

**2015-16**

**Annual Report**



**Mechanic Falls**



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# Annual Report

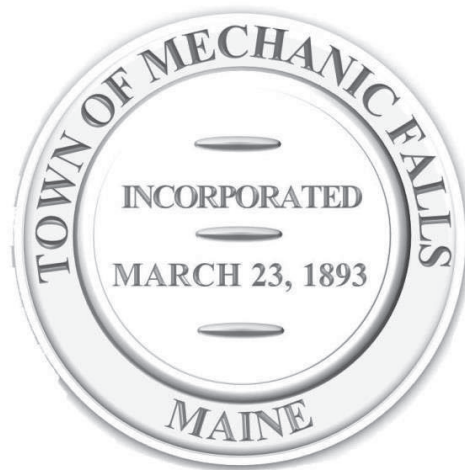
For the Year

January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Including the Financial Reports For the

Fiscal Year

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016



## Annual Report Dedication

### Ernestine Sleeper



Ernestine A. (Coffin) Sleeper began her life in 1910 in the town of Boothbay Harbor as the oldest of four children. Her marriage to Ralph B. Sleeper in October of 1926 brought her to Mechanic Falls. The couple welcomed their first child in 1927, born right here in Mechanic Falls. The family grew by an additional two children in the years to come.

Mrs. Sleeper spent her years caring for her husband and children. Mr. Sleeper suffered from Parkinson's Disease and passed away in 1974. She worked at a shoe factory and when a ride was unavailable, walked the full distance from home to Norway and back to Mechanic Falls. She retired from the factory at 65 years old.

Being a strong and independent woman, Ernestine worked at the family greenhouse, after retiring, until the age of 101 years. She drove until she was 98 years old, and even helped her grandson shingle a roof at the age of 91.

The only living child of her parents, she is surrounded by her family of 3 children, 9 Grandchildren, 22 Great-Grandchildren, 20 Great-Great-Grandchildren and a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Grandchild.

Ernestine remained a resident of Mechanic Falls, living 75 years in the same home, until her health required assistance with daily activities a few short years ago. She still owns her home here in town, but resides in an assisted living facility in Auburn. She attributes her long life to her time spent at the ocean, which she very much enjoyed.

Mrs. Sleeper will turn 107 this year and is the oldest resident of Mechanic Falls. We thank her for planting her family's roots in Mechanic Falls and sharing her life with the town.

(Unfortunately, this report did go to print before Mrs. Sleeper passed away on March 31, 2017. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her family and hopefully this tribute will be a welcomed surprise for the family to cherish.)

## Spirit of America Award 2017

Matt Gary



Each year the Town Council selects an individual or group in the town who represents excellence in community service and volunteerism. The Spirit of America Award was established in Maine in 1990 to honor volunteerism and community service by individuals living in Maine communities.

Matt Gary is this year's Spirit of America Award selection for the Town of Mechanic Falls. Matt has for over twenty years dedicated his time and energies to the Recreation Committee to assure the youth of Mechanic Falls have the opportunities to participate in sports both individual and team related to helping attain life lessons on fair play, being graceful at winning and losing, and realizing the value of one's role in team efforts. Matt continues this activity today by coaching senior town girl's teams.

Matt has in the past been involved with the Historical Society helping to ensure that the legacy of Mechanic Falls lives on for future generations. When committees or activities are struggling to achieve a goal, Matt often is sought out to fill a gap or provide a helping hand. It is this type of commitment to the Town of Mechanic Falls that is being recognized with this honor.

Matt is the proud father of three children and four grandchildren. He is now focusing his free time on family and ingraining these same attributes in future generations.

Thank you Matt for your dedication to the Town of Mechanic Falls and its residents.

## Demographics

MECHANIC FALLS  
ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY  
STATE OF MAINE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**INCORPORATED MARCH 22, 1893**

### **POPULATION BY CENSUS**

|      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1980 | 2,589 |
| 1990 | 2,919 |
| 2000 | 3,138 |
| 2010 | 3,031 |

### **FORM OF GOVERNMENT**

Charter / Council / Town Manager

### **ALTITUDE**

Approximately 300 feet above sea level (downtown area) To about  
600 feet above sea level (Pigeon Hill area)

### **AREA**

Approximately 11.6 square miles Approximately 21.77  
miles of publicly maintained roads

### **PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Regional School Unit #16 - Mechanic Falls / Minot / Poland Elm Street  
School, PreK-6  
Bruce M. Whittier Middle School, 7-8  
Poland Regional High School, 9-12



## Tax Information

| STATE VALUATION |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 2004/05         | \$118,850,000 |
| 2005/06         | \$125,500,000 |
| 2006/07         | \$141,350,000 |
| 2007/08         | \$155,700,000 |
| 2008/09         | \$163,750,000 |
| 2009/10         | \$166,150,000 |
| 2010/11         | \$166,550,000 |
| 2011/12         | \$158,550,000 |
| 2012/13         | \$153,600,000 |
| 2013/14         | \$146,900,000 |
| 2014/15         | \$144,350,000 |
| 2015/16         | \$150,500,000 |
| 2016/17         | \$152,300,000 |

| TAX COMMITMENT |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| 2004/05        | \$2,451,786 |
| 2005/06        | \$2,486,440 |
| 2006/07        | \$2,562,732 |
| 2007/08        | \$2,605,930 |
| 2008/09        | \$2,556,611 |
| 2009/10        | \$2,465,800 |
| 2010/11        | \$2,539,785 |
| 2011/12        | \$2,571,996 |
| 2012/13        | \$2,815,379 |
| 2013/14        | \$2,911,010 |
| 2014/15        | \$3,062,745 |
| 2015/16        | \$3,134,026 |
| 2016/17        | \$2,991,311 |

| MUNICIPAL VALUATION |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 2004/05             | \$83,965,286  |
| 2005/06             | \$131,557,680 |
| 2006/07             | \$135,568,928 |
| 2007/08             | \$137,864,855 |
| 2008/09             | \$139,705,496 |
| 2009/10             | \$141,712,679 |
| 2010/11             | \$144,717,137 |
| 2011/12             | \$147,314,147 |
| 2012/13             | \$147,178,523 |
| 2013/14             | \$140,461,609 |
| 2014/15             | \$142,411,547 |
| 2015/16             | \$142,776,795 |
| 2016/17             | \$146,055,324 |

| TAX RATE / \$1,000 |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| 2004/05            | \$29.20 |
| 2005/06            | \$18.90 |
| 2006/07            | \$18.90 |
| 2007/08            | \$18.90 |
| 2008/09            | \$18.30 |
| 2009/10            | \$17.40 |
| 2010/11            | \$17.55 |
| 2011/12            | \$17.55 |
| 2012/13            | \$18.65 |
| 2013/14            | \$20.40 |
| 2014/15            | \$21.20 |
| 2015/16            | \$21.40 |
| 2016/17            | \$21.31 |

## Hours of Operation

### Town Office

Monday thru Thursday ..... 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM  
 Friday..... 7:30 AM – 11:30 AM

### Transfer Station

Wednesday & Thursday..... Noon – 5 PM  
 Saturday ..... 8 AM – 4 PM  
 Sunday ..... 8 AM – Noon

### Library

Monday & Wednesday ..... 9 AM – 5:30 PM  
 Tuesday & Thursday ..... 3 PM – 7 PM  
 Saturday ..... 9 AM – 2 PM

