ken Miller  
Kyle Cunningham  
Geoffrey Porter  
Joan Valenti  
Pauline Wilson

## **TOWN MANAGER**

Kathleen Eagen

## **VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

Alan Nickerson, Chair  
William Baker  
Paul Krause  
Paul Menzel  
Ragnar Peterson  
Paula Ray

## **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

James Foote, Chair  
Peter Bagdigian  
Wilbur Charette  
Kevin Ray  
James Thompson



# TOWN MANAGER APPOINTED OFFICIALS

## ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER

Erica Robertson

## BUILDING OFFICIAL

Christopher Foryan

## CHIEF OF POLICE

Paul Melanson

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Nancy Parent

## DIRECTOR OF FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

Mary-Ellen Harper

## DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Joseph Swetcky

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Russell Arnold, Jr.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rose Ponte

## FIRE MARSHAL

Michael Gulino

## HIGHWAY & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT

Scott Zenke

## TAX COLLECTOR

Christine Silansky

## TOWN ASSESSOR

Christine Barta

## TOWN PLANNER

William Warner

## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT SUPERINTENDENT

William Kaminski

## OTHER MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

## DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Jennifer Kertanis,  
Farmington Valley  
Health District

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jay Johnston

## FIRE CHIEFS

Russell Nelson, East Farms  
Don Antigiovanni, Farmington  
Rich Higley, Sr., Tunxis Hose



# BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS

## PRINCIPALS

### SUPERINTENDENT

Kathleen Greider

### ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Kimberly Wynne

### DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

Dr. Laurie Singer

### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Vincent LaFontan

### East Farms School

Renee St. Hilaire

### Farmington High School

Dr. William Silva

### Irving A. Robbins Middle School

Ted Donahue

### Noah Wallace School

Kelly Sanders

### Union School

Caitlin Eckler

### West District School

Peter Michelson

### West Woods Upper Elementary School

Alicia Bowman



# DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS

## EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

### 1. Population

<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2020</u>
16,407	20,608	23,641	25,114 est.	25,340	25,186	25,329	26,684 est.

### 2. Age Distribution 2011 Census by percent

<u>Under 5</u>	<u>5-17</u>	<u>18-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
5%	18%	7%	31%	22%	17%

### 3. Employment Data August 2015

Employed	14,255
Unemployed	544
Unemployment rate	3.8%

### 4. Educational Attainment (Persons 25 Years and Older) - 2014

High School Degree	95%
Bachelor's Degree or more	81%
2 year tech/prep colleges	13%

### 5. Median Household Income (2011)      \$88,467

### 6. Education

Average class size	20.7
Percent graduates to college	86% for FY 14-15

## REAL ESTATE

### 1. Percent of Housing Owner Occupied (2012)      72%

### 2. Sales Distribution by Selling Price for Single Family Homes 2011

\$0-\$100,000	0
\$100,001-\$199,999	12
\$200,000-\$299,999	49
\$300,000-\$399,999	38
\$400,000 or more	77

### 3. Median Single Family Home Sales Price (2011)      \$371,500

## MISCELLANEOUS

### 1. Public Utilities

Percent of Population Served by Public Sewer	85%
Percent of Population Served by Public Water	65%

### 2. Transportation

Number of Interchanges with I-84	3
Distance to Bradley Airport	20 miles



# DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS--continued

## ECONOMY

### 1. Number of Major Business Establishments by Type 2013

Industry	Units	Annual Average Employment	Total Annual Wages	Annual Average Wage
<b>Total - All Industries</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>30,938</b>	<b>\$2,020,587,875</b>	<b>\$65,310</b>
Construction	85	972	\$79,717,105	\$81,992
Manufacturing	41	2,478	\$170,459,432	\$68,780
Wholesale Trade	72	1,162	\$100,275,470	\$86,308
Retail Trade	196	3,760	\$94,545,154	\$25,148
Transportation and Warehousing	10	117	\$4,315,489	\$36,911
Information	24	431	\$37,925,703	\$87,995
Finance and Insurance	158	4,046	\$408,339,782	\$100,937
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	56	530	\$23,285,502	\$43,963
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	174	1,774	\$141,597,787	\$79,803
Management of Companies and Enterprises	18	1,055	\$199,544,417	\$189,186
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Svcs	79	1,999	\$80,437,471	\$40,247
Educational Services	14	321	\$11,856,317	\$36,897
Health Care and Social Assistance	126	3,444	\$173,265,931	\$50,316
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	18	360	\$7,406,224	\$20,597
Accommodation and Food Services	77	1,737	\$36,424,034	\$20,965
Other Services (except Public Administration)	136	536	\$21,381,188	\$39,928
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6,192</b>	<b>\$427,931,008</b>	<b>\$69,109</b>
Federal Government	3	60	\$3,442,033	\$57,688
State Government	7	5,033	\$366,954,984	\$72,911
Local/Municipal Government	13	1,100	\$57,533,991	\$52,327

### 2. Major Employers 2014

Employer	No. of Employees
UCONN Health Center	5,700
West Farms Mall	2,600
UTC	2,500
TOF/BOE	774
ConnectiCare	578
Trumpf Inc.	485
American Red Cross	300
Town of Farmington Municipal Government	383
Tunxis Community College	294

### 4. Land Available for Commercial and Industrial Development - 242 acres

### 5. Assessment Information

Farmington Net Taxable Grand List (2014)

\$3,533,281,325

Mill Rate - 25.1

Last Year of Revaluation - 2012

### 3. Total Number of Employees (Jobs in Farmington) - 30,938



# TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS



*Front Row (L to R):  
Meredith Trimble  
Nancy Nickerson - Chair  
Kathleen Eagen - Town Manager  
Amy Suffredini*

*Back Row (L to R):  
Gary Palumbo  
Peter Mastrobattista  
Paula Ray - Town Clerk  
Jon Landry  
John Vibert*

## TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

### July 2015

- Awarded a contract for the purchase of "Treated Road Salt" to Cargill Deicing Technology of North Olmsted, Ohio at a cost \$93.49 per ton.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a 6-month contract with the UCONN Health Center to provide paramedic service to the Town of Farmington for the first half of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 at a cost of \$20,953.
- Awarded Bid # 226 "Installation of Fencing along Multi-Use Trails" to the low bid of G.B. Hastie Fence Company, Inc. of Agawam, MA at a cost of \$58,138.50.

### September 2015

- Authorized the Town Manager to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town of Farmington a modification of the conservation easement currently filed regarding the former Charles House property located at and otherwise known as 19 Perry Street.
- Authorized the Town Manager to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town of Farmington an access drive easement in favor of Old Mill Commons LLC as generally described on the map located on Town property at 173 School Street.
- Authorized the Town Manager to execute the required documentation for the Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program Award for the Scott Swamp Cemetery located at 8784 Scott Swamp Road, Route 6.
- Authorized the Town Manager to execute the required documentation for the Agriculture Viability Grant Program Award for the purpose of replacing the roof of the Vegetable Barn at Sub Edge Farm located at 199 Town Farm Road.

### October 2015

- Acknowledged that Town-owned open space, Lot 3 Red Oak Hill Road, is a part of the Farmington Memorial Town Forest.
- Authorized the incorporation of Town-owned open space, Lot 17A3 Wakefield Lane and Lot 26A Field Stone Run, into the Farmington Memorial Town Forest by the inclusion of the necessary charitable trust language into the parcel's deed.
- Approved the Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Plan for Municipal Records and made it part of the Town of Farmington Emergency Operations Plan.
- Ratified the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and Local 3103, International Association of Firefighters, for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.



# TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS--continued

## November 2015

- Authorized the acquisition of Lot 10A Slater Road (adjacent to Deadwood Swamp).
- Authorized the acceptance of a gift of property owned by Tomasso Brothers, Inc. located at Lot 3 Johnson Avenue.
- Authorized the Town Manager to execute a "Memorandum of Understanding" between the Town of Farmington and the Town of Plainville for construction and maintenance of a multi-use trail.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign the Agreement for Consulting Engineering Services for State Project #51-269 Intersection Improvements.

## December 2015

- Accepted the Farmington Center Study report.
- Awarded Bid # 511-45-001, "Comprehensive Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade Project" to C.H. Nickerson & Company, Inc. of Torrington, CT at a cost of \$57,480,600.
- Executed an agreement with the engineering firm Wright-Pierce of Middletown, CT to provide professional engineering and inspection services during the construction phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project.

## January 2016

- Adopted the Capital Improvement Policy, the Debt Management Policy, the Reserve Policy and the Self-Insurance Fund.
- Performed actions pertaining to the Farmington High School Renovation project in accordance with the Chapter 53, "Public Buildings", of the Farmington Town Code.
- Authorized the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer to enter into a lease financing arrangement with De Lage Landen Public Finance LLC for the leasing of 28 golf carts for West Woods Golf Course.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign a License Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to construct, repair, and maintain the Farmington Valley Greenway from Red Oak Hill Road to the Town of Plainville.

## February 2016

- Held a public hearing on the Town Manager's Proposed Five Year Capital Improvement Plan.
- Approved the 2016 Blighted Building List.
- Approved the Town of Farmington Strategic Plan/Town Manager Goals.
- Approved the Town of Farmington Recreation Policy.
- Amended Chapter 176 "Taxation" of the Farmington Town Code.
- Amended Chapter 83 "Building Construction" of the Farmington Town Code.
- Awarded Bid # 233 "Unionville Sidewalk Replacement", including Alternates # 1 & 2, to Guerrero Construction, Inc. of Oxford, CT at a low bid price of \$378,695.
- Ratified the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Farmington and Local 331, International Brotherhood of Police Officers, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.
- Ratified the tentative collective bargaining agreements (Supervisor and Non-Supervisor) between the Town of Farmington and Local 2001, CSEA/ SEIU, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

## March 2016

- Held a public hearing on the Town Manager's 2016-2017 Recommended Operating Budget.
- Approved the acquisition of properties owned by October Twenty-Four, Inc. located at 8885 South Ridge Road (Lot 7) and 8809 (Lot 6A/B) Settlement Road (approximately 107.1 acres) for the purchase price of \$1,225,000.
- Approved the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) Regional Performance Incentive Program Resolution.
- Awarded Bid # 231 "Engine 4 and Engine 6 Pumper Engines" to Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. of Appleton, Wisconsin at a contract price of \$1,096,960.



# TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS--continued

## April 2016

- Approved the Town Council's Recommended Budget for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017.
- Accepted the 2015 Annual Report.
- Approved the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy and Grievance Procedure.

## May 2016

- Set the Property Tax Rate and Solid Waste Special Service Charge for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year.
- Awarded Bid # 234, "Farmington Canal Heritage Greenway" to J. Iapaluccio, Inc. of Brookfield, CT at a contract cost of \$3,851,997.99.
- Awarded Bid # 237, "South Road Reconstruction" to General Paving & Construction Corporation of Rocky Hill, CT at a contract cost of \$1,643,927.62 subject to Capitol Region Council of Governments and State of Connecticut review.
- Ratified the Tentative Agreement on the contract between the Town of Farmington and American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, Local 1689, for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

## June 2016

- Approved the Town Council meeting schedule for 2017 and to set the date of the Annual Town Meeting and the 2017 Town Council Budget Special Meetings.
- Authorized the Board of Education, or a Sub-Committee appointed by the Board, to serve as the Building Committee for the Farmington High School Roof Replacement project.
- Set a Public Hearing to amend the Code of the Town of Farmington, Chapter 156 "Sewers"
- Approved property tax refunds.



# ASSESSOR

The Assessor is required by Connecticut Law to list and value all real estate at 70% of value as of the last revaluation. Motor vehicles are assessed each year at 70 percent of the average retail value utilizing the October issue of NADA. Personal Property is also assessed annually, based on acquisition cost and depreciation schedules.

The Assessors' Office is responsible for approximately 11,125 real estate parcels, 30,000 motor vehicle accounts and 1,470 personal property accounts.

The last revaluation was effective on the 2012 Grand List. Connecticut State Statutes mandate 5-year revaluations; therefore, Farmington is scheduled to perform the next revaluation for the 2017 Grand List.

The 2015 Grand List was finalized and signed on February 29, 2016. Grand List totals and other pertinent facts are listed below:

## GRAND LIST OF OCTOBER 1, 2015

	Gross Assessment	Exemptions	Net Assessment
Real Estate	\$3,131,871,840	\$ 1,909,750	\$3,129,962,090
Personal Property	275,667,324	61,822,222	213,845,102
Motor Vehicles	231,402,876	389,040	231,013,836
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,638,942,040</b>	<b>\$64,121,012</b>	<b>\$3,574,821,028</b>

Real Estate comprises 88% of the total Grand List with Residential Properties at 72.77% and Commercial (including Industrial and Public Utility) at 27.23%. Personal Property equates to 6% of the total Grand List, as do Motor Vehicles.