### Water Department

Monday – Friday ..... 7:30 AM – 4 PM

## Meeting Schedules

Board of Appeals ..... As Needed  
 Budget Committee .....As Needed in March and April  
 Charter Commission ..... As Needed  
 Community Day Committee ..... January – June, Monthly  
 Development Commission .....7 PM, Second Monday, Monthly  
 Fire & Rescue .....7 PM, Second Monday, Monthly  
 Historical Society .....7 PM, Third Wednesday, Monthly  
 Library Trustees .....7 PM, First Wednesday, Monthly  
 Planning Board .....6 PM, Third Monday, Monthly  
 Recreation Committee .....6 PM, Second Thursday, Monthly  
 Revenue Enhancement Committee.....7 PM, Second Wednesday, Monthly  
 Safety Committee ..... 9 AM, Quarterly  
 Sanitary District Trustees ..... 7 PM, Fourth Monday, Monthly  
 Town Council .....7 PM, First Monday, Monthly

## General Information

**Governance:** By Charter adopted in 1992, amended in 2010, five elected Councilors and an appointed Town Manager

**Budget Adoption:** Referendum Voting, Second Tuesday in June

**Fiscal Year:** July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>

**Tax Payments:** Property tax payments are due twice per fiscal year. The first half payment is due by the close of business day on October 15<sup>th</sup> and the second half due by the close of business day on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Interest is imposed for late payments, beginning the following day.

Property owners should notify the Town Office of changes to your property or structures on your property located in Mechanic Falls, by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

Various Tax Exemptions are available to citizens. Please contact the Tax Office for further information.

**Vehicle Registrations:** *What to bring to the Town Office...*

Re-registration - bring the old registration, current proof of insurance and current mileage of the vehicle.

New Registration – (**dealer sale**) bring Bill of Sale showing sales tax was paid, Blue Title Application Form, Window Sticker, current proof of insurance and mileage on the vehicle.

New Registration – (**private sale**) bring Bill of Sale, current proof of insurance, Title (1995 Vehicle or newer) and Release of Lien (if applicable) and mileage on the vehicle.

New Registration - (**transfer**) bring same as private sale plus the Registration of the vehicle the Plates are transferred from

**Dogs:** All dogs must be licensed annually, by December 31, within the municipality of which their owner resides.

**Permits:** The Town of Mechanic Falls requires numerous permits for specific activities; please contact the Office at 345-2871 for more information. Not obtaining the proper permit prior to engaging in an activity is subject to fines and prosecution.

**Elected Officials (As of December 31,2016)**

| <b>Town Council</b>      |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Louis Annance, Chair     | 2019 |
| Stephen Bolduc           | 2019 |
| Cathy Fifield            | 2017 |
| Wayne Hackett            | 2017 |
| Nicholas Konstantoulakis | 2018 |

| <b>Regional School Unit #16 Directors</b> |      |
|---|------|
| Jennifer Boenig                           | 2018 |
| Melissa Hodgkin                           | 2018 |
| Mary Martin                               | 2019 |
| Aaron Ouellette                           | 2019 |
| Jacques Wiseman                           | 2017 |

| <b>Sanitary District Trustees</b> |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Michael Baird, Chair              | 2019 |
| John Hawley                       | 2017 |
| Wayne Hackett                     | 2018 |
| Randall Plummer                   | 2018 |
| Gary Purington                    | 2019 |

**Appointed Committees**

| <b>Board of Appeals</b> |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Thomas Walton           | 2017 |
| Nancy Richard           | 2019 |
| Martha Wiseman          | 2019 |

| <b>Budget Committee</b> |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Oliver Emery            | 2017 |
| Peter Ford              | 2017 |
| Yvon Gilbert            | 2017 |
| Melanie Judd            | 2018 |
| Bonnie Payette          | 2018 |
| Thomas Walton           | 2016 |
| Carl Beckett            | 2017 |

**Community Day  
Committee**

Louis Annance

Jen Kyllonen

Mitzie Waite

Beth Bowie

Lou Goulet

Devin Herbert

Jess Smith

**Historical Society**

James Craig 2019

Eriks Petersons 2018

Nancy Petersons 2017

Vacant 2019

Vacant 2017

Vacant 2019

Vacant 2017

**Planning Board**

Paula Bolduc 2018

Lou Goulet 2019

Walter Goss 2017

Dan Gurney 2018

Paula Stotts 2017

Vacant 2017

Vacant 2017

**Development  
Commission**

Mike Baird 2017

Brenda Coleman 2019

Stuart Davis 2018

Tim Dean 2017

Vacant 2019

**Library Trustees**

Elizabeth Yates 2019

Jenn Durant 2019

Janice Earle 2019

Georgia Randall 2019

Melinda Straight Assoc

Martha Wiseman Assoc

Paula Bolduc 2019

**Recreation Committee**

Jason Boenig 2019

Jay Bryant 2017

Robyn Coleman 2017

Nathan Edwards 2018

Darryl Gibson 2017

Scott Lessard, Chair 2017

Vacant 2019

Craig Smith 2018

Justin Starbird 2019

Jeff Sturtevant 2018

## Elected Government Officials

### Senator Susan Collins

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-7573  
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the United States Senate. I am grateful for the trust the people of our State have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments.

Growing our economy by encouraging job creation remains a top priority. The tax relief bill enacted during this last Congress contains provisions I authored to provide small businesses with the certainty that they need to invest, grow, and, most important, hire new workers. The 2017 National Defense Authorization Act includes a provision the Maine delegation worked together to champion requiring that military recruits be provided with athletic footwear made in America, as is required for other equipment and uniform items whenever possible. This is a great victory for our troops and for the 900 skilled workers at New Balance factories here in Maine.

Maine's contributions to our national security stretch from Kittery to Limestone. As a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, I successfully advocated for critical funding for projects at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and \$1 billion towards the construction of an additional ship that will likely be built at Bath Iron Works. This funding will strengthen the Navy and our national security, and the additional destroyer will help meet the Navy's goal of a 355-ship fleet.

Maine's growing population of older individuals creates many challenges. That's why, as Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee, my top three priorities are fighting fraud and financial abuse directed at our nation's seniors, increasing investments in biomedical research, and improving retirement security.

The Aging Committee's toll-free hotline (1-855-303-9470) makes it easier for senior citizens to report suspected fraud and receive assistance. Last May, a call to the hotline helped lead to the arrest of a national crime ring targeting seniors, and in June I worked to secure the humanitarian release of a Maine senior who had been imprisoned in Spain after being victimized by an international drug smuggling scam.

The Aging Committee also released an extensive report detailing the findings of our bipartisan investigation into the abrupt and dramatic price increases for prescription drugs whose patents expired long ago.

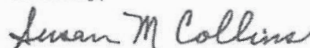
I advocated strongly for the \$2 billion increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health to advance research on such diseases as diabetes and Alzheimer's. I also championed and authored portions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act that will further support biomedical innovation and make significant reforms to our mental health system.

The Senate also took steps in the past year to combat the nation's heroin and opioid epidemic by passing the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which I was proud to cosponsor. CARA is a monumental step forward in our effort to address the devastating addiction crisis affecting countless families and communities across the country and right here in Maine.