TYPE OF ACCOUNT	2014 GROSS	2015 GROSS	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Real Estate	\$3,105,480,670	\$3,131,871,840	\$26,391,170	.85
Motor Vehicle	229,279,460	231,402,876	2,123,416	.93
Personal Property	259,928,720	275,667,324	15,738,604	6.05
Grand Total	\$3,594,688,850	\$3,638,942,040	\$44,253,190	1.23
<b>Net Taxable Grand List After Exemptions</b>	<b>\$3,533,281,325</b>	<b>\$3,574,821,028</b>	<b>\$41,539,703</b>	<b>1.18</b>

The net taxable Grand List will generate approximately \$1,042,650 in new revenue at the current mill rate of 25.10.

### ASSESSMENT RECORDS AND GIS AVAILABLE ON TOWN WEBSITE

[www.farmington-ct.org](http://www.farmington-ct.org)

The Assessors' Office recently converted the previous administrative and CAMA database to QDS and E-Quality. The benefits of this conversion has enhanced the ability to retrieve essential data such as allowing the general public to interact with the new GIS program, view and print field cards and next year, upon completion of the 2017 town-wide revaluation, access the photo imaging system. Additionally, the conversion allows other town departments to network with greater ease including a seamless interface between the Assessor and the Tax Collector.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department is comprised of six divisions, Engineering, Building, Planning, Fire Marshal, Highway & Grounds, and the Water Pollution Control Facility. These divisions are responsible for the design, planning, inspection and maintenance of the Town's existing and future infrastructure, including but not limited to roadways, storm drainage, sanitary sewer system, open space, public parks, residential, commercial and public buildings. The majority of the Capital Improvement Projects are overseen by the Department of Public Works. The Department maintains and updates its inventory of Town owned facilities, such as right of ways, sanitary sewers, storm drainage and open space parcels on a regular basis.

The responsibility of this Department is to provide the citizens with professional and courteous advice on issues ranging from home/property improvement questions, drainage concerns, sanitary sewer locations, tree locations, leaf collection and snow plowing. The Department's personnel strive to provide the highest level of service, consistently and effectively, to its citizens.

## BUILDING DIVISION

The Building Department is responsible for the protection of persons in all public and private structures through its inspection programs. Building Department Staff inspects and confirms on-site work in order to monitor compliance with regulations. Areas of inspection include general construction, electric, plumbing, heating/air-conditioning, and fire safety. Staff also reviews specifications and engineering data for special structural, mechanical, energy, and fire suppression systems.

The intent of the Building Code is to ensure public safety, health, and welfare as it is affected by building construction, structural strength, adequate egress facilities, sanitary equipment, light and ventilation, and fire safety; and to secure safety for life and property of all hazards incidental to the design, erection, removal, demolition, use and occupancy of buildings.

### PERMITS AND FEES 2015-2016

	Permits	Fees
Building	968	\$438,486
Electrical	518	40,694
Plumbing/HVAC	565	46,676
Demolition	21	2,338
Certificates of Occupancy	370	3,700
Zoning	103	6,840
Totals	<u>2,072</u>	<u>\$538,734</u>

### COMPARISONS

Fiscal Year	Estimated Costs	Permits	Fees
2008-2009	\$38,364,687	1,964	\$543,060
2009-2010	\$36,266,293	2,109	\$522,870
2011-2012	\$41,510,176	2,514	\$587,038
2012-2013	\$72,802,158	2,593	\$1,026,202
2013-2014	\$88,139,275	2,385	\$1,241,208
2014-2015	\$61,395,104	2,028	\$856,042
2015-2016	\$93,325,576	2,072	\$538,734



# HIGHWAY AND GROUNDS DIVISION

The mission of the Highway and Grounds Division is the construction and maintenance of the Town roadways and parks. These duties include seasonal maintenance such as plowing snow, leaf collection, and highway and park construction. This Division also handles waste collection, recycling and tree maintenance.

**Road Overlay Program:** As part of the town's annual roadway overlay program, 4.01 miles of roadway were reconstructed. The following roads were paved in 2015/2016 paving season: Morea Road, Tall Timbers Drive, Olde Pond Lane, Ships Oak Lane, Hartfield Lane, Cutler Lane, Cope Farms Road, Sunset Drive, Circe Drive, Colony Road, Ravine Road, Pine Drive, East Shore Blvd, Pond Street, and Lido Road.

**Catch Basins:** 2,068 catch basins cleaned.

**Trees:** Through the use of Town forces and outside contractors, approximately 175 dead or diseased trees were removed from Town-owned properties and right-of-ways.

**Leaf Collection:** Starting on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 5 Town crews collected approximately 18,558 cubic yards of leaves throughout town. Leaves were taken to the Compost and Recycling areas and processed for Town residents use as organic compost, which can be picked up at Tunxis Mead Park.

**Winter Maintenance:** 11 storms amounting to 26.5 inches of snow/ice fell on Farmington. The Highway and Grounds Division of Public Works plowed 22,233 miles of roads and spread 1,093.84 tons of salt to keep town roads clear and safe.

**Recycling:** Recycling efforts continued throughout the year, used motor oil and vehicle batteries were collected at the Highway and Grounds Garage located at 544 New Britain Avenue. The used motor oil is used to heat the Highway Garage.

## **Tons of Materials Recycled (FY 2015- 2016):**

- Combined: Scrap Metal, Commingled Containers, Magazines, Newspapers & Corrugated Cardboard = 2,721.71 Tons
- Leaves = 3,928.13 Tons
- Brush and Wood Products = 522.64 Tons



# ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Engineering Division's mission is to design, review, and inspect public works projects to ensure public safety, improve and maintain the quality of life. It also provides technical support to all Town government departments, boards, commissions and the general public.

The Engineering Division is responsible for the development of engineering designs, specifications, bid documents, as well as contract administration and inspection for various public improvements, including; drainage infrastructure, roadway reconstruction, sanitary sewer installation and repair, and improvements to parks and other publically owned land. This includes surveying, plan development as well as contract administration and inspection.

Highlights of projects processed through the Engineering Division over the course of the past fiscal year include:

- Complete the design, perform construction inspection, and contract administration for the 2.4 mile long segment of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, a new multi-use trail connecting the Town's existing trail system with the Town of Plainville. This is last section of the trail to be constructed in the Town of Farmington. This project was paid for by the State of CT and Federal Highway Administration.
- Complete the design, perform construction inspection, and contract administration for a roadway and drainage reconstruction project along South Road, from Two Mile Road to Orchard Road. This project was paid for through the LOTCIP program from the Capital Region Council of Governments.
- Complete the design, perform construction inspection, and contract administration for the sidewalk replacement project in Unionville center from Depot Place to West District Road. This project was paid for through a Main Street Grant from the State of CT.
- Complete the design, perform construction inspection and contract administration for site improvements at Irving A. Robbins Middle School. This project involved the reconfiguration of the existing parking lots and the installation of energy efficient LED lighting. This project was funded through the Town of Farmington Capital Improvement Program.
- Complete the design, perform construction inspection and contract administration for the replacement of 880 linear feet of sewer main on Maple Street and Garden Street. This project was paid for through the Town of Farmington Capital Improvement Program
- Complete the design, perform construction inspection and contract administration for the replacement of sanitary sewer main along Farmington Avenue from Garden Street to Mountain Spring Road. This project is in conjunction with the State Project #51-260 and was paid for by the State of CT and Federal Highway Administration.
- Perform contract administration for the replacement of over 5,300 linear feet of fencing along the Rails to Trails system. This project was funded through the Town of Farmington Capital Improvement Program.

The Engineering Division also acts as the liaison to the State DOT for the various traffic improvement projects along all State Roads in Town; including the bridge replacement over Roaring Brook and the safety improvement project between Main Street and Mountain Spring Road.

The Engineering Division also provided staff support for the Green Efforts Committee, the Bicycle Advisory Committee, Traffic Review Board, Water Pollution Control Authority, the construction of the Fire Training Facility, and various other committees and local groups. The Engineering Division is also involved in the design for upgrades associated with the Town's Waste Water Treatment Facility.

Engineering staff reviews and inspects improvements such as drainage, sanitary sewer, and pavement, constructed by private developers. In addition, DPW Engineering Staff field located town infrastructure including storm and sanitary sewer lines for over 3,200 Call-Before-You-Dig requests and inspected 50 sanitary sewer connections. The Engineering Division reviewed 22 new single-family plot plans, and 22 Plan Reviews for projects being presented to the Town Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Engineering Division Geographic Information System (GIS) parcel project maintains and updates the changes to over 8,893 parcels; such as splits, combines, boundary changes, the addition of subdivisions. The data is used to update the Assessor's Parcel Maps.

The Engineering Division utilizes this data to provide mapping support for Town departments and committees, including bus mapping for the Board of Education, mapping for elections, as well as map support for the Police and Fire Departments. In addition, we continue to update and maintain GIS mapping of the Town storm drainage discharge, as required by the State and Federal Mandate for Storm Water Phase II Permitting and yearly reporting.



# FIRE MARSHAL

## FARMINGTON FIRE MARSHAL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2015 TO 2016

The following services were provided by the Fire Marshal's Office during the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016:

1. 121 new projects were reviewed for fire code compliance.
2. 14 fire incidents were investigated for cause and origin.
3. 2 investigations of hazardous materials were conducted.
4. 35 Fire protection systems tests were witnessed.
5. 718 code compliance and follow-up inspections were conducted.
6. There were 2 blasting permits — 10 blasts were witnessed
7. There were 2 fireworks displays.
8. 16 Complaints were investigated plus code question visits addressed.
9. Public education programs were presented for children in all nursery schools and elementary schools (grades K through 5). Approximately 2,100 people were taught fire safety programs using the Fire Prevention Safety Trailer. In addition, 13 Fire Safety presentations were given at various locations at their request.
10. The Fire Marshal attended 6 three-hour, 1 nine-hour and 1 six-hour seminars to satisfy continuing education credits.
11. 30 Burn permits were issued.
12. 13 Tent permits/inspections - 22 Fire Watches were ordered.

### CALLS BY SITUATION FOUND - FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

<u>Fires</u>		
Structure		35
Vehicle		10
Others		37
Total Fires		82
<u>Rescue/Emergency</u>		
Medical Treatment		2,858
False Alarms		256
Mutual Aid Given		457
Hazardous Condition Calls		155
All Other Calls		432
<b>TOTAL ALL CALLS</b>		<b>4,240</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRE DOLLAR LOSS</b>		<b>\$100,600</b>

### CASUALTY SUMMARY

	Civilian	Fire Service
Fire Related Injuries	0	0
Fire Related Deaths	0	0



# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

Total Flow in Gallons – 1,299,300,000 Gallons  
Average Daily Flow in Million Gallons – 3.56 Million Gallons per day  
Yearly Average for Pollutant Removal Efficiency – 98.4 %



The Farmington Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) has the following projects completed or still in progress:

The WPCA has continued to move forward with the Comprehensive Upgrade Project. After completing all necessary planning and design stages, referendum, and approval from the Connecticut DEEP; the project went to bid on August 1, 2015. The low bidder, C.H. Nickerson of Torrington CT was awarded the project and began construction on March 7, 2016. Bids for the project came in higher than expected and the WPCA has committed to paying for the remainder of the project costs through its capital budget over the upcoming years. This will reduce the number of large capital projects that the WPCA will be able to take on such as pump station and pipe replacements during these years.

The following projects are currently in progress at the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF):

1. WPCF Upgrade Construction - Staff must continue to operate the plant during changing construction conditions; this will be challenging at times. Entire contents of the existing maintenance building will be relocated to the new maintenance building by the fall of 2016.
2. WPCF Upgrade Value Engineering - working with Wright Pierce and Town Council Chair Nickerson throughout all disciplines of the project to find cost saving measures while maintaining the quality and integrity of the original design. To date savings of over \$300,000 have been achieved.
3. Interim Phosphorus Removal Project – After completing the installations of the chemical feed systems, staff have been working to fine tune operations and needed to setup alternate dosage points. This process will continue until the completion of the WPCF upgrade when permanent phosphorus removal processes come online.
4. Final Clarifiers - Major repair and rebuilding of Final Clarifier 2 completed.
5. Continued utilization of our emergency generator during times of peak electrical usage (Demand Response).
6. Effluent Polymer System - In-house installation of a polymer feed system used to enhance settling conditions in the final clarifiers, adding increased operational flexibility for the WPCF.
7. Plant-wide repairs and improvements – Replacement, repairs, and improvements to the physical equipment have been increasing due to equipment reaching the end of serviceable life and unavailable



# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY--cont.

replacement parts. This also includes major repairs to internal piping systems, pumps, process control tanks and electrical systems to keep the existing plant running until it is upgraded.

8. Improvements to WPCF Safety Program, expanded training and equipment.
9. Continued upgrades to the WPCF SCADA computer system. Programming improvements and changes to suit current operations at the WPCF and pump stations for control and data collection.