A Maine value that always guides me is our unsurpassed work ethic. In December 2016, I cast my 6,236<sup>th</sup> consecutive vote, continuing my record of never missing a roll-call vote since my Senate service began in 1997.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve Mechanic Falls and Maine in the United States Senate. If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Lewiston state office at (207) 784-6969 or visit my website at [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov). May 2017 be a good year for you, your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

## Senator Angus King

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
MAINE

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 224-5344  
Website: <http://www.King.Senate.gov>

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
BUDGET  
ENERGY AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
INTELLIGENCE  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Dear Friends of Mechanic Falls,

Since being sworn into the Senate in 2013, I have made it my mission to address at the federal level the most important issues facing our great state. Working closely with my colleagues in the Maine Congressional Delegation, we've been able to successfully secure a number of legislative victories that support our state's economy, our rich traditions, and the hardworking people I am proud to represent.

In an increasingly polarized Congress, my goal as an Independent is to put partisanship aside, build consensus and further common-sense solutions to address the needs of the American people. To this end, I have co-founded the Former Governors Caucus, a group of former state executives who are frustrated with legislative gridlock and eager to find bipartisan solutions. And as always, I aim to bridge the partisan divide by hosting barbeque dinners in Washington with colleagues ranging from Ted Cruz to Elizabeth Warren. If you know a person's children, then you see them as a mother or father and not a rival vote, and working to further personal dialogue and build relationships can lay the foundation for successful legislation.

One of the accomplishments of which I am most proud is the legislative victory that protects our college students and their families from an expensive hike in student loan interest rates. In 2013, as students faced a significant spike in interest rates that would have taken thousands of dollars out of their pockets, I brought together colleagues from across the political spectrum to broker compromise legislation called the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act. Thanks to this bill, students will save \$50 billion over the next 10 years by lowering their interest rates, which means that a student in Maine will now save between \$3,000 and \$6,000 over the life of their loan.

Being an Independent in the Senate has allowed me to make calls and vote on policies that are best for Maine, but it has also made it possible to play key roles in finding simple solutions and legislative fixes that make good commonsense to both parties. Of course, much of what we do in the Senate doesn't happen on the Senate floor, or even in committee. Instead, it involves working across all levels of government to ensure the State of Maine receives attention and support from the federal government.

Take, for example, the opioid and heroin epidemic devastating communities across our state. While Congress has passed legislative solutions aimed at expanding access to medical treatment, I've also pressed for other changes that can be accomplished more quickly and make a more immediate difference in Maine. For example, I successfully urged the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to increase the number of patients to whom a doctor can provide medication-assisted treatment, and in 2015 brought the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to Brewer to meet directly with Mainers and hear their stories. I've also engaged law enforcement – including the Drug Enforcement Agency – to crack down on the production of opioids and work to limit their diversion. Together, Senator Collins and I helped pass the Northern Border Security Review Act to combat drug and human trafficking along our border with Canada.

While the opioid epidemic is certainly our biggest public health crisis, job loss in Maine is still our number one economic problem and that's why we need to focus on bringing good paying jobs back to Maine and protecting the ones we still have. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I teamed up with Senator Collins and Representative Poliquin to successfully secure a provision in the defense bill that can help domestic shoe manufacturers like New Balance. The three of us also worked together with the Department of Commerce to establish an Economic Development Assessment Team, known as an EDAT, to assist Maine's forest industry in the wake of several mill closures. We have an incredible spirit of innovation and ingenuity in Maine and I believe finding ways to invest in that spirit will reignite Maine's forest products sector and our economy. Part of our economic path forward must also include expanding access to high-speed broadband, which can help connect our businesses and communities to information and economic opportunities.

AUGUSTA  
4 Gabriel Drive, Suite F1  
Augusta, ME 04330  
(207) 622-8292

BANGOR  
202 Harlow Street, Suite 20350  
Bangor, ME 04401  
(207) 945-8000

PRESQUE ISLE  
169 Academy Street, Suite A  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
(207) 764-5124

SCARBOROUGH  
383 US Route 1, Suite 1C  
Scarborough, ME 04074  
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United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
BUDGET  
ENERGY AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
INTELLIGENCE  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

As a member of the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, I work to keep Maine and our nation safe. Part of that important work means continuing to work for funding for the construction of Navy ships that will be used to protect American interests across the globe. We all know that “Bath Built is Best Built,” which is why I’ve fought to authorize funding for Navy ships built at BIW. The best way to preserve peace is by deterring war through unassailable strength, and to do that we must support our shipbuilders and our brave service members and invest in our military. I strive to meet this solemn responsibility every day as a member of these committees, which is why I hardly ever miss a hearing and take great care in overseeing the agencies sworn to keep us safe. Armed Services Chairman John McCain called me “one of the most serious and hard-working members” of the Committee, and that’s a humbling compliment from a true American hero.

As always, please call or write me with thoughts or concerns with matters currently before Congress, or if you need assistance navigating a federal agency. As a public servant, it is critical to me to listen and learn from you, which is why staying connected with people from all over our beautiful state remains a top priority for my work in the Senate. Please call my toll-free line at 1-800-432-1599 or one my offices: Augusta: (207)622-8292, Bangor: (207)945-8000, Presque Isle (207)764-5124, Scarborough (207)883-1588, or Washington, D.C. (202)224-5344. You can also write me on our website at [www.king.senate.gov/contact](http://www.king.senate.gov/contact).

It is an honor and a privilege serving the people of Maine in the Senate, and I look forward to working with you in our search for a more perfect Union.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



**Governor Paul R LePage**

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0001

Dear Citizens of Mechanic Falls:

Maine has a long tradition of civil participation in both state and local government, and I thank you for being informed and involved citizens.

My vision for Maine is prosperity, not poverty. For this reason, one of my top priorities continues to be the reduction and eventual elimination of the income tax. Raising the minimum wage is not the path out of poverty; I want Mainers to earn a career wage. Reducing the income tax is the biggest and most immediate pay raise for all hard-working Mainers.

Not only does an income tax cut put more money back in your pockets, but it will also attract businesses that can offer good-paying careers to keep our young people here. It shows the nation that we are serious about wanting people and businesses to come—and stay—in Maine.

Unfortunately, voters approved a referendum question to raise the income tax to 10.15% on successful Maine households and small businesses. Enacting the second highest income tax rate in the country shows the nation we are eager to punish people for being successful. It will drive them out of our state and make it even more difficult to attract much-needed doctors, dentists, scientists, engineers and other professionals to Maine. They can live in neighboring New Hampshire, which takes no income tax from their paychecks. Even worse, there is no guarantee the extra revenue from this tax will go to fund education, as proponents promised.

As successful people leave Maine, state and municipal government will lose the significant amount they pay in property, sales and incomes taxes. This will put even more upward pressure on local property taxes. Municipalities will have to get more creative to provide local services without increasing property taxes. Reforming the tree growth program, collecting property taxes on land in conservation or preservation programs, charging a payment in lieu of taxes on state land that is taken off the property tax rolls and having non-profit organizations pay a two-percent tax on their net revenues are all ways for municipalities to increase revenues.

Such bold measures would take strong leadership and commitment from local officials and residents. If ever I can be of assistance to you or if you have any questions or suggestions, I encourage you to contact my office by calling 287-3531 or by visiting our website at [www.maine.gov/governor](http://www.maine.gov/governor).

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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TTY USERS CALL 711

[www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov)

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

FAX: (207) 287-1034

**Senator Erik Brakey**

*128th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 20*

*Senator Eric L. Brakey*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 406-0897*

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Let me begin by thanking you for allowing me the honor of serving you in the Maine Senate. I am humbled that you have put your trust in me for a second term and can assure you I will continue to work tirelessly on your behalf. Please let me provide you with a recap of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature, as well as my hopes for the upcoming 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature, which convenes in December.