The following projects are currently in progress throughout the existing collection system to address aging pump stations, and infiltration and inflow issues.

1. Raising of sanitary sewer manholes to existing road grade Town-wide - Ongoing project, allows better accessibility to the collection system for maintenance.
2. Televised Inspections of sewer system Town-wide, to prioritize repair and replacement of deteriorating pipes and manholes.
3. Pump Station Hatch Replacement - replacement of access hatches at Corporate Park, Stanley, and Patrick Flood pump stations for improved safety.
4. Generator Maintenance - WPCF maintenance staff have worked to overhaul, repair and replace parts on all generators. Load bank testing was also performed on the large diesel generators. Large project to replace the radiator of West Farms generator completed.
5. Patrick Flood Upgrades - Large project to clean the pump station wet well completed. Control system upgraded with new back up control system. Refinishing of pump chamber with an immersion grade epoxy coating completed.
6. Stanley Pump Station - Planning for the installation of a wet well mixing system during 2016. Project will include a complete cleaning of the wet well prior to installation.
7. Batterson Park Pump Station - Engineering and design for a comprehensive pump station upgrade completed. Project on hold until adequate funding is in place.
8. Wells Drive Sewer Replacement - the Engineering Division has completed plans and specifications for the replacement of the sewers in this area due to poor condition and groundwater infiltration.
9. Route 4 Interceptor - 24 inch sewer line from Mountain Spring Road to Garden Street as part of State Project 51-260 has been installed.
10. Unionville Interceptor - 18 inch sewer line crossing Roaring Brook replaced as part of State Project 51-258.
11. Maple/Garden Street Sewer Replacement - abandonment of failing clay sewer pipe in an off road right-of-way. 782 feet of new PVC sewer has been installed.
12. Manhole grouting Town-wide – stop inflow & infiltration project is ongoing.
13. Epoxy Lining of Manholes - protects concrete manhole structures in areas prone to hydrogen sulfide gas production. Large project completed on Rt. 4 to the Hillstead ROW completed in 2015.
14. Sewer Line Cleaning - the WPCF crews in the process of cleaning and inspecting all Town sewer lines. This includes clearing of many overgrown sewer right-of-ways. Over 35 miles of lines cleaned and maintained in 2015.
15. FOG (fats, oils, and grease) Management Program – WPCA and Town staff has implemented changes to the Town Code to prevent the discharge of FOG into the sanitary sewer system. This program is for the food services within Town (restaurants, schools, businesses) to control and alleviate FOG within the collection system. This will reduce sanitary sewer back-ups and also operational difficulties at the WPCF.
16. Energy cost saving projects - These include improvements to pump station instrumentation and control, heating control systems, and energy efficient lighting, emergency back-up power systems for the seventeen pump stations within Town.



# PLANNING AND ZONING

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION CONSERVATION COMMISSION HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSIONS INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

### PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Planning Department provides timely and accurate information concerning the development of the Town as well as technical assistance to the various land use boards, town departments and officials. Applications submitted to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Farmington and Unionville Historic District Commissions totaled 123. The office completed work on a detailed amendment to the zoning regulations to implement a medical office research floating zone. This regulation was subsequently approved by the Town Plan and Zoning Commission.

### TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Town Plan and Zoning Commission is responsible for guiding the physical growth of the community with due regard to the public's health, safety and welfare. The principal means of exercising control over development is through the administration of the Subdivision and Zoning Regulations, which provide standards for land use and development consistent with the needs of the community. The Commission's recommendations for future land use throughout the Town are reflected in the Plan of Development, adopted in February 22, 2008. The Commission held 20 regular meetings and conducted public hearings on 43 applications. Subdivision approvals created 12 residential lots. The Commission approved four zone changes.

### CONSERVATION AND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

While this is a single commission, the Conservation Commission and Inland Wetland Commission retain their distinct responsibilities, and therefore act separately as required. The Conservation Commission is responsible for promoting the development and conservation of natural resources, including water resources. The Commission reviews and makes recommendations regarding the environmental impact of significant land use applications to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission. This year the Conservation Commission reviewed 5 land use applications, and submitted its recommendations to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission. The Conservation Commission also continued their coordination with the Town's Land Acquisition Committee toward the listing and acquisition of open space.

The Inland Wetlands Commission regulates, through a permit system, the use of land within areas designated as "wetlands" or "watercourses". Wetlands are defined by State

Statute, as those soils that are poorly or very poorly drained and alluvial or floodplain in origin. Watercourses include all perennial or intermittent water bodies and waterways. The Commission also regulates activities within an upland review area, which is defined as any area within 150 feet of a wetlands or watercourse. Regulated activities include the removal or deposition of material, construction or placement of obstruction, alterations, including clear cutting, or pollution of wetlands or watercourses. Serving in the capacity of the Inland Wetlands Commission they reviewed and acted on 16 applications. The Town Planner acting as the Wetlands Agent approved 19 applications for residential improvements within the designated upland review area.

Additionally, the Commission held the Town's 29<sup>th</sup> successful Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day with 714 overall participants, including 499 Farmington residents bringing household hazardous wastes for proper disposal.

### HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSIONS

The Historic District Commissions are charged with promoting the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the Town through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places associated with its history or indicative of a period or style of architecture. Thirteen applications including renovations and new construction were reviewed and certificates of appropriateness were issued by the Farmington Historic District Commission. The Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission reviewed one application for renovations and certificates of appropriateness were issued. The UHDPDC continued its work on a set of walking tour booklets through historic Unionville and began the process of expanding the district and the number of designated historic properties.

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is primarily responsible for acting on requests for variances from the terms of the Zoning Regulations where a strict interpretation of the regulations would result in unnecessary hardship for a property owner. The Board also hears and decides upon appeals on alleged errors in any order or decision of the Zoning Enforcement Officer. There were 7 applications during the year.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



*Holiday Baskets  
in Unionville Center*

A healthy and vibrant community successfully balances the needs of both residents and businesses; bringing growth to the tax base while maintaining a sense of place in the community. Residents are engaged and vested and business needs are met and supported. In 2015 we saw growth in the grand list, welcomed new businesses to our community and engaged residents in several important development initiatives; making sure their voices were heard. Throughout the year, the Economic Development Department connects with businesses and residents and strives to cultivate an environment which brings vibrancy, balanced by smart growth principles and makes Farmington the ideal place to live, work, play, and prosper.

## **Farmington Remains an Economic Leader in the Hartford Region**

- Of the almost 40 towns and cities in the Metro Hartford region, Farmington has the lowest mill rate of 25.1.
- The grand list grew by 1.23% for a \$44,253,190 million dollar increase

- Farmington's ratio of commercial taxable property is 26.72% of the overall tax base which helps to keep the commercial tax base strong.

- In 2015 unemployment in Farmington decreased from 5.6% to 3.5%. At year-end 2015, Class A office vacancy rate was 15.8% and is 5% lower than greater Hartford Region.
- At year-end 2015, Industrial vacancy rate was 5.9% and was 50% lower than the greater Hartford Region.
- At year-end 2015, \$583,338 was collected in Building permit fees, of which \$262,766 was commercial. This represents approximately \$19,644,597 of commercial investment.

## **Business and Community Engagement**

- In 2015 the Economic Development Commission hosted three free Business Breakfasts. The popular Business Breakfast Series, generously sponsored by Farmington Bank, featured Peter Holland, representing UTC, Bob Landino, Principal at Centerplan Companies, and Chris Hyers, Communication Director for UCONN Health.
- The Gateways Committee continued their study of Farmington Center. Drafts of the Farmington Center Report were distributed to the community throughout the summer and a community meeting was held in September to collect final comments from the community. The report was finalized and accepted by the Gateways Committee.
- The Town of Farmington, The Farmington Historical Society, Preservation Now, Mullin & Associates, and Dodson & Flinker received an Award of Merit for the Farmington Center Study; Public Participation Component, from the CT Main Street Center.
- Working with UVIA, the first edition of the Unionville Gazebo was published and distributed. The Gazebo provided a directory of Unionville Business as well as articles related to Unionville events, and history.
- The Beautify Farmington Program continued to receive generous support from both the businesses and residents. The Farmington Garden Club leads this program as the Title Sponsor; over 32 sponsorships were received to fund this program.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT--continued

## Business Highlights

- 136 business meetings were conducted throughout the past year.
- The former Upson Nut Building, located in downtown Unionville was completely renovated. This mixed use development includes 5 Townhouses, galleries, restaurants, small businesses, and high growth tech companies. Not only has the building been totally renovated and restored but 66 new jobs were created.
- UTC invested several million dollars to renovate their campus and relocate their headquarters to Farmington.
- Pietro Rosa TBM acquired New England Airfoil Products. The Italian Company plans to renovate the facility and increase employment.
- FIP Construction moved their headquarters to New Britain Avenue, totally renovating the former auto emission center.
- Five new restaurants opened this year. Meadows, Front Row, Cure, 4 food & drink, and Artistica Pizza.
- UCONN Health's outpatient pavilion, parking garages and new hospital tower were completed bringing state of the art health care to Farmington.
- UCONN completed their new technology incubator space adding 32 new labs to their Cell and Genome Sciences Building.



# FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## 2015 Board of Education

Mary Grace Reed, Chair  
 Paula O'Brien, Vice-Chair/Secretary  
 William Baker  
 Jean Baron  
 William Beckert  
 Mark Blore  
 Bernard B. Erickson  
 Christopher Fagan  
 Ellen Siuta

## 2016 Board of Education

Chris Fagan, Chair  
 Christine Arnold, Vice-Chair/Secretary  
 William Baker  
 William Beckert  
 Mark Blore  
 Elizabeth Fitzsimmons  
 Mecheal Hamilton  
 Paula O'Brien  
 Ellen Siuta

## District Leadership

Kathleen C. Greider, Superintendent of Schools  
 Kimberly Wynne, Assistant Superintendent  
 Vince LaFontan, Business Administrator  
 Veronica Ruzek, Director of Curriculum  
 Laurie Singer, Director of Special Services

## School Information 2015-2016

### School

Farmington High School  
 Irving A. Robbins Middle School  
 West Woods Upper Elementary School  
 East Farms School  
 Noah Wallace School  
 Union School  
 West District School

### Principal

Dr. William Silva  
 Theodore Donahue  
 Alicia Bowman  
 Renee St. Hilaire  
 Kelly Sanders  
 Caitlin Eckler  
 Peter Michelson



# Superintendent's Message

The 2016 Annual Report for the Farmington Public Schools reflects a focused commitment to excellence in education. We believe that all students are capable of acquiring the knowledge, skills and dispositions needed for productive, ethical and responsible citizenship in an evolving world community. We are an innovative learning organization that is deeply committed to continuous improvement. Thus, collaborative interactions among students, educators, parents and families emphasize the importance of clear expectations, rigorous standards-led curriculum, inspired instruction, personal effort and engaged relationships leading to high levels of achievement for all learners.

We are a mission-driven school district. The mission of the Farmington Public Schools is to enable all students to achieve academic and personal excellence, exhibit persistent effort and live as resourceful, inquiring and contributing global citizens. In turn, this report summarizes our student achievement results and outcomes, important partnerships and accomplishments from the 2015-2016 school year aligned to our mission. We are proud of our purposeful improvement efforts and our strong partnership with students, families and our community. On behalf of the Farmington Board of Education, I am pleased to present this report to the citizens of Farmington.

Kathleen C. Greider  
Superintendent of Schools

## DISTRICT GOALS 2015-2020

1. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **critical thinking and reasoning** and meet rigorous *core academic content*\* standards by accessing, interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating ideas and information, drawing evidence-based conclusions, synthesizing new learning with prior knowledge and reflecting critically on learning.
2. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **collaboration and communication** and meet rigorous *core academic content*\* standards by participating effectively in a variety of teams, actively listening and responding to the ideas of others, sharing responsibility for outcomes, articulating ideas clearly in multiple formats and using technology tools to enhance communication.
3. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **problem solving and innovation** and meet rigorous *core academic content*\* standards by identifying problems, analyzing data, asking questions, utilizing a variety of resources, thinking flexibly, making connections and seeking practical, innovative, and entrepreneurial solutions.
4. All students will demonstrate performance standards in **self-direction and resourcefulness** and meet rigorous *core academic content*\* standards by exploring interests, taking initiative, setting learning goals, demonstrating persistent effort, adapting to change with resiliency and exhibiting ethical leadership and responsible citizenship.

Adopted March 2015

\*Farmington's Core Academic Content Areas include English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Health, Physical Education, Wellness and Music, Fine and Applied Arts.

For a more detailed report summarizing specific student indicators for each goal and for every grade for the 2015-2016 school year, please visit the Farmington Public Schools' website [www.fpsct.org](http://www.fpsct.org) and check the District and School Reports link.