Last year we continued the work of reforming our state's welfare system and achieved the long sought-after goal of banning the purchase of alcohol, tobacco and lottery tickets with welfare benefits. While there is more work to be done in reforming our welfare system, I believe these efforts will help to deter such abuse of the system and help ensure that benefits are going to those who truly need them.

The Legislature also worked in a bipartisan fashion to begin addressing the drug crisis affecting our state. We approved putting 10 new drug enforcement agents on the street, as well as provided funding for treatment programs and drug use prevention efforts.

In the upcoming session, it is clear that we must continue to do all we can to attract more jobs to our state. To that end, I will work to advocate for proposals which will expand economic opportunity for all Mainers. We must also continue to fight the drug epidemic threatening our state and hurting our families. It is my hope the Legislature can once again work together to find good solutions to what has become a widespread problem.

You have my humble and sincere thanks for allowing me to represent you in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me at 287-1505 or [sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com](mailto:sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com) if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,



Eric L. Brakey  
State Senator



**Kathleen RJ Dillingham**

P.O. Box 164

Oxford, ME 04270

Residence: (207) 744-2153

[Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov)

February 2017

Town of Mechanic Falls  
108 Lewiston Street  
Mechanic Falls, ME 04256

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I would first like to thank the residents of Mechanic Falls for re-electing me as your State Representative. It is a pleasure to serve the residents of House District 72 in the Maine Legislature. I am honored that you have entrusted me with this responsibility as I begin my second term as your Representative.

Legislative leadership has appointed me to serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. Among the items lawmakers will be taking up this session are the two-year budget that begins on July 1st, 2017 and the referendum questions passed on last November's ballot, including new laws that increase the minimum wage, eliminate the tip credit, raise Maine's top tax bracket to a record high rate of 10.15 percent, and legalized marijuana. Further steps to address the state's ongoing opioid crisis are also expected to be considered. The Maine House and Senate will take up nearly 2,000 pieces of legislation during the first session which ends in June.

I was elected to the Maine Legislature on the promise to represent you, the people of District 72. To do this, I will be seeking your input regularly and want to hear from you with your comments and concerns. Please call me anytime at 744-2153 or email at [Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Dillingham@legislature.maine.gov) to keep me updated on those concerns. If you would like to be added to my weekly eNewsletter you may do so by emailing me directly with your request.

Again, thank you for giving me the honor of serving you in Augusta!

Sincerely,

Kathleen R. J. Dillingham  
State Representative

**Congressman Bruce Poliquin**

**Lewiston Office**

179 Lisbon Street  
Lewiston, Maine 04240

207-784-0768 Fax 207-784-5672

**Washington D. C. Office**

426 Canon House Office  
Building Washington, DC  
20515

202-225-6306 Fax 202-225-2943

## Report of the Town Council

As a town council, we are challenged to oversee our community and make decisions that we believe will benefit the town, as a whole. At times, we are presented with obstacles that are relatively easy to hurdle and yet there are other issues that we have to tweak or adjust on an ongoing basis. Each issue is heavily weighed on the economic impact of our whole community and although some residents don't necessarily agree with our decisions, I assure you that our intentions are only for the good of all.

Each year, your town council, as well as every department of the town, struggles with the budget to reduce the burden placed upon our tax payers. We face revenue shortages primarily from less state funding and increases to our expenses from the county taxes and increases in the RSU budget.

The economic challenges do not appear to be going away anytime soon but we will strive to perform and provide with what we are given in hopes for more prosperous times. Financially though, and as bad as it sounds, the Town remains stable. We are not rich by any means, but our bills get paid on time, we are making new equipment and vehicle purchases as scheduled without having to borrow and have been taking advantage of the lower prices the competitive market is offering. The staff has done well over the last few years to tighten belts and scrutinize spending to make sure that we are providing the quality and level of services that the public demands. We are able to provide the full complement of public safety, our roads are always open and safe for passage, and public services remain intact and available. Several of our roads have new pavement and a long awaited five corners project will be wrapping up soon. We continue to search for avenues to fund the extending of our sewer lines to five corners to make that area more marketable for new business. Our code enforcement office is busier than it has been in years with permits for property improvements and new structures.

We appreciate those that understand the position we are in, we apologize to those who are inconvenienced, and to the rest of you, thank you for your support.

I want to thank all our staff that works for the municipality. I also want to thank the volunteers for their dedication to our town. Each and every one of them plays a vital role in the day to day functions of our town. They work hard and take a lot of pride in what they do. This Town Council appreciates all of them.

Louis Annance  
Town Council Chairman

## Report of the Town Manager

It doesn't seem possible another year has come to an end as 2017 approaches. 2016 has been a year of change for everyone, starting with the mild winter of 2015 –16 which left Maine in the beginning of a drought lasting well into the winter of 2016-17. Maine experienced one of the warmest summer in years, making Maine a beautiful spot for vacationers but exacerbating the drought conditions. These weather conditions allowed the town to save money on heating bills, plowing and overtime. The new budget was prepared and passed in June setting the ground work for what would be accomplished after July 1. With the savings on heating fuels and gasoline along with the increase to the homestead exemption, the new budget was able to come in a little under the prior year's mill rate, giving a tax break to homeowners and businesses.

The committees in the town have worked hard this year to maintain services while struggling with membership. The recreation committee, planning board, and historical society are all in need of volunteer members to complete the work going forward. The Community Day committee came back together and developed an amazing event which brought community members out and about, walking through town. It was great to see the interest of residents to participate and bring back the old parade themes and activities.

Faces in the town office changed as we said good bye, thank you and best wishes to Kathryn Oak as Transfer Station Manager and Safety Officer and Shirley Marquis, Town Clerk. We welcomed a new town clerk, Miranda Hinkley; Les Johnson moved over to the Transfer Station Manager, and a new Code Enforcement Officer and Safety Officer, Fred Collins joined the staff bringing expanded experience to the town. I want to say thank you to Dave Stimson who has been the town EMA officer for 40 years. Dave retired in June, turning the reins over to Fred Sturtevant. The town has a new forester this year; Greg Seamans was sworn in, in August. The town has an amazing group of staff and volunteers who keep the wheels moving forward responding to the needs of the residents of Mechanic Falls.

The Fire Department purchased a new fire truck in the spring of 2016 helping to enhance the ability to respond to local fires and keep our commitment in place for community mutual aid agreements. The Fire and Rescue have brought on new members during the year, improving the ability of residents to receive critical services quickly. The Five Corners Reconstruction Project began in the last months of summer with the hopes of providing a safer intersection and bringing another stop light into Mechanic Falls. Winter arrived early this year and has forced the end of construction to be extended to the spring of 2017.

In the fall of 2016, the new Anglican Church joined our community working in concert with the Historical Society to revive the church on Elm Street and provide a long-term storage space for town archives. This was a blessing to all parties.

The Election of 2016 was a busy time for the office staff with a record number of absentee ballots and voters coming out for this hotly advertised campaign on numerous levels. This election will bring changes to many levels of government.

The town council will shortly begin with the new budget process and trying to determine what the town can afford vs the needs of the town. High on the list will be the deteriorating condition of the town buildings and expanding sewer access to the Five Corners intersection. The revenue enhancement committee has been meeting to find new ways to attract business in to Mechanic Falls. Hoping 2017 brings new excitement and opportunities for the town and the residents.