## Investing in Our Students

### Farmington Board of Education Budget 2015-2016

Salaries	\$40,963,217
Benefits	8,516,960
Services	8,485,053
Supplies	1,710,045
Equipment	460,628
Dues & Fees	<u>255,306</u>
Total	\$60,391,209

Farmington ranked 138 of 169 towns in educational tax burden (#1 = greatest burden, #169 = least burden).

Farmington ranked 153 out of 169 in cost of special education services.

Farmington ranked 143 out of 169 towns in cost of plant services/maintenance.

Farmington ranked 154 out of 169 towns in school-based administration.

Farmington ranked 129 out of 169 towns in total transportation.

**For more information about the Farmington Public Schools, please visit our website at [www.fpsct.org](http://www.fpsct.org).**

# A Year of Achievements

U.S. News and World Report ranked Farmington High School twelfth on their list of “Best High Schools in Connecticut” in their 2015 rankings. Farmington High School consistently ranks as one of the top high schools in Connecticut (ex. Washington Post and Newsweek.)

Fifty-five percent of FHS seniors were accepted at colleges ranked most, highly or very competitive. Eighty-seven percent of the Class of 2016 continued to college or military service. FHS had two National Merit Program Finalists, two National Merit Semi-Finalists, nine National Merit Commended Students, and seventy-five AP Scholars in 2016. FHS had fifty-four AP Honors with Distinction, thirty-four AP Honors students and fourteen AP National Scholars.

FPS students presented at several education conferences on the topic of, “Students As Leaders of Their Own Learning.”

Nine FHS students received the *Connecticut Aspirations in Computing* award from the National Center for Women and Information Technologies.

One hundred Farmington High School students participated in this year’s Rebuild Hartford.

FHS won the Economists’ Choice video contest award from the Council for Economic Education.



**Collaboration and Communication**



**Self-Direction and Resourcefulness**



**Problem Solving and Innovation**



**Critical Thinking and Reasoning**



# A Year of Achievements

The Farmington FHS Debate Team won Farmington's first ever Connecticut Debate Association Tournament.



Noah Wallace and IAR schools were one of the top performing schools in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge. A representative group was honored at the Connecticut State Library.

Twenty-four Farmington High School Musicians were selected for the CT All-State Music Festival. The best musicians from across the state were selected for the All-State band.



Eleven pieces of art from IAR were chosen to be displayed at the University of Hartford Art School's Silpe Gallery.

Four students from West Woods Upper Elementary School were selected to join approximately 300 students in the CMEA Elementary Honors Choir.



# Student Achievement—Standardized Testing

## Science Testing 2015-2016

All Connecticut public schools administer a statewide science assessment to students in grades 5, 8 and 10. The Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) is given in grades 5 and 8 and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) is given in grade 10. The results in the table show the percentage of students who met or exceeded the goal in 2016.

	Farmington	State
Grade 5 CMT	88%	59.6%
Grade 8 CMT	83%	60.2%

	Farmington	State
Grade 10 CAPT	77%	47.3%

Source: CT Department of Education, 2016

*All achievement results can be found on the Board of Education's website ([www.fpsct.org](http://www.fpsct.org)) under District and School Reports.*

## Smarter Balanced Assessment

This past spring, students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 took a statewide assessment of their English/Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics skills called the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Farmington's results show that students are consistently performing above state averages.

### Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Expected Achievement Level

	Farmington	State
<b>Grade 4</b>		
ELA	82%	55.6%
Mathematics	78%	48.0%
<b>Grade 6</b>		
ELA	76%	55.0%
Mathematics	64%	40.6%
<b>Grade 8</b>		
ELA	77%	55.5%
Mathematics	72%	40.4%

## SAT

In March, students in grade 11 took the new SAT as the statewide assessment in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. These baseline results show the percentage of students who met or exceeded the expected achievement level.

### Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding the Expected Achievement Level

	Farmington	State
<b>Grade 11</b>		
ELA	84.0%	65.0%
Mathematics	61.3%	39.3%



# Farmington Board of Education

## Board of Education Committees

### Personnel and Negotiations Committee

*Contract negotiations, collective bargaining.*

#### 2015

**Paula O'Brien**, Chair  
Mark Blore, Ellen Siuta, and  
Mary Grace Reed

#### 2016

**Mark Blore**, Chair  
Mecheal Hamilton and Liz  
Fitzsimmons

### Policy Committee

*Develops and revises policy upon recommendation of the Board.  
Recommends Board action, as needed.*

**William Beckert**, Chair  
Christopher Fagan and Bernard Erickson

**William Baker**, Chair  
Mark Blore and William Beckert

### Curriculum Committee

*New course approval, program revisions, annual  
curriculum reports.*

**Jean Baron**, Chair  
William Baker and Paula O'Brien

**Christine Arnold**, Chair  
William Baker and Paula O'Brien

### Communications/Public Relations Committee

*Communications to the public, newsletters.*

**Ellen Siuta**, Chair  
Bernard Erickson and Jean Baron

**Mecheal Hamilton**, Chair  
Christine Arnold and Ellen Siuta

### Liaisons to Organizations and Representatives to Administrative/Community Committees

*CREC—2016 Rep William Baker*

*Superintendent's Interscholastic Athletics Advisory Committee—2016 Rep Paula O'Brien*

*Farmington FOCUS—2016 Rep Mark Blore*

*Joint Council/BOE Green Initiatives Committee—2016 Rep Liz Fitzsimmons*

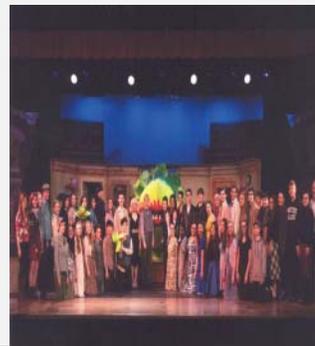
*Farmington Chamber of Commerce—2016 Rep Mecheal Hamilton*

*Farmington Public School Foundation—2016 Rep William Beckert*

*FHS Building Committee—2016 Rep Mecheal Hamilton*

*Health & Wellness Committee—2016 Rep Ellen Siuta*

*Cafeteria Ad Hoc Committee—2016 Rep Christine Arnold*



# Farmington Board of Education

The Connecticut Arts Administrators Association presented the Farmington Public Schools Music Program with the Excellence in Arts Education Award which is given to only one district each year. Farmington was selected for its comprehensive curriculum, the number of student and teacher awards and a supportive Friends of Music organization. CAAA President Rick Sadlon presented the award to Leslie Imse, Music Department Chair. State Representative Mike Demicco also attended the ceremony.



Jack Phelan was awarded the Thomas DiCorleto Outstanding Service Award, given by the Farmington Valley Directors of Special Services Association. Mr. Phelan was commended for his commitment to the growth and success of the Farmington High School Unified Sports Program.

Mary Sobin was selected as the School Counselor of the Year for 2016 by the Connecticut School Counselor Association. The award was presented to Ms. Sobin at the organization's annual conference.

## **FOCUS...on Reducing Underage Drinking**



FOCUS is a non-profit group including parents, educators, social service, healthcare and law enforcement professionals. FOCUS partners with the Farmington Public Schools, sponsoring prevention education at Farmington High School and Irving A. Robbins Middle School. Their mission is dedicated to reducing underage substance abuse through education, advocacy and public awareness; to providing resources for the community about how to keep kids safe, about drug and alcohol addiction and where to seek help; and to fostering a culture of non-use among teens.

## **Summer Learning Academy**

Farmington's Summer Learning Academy provides educational programs that extend and accelerate learning for the community's students. This summer, more than 1,500 students participated in a variety of programs including academic classes, String Camp, a theater program, visual arts, and other enrichment experiences. For high school students there were credit bearing courses in selected subject areas. The Extended Care and Learning program, which provides year-round child care and enrichment programs for students, sponsored full and partial day programs that included special educational and recreational field trips.

## **Farmington Public School Foundation**

The Farmington Public School Foundation (FPSF) is an independent, section 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides funds for programs and projects that excite and engage students, empower the creativity of teachers and support the goals and mission of the Farmington school district. The annual PSF Trivia Bee Fundraiser was once again a big success. As a result of fundraising efforts, FPSF was able to make a significant contribution to the [EDGE Media Labs](#) this year as well as teacher initiated grants.

A special congratulation goes out to the 2016 Trivia Bee winner – Teddy's Angels! The winning team included Ted Donahue, Amy Clark-Garcia, Elizabeth Smith, Karen Edgar and Katie O'Brien.

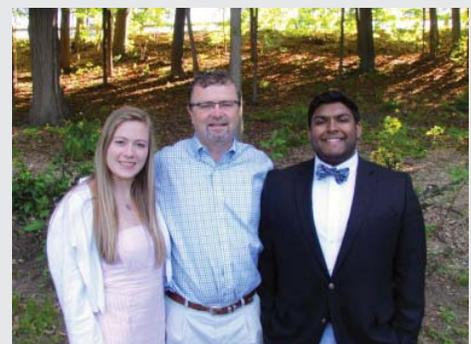


# Student Achievement—Recognizing Excellence

We applaud the diverse talents and fine efforts of Farmington's students. This year the Farmington community—businesses and many families of former Farmington students—have generously donated more than \$160,000 in scholarships and awards to our scholars, leaders, musicians, athletes, artists, mathematicians, scientists, writers, linguists, and community volunteers. Academic and leadership awards are listed here. Congratulations to all of our many scholarship winners from the Class of 2016 and to our outstanding students from all of the Farmington Public Schools.

## Class of 2016

- **Valedictorian, Class of 2016**—*Rahul Sindvani*
- **Salutatorian, Class of 2016**—*Andrew Deakin*
- **CABE Student Leadership Awards**—*Akash Kumar and Sarah Muller*
- **National Merit Semi-Finalists**—*Daniel Luo and Rahul Sindvani*
- **National Merit Commended Students**—*Carolyn Bittner, Andrew Deakin, Danielle Hoffman, Jordan Isner, Annabelle Lee, Sean Oh, Shruthi Voleti, Alexander Wuschner and Katja Zoner*
- **FHS Scholar Artists**— *Katie Byrne and Cara Galske*
- **FHS Scholar-Musician**—*Katelyn Byrne*
- **FHS Scholar-Athletes**—*Andrew Deakin and Julia Meehan*
- **Outstanding Achievement in Photography**—*Antonia Bremmer*
- **Outstanding Achievement in Math**—*Julie Pelland and Alexander Wuschner*
- **Outstanding Achievement in English**—*Danielle Hoffman*
- **Louis Armstrong Jazz Award**—*Akash Kumar and Ian Quisenberry*
- **Outstanding Achievement in Computer Science**—*Brandon Loehle*
- **Outstanding Student in Physics**—*Jordan Isner*
- **Outstanding Student in Environmental Science**—*Carolyn Bittner*
- **Outstanding Student in History**—*Danielle Hoffman*
- **Outstanding Student in Social Studies**—*Jonathan Hammond*
- **Outstanding Student in French Award**—*Beatriz Louro*
- **Outstanding Student in Spanish Award**—*Emily Williams*
- **FHS Principal's Award**—*Emily Williams*
- **DAR Good Citizenship Award**— *Annabelle Lee*
- **Superintendent's Award**—*Andrew Deakin*
- **Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Award**—*Nicholas Rossitto*



# A Year of Achievements

## 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year Nancy Ladish



Farmington's Teacher of the Year was Nancy Ladish. She is a second grade teacher at West District School.

Mrs. Ladish has taught in Farmington since 2000. She earned her Master of Science in Reading and Language Arts from Central Connecticut State University and her Bachelor's Degree from Salve Regina University. Since joining the Farmington Public Schools, she has been a member of the West District staff as a first grade teacher from 2000 to 2012 when she began to teach second grade.

### ***Congratulations to Farmington High School's outstanding athletes:***

- Girls' Basketball won the CCC tournament for the fourth consecutive season.
- Boys' Swim and Dive Team finished the season as CCC division Champions and 5th in the Class L State Tournament.
- Boys' Ice Hockey Team won the Division II CCC Ice Hockey Tournament. Girls' Tennis Team won the CCC Divisional Champions.
- Boys' Tennis Team captured their first CCC Divisional Championship.
- Girls' Golf Team tied for first in the CCC tournament.

### **Congratulations to Irving A. Robbins Middle School scholar-leaders:**

Scholar-Leaders  
Robert Fishel &  
Carolyn Ives

Superintendent's Award  
Kelly Ray



# TOWN CLERK

The mission of the Town Clerk's office is to accurately maintain the records of the Town of Farmington in a manner that allows easy access for the public and other Town of Farmington Departments.

The Town Clerk is the Records Manager, Clerk of the Council, Registrar of Vital Statistics and Freedom of Information Liaison for the Town of Farmington providing assistance to all the Town of Farmington Departments.

The Town Clerk's Department processes, indexes and records all land transactions, including deeds, mortgages, liens, and maps; all vital statistics of births, marriages and deaths; and official documents, including Town Council Minutes, Town Meeting Minutes, veteran discharges, and election results. The Town Clerk's Department is responsible for election processes including pre-and post-election responsibilities and the issuing of all absentee ballots. The Town Clerk's office processes licenses for fish and game, dogs, marriages and various permits.