Thank you all for welcoming me into your town and I am so impressed with the caring that goes on every day to make Mechanic Falls a great place to live and do business. Happy New Year

Yours in service,  
Koriene Low  
Town Manager

## Municipal Department Reports

### Animal Control

It is the responsibility of the Animal Control Officer (ACO) to respond to and investigate complaints from citizens concerning domestic animals. Duties include containment and transport of stray, sick or injured, feral / unwanted and captured domestic animals. If necessary, the Officer will set traps to capture evasive domestic animals. The ACO also performs emergency animal rescue service. If you are in need of assistance from the Animal Control Officer, please contact the Town Office at 207-345-2871. If the animal in question is not a domestic animal, please contact the Maine State Warden Service at 1-800-228-0857

Robert Larrabee Animal  
Control Officer

### Code Enforcement & Planning

#### Code Enforcement / 911 Addressing Safety Program

In addition to minimal building and plumbing permits. There are a number of duties that are necessary for the understanding that completes the day to day operations of the Code Enforcement position.

During the holiday season and mid winter there are minimal permits being acquired, however permits that have been issued earlier in the year have continued inspections including a minimum of twelve (12) for building a new home or additions, minimum three (3) inspections for subsurface plumbing, interior plumbing may exceed five to eight (5-8). Driveway entrance permit, Electrical permits. etc...

911 Addressing has many requirements that include on site measurements for proper number address for new homes as well as notification to Fire Dept , Post Office, Police Dept, Assessing Dept, Sheriff's Dept, Phone Co, GIS File.

Safety Program has a number of requirements that are necessary for the Insurance rates to be kept at minimal cost to the Mechanic Falls taxpayer. Routine inspections for elevator, sprinkler system, safety equipment, reports of accidents, etc...

Also each day there could be several calls that come in from realtors requesting info about a parcel of land within a zone or district and what can be acceptable or not within the town ordinance. Banks call for similar info or brokers and any of these institutions ask for letters that need to be accurate as well as legal and must comply with state and local ordinances.

There are many calls that come from tenants that have concerns about there building, and weather it complies with local or state law. For example handrails or steps that are not within code requirements, the building is to cold, or fence is too close to property line, or shed is too close to property line, or chickens running loose, or rabbits in the road, or my neighbor is dumping kitty litter on the property line, etc...

Calls come in to question if there is water and sewer on certain property, have there been any violations at this property that is on file. Calls for information on what can be done on certain properties. etc...

All of these calls and more are important and have to be dealt with, and must be as accurate and must comply with state and local ordinances.

There are many calls that must be addressed that do consume a great deal time. questions on the span of floor joists, firerock of walls and garage attached to home, approved trusses, size of windows for approved egress.

These and more are all good questions that need to be answered to the best possible as well as legal answers. Some questions are more serious than others and have to be documented and filed and all takes time.

Respectfully



Fred S. Collins Jr  
Code Enforcement/911 Addressing Officer  
Safety Program

## Emergency Management

Hello from your new Emergency Management Director, Fred Sturtevant. I took over for David Stimson who retired recently, after 30 years. I have big shoes to fill and a lot to learn, but I know that I can call on him when I need information.

As of writing this letter, we haven't had any big disasters and I am hoping we won't see anything like we have seen in the news from other parts of the country. We are still pre-planning in the event a disaster does take place. The Town is updating its 5-year pre-mitigation plan for the federal government. This update will identify any problems that might arise and request help in covering some of the costs, if any.

If you have any questions about emergency management, feel free to contact me and I'll do my best to get an answer. The current budget request reflects the needs of the job and the town.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the services in town; from the Police Department, Public Works Department, Water and Sewer Departments, to the Town Office and Fire/Rescue Departments for coming together to make our emergency plans successful.

EMS Director Fred C. Sturtevant III



## Fire Department

Hello from Mechanic Falls Fire and Rescue. It's that time of year again, when we get together and vote on how the town runs for another year. We hope the last year was good to all of you, if it had a few bumps, I hope they weren't too big and that the Fire and Rescue was there to help make it a little easier.

The Fire dept. is doing good right now and morale is high. There has been an influx of new blood lately and these young gals and guys are giving it their all to help the community. From Fire prevention at school, Community Day demonstrations, Halloween for the kids, Christmas Spirit, to maintaining the equipment at station, and training to keep their skills up. Please, don't be afraid to stop by and say "Hi" and check out your fire and rescue department.

The new E-3 is up and running and responding to many calls. We are very happy with it, so far it is a good fire truck that will give many years of service. We thank you for supporting the purchase. The fire department continues to maintain the other vehicles, some have required repairs, but that is to be expected as they are providing years of use. This year's budget reflects the needs of the department and protects its citizens when called upon. We hope that you all will continue your support.

Thanks  
Fred C. Sturtevant III  
Fire Chief



## General Assistance

Hello, Mechanic Falls Citizens.

My name is Shannon Moxcey and I have been the part-time General Assistance administrator for the Town since 2014. John Hawley opted to take a chance by allowing me to manage the program entirely by fax, phone and email. Later in the same year, John told the Mechanic Falls Select Board that: “the decision to hire Shannon Moxcey appears to have been a good one because General Assistance payments for the past six months of 2014 were about \$10,000 lower than comparable periods in recent years.”

The numbers of applicants, as well as the amount of General Assistance I have authorized, has significantly decreased. I attribute this to several reasons. I require mandatory work fare for all General Assistance recipients to be completed prior to issuing any assistance, in non-emergency cases. I also conduct a thorough verification of all of the eligibility factors which impact the case. I refer people in need to other available local resources that may be able to help with client needs, such as local food pantries and the Salvation Army.

I am proud to serve the taxpayers and my co-workers of the Town of Mechanic Falls, my work would not be possible without the collaboration of the administrative staff at the Mechanic Falls Town Office, who are so very helpful, efficient and knowledgeable. Thank you to Mechanic Falls Town Manager Koriene Low for giving me this opportunity to introduce myself to residents via this report.

Thank you,

Shannon Moxcey

## Library

### Mechanic Falls Public Library

The Mechanic Falls Public Library now has an internet link to our collection. The link is through our software program ResourceMate, and can be accessed from home or work internet. The link is [17016.rmwebopac.com](http://17016.rmwebopac.com). Once the patron is on the site, all books that are in our collection are listed and can be reserved or renewed from there. Anytime a patron would like a book that we don't have, as long as it is available in the State of Maine, the book can be requested by inter-library-loan.

Our Storytime Mondays from 9:30 to 10:30 is an active group. We read 2 stories and then have a seasonal craft. For more information or to sign up, please call the Library.

Our Summer Reading program was "Readolympics" in honor of the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio De Janeiro. The goal was to earn a mile per page and see if the children could read from Maine to Rio and back. We completed the trip of 4988 miles to Brazil and back again, and had a celebration at the end of the program.

Our Book Group meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 5:30 to 7. We have read some interesting books this year, and new participants are always welcome. The books are available at the library the month before, so there is plenty of time to read the selection.

Presently, the Maine State Library offers downloadable books accessed with the Mechanic Falls Public Library Card. The sponsor of the books will be changing from the Overdrive system in March of this year to the Bibliotheque (iCloud) system. The process to borrow a book will be more user-friendly and there should be more books available. Watch for more information on the website. I will be taking classes in this to be able to facilitate the transition.

During the Mechanic Falls Community Day program the Library set up a Story Walk with the book "Nest, Nook and Cranny" in the Veteran's Park. We are planning on having a different book for this year's celebration.

Sybil Hibbard offered a class in making totes out of plastic shopping bags, and I offered a class in paper book folding to the fiber group. Both classes were well attended.