*A young couple applying for their marriage license.*

During the past year the Town Clerk's office received 554 documents electronically for recording, which is a 53% increase from the last fiscal year. The electronic recording process is more efficient than the manual recording process and saves the Town money in postage expenses by not having to return paper documents.

Three more years have been completed in the land record re-indexing project. Land records from 1972 to the present are now available on the internet.

During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, revenue totaling **\$2,452,962** was collected and remitted by the department as follows: **\$1,546,155** in conveyance taxes to the State of Connecticut and the following to the Town Treasurer for fees and local conveyance tax:



Municipal Conveyance Tax	\$467,437
Recording	\$397,227
Dog Licenses	\$15,325
Fish & Game Licenses	\$5,022
Copies	\$103,220
Marriage Licenses	\$4,350
Maps	\$380
Miscellaneous	\$3,846
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$996,807</u></b>

: **VITAL STATISTICS :	
: Births	812 :
: Deaths	483 :
: Marriages	227 :

## Dates of Interest

April 8	Fishing season opens
April 17	Annual Town Meeting
April 18	Absentee Ballots available at the Town Clerk's Office for the Budget Referendum
April 27	Budget Referendum
June 1	Register all dogs for the 2016-2017 year
June 30	Last day to register a dog without a penalty fee
Sept 30	Last day for Veterans to file discharge papers with Town Clerk to receive exemption for the next tax year
October 6	Regular Absentee Ballots become available for the Municipal Election
November 7	Municipal Election



# TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector's office is responsible for the billing, adjustments, refunds and collection of 50,000 accounts. The Tax Collector's Office collects real estate, personal property, motor vehicle and supplemental motor vehicle taxes, sewer usage and waste collection charges and special assessments. The Tax Collector's office also processes deposits for other Town departments.

The collection results for the 2015-2016 fiscal year are as follows:

	Collectible	Collected	Refunds	Outstanding
Current taxes	\$88,868,126	\$88,795,662	\$142,971	\$215,435
Back taxes	503,175	334,879	33,366	201,662
Current sewer usage	4,571,964	4,564,801	6,215	13,378
Current waste collection charges	1,664,737	1,658,870	685	6,552
Back sewer usage and waste collection	43,594	34,903	324	9,015
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$95,651,596</b>	<b>\$95,389,115</b>	<b>\$183,561</b>	<b>\$446,042</b>
Current interest and fees		150,242	65	
Current sewer/waste interest and fees		39,370		
Back tax interest and fees		96,236	50	
Back special service interest and fees		13,687		
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>\$95,688,650</b>	<b>\$183,676</b>	
Sewer Assessments	187,367	176,658		10,709
Interest on assessments		2,778		
General fund collections		1,653,995	86	
Advanced payments - taxes		70,383		
Advanced payments - sewer/waste		4,791		
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>		<b>\$97,597,255</b>		

- 99.76% of the outstanding taxes on the current grand list was collected.
- 99.66% of the sewer usage and waste collection was collected.

We continue to strive for ways to increase collections and our new software has assisted us greatly in this regard. The general public benefits from the online access, enabling them to [view, print and pay taxes at their convenience](#).

As noted in previous years, Farmington taxpayers continue to demonstrate exceptional commitment to meeting their fiscal responsibilities and supporting town services.



# REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

The entire Town of Farmington is in the 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congressional District. Farmington incorporates all of the 21<sup>st</sup> State Representative District and a segment of the 19<sup>th</sup> State Representative District. Portions of Farmington are included in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> State Senate Districts. Farmington has two local voting districts, 4 Polls and 7 precincts as follows:

District 1, precincts 1,2,3,4	Irving Robbins School
District 1, precinct 5	West Woods School
District 2, precinct 6	Community / Senior Center
District 2, precinct 7	Municipal Campus (FHS/ Library)

To register to vote in Farmington one must meet these requirements:

1. Be a United States Citizen
2. Be a resident of Farmington
3. Be 17 years of age, becoming 18 by Nov 8,2016
4. Be completely released of confinement and parole if a past felon.

The Voter turnout in recent voting opportunities was as follows:

	ELIGIBLE	VOTED	%
11-6-2012 Presidential	17,471	13,583	77.7
11-5-2013 Town	17,246	5,204	30.5
11-4-2014 State	17,311	10,599	61.2
11-3-2015 Town	17,132	5,076	29.6

Farmington Registrars are Edward J Leary (R) and Barbara Brenneman (D)

Call with questions: 860-675-2378 or 860-675-2379



# COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES

The Community and Recreational Services Department continues its mission to manage resources, provide wholesome programming and coordinate opportunities to achieve creative solutions for a healthy community. The Department is organized into seven divisions: Housing, Transportation, Recreation, Westwood Golf Course, Youth, Senior and Social Services. The Department also provides staff leadership to Human Relations, Housing Authority, Juvenile Review Board, Fair Rent Commission, Local Interagency Service Team (L.I.S.T) and FOCUS, the Local Prevention Council for teenage substance abuse prevention.

The Department provides administrative oversight for: (1) The Staples Homestead, which houses the offices of the Fire Administration and Community Services; (2) The Youth Annex Buildings which house the drop-in teen center and numerous Recreation programs; and (3) The Community & Senior Center, (4) The Stonehouse which houses the Recreation division and two affordable housing units, (5) 8 and 10 Mountain Road which houses four affordable housing units, (6) 184 Town Farm Road which is the Town-owned affordable house and (7) Maple Village Senior Housing Complex.

This past year over 1,500 events were scheduled for seniors and various community groups at the Community & Senior Center; including programs, such as: regular meetings of numerous civic groups, flu shots and Town meetings.

**Transportation:** Our Dial-A-Ride drove for 3,814 hours and provided 5,925 individual rides. The Connecticut Department of Transportation awarded the program \$62,043 in supplemental funds allowing us to increase transportation opportunities for seniors and to coordinate group trips.

**Social Services:** Approximately 4,500 hours of case work was provided to families, youths, individuals and elderly. These services are offered to residents experiencing financial, physical and psychosocial hardships. A social worker is available to assess needs, advise on available options, support and serve as an advocate. While many services are available through Social Services, additional assistance is provided through a system of networking, advocacy and referral. This year the Farmington Community Chest generously allocated \$15,000 for our social workers to provide direct aid to residents. Currently, staff is assisting and working with over 1800 client units needing some type of assistance from a simple food pantry application to complex case management oversight.

Community Service Staff continues to provide support to the Farmington Food Pantry. The Pantry is run by a Board of Directors and the Town approves the clients to use the Food Pantry based on income guidelines. The clients make their shopping appointments through social services. Tuesday morning a member of our staff is available at the pantry to interact with clients, assist volunteers, and assist clients with their packages. Throughout the year, our staff has provided 178 hours of oversight and assistance.

This year was a banner year for giving. Our holiday program provided 351 baskets to families for both holidays. 81 donors contributed food and/or gift baskets. The Police and Fire Department assisted in food collection for both Thanksgiving and Christmas and collectively brought in 7,000 pounds. The FHS Cheerleaders and the Fire Cadets were instrumental in collection. This year the CERT team (Certified Emergency Response Team) delivered baskets. The Police Department also assisted with a toy drive in a cooperative program with West Hartford. It was a true community effort.

Throughout the year, staff interviewed, approved and coordinated projects for community service days with various organizations, including: Farmington Community Chest, First Church in Farmington, United Way and various civic organizations. Approximately 434 volunteers assisted for 63 projects throughout the fiscal year; they provide assistance with minor repairs, painting and yard work at various homes including doing some work at Maple Village and Youth Center. Each year each group grows and the amount of assistance provided is a true benefit to our older residents.



## COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES--continued



In October our staff co-sponsored an event with the State's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as a Community Awareness Program (CAP). CAP is a two-session training for individuals, community, and faith based groups who would like more education on how to recognize, provide support and give assistance to those struggling with addictions such as alcohol, drugs, gambling, inhalant abuse, as well as many mental health issues facing us today including suicide.

**Youth Services:** The mission of Youth Services is to promote positive youth development through the coordination of direct services and activities. Our staff works with parents, schools, police and the community to provide support and services.

The Farmington Mentor Program now housed at the Farmington Library, has finished its thirteenth year. Mentoring provides students the opportunity to improve their grades, attendance and self-confidence.

The Farmington Juvenile Review Board (JRB) provides first time offenders a non-judicial process in lieu of going to court. Twenty-nine youths were diverted from court and referred for services that included substance abuse treatment, counseling and community service. This past year we were the recipient of a grant from Connecticut Youth Services Association for our JRB to provide clinical support services to clients. This has allowed us to better service youths in crisis and to spend critical time with youthful clients and their families.

Farmington is home to two indoor Challenge Courses that provide year round programming for students. Through the collaborative efforts between Youth Services, Recreation, EXCEL, and the Physical Education Department, adventure programming continues to attract over 100 students each year.

Through the generosity of the Farmington Community Chest, Youth Services was able to send 49 children to summer camps throughout the Farmington Valley. The total grant given was \$15,000; each recipient was assessed for assistance based on the families need.

**Senior Services:** The Senior Center is an active gathering place that focuses on positive aging. Our programs address the whole person by providing services, educational programs, social and recreational activities and wellness programs. Over 100 programs are offered each month with 21,628 attendees (duplicates) signed in throughout the year. Additionally 635 hours were logged in for office and program volunteers.

In addition to celebrating Older Americans Month and National Senior Center Month, the Center hosted the annual Senior Fair. The fair's vendors exhibit a wide range of information on services, products and resources in the health, housing and financial industries. Over 100 seniors attend each of these events. We also had a very exciting group of high school students and seniors who called themselves "JOY" (Just Older Youth). They exchanged life stories and had lively conversations with one another.

In October, the Senior Center offered a new program, CarFit - A free, interactive and educational program designed to improve older driver safety. Trained volunteers provide information to ensure the safest "fit" for older drivers and their vehicles.

In March, we opened our new Fitness Center with two pieces of equipment, a Nustep & Treadmill. Over 60 seniors are interested and more than 30 seniors have been trained by staff trainers. This service was made possible through the funds we received from North Central Area Agency on Aging.



## COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES--continued



The Town's Community Services Department provides financial support for Meals on Wheels and Congregate Meal recipients. This year the Town provided: \$30,262 directly to Services for the Elderly, a non-profit agency. Of the total assistance provide: \$20,662 went directly towards meals for clients and the remaining balance supported the agency's operational expenses.

**Recreation:** Recreation is dedicated to providing wholesome recreation and leisure activities for the enjoyment of all residents in the community. Recreation promotes good health, friendships, and opportunities for sharing family time. New challenges, outdoor adventures, positive competition, creativity and lifetime opportunities are other endless benefits.

The Recreation Division had a successful year offering a variety of programs including sports leagues, cooking, dance, theater, and arts programs; swim, tennis, gymnastics, martial arts, and yoga classes; vacation, adventure, sports, science, and summer camps; bus trips, and special events. Community based programs include: the annual Ice Cream Sundae Night (co-sponsored with Ben and Jerry's of Canton) in conjunction with the first concert of the Summer Concert Series, The Old Fashioned Holiday Open House and Spring Egg Hunt. At a few of our community events we supported the local food pantry and our scholarship fund.

There were 4,303 registrations for recreation programs, with nearly 10,000 participants in all programs.

Farmington Recreation, under the Community and Recreation Services Department, mails program guides to every household in Farmington 3-4 times per year. Guides are emailed through our database and are made available online and in the school system Friday Folders. Online registrations continue to increase.

**Housing (Housing Authority):** The Housing Authority, created by Ordinance 65 effective May 1972, was implemented to further affordable housing opportunities within the Town of Farmington. It also investigates alternative solutions and initiatives regarding affordable housing.

During the year, the Authority met seven times throughout the year discussing issues of affordable housing, the federal Section VIII rental subsidy program, the Cooperative Ownership Program and Maple Village.

In order to increase its affordable housing stock, the Town of Farmington began a program in 1981 known as the Plan for Cooperative Ownership. To make the purchase of single-family homes more affordable to homebuyers of low to moderate income, the Town of Farmington rented land lots to individuals who qualified under selection criteria.

The Executive Director of the Housing Authority, who is also the Director of Community & Recreational Services, is responsible for the administration of Maple Village, a 40 unit elderly housing complex located in Unionville, on Maple Avenue Extension. The complex, built in 1975, houses individuals over the age of 62 and disabled adults.

The yearly Management Plan (budget) for Maple Village was approved. The Housing Authority continued to participate in the State's Rental Assistance Program for elderly tenants in Authority operated housing. The Town receives a State grant for resident coordinator services, which allows us to provide assessment, case management and program coordination. The coordinator(s) provided over 900 visits to residents under this program.



## COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES--continued

Additionally, the Authority administers 90 HUD Section VIII vouchers, which provide rental subsidies for individuals who qualify with low income. The program is classified as a High Performer.

The Town owns seven affordable rental units of different sizes. The units are financially maintained through the rental funds.

The Authority also maintains landlord/tenant disputes including complaints and/or rent increases.

**Westwoods Golf Course:** Operated by the Town of Farmington, Westwoods Golf Course leads players on an 18-hole jaunt past rivers, lakes, and bunkers that extends to 4,407 yards from the back tees. Despite its relatively short stature, Geoffrey S. Cornish designed the course to demand accuracy and consistency. The facility is designed as a great practice facility for all golfers, offering a 30-stall driving range and a practice green, which, at 24,000 square feet, affords ample room for practicing short game skills.

Westwoods hosted a number of Tournaments this season. Westwoods continues to advertise and market the course as a destination for novice to experienced golfers. Through some promotional efforts many of our regulars are posting their positive experiences on-line and encouraging others to stop by.



# FARMINGTON FOOD PANTRY



Since 2006, the Farmington Food Pantry has been located in Amistad Hall at The First Church of Christ in Farmington, operating under the Outreach Committee of First Church. Following a mission to provide a “respectful, empowering environment, where food and household necessities are available to individuals who need assistance in Farmington”, the pantry currently serves over 185 Farmington families. The pantry operates on a “Clients Choice” program which allows clients to pick the items they like and need, rather than being given a pre-packaged bag of food. As a partner agency of Foodshare, the pantry can receive food and household necessities for a nominal amount and many items are offered free of charge. The pantry is solely funded through donations and staffed entirely by volunteers. All clients are pre-qualified by social workers from Farmington Community & Recreational Services Town department. Additionally Farmington Community Services staff provides support during Tuesday shopping days. This allows increased communication with clients.

In 2015-2016, the pantry distributed over 42 tons of food to needy residents during more than 1700 client visits. The all-volunteer staff logged in over 2000 hours of service processing food drives and stocking shelves.

During the past ten years the pantry has adapted to the changing needs of clients by establishing a program to fund purchases of fresh fruits, produce, and other items most needed on the pantry shelves, and by implementing a dairy program to provide milk and yogurt along with occasional cheese and butter. And, in conjunction with the pantry’s ongoing efforts to encourage healthy food choices, the pantry launched a partnership in 2016 with the UCONN Master Gardeners Program to harvest local produce grown in a Farmington Community Kolp Garden plot donated to the pantry by the Town of Farmington. In an effort to reach more donors and to better communicate with pantry supporters, the pantry branched out into social media by opening Facebook and Twitter accounts in 2014.

As the pantry approaches the ten-year anniversary at this location, we reflect proudly on our accomplishments and offer a sincere thank you to everyone who has helped to further the mission of ending hunger through donations of food, money, energy and time. Together with our partner agencies and the Farmington community, the pantry is making a meaningful difference in the lives of our Farmington neighbors in need.



*The Farmington Food Pantry is located on the lower level of Amistad Hall on the campus of First Church Congregational 75 Main Street, Farmington, CT*



# FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHEST

The Farmington Community Chest (FCC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1931 for the purpose of improving the health, educational opportunities, and community life of all residents of the Farmington community. Through individual volunteers and the investing of donated funds the Farmington Community Chest is able to support Farmington Cares day, Farmington Fuel bank, Camp and Education scholarships, Services for the Elderly and many other valuable projects. Farmington Community Chest is funded through donations from individuals and organizations like the Hartford Foundation, private donors and an annual wine tasting fundraiser held in November.

In 2015-2016 funds distributed by the Farmington Community Chest enabled numerous organizations to assist Farmington residents. The Farmington Fuel bank provided fuel assistance to 37 households. The Farmington Teen Center acquired a pool table to enhance their Drop-In Program through funds allocated by FCC. Camp scholarships totaling \$16,000 were awarded to 55 school age children. Services for the Elderly received \$10,000 for programming and to enhance the loan closet and the construction of a shed. Each year the community chest gives out scholarships through Farmington High School; including a vocation scholarship and those pursuing medical careers. In addition to funds, volunteers were provided to help seniors and disabled with household projects during Farmington Cares Days. These are only a few of the many projects and organizations supported by Farmington Community Chest funding and services.

For 85 years the Farmington Community Chest has been helping improve the health, educational opportunities, and community life of Farmington residents. We are proud of our positive impact on the quality of life for all residents and look forward to growing with our community as we continue to seek opportunities to financially support our community's evolving needs.



*Volunteers through Community Chest at Maple Village*



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Farmington Fire Department, which includes the East Farmington, Farmington, Oakland Gardens, Tunxis Hose, and Southwest Fire Stations, provides Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services throughout the Town of Farmington. The Fire Department is a “combination department” which means that it is staffed by a combination of approximately 175 Volunteer Fire Fighters and 8 Career Fire Fighters. During Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the Fire Department responded to 3,848 fire and medical emergencies.

The Fire Department is actively recruiting Volunteers because they play such a vital role in the services that we provide. Anyone who lives or works in Farmington, is at least 18 years of age, has a high school diploma or GED, and a valid Connecticut Driver’s License may apply to be a Volunteer Fire Fighter. Non-Farmington residents may apply if they live within 5 miles of the fire station they wish to join, or if they work in town and have written permission from their employer to respond to emergencies during work hours. The Fire Department will provide all equipment and training associated with being a Volunteer Fire Fighter.

The Fire Department is also actively recruiting Fire Cadets. The Fire Cadet Program is designed to encourage residents between 14 and 17 years of age to become familiar with the responsibilities of volunteer fire fighters, to demonstrate to young people the importance of service to the community through involvement in the volunteer fire department, and to develop a working knowledge of First Aid, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, and the Safe Working Practices associated with the Fire Service.

The Town of Farmington Fire Department has a Knox Box Program in place to facilitate immediate access to a secured building during an emergency. Knox Boxes are locked metal boxes that hold the keys to the building on which they are installed. Each Town of Farmington Fire Apparatus is equipped with a Knox Box that contains the “Farmington Knox Box Key” which opens all of the Knox Boxes installed on buildings in the Town of Farmington. The Knox Boxes installed in the fire apparatus are controlled electronically by signals initiated by the Farmington Public Safety Communications Center. The installation of a Knox Box at a property allows the Fire Department quicker, easier access to a property in the event of an emergency,

thereby helping to save lives and eliminate property damage that might otherwise occur as a result of the Fire Department forcing entry into a building to render assistance. Residents or Business owners who are interested in installing a Knox Box are encouraged to contact the Fire Department.

The Fire Department operates a “Fire Safety Trailer” to teach people how best to react during a fire. The Fire Safety Trailer is a “mobile classroom” that is designed to look like a home and is set up to demonstrate many of the real-life hazards that could be encountered during a house fire. A non-toxic smoke system illustrates the need to “crawl low” in fire, a heated door demonstrates the importance of feeling closed doors before opening them, an escape ladder in the bedroom reminds participants to know at least two ways out of the home, a 911 Phone System allows people to practice calling 911, and a fully-equipped kitchen shows many common fire hazards – and how to avoid them. If you



*Fire Fighters practiced “Bail Out Training” to learn how to safely dive out of a second story window and down a ladder*



# FIRE DEPARTMENT--continued

are interested in having your group or organization tour the Fire Safety Trailer, please contact the Fire Department.

Please visit your local fire station or call or email Mary-Ellen Harper, Director of Fire and Rescue Services, at (860) 675-2322 or [HarperM@Farmington-CT.org](mailto:HarperM@Farmington-CT.org) for more information about becoming a volunteer or to inquire about any of the services offered by the Town of Farmington Fire Department.



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## ***Police to Add New Traffic Officer Position***

One of the most important concerns facing Farmington is traffic congestion and control; residents made that clear during the 2014 town-wide PERT survey. In response, the Police Department is adding a new



Traffic Officer position. The Traffic Officer will work full-time with residents and the Traffic Review Board to address traffic related issues. While enforcement will be an important component of this position, much of the work will involve: meeting with individual citizens and groups over traffic complaints, research, problem solving, grant writing, conducting traffic surveys, collaborating with other departments and agencies, and providing educational services to the public. We look forward to improving our ability to respond to these important issues in order to preserve and improve the quality of life, making Farmington a safer, more pleasant place to live, work, and visit.

## ***Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)***

Since 2012 the Farmington Police Department has been fortunate to enlist the support of a group of approximately 30 volunteer citizens known as C.E.R.T. These dedicated individuals meet monthly at the Police Station to train on subjects such as: traffic control, shelter management, and community outreach. Equipped with official uniforms, radios, and various traffic control apparatus, motorists are most likely to see C.E.R.T. members supplementing police officers during natural disasters, road closures, and special events such as parades. C.E.R.T. is part of a national program under the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact either Sgt. Kory Vincent or Dispatcher Michael Boucher at [mcert@farmington-ct.org](mailto:mcert@farmington-ct.org).



# POLICE DEPARTMENT--continued

## *Social Media*

Farmington Police have built a strong presence on Facebook. You can visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/farmingtonpoliceCT/>. There you will find the latest news, notifications, special events, and pics. Perhaps our most popular postings are those seeking temporary or permanent homes for lost or abandoned dogs. Check back regularly so you don't miss out! We caution against relying solely on our Facebook page for critical notifications, as postings may not be as timely as local news broadcasts or the Everbridge Emergency & Community Alert System. You can sign up for Everbridge notifications at <http://www.farmington-ct.org/community/everbridge-emergency-community-alert-system>. You should ***never*** report an emergency through our Facebook page as it is not constantly monitored; always report emergencies by calling 911.

## *Community Policing*

Our Farmington Police Department family is proud of the close relationship with have with the community we serve. Throughout the year we sponsor a variety of educational programs and activities in order to further strengthen those ties, particularly with juveniles. Some examples include: student mentoring, Family Fun Bike Ride, Touch a Truck, Everyday Heroes (where fire and police personnel read to children),



Helping Homeless Animals (a presentation for children), various holiday food and toy drives including Shop with a Cop (where at-need children have dinner and go shopping with uniformed police officers), school K-9 demonstrations, various educational classes for students, and seminars for the elderly on victim prevention.



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901

**“The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man” ~ T.S. Eliot**

Jay Johnston M.S., M.A.  
Executive Director

## Overview

FY 2015-2016 stands as a year of significant change, with the completion of the Maker Space project and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Maker Fair, celebrating creativity and the joy of building ideas into reality. These two signature events were developed gradually over the past few years in response to increasing demand to use the library as a resource center for learning how to produce tangible end products. We struck additional creative and artistic chords with several gallery art shows, the continuation of the Richard Garmany Music Series, and a contemporary mix of adult, teen, and children’s programming ranging from knitting to healing meditation.

Our inaugural Farmers Market, begun in July 2015, was a smashing success attracting over 300 visitors each Friday afternoon throughout the summer. Indoors, Café Louise, offering food for the body and soul, came to fruition in the late winter. Technologically, we mastered the art of 3D printing, data capture, sewing and embroidery machine operations, digitizing film and vinyl records, and Maker Camp programming. We were also successful in renegotiating our Open Source Integrated Library System (ILS) contract with Koha for another five years.



Last but not least, we awarded our fourth Employee of the Year, Susan Porter, repaired and refurnished the north garden patio, developed our new mission statement, and were voted 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Library in Hartford County by the *Hartford Courant*.

These wonderful programs and projects were all completed in the course of a normal year and all while thousands of questions were answered, customers were helped, and a new generation of children were inspired.

## Position

More often than not these discoveries translated into evocative programming to spark the intellect and enrich the soul with art, music, science, mathematics, creativity, literature, the synergy of fellowship, and just plain fun. Children’s programming continued to evolve as new methods of engaging young foreign speakers, minds, makers, readers, explorers, and parents seeking answers to difficult questions moved into the fore. Adult and Branch Services continued to developed innovative and exciting niche and general programs throughout the year.



## Technology

Continuous team learning, a spirit of professionalism, and a passion for success provided us with the momentum to push the envelope in our ability to offer new customer services related to 3D printing, data capture, digitizing film and vinyl recordings, media transfer, digital video editing, and other technology skills and operations. In-house we are maintaining our BiblioBoard in connection with our local history and Farmington Room resources, and ensuring that staff members remain up-to-date on various management applications and software vital to maintaining Library operations.