## Police Department

The Mechanic Falls Police Department, like many other departments across the country, has been extremely busy this past year. Our officers have been involved with saving the lives of eight people who were suffering from overdoses. We have been carrying prescription NARCAN which can reverse the effects of Heroin/Opioids when a person overdoses. This prescription can allow them to start breathing again and it saves them from death. At the writing of this report we had, as mentioned above, been involved with saving eight people. In two of the cases, we were first on scene and administered the NARCAN ourselves. The other cases, we were at the scene with Rescue personnel and they administered the life-saving NARCAN. I have heard many people say that we should not be using NARCAN. These same individuals say that if these people want to risk their lives by doing drugs and they overdose in the process, we should not be saving them so they can go on using and getting high. I believe that most all of you would change that opinion if it were your loved one in need of that life-saving effort. We can be very disappointed in choices some make in this world we live in, but I would like to think that we are understanding and compassionate enough to do anything we can to save a life. As long as the Attorney Generals' Office is willing to supply us with NARCAN, we will continue to do all that we can to protect and save lives in Mechanic Falls.

Officer Daigle and Officer Gagnon also were involved with saving the lives of two individuals who suffered cardiac incidents. Officer Gagnon and 2 Deputies from the Sheriffs' Department utilized the AED that we carry in our cruisers to save one man, while Officer Daigle assisted Poland Rescue by administering CPR to a woman. Daigle and Gagnon both have since started taking EMT classes so that they may be able to do more for citizens when they are having a medical emergency. They still must maintain a law enforcement perspective while on duty, but they will be able to better assist rescue with calls as they will have a greater knowledge than what the basic academy gives us regarding medical calls.

We have again had a strong number of traffic violations in town. We made 980 vehicle stops for traffic violations and issued 192 citations. 788 warnings were issued. We have been very proactive in giving motorists a second chance, so to speak, to comply with laws on their own without issuing a ticket. There are times that, due to various reasons and circumstances, a citation is necessary. That is better than a 4:1 ratio of warnings to tickets. We handled 286 criminal complaints in 2016 with August being the busiest month with 36 complaints and December being the slowest month with 12 complaints. We handled 78 Crashes with January and August having the most at 11 each month.

As always I encourage the citizens to be actively involved in the safety of your community and report crimes or suspicious activity. We are a 24/7/365 Police Department. You may not find anyone at our office located in the Town Office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, but there is always an Officer on duty. The Androscoggin Sheriffs' Department provides our dispatching. If you call them when you need an officer they will dispatch a Mechanic Falls Police Officer to the call. Thank you for your support. Please do your part to keep our town safe.

Jeffrey Goss, Chief of Police

## Public Works



The crew at Public Works never has a problem staying busy at any time throughout the year. There is always plenty to do, from carpentry and welding to painting and more. My crew has many talents and it sure helps with all the tasks that are asked of us throughout the year.

The winter was not a very big one, trucks were on the road a total of 30 times and we had about 40 inches of snow, some ice on occasion, but did not use a lot of sand. The pile was still about half full at the end of the winter season which should save us when it comes time to purchase it in the fall.

We did our spring clean-up with the school students. This is the last year in which the students can assist because of new rules about the safety standard requirements.

All the street painting was done, parking stalls, crosswalks etc. Then we started to get our yearly ditching done, a small excavator was rented for two weeks as a lot more ditching can be accomplished with one of these machines as opposed to the backhoe.

Our oldest truck needed a lot of work in the fall. The bed, that the sanding chain runs on, was ruined by weather and use. It was cut out and a new bed was fabricated by the crew and installed. Two of the trucks were sandblasted and frames and bodies painted. The plows were painted pink this year for breast cancer awareness and it was a hit with a lot of people. We do our best to keep the equipment looking good, hopefully making the public proud of the equipment that takes care of their roads.

The crew and I take great pride in keeping the roads safe in the winter and the town looking good during the summer months; it's a lot of work but very rewarding to us. We hope that you are all satisfied with the work that we do and if anyone has a complaint or problem please do not hesitate to call the Public Works garage.

I am fortunate to have an outstanding crew and could not do the job without their expertise.

Scott R. Penney  
Director of Public Works

**Solid Waste**

As many of you know, in July, Kathryn Oak left her position as Transfer Station Manager and accepted a position with the State. She will be missed.

This year the Salvation Army did provide a collection box for resalable clothing, linens, and shoes. We also started a program with "We Compost It", which is run by MB Bark LLC in Auburn. The residents of Mechanic Falls can purchase compost from them or locations listed on their web site. All those scraps from the dinner table and meal preparations (things once alive) can be brought to the Transfer Station. We will even provide a pail for you.

For this report, I will give the statistics on just how much trash, (Municipal Solid Waste- MSW), and recycled materials were collected for disposal in 2016 so you could see how recycling has the potential for reducing town's expense for MSW disposal. The following figures are in tons:

| MSW    | #1 & 2 Plastics | Tin & Aluminum Cans | Newspaper/Magazines | Cardboard | Mixed paper |
|--------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 454.25 | 5.11            | 4.54                | 20.1                | 32.36     | 20.23       |

OBW (oversized bulky waste)- items that must be hauled separate from the MSW because of size.  
9.24

As you can see, our total for MSW hauled was 463.49 tons (MSW+OBW) and our total recycled items were 89.6125 tons. The cost to the town for MSW removal is around \$38,000/yr. If we double our recycle, we have the potential to reduce our MSW and hauling fees by quite a bit.

Unfortunately, there are quite a few residents that do not recycle or only recycle one or two of the items that could have been recycled. My goal this year is to encourage more recycling. I want to thank all of you that do participate in the recycle program, keep up the good work.

The Transfer Station continues to accept scrap metal, scrap lumber and wood construction demolition. We do not accept sheetrock or asbestos siding. Hazardous waste must be taken to the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) site in Lewiston. We also accept cooking oil, and waste motor oil, but it must not contain antifreeze. All types of batteries are accepted.

Les Johnson  
Transfer Station Manager

**Town Clerk**

As is typical, 2016 was a busy year for the Town Clerk's Office. From maintaining vital records, issuing Inland Fisheries & Wildlife licenses, Dog licenses, ATV, snowmobile, boat and motor vehicle registrations, to administrative support for various departments and committees.

Most all functions are completed online, however, in the event of computer issues or loss of power, we are able perform those functions manually. We have a barcode scanner for voting and credit card readers for convenient payment. We do accept credit/debit cards, but keep in mind, the bank charges you a 2.75% fee (down from 2.95% in previous years) for processing cards. We offer online renewals for Motor Vehicle registrations. You

can use this service if you have an excise taxable vehicle either commercial or passenger (less than 12,000 pounds GVW) or non-excise taxed trailer (such as a utility trailer). This is convenient for those computer savvy residents that prefer managing things from home, or work, or the seasonal residents who are in the south when renewal is due. In order to utilize this feature, you will need to have your current yellow registration, your current insurance card and the vehicle's current mileage with you. Any changes (i.e. address, name change, etc.) cannot be processed online. The service is available to you at <http://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapidrenewal/>.

We had a very successful rabies clinic with Dr. Frechette in January. Please remember State Law requires you to license your dog every year before December 31<sup>st</sup>. The fee is \$11.00 for male/female or \$6.00 for spayed/neutered. There is a late fee of \$25.00 assessed for all dogs not licensed before February 1<sup>st</sup> in addition to the regular license fee.

We ended the 2016 Fiscal year with a vacancy in the Town Clerk office. In the interim, Lisa Prevost (Finance Director) and Angie Grenier (Deputy Tax Collector) stepped up to fill in and did an outstanding job. Applications were accepted, interviews performed and I was selected as your new Town Clerk beginning on July 6, 2016. I came to the town with substantial administrative background, but no municipal experience. I attended 7 official classes provided by Maine Municipal Association (MMA) and Bureau of Motor Vehicles, as well as the MMA Annual Conference.

The 2016 General Election had a fantastic turn out with 74% of our registered voters casting a ballot. We managed to keep the lines at a minimum and make it as smooth a process as possible. Thank you to all who came out to say hello and cast your vote.

I am learning something new every day and taking on challenges and additional duties constantly. I have had many residents welcome me and I appreciate each and every one of them. I am pleased to be working for the Town of Mechanic Falls and its residents. I hope to become certified as Town Clerk within the next 2 years and am looking forward to meeting those that I have not yet met.

Please be sure to check out Mechanic Falls website to keep up to date on the Council meeting minutes or new and upcoming events in town. <http://www.mechanicfalls.gov/office.com/>.

Miranda Hinkley  
Town Clerk

#### **Interesting statistics for 2016 from the Town Clerk's Office:**

##### **Voting- 2135 Active Voters**

551 Democrats  
588 Republicans  
95 Green Independents  
13 Libertarians  
888 Unenrolled voters

##### **Vital Statistics -**

23 Marriages  
26 Births  
30 Deaths

##### **Inland Fisheries & Wildlife -**

222 Hunting Fishing Licenses  
108 Boat Registrations  
106 Snowmobile Registrations  
122 ATV Registrations

##### **Animal Welfare –**

455 Total Dogs Licensed  
68 Unaltered  
387 Spayed / Neutered  
5 Kennel licenses

**Motor Vehicle –**

1627 Total Motor Vehicle Transactions  
 1388 Processed in office  
 239 Processed online

**Business Licenses -**

33 Various License and Permits issued

**Our condolences to the Families and Friends of our 2016 departed...**

|                        |    |            |                     |    |            |
|------------------------|----|------------|---------------------|----|------------|
| Geraldine B. Barnard   | 85 | 05/10/2016 | Carolyn L. Lisewski | 88 | 07/24/2016 |
| Shaun M. Bennett       | 34 | 02/07/2016 | Veronica J. Lowe    | 65 | 12/24/2016 |
| Fernand P. Chasse      | 63 | 01/04/2016 | Bruce R. McIntosh   | 71 | 10/31/2016 |
| Darrell W. Clark       | 54 | 02/29/2016 | Renne R. McKeen     | 91 | 10/31/2016 |
| Richard E. Clukey      | 89 | 12/24/2016 | Lula B. Meserve     | 96 | 12/21/2016 |
| Charles W. Crabtree Sr | 72 | 12/21/2016 | Kevin J. Perry      | 60 | 04/03/2016 |
| Harriet M. Driscoll    | 93 | 10/16/2016 | Elaine M. Potter    | 88 | 05/15/2016 |
| Marion E. Flint        | 88 | 11/30/2016 | Arlene J. Reynolds  | 60 | 10/26/2016 |
| Brian C. French        | 72 | 11/14/2016 | Mark A. Salmons     | 58 | 12/11/2016 |
| Frederick H. Gagne Sr. | 93 | 05/25/2016 | Jay M. Siegel       | 65 | 06/23/2016 |
| Gary Gravel            | 65 | 03/31/2016 | John M. Swanson     | 72 | 05/28/2016 |
| Ronald Hebert          | 67 | 08/24/2016 | Betty J. Thurlow    | 80 | 04/19/2016 |
| George Jones           | 55 | 10/19/2016 | Kendall L. Thurlow  | 86 | 05/01/2016 |
| Gloria L. Larkin       | 63 | 02/09/2016 | Anna L. Walker      | 66 | 06/20/2016 |
| Charlene A. Libby      | 38 | 10/23/2016 | Frances A. Williams | 59 | 01/28/2016 |

**Congratulations to our newly married residents of 2016...**

|                                      |       |   |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---|-------|
| John Greenhalgh & Lauren Poniatowski | 02/29 | Daniel Pulkkinen & Alisha Martin        | 03/07 |
| Bruce Allen & Wynona Johnson         | 03/17 | Charles Mundell & Jennifer Boston       | 04/06 |
| Douglas Barbato & Stephanie Gould    | 06/21 | Theresa Merrill & Robin Blethen         | 06/25 |
| Lee Clark & Cindy Richardson         | 07/02 | Robert Allen & Cheri Lavoie             | 07/12 |
| John Botellio III & Megan Lyons      | 07/16 | Tina Tufts & Nicole Deschaine           | 07/22 |
| Rielly Bryant & Jessica Berube       | 08/05 | Earle Porter III & Jennifer Jimino      | 08/20 |
| Neil Corriveau Jr & Denise Annett    | 08/28 | Christopher Strout & Casey Gile         | 09/10 |
| Ryan Turcotte & Kristen Snider       | 09/10 | Eric Friree & Penny Carr                | 08/06 |
| Dawn Rideout & Brittany Pearl        | 09/24 | Kevin Thurlow-Latham & Linsey Letellier | 09/17 |
| Carl Labbay & Kyelynn Billon         | 10/01 | Dustin Clavet & Chelsea Toth            | 10/08 |
| Richard Conway & Glynnis Nadel       | 10/08 | Timothy Gray & Amy O'Neil               | 10/17 |
| Sean Barnaby & Courtney Stowe        | 10/22 |   |       |

**Congratulations also to our residents who welcomed a little bundle of joy in 2016.**

We cannot disclose names, however, there were 26 families who welcomed children this year.



## Water Department

As most people are aware by now, there has been quite a controversy in Flint, Michigan over lead in their drinking water. You can rest assured that lead is not an issue here. Every three years we are required to test our water for lead and copper. We get samples from different neighborhoods around town and have passed the tests. Our water, like a lot of water around the state, is slightly aggressive to lead and copper. So we have to chemically adjust the aggressiveness.

Another chemical that appears in the news occasionally is fluoride. A few years ago, the fluoride limit that water utilities were required to achieve was 1.4 parts per million (PPM). We were advised to cut that target in half. We now deliver .7ppm's in our drinking water. It is a simple and inexpensive process for us to do. Looking through our records I find where the Mechanic Falls Water "Company" as it was known as in 1970, received permission to start adding fluoride. We have been providing it ever since. We also add chlorine and sodium silicate to our water.

Flushing hydrants are a yearly event occurring the first part of June. This is necessary to help keep our older pipes clean and to help from sediment collecting. It takes us less than a week to accomplish this. We used to take out an ad in the paper, and still people would call the office to question low pressure or cloudy water. We have ceased the ad in the paper and have opted to notifying our customers with a note on your bill and also a reminder on the Town Office sign.

We are now able to accept credit cards. You should be aware that there is a small fee involved for the service. You can also pay your bill on line. First go to the Town web site, find the Water Department, and navigate from there. There are still the old-fashioned ways such as mailing your payment, or dropping off your payment in our drop slot in the front of our building.

Respectfully  
Steve French, Superintendent

## Committee Reports

### Development Commission

Since 1983, the MFDC has administered the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), which is a low-interest loan program available to existing and new businesses for the purpose of creating and retaining jobs. In addition to the RLF, the MFDC has administered the Micro-Loan program since 1996. Since its inception, the Micro-Loan program has been highly successful in attracting new businesses and new employment opportunities. This revolving loan program currently has approximately \$320,000 available to qualified Mechanic Falls' businesses.