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued

## Philosophy

We recognize that focusing on our customer and accentuating the importance of each transaction with a smile and a good answer are the keys to our continued success. To sustain a high level of satisfaction, we strive to keep the team sharp through continuous learning and a great working environment. Investing in our staff provides us the leverage to deliver service beyond expectations and to meet the challenge of our refined mission statement:

*The Farmington Libraries partner with the community to provide free access to services, experiences, and resources that offer opportunities to explore, create, and share ideas.*

## Organization

In a culture that demands extreme customer satisfaction, I believe it is critical that all employees are empowered with the tools necessary to solve problems at their outset. We will not sacrifice good will and customer respect because staff members are limited in their authority to take appropriate steps to provide immediate and reasonable resolutions. Minutiae should not interfere with our ability to provide exactly what people came to the library to obtain. If we do not have the exact item they are seeking, we take the opportunity to provide strong alternative choices. Naturally, we have operational and budgetary constraints, but we understand that meeting the needs and wants of our customers is a primary goal. We work very hard to understand and prioritize these demands. We consider customer recommendations as mandates for collection development and allocate funding to programs and acquisitions as appropriately as we possibly can.

Sincerely,

**Jay Johnston, Executive Director**

## Laura A. Horn, Director, Information Services

Year after year we strive to provide service beyond expectations to the Farmington community. However, providing exceptional service is only part of what we do, and as such, it was decided this past year that we needed to redefine our mission. The Library Board and staff took on this very important project knowing that the mission statement would not only guide Library staff in the fulfillment of our purpose, but also express to the community what we promise to provide. After a great deal of brainstorming and revising we proudly unveiled our new mission, emphasizing free access to services, experiences, and resources.



In the Information Services and Teen Services departments we fulfill this mission by thoughtfully selecting materials for our collections, carefully considering how the changes we make to the physical space and our digital environment will impact our patrons' experience, planning programs that inspire, entertain and educate and providing an overall positive experience to everyone who visits us in person, calls us on the phone or visits our website.

With our focus on customer service and our new mission statement to guide us we were able to accomplish a great deal over the last year.

## Information Services Highlights:

- Opened our new state-of-the-art Maker Space featuring 3D printers with appropriate CAD software; equipment for digitizing vinyl records, cassettes, VHS tapes, photos, slides and negatives; as well as a high-end MacPro computer equipped with professional software for video production and editing. The space is also equipped with a die cut machine, a sewing machine and an embroidery machine.
- Hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Maker Fair, featuring free programs for all ages, with the help of our 18 wonderful volunteers. Approximately 400 people came out to explore, create and share ideas.
- Offered our very first maker series, which featured various jewelry making techniques in the Maker



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued



Space in May. Registration was full before the series began!

- Established a new quiet reading area with comfortable seating and new shelving for periodicals making it easier to browse current offerings as well as back issues of over 100 magazines and journals.
- Added NovelistPlus and NovelistSelect services to enhance the public catalog interface and assist readers in finding their next great read.
- Invested additional funding to the development of our e-book and e-audiobook collections resulting in an increase in circulation of roughly 2,000 items when compared with last fiscal year.
- Enhanced offerings to the local business community through creation of business center webpage, monthly e-newsletter and partnership with SCORE, a local non-profit organization.

## Farmington Room

While Farmington's history may not be changing, the way in which people interact with it is constantly evolving. Items once locked in the archives inaccessible to the public are now digitized and available online from anywhere, priceless pieces of local history once carefully packed away are now painstakingly restored and digitized for a new generation to explore, and librarians are constantly adopting new technologies and procedures to enable academic scholars and genealogy hobbyists alike to conduct their research more efficiently.



Farmington Room Highlights:

- Restored the frames of two notable works of art located in the Farmington Room.
- Preserved and digitized the 18th century parchment bound manuscript, often referred to as "The Branding Book," containing livestock owner records.
- Added the Farmington Room collection to Koha to enable patrons and staff to locate relevant materials more efficiently.
- Digitized 12 account books that were previously available only on microfilm.

## Teen Services

Keeping up with changing technologies may be challenging, but it is nothing when compared with keeping up with the changing trends and interests of teenagers. The hottest video game, social media platform or blockbuster movie one year will quite likely be old news the next year. This means that a teen librarian can never stop innovating and connecting with the teen community. This makes teen services an incredibly exciting field of librarianship to be in and tremendously rewarding.



The key to success in teen librarianship is connection. If the librarian doesn't connect with the teen community she cannot possibly know what they want. This year in just three outreach visits promoting the upcoming summer reading program over 800 teens were reached, resulting in a staggering 287 teen summer reading registrants before the summer had even ended. By the end of the summer last year we had 264 registrants, up from 199 the year before.

Teen Services Highlights:

- Increased summer volunteer opportunities to allow more teens to participate. 38 teens volunteered at the Main Library during the summer in various capacities.
- Offered innovative maker programming including a 3D design workshop, Minecraft paintings, a jewelry workshop, and DIY 3D hologram projectors.
- Hosted and won the first Inter-Town Hunger Games Trivia Tournament in November.
- Continued hosting the successful monthly Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meetings.
- Doubled the number of Maker Camp programs in order to meet demand.



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued

**Sarah Kline Morgan**

**Director, Children's & Branch Services**

At this year's Connecticut Library Association conference, many of the workshops focused on the interconnected themes of customer service and community relevance. A workshop entitled "Engage or Die" painted a bleak picture for public libraries who fail to engage with their communities at a time of rapid change for libraries. At Farmington Library, our story is different. Many of our metrics are up, not down. Our programs are well-attended, our buildings are busy, our collections circulate, and we continue to grow our presence in the community through outreach.

## Children's Programs

This year, we offered 607 programs at the Main Library, attended by 15,183 people. We also offered 40 outreach programs, attended by 3,372 people. 2015-2016 was our busiest year in recent memory. Although the number of programs offered remained level, our total program attendance increased nearly 13% from last year.



### Children's Programming Highlights:

- Our World Language programming lineup now includes regular storytimes/playgroups for speakers of Polish and Spanish, and we offered several popular special programs on Chinese language and culture this year in collaboration with a community group. Funding from the Friends of the Library has allowed us to expand our foreign language collections to meet the demand for books generated by these programs.
- We expanded programs on evenings and weekends to accommodate the schedules of working families. We now offer programming for children and families on three nights a week, with the recent addition of successful Monday night programming: the Polish storytime, as well as occasional specials in the "Celebrate New England" seasonal series. We offer programs most Saturdays, including Creative Building, a Lego program; appointments with Lucy, a reading therapy dog; Daddy & Me, a storytime program for toddlers accompanied by fathers or other male role models; and New Stories, a storytime program for families; as well as occasional special programming.



- We continue to offer parenting classes in partnership with Bristol Hospital. These popular classes are sponsored by the Farmington Exchange Club.

- This year we launched the first annual Nutmeg Challenge, an online reading program for children in grades 2-6. Using Wandoo Reader, a web-based program, children tracked their progress towards the goal of reading all of the Nutmeg-nominated books in their respective levels, at which point we awarded them prizes. This winter/spring program was offered in collaboration with the Farmington public schools, and was promoted and supported by the schools, in particular West Woods Upper Elementary school.

- Our outreach programming continues to expand as we develop connections to teachers, media specialists, and daycare coordinators in town. Our outreach programming increased by 23% this year, as we offered storytimes for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers at daycares and preschools and promoted the Nutmeg Challenge and the summer reading program at the public schools.

## Improving Access to our Print Collections

Each year, we focus as a group on improving some aspect of our print collection. This year, with the assistance of Amy Miller, an intern from University of Saint Joseph, we embarked on a major project to label and make searchable the "easy" nonfiction books in our collection — those books geared towards an audience of preschool through 2nd graders. With better labeling and cataloging comes better access, and we look forward to seeing an increase in circulation in this important collection over the next year. Following the labeling project, we mapped out a reorganization of our space with an eye towards "flow" in our room: making sure that our library users can find the books and other materials they seek. This project is nearly complete.



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued

## Barney Library

Our branch library is a thriving neighborhood center. Children, teens, and adults visit to check out materials, use computers, attend programs, and connect with friends.

For children, 123 programs were offered at Barney, with attendance of 3,191. For adults, a total of 47 programs were offered, with attendance of 1,004, a 36% increase from the previous year. This was achieved through consistent afternoon programming for adults. For outreach, staff visited Noah Wallace School to promote the Nutmeg Challenge, reaching 220 students.



During her nearly three years at Barney Library, Vida Lashgari set a tone of warm welcome for the children and families in the neighborhood. As Vida leaves Barney to work at the Main Library, primarily in the new Maker Space, Amy Rosenfield, branch assistant, will take on children's programming duties in collaboration with staff from the Main Library Children's Department.

## Caroline Ford

### Director, Lending & Collection Management Services

This year saw many changes in the Lending and Collection Management departments.



### Creating a Welcoming Atmosphere

The Lending Staff at the Main Library and Barney branch recognize that we have a very important job, which is to greet everyone who walks into the Library and make them feel welcome. This past year, more than 218,000 people visited the Library, and our goal was and continues to be to greet, smile and help every single one. Additionally, last year the Main and Barney Library staff checked out over 330,000 items to our patrons and issued over 1,800 new library cards.

## New Substitutes

This past year we hired three excellent substitute lending staff members. The substitutes fill in for staff that is out and in emergency situations, and they are crossed-trained to work at the Barney Library. Senior staff members at the Main and Barney have been doing a great job in training new staff to give great customer service to all.

## Materials Processing

We now have two staff members processing DVDs and CDs, thus getting popular movies and music into the patron's hands quicker. Processing continues to be an interdepartmental effort, and several more Lending staff members have been trained to help process books. Staff members really enjoy being involved, because it gives them a better understanding of the steps it takes to get a book from the vendor and onto the shelf for circulation.

## Library Cards for ALL Children

Staff recognized that sometimes children come in with caregivers other than their parents, but that shouldn't stop them from getting a library card. Instead of making children wait to be with a parent to get a card, we now allow non-parent caregivers to fill out applications on their behalf, allowing them to get books and movies on the same day.

## Café

The café area has fast become one of the most popular spots in the Main Library; it is a destination for meet-ups with friends and study groups, and a place for a quick snack. The fireplace is very popular too; people are sad when the weather gets warm and we have to turn it off. Year-round we have seen children eating snacks with grandparents, a young woman studying for her Bat Mitzvah and teens eating pizza.

Adding to the overall excitement on the first floor lobby area is the addition of Café Louise. For sale are



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued

salads, sandwiches and the desserts. Farmington has a serious sweet tooth and the love for Louise's baked goods is never ending.

Reading and coffee go hand in hand, so it is no surprise that our new, fresh-brewed coffee machine is such a success. Parents, teachers and students are all thankful for the many choices, including cappuccino, espresso, latte and hot chocolate!



## **Leah Farrell** **Coordinator, Community Services and Media**

The Farmington Libraries continue to grow in the public consciousness as places for personal enrichment and communal gathering. This has been achieved through a combination of diverse, quality programming and effective, targeted marketing and publicity.

## **Adult Programs**

In addition to the usual slate of intellectual, informational, participatory, and entertaining adult programs, this year saw a variety of successful special series and standalone programs. Between both libraries, we held 175 adult programs with 3,774 attendees, an 18% increase over last year. 15 Garmany concerts, featuring a wide array of music from chamber to swing, saw 1,109 attendees of all ages.



### **Adult Programming Highlights:**

- In partnership with local storytelling organization SpeakUp! Hartford, Farmington Main Library hosted the first-ever SpeakUp! Storytelling Show and Workshop held at a library, which also provided us with a fundraising opportunity.
- The public gravitated towards a series of health and wellness programs held throughout the year, covering topics such as meditation, mindfulness, dance, and natural remedies. Due to its popularity, this type of programming will be continued into the next fiscal year.
- In March and April, we recognized Women's History Month with a series of programs focusing on the unique struggles and triumphs of women past and present.
- Consistent adult programming at Barney Library allowed for a 36% increase in program attendance.

The adult programs that resonated the most with patrons were hands-on and participatory. Though these ranged widely from low-tech (soap felting, coloring, painting) to high-tech (soldering, micro-processors), all generated among participants the kind of communal, excited energy that is difficult to come by in any type of event coordination. Staff found that all types of hands-on programming promote enthusiastic engagement with fellow participants and Library staff, allowing patrons to create connections with other members of the community whom they would not otherwise socialize with on a regular basis. Hands-on programs encourage participants to cheer each other on, compliment one another's work, and generate ideas. We plan to continue making these types of programs available inside and out of the Maker Space for the coming year.

## **Special Events**

Special events, such as curated art shows and the Farmers Market, came to fruition this fiscal year. After holding two successful art shows in 2015-2016, we now feel more comfortable holding seasonal shows, and will do so in 2016-2017. The 2015 Farmers Market season was a success, regularly seeing between 300 and 500 visitors each week. With some minor tweaks based on lessons learned, we continued with the 2016 Market season.

## **Library Marketing & Publicity**

The success of Library programs and events this year is due in no small part to developments in our



# FARMINGTON LIBRARIES - SINCE 1901--continued

marketing and publicity practices. A cross-departmental Marketing Team has been created to discuss all aspects of Library publicity, from improving existing practices to creating new campaigns to highlight Library services and programs.

Email marketing was streamlined, aligning to a schedule that does not oversaturate subscribers with information. We also realized that over 50% of our subscribers use mobile devices to read Library emails, so we shifted to all mobile-friendly email formats. We have also made efforts to improve the general look and usefulness of our marketing materials by having staff receive training in graphic design and publicity through Lynda.com and purchasing staff access to the Adobe Creative Suite of software. All of this has allowed us to reach more people more effectively, as is evident in the 18% increase in average adult program attendance. Our hope is to create robust and responsive marketing practices that keep the public abreast of all the wonderful things happening at the Libraries on a regular basis.



**“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.”**  
 ~ Carnegie

## ...BY THE NUMBERS



# FARMINGTON VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT



**Preventing Disease, Promoting Health,  
Protecting Against Health Threats**

The Farmington Valley Health District is the local health department for the town of Farmington. As part of our responsibilities to track and monitor the health status of the communities we serve, this year FVHD completed the first phase of a community health assessment. This document describes the major health issues affecting the community and will serve as a planning document for prioritization of public health programs and services.

FVHD launched Resilience Grows Here an initiative focused on the mental health needs of veterans, active duty military, their families and young men. Funded by the Prevention Institute, the initiative is focusing on community conditions that support good mental health while working to destigmatize mental illness. Recognizing that the proportion of the population 50 years of age and older is increasing, FVHD now offers evidence-based programs in fall prevention and chronic disease management. The Matter of Balance program has been shown to reduce falls in the elderly, the leading cause of hospitalizations among the population 65 years of age and older.

FVHD continues to track and monitoring emerging public health issues including Zika and vaccine preventable disease outbreaks and provides factual information on health topics through the [www.fvhd.org](http://www.fvhd.org) and Facebook page.

Enforcing CT General Statutes, the Public Health Code and FVHD regulations are an important part of our work to ensure that the public's health is protected when eating out, swimming in a public pool, going to a salon or drinking water from a private well. The following provides a summary of permits issued and the inspections and site visits conducted during the fiscal year.

Permits Issued:		Inspections/Site Visits/Sampling:	
Food Service Establishments	167	New Septic	51
Temporary Food Service	75	Septic Repair	40
Salons	47	Public Bathing	72
New Septic	5	Food Service Establishments	394
Septic Repair	20	Complaints (ALL)	47
Well	5	Salons	56
Public Pools	30		



Kick-off of the Farmington Valley Health District's "Resilience Grows Here" initiative. Approximately 100+ people attended. Words cannot describe the energy, positivity and sense of community that was generated.



# SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

Services for the Elderly of Farmington, Inc. is a nonprofit agency with its mission:

*"To assist older citizens with maintaining their desired home lifestyle relative to meals, transportation, socialization, home medical equipment and maintenance."*

On staff, there is a full time Executive Director. A bookkeeper who is also the Program Assistant works 10 hours a week and a transportation coordinator works 5 hours a week. 150 volunteers assist in the various programs of this organization. It is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors from all areas of the town. Financial support is primarily provided by the United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, the Town of Farmington, service groups, churches, businesses and fund raising events. Our agency is located at the Senior / Community Center at 321 New Britain Ave. Unionville, Connecticut. For more information visit our website [www.farmingtonseniors.org](http://www.farmingtonseniors.org)

The following services were provided during the fiscal year:

**MEALS ON WHEELS:** 5159 double meals delivered Mondays through Fridays, Birthday gift bags are delivered to each client on their special day.

**CONGREGATE MEALS:** 1450 hot lunches served at the Community/Senior Center



**Town Manager Kathy Eagen, Town Council Chair Nancy Nickerson, and Nancy Walker, Executive Director, delivering Meals on Wheels on the Champions Day of our 2016 March for Meals campaign.**



**The 5th year celebration of the "It's Good to Get Out Group" (ladies over 65 who live alone, no longer drive and looking for adventure)**

**TRANSPORTATION:** 788 rides to and from medical and dental appointments.

**FRIENDLY VISITING:** 29 seniors involved. Our "It's Good to Get Out" Group, consisting of 14 Farmington women, is coordinated and financed by Marcie Shepard. They went on many fun excursions throughout the year. 15 homebound seniors have been matched with a volunteer who provides ongoing support and friendship. 75 Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to the homebound in November, 2016. Highland Park Market donated the fruit. Town health agencies donated baked goods. The Farmington Garden Club donated the spring flowers and Christmas greens to 75 homebound seniors. The Farmington Community Chest funded our "forget me not project" which allowed us to purchase and deliver goodie bags and plants to 75 appreciative seniors many times throughout the year.

The Farmington Community Chest, Farmington Bank and Town of Farmington financially aided Services for the Elderly in the purchase of a much needed storage shed and industrial cleaning sink for the loan closet medical equipment.

**FRIENDLY SHOPPER:** 593 grocery shopping trips were made by volunteers. Seniors have been matched with volunteers who routinely shop for groceries for their client.

**TAX ASSISTANCE:** 290 seniors were assisted with their tax forms by A.A.R.P. trained volunteers



# SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY--continued

SENIOR SENSE: 7696 issues of our newsletter were distributed to Farmington seniors.



*Town Council Chair Nancy Nickerson and Town Manager Kathleen Eagen delivering Meals on Wheels to town resident Mary Bushley*

LOAN CLOSET: 1757 medical equipment items were loaned out to Farmington Valley residents. 450 items were donated to the nonprofit agency Orphan Grain Train who send these items to many underprivileged countries throughout the world

Our 14<sup>th</sup> "MARCH FOR MEALS" campaign was very successful. Canisters were placed in all the elementary schools in town throughout the month of March. All of the proceeds help subsidize our Meals on Wheels program. The Chair of the Town Council, Nancy Nickerson, and Kathy Eagen, the Town Manager, took an active part in Community Champions Week and delivered meals on wheels to our happy clients. Our March for Meal's Campaign was awarded a \$1500 grant by the Meals on Wheels Association of America.

Our nonprofit agency participated in the Traveler's PGA Tournament fundraiser "BIRDIES FOR CHARITY".  
TOWN OF FARMINGTON: Financial assistance was given to our meals on wheels and congregate meals programs. This enabled any Farmington resident, regardless of their financial status, to participate in the meal programs.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT hosted a Café Night in the fall and the spring providing free music entertainment and refreshments for the seniors.

An Annual Gathering recognizing our 150 volunteers was held at The Landings of Farmington on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 82 volunteers attended.

This agency will continue to serve the growing needs of the elderly of this town.

**Nancy J. Walker**  
Executive Director



*Mr. Forgione's 6th grade class from West Woods School, the townwide winning classroom that collected the most money for our 2016 March for Meals Campaign*



*The Services for the Elderly board after putting together Thanksgiving baskets for our "Forget me Not" program*



# FARMINGTON LAND TRUST



*Town of Farmington Acquires 90.5 Acres of Ridgeline Open Space in the southeastern corner of Farmington on Rattlesnake Mountain*

The Farmington Land Trust has one mission: to protect open space in perpetuity through acquisition, stewardship, education and advocacy. The Land Trust has pursued this single goal since its founding in 1971 as a private, non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of federal tax code. Support for the Land Trust comes from Town residents dedicated to the preservation of open space.

Thanks to the generosity of its donors, the Land Trust now protects 290 acres of fields, forests, wetlands, scenic vistas, historic sites and wildlife habitat from development. These 65 parcels will remain as open space forever, enriching the quality of life for Farmington residents for generations to come. We appreciate the foresight of the donors of these properties and the continued commitment of our contributors to the future of Farmington.

The Land Trust is governed by a board of fourteen Directors, elected by its membership at the Annual Meeting in April. Over 250 Land Trust members offer invaluable financial and volunteer support for maintaining and preserving the properties under the Land Trust's protection and for acquiring additional open space.

Officers for 2015-2016: Richard Kramer, President; Doug Pelham, Treasurer; and Evan Cowles, Secretary. Directors: Jim Calciano, Jonathan Cohen, Cate Grady-Benson, Nina Hayes, John Hinze, Francie Brown Holmes, Steve Nelson, Sallie Norris, Steve Silk, Linda Tomasso, and Diane Tucker. Our Executive Director is Bruce Edgren. The Land Trust office is located in the Canal House at 128 Garden Street.

The Land Trust's "Farm to Table Tasting", the 2015-2016 Preserving our Legacy fundraiser, was held under the big tent at the Bushley farm in September. Over 200 celebrants sampled tasty fare prepared by Billings Forge, Maximum Beverage and ONYX Moonshine. The event was organized and chaired by Cate Grady-Benson. The FLT's Fall Family Day at Sub Edge Farm, chaired by Jennifer Villa, was enjoyed by hundreds of children and their families.

The Clatter Valley Road Parcel was acquired in October 2015. Acquisition of this 14.8-acre tract preserves the historic Clatter Valley Road, which was used extensively by the first European settlers for travel between Hartford and Farmington. Evidence indicates that this notch has been used for millennia for passage over the ridgeline. With the ongoing generous support of UNICO we were able to continue the joint research projects on our properties with Professor Barbara Nicholson and her students of the CCSU Biology Department.



Richard Kramer and Evan Cowles serve as Land Trust representatives to the seven-member Town Land Acquisition Committee, which recommends the purchase of properties by the Town, continuing the strong collaboration between the FLT and the Town to Save the Land of Farmington.

Farmington Land Trust board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm in the FLT office, except for the months of April and August.

Farmington Land Trust, Inc.  
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(860) 674-8545  
[farmingtonland.trust@snet.net](mailto:farmingtonland.trust@snet.net)  
<http://www.farmingtonlandtrust.org>



# FARMINGTON VALLEY (VNA) VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION



In its 108<sup>th</sup> year, the Farmington Valley VNA continues to serve the residents of Farmington with outstanding health care services and programs. In the ever-changing health care arena of today, patients and families face higher levels of acuity and multiple challenges once home from inpatient settings. Our Home Care and Hospice programs ensure that the care that is needed is given and this allows for a higher level of independence and increased ability to stay at home, always where recovery outcomes are best.

During this past fiscal year, Home Care service visits grew over 100% from last year. 2187 skilled health care visits were made to the residents of Farmington. This increase in health care need is testament to the national goals of getting patients out of acute care settings sooner and home. Oversight of the health care dollars, often provided

by Medicare and Medicaid, is now based on value and outcomes. Regulators are watching where patients go after hospitalizations and how they do. The Farmington Valley VNA has produced better outcomes than national and state standards with regards to keeping people from unwanted returns to these settings, and this has been a direct result of increasing our health care visits with nursing and rehabilitation services once a patient is home. Hospice option of care continues to be growing at the VNA. More patients are choosing to change the focus at end of life with the assistance of our Hospice program. 62 visits were made during this fiscal year, and all of the feedback from patients and families has been very positive regarding their experiences at this most difficult of times.

The most unique feature of the Farmington Valley VNA continues to be the support that our towns commit to. This financial support allows us to keep with our mission of serving all patients regardless of ability to pay. The Health Supervision program continues to provide much needed nursing, physical therapy, home health aides and homemakers and social work services that would otherwise not be available as these are not billable health care services to outside reimbursement agencies. Patients are able to receive health care visits at no cost to them, again, increasing the clinical oversight that allows for better compliance with health care initiatives helping to prevent exacerbations of illness. This year, the VNA provided 105 of these types of free visits to Farmington residents. No other home care agency in the state has such a service. Thanks to the continued funding through the Town of Farmington, the benefits to the residents is invaluable.

The Community Programs continue to show increased participation in health care services. There was a 10% increase in the number of residents that received vaccines for the flu and pneumonia. 372 vaccinations were given out in the 13 clinics that were held. Patrons of the Blood Pressure clinics also rose with over 780 health care screenings completed, and there were 12 educational presentations made with over 100 participants. The strength of these health care initiatives is testimony to the commitment that residents have to becoming strong health advocates for themselves and their families.



Joint networking efforts continue between the Farmington Valley VNA and the Directors of Social Services and Senior services. Collaboration has led to increasing the presence of the VNA in the Middlewoods housing community. There continues to be a strong relationship as well at Westerleigh Congregate Housing



# FARMINGTON VALLEY VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION (VNA)--cont.

with the residents and the VNA Community Nurse. Monthly presentations are requested by the residents and are well attended.

The Farmington Valley VNA is also proud to announce that for a fourth year in a row, it has been recognized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid with the **Home Care Elite Top 500** award. Receipt of such recognition assures that the residents of Farmington are getting care that meets exceptional standards and provides outcomes to maintain health and wellness.

It continues to be an honor to serve the Town of Farmington with a well-rounded set of home care and community programs. The Farmington Valley VNA remains committed to offering these services, and assures that it will do so by keeping with the trends and changes of the health care environment of today as well as that of tomorrow.



## 2016 FLU AND PNEUMONIA SHOT CLINICS

Middlewoods of Farmington  
Farmington Senior Center  
Farmington Library

### FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

<b>Farmington Senior Center</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
<b>Farmington Library</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
<b>Middlewoods of Farmington</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