In 2016 the MFDC funded one loan request. A \$50,000 loan was made to Mechanic Falls Auto Repair & Sales. The funds were used to refinance debt and perform renovations and improvements at his 128 Lewiston Street property.

The MFDC is pleased to report that the annual audit performed by Smith & Associates has resulted in a clean opinion. The MFDC contracts with the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) to provide professional services including loan underwriting and servicing as well as meeting and financial records management.

Business owners interested in participating in the MFDC loan programs should call Ed Dox at AVCOG, 783-9186, or the Town Office 345-2871.

## Planning Board

The Mechanic Falls Planning Board when fully staffed consists of seven Mechanic Falls residents, who volunteer to serve and are then approved by the Town Council. The main responsibility of the board lies in hearing proposals for development, from plans for small retail establishments to major developments like residential subdivisions or proposed business sites. The goal is to review proposed plans to ensure that they will conform to our local rules and ordinances and are developed to standards previously outlined in prior Town Council decisions. The Planning Board can request that changes be made to proposals and can meet again to confirm these changes or leave it to the Code Enforcement Officer to follow up.

The Planning Board can also propose new ordinance amendments or propose changes to existing ordinances. The Planning Board members debate the issues, brought to them from concerned citizens or as a response to statewide legislative changes. Public hearings are held once a proposed change is ready to present to the residents and then a recommendation is made to the Town Council based on the results of the hearing. The Council then acts on the Planning Board's recommendations to adopt or deny the new amendment.

The Planning Board meets on the third Monday of the month at 6pm when there is a new proposal for development that has been pre-approved by the Code Enforcement Officer and all the development plans are ready to be seen and discussed. Occasionally the Board meets to hold a members only workshop to consider possible ordinances or changes needed to existing ordinances. Usually because of changes in State law, for example changes to shore land zoning. Planning Board members receive a stipend for each meeting that they attend, and excess absence can lead to someone being asked to step down. In 2016, 5 meetings and 3 workshops were held.

At this time the Planning Board consists of 4 voting members and a chairperson. There is a serious need for at least 2 additional members. New board members receive a Maine Municipal Manual for Planning Boards and copy of the applicable Town ordinances. Support to the Planning Board is given by the Code Enforcement Officer who attends all meetings and workshops, as well as by the assigned Town Council member who acts as a liaison. There is much support as well from several members who have invested many years in the Planning Board.

It is not difficult to listen to people who are very excited by their plans to develop something new. It is also rewarding to be part of the growth and development of our town. If you are interested please contact the Town Office at 345-2871.

Paula Bolduc, Chair

## Recreation Committee

This year was fairly successful. Initially, we redid our infields on both the Coleman and Multi-use fields. We obtained a special mix from a company called Durablend. By putting that mix down, it really helps keep the dust down on the fields and makes our fields look better due to the red coloring of the mix. Also on the Coleman field, we added a water irrigation system. This will help the grass be more durable during the hard season this fields endures. We are hoping to add this system to another field in the upcoming year.

Baseball and softball season went fairly well for us. Volunteer Coaches are becoming more difficult to come by, making managing the program challenging at times, but we pulled through. Baseball and Softball majors, both, had the end of year playoffs at our fields. Our fields are very well complimented as the best fields around the league. We hope to continue that reputation with improvements every year.

Baseball held the 10u district tournament which went well along with the 10-state tournament which the Andy Valley 10u's won. Once again, we were praised for our fields on the state level.

Norway started an age 10 and younger summer league this year. We had a couple players play there and the league had a lot of interest. This interest prompted us to consider looking in to participating in the future as a group. They played their championship at our fields as well.

Adult softball had another outstanding year. We run two leagues in the summer. National League and American League. One is for competitive players while the other is for adults that just want to have fun. The program ran two adult tournaments this year, with good results. The adults played at our facility on multi-use field as well as at the Elm Street School. Adults do a fall league with 2 divisions also. They play under the lights on the Coleman field. This league is very well liked and people seem to enjoy it very much.

The soccer program was very good this year. The tri-town area worked together by having each division play in a different town. Mechanic Falls hosted the Junior division this year. They played behind Elm Street School, which was great. Town Manager, Koriene Low, has helped us tremendously with accessing field space for the soccer program.

Basketball had a great year. Last year we started a grade 1 through grade 2 program and this year we started a pre-k through kindergarten program. Both are just basic skills and drills. We were the first Recreation program to run a clinic with Poland High School coach Tracy. We had a decent turnout for the first year and hope to continue the collaboration in upcoming years. Our 5/6 grade teams made it to the championship and played very well. The girls team fought very hard and came out just short, where the boys team was victorious. We held most of the tournament at the Elm Street School, however the finals took place at Oxford Hills Middle School. The Recreation Committee bought new rims and bumpers for the backboards for Elm Street School.

The Recreation Committee held two fundraising dances. One was held in October at the American Legion. Unfortunately, that dance did not create as much revenue as we had anticipated. The second, our Annual Spring Dance fared much better. All fundraiser revenue goes to the improvements we make at the fields and courts located behind the Municipal Building and at the Elm Street School.

We hope to have another successful year in 2017. While lack of volunteers and economic changes seem to hurt us at times, we have a great committee that really put their hearts in it for these kids.

Thank you  
 Scott Lessard  
 Mechanic Falls Recreation President

## Safety Committee

The Safety Committee meets throughout the year reviewing our buildings and properties for safety issues that need addressing. It is also our charge to review our safety policies and make changes as necessary.

This past year we were able to secure 2 grants. The initial grant that would help us purchase extensions for the Water Department trench box. The second grant provided safety signage for police and fire department personnel to help safeguard the scene of an accident or fire.

As always, if you see anything that appears unsafe, please bring it to our attention for our review.

Respectfully,  
Steve French

## Santa For The Kids

This is my first year organizing the Santa for the Kids program and its 25<sup>th</sup> year running. I had such a great time shopping for the children this year. We had 16 families sign up for help again this year, which were comprised of 43 children and 21 adults. As is common, the community did not disappoint. Local businesses and organizations donated, individuals dropped by with donations and residents donated money at Future Foods. I was so moved by the support that the members of this town have for their neighbors. We do require all who request help fill out an application, and sign a form stating that they are residents and not seeking assistance elsewhere. I performed some verifications and used HUD Median Income as a threshold.

We tried to grant as many of the children's requests as possible, in addition they were given hats and mittens, coloring book and crayons, and some small trinkets for stockings. We had a total of 7 bikes donated this year. The families that came to retrieve the gifts were very moved, some to tears, and expressed their extreme gratitude. Those wishing to make donations for next year can drop new, unwrapped toys or bedding at the Town Office at any time throughout the year. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Miranda Hinkley  
Santa for the Kids Program Coordinator

## SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS...

Modern Woodman of America  
Future Foods  
Rainbow Federal Credit Union  
Day Motors  
Sons of the American Legion Post 150  
The Silver Spur  
Auburn Manufacturing  
Bryant Energy  
Charles & Dorothy Bouchles

The American Legion Post 150  
Chandler Funeral and Cremation Services  
Mechanic Falls Veterinary Hospital  
Parent Lumber  
Lions Club  
Knights of Columbus

## Municipal Revenues Received

### Municipal Revenues Received July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

|                       |              |                      |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Motor vehicle excise  | \$429,045.82 | Special Amusement    | \$212.00     |
| Boat excise           | \$1,604.60   | Cable Franchise Fee  | \$27,470.61  |
| Motor vehicle license | \$9,157.00   | Transfer Station Fee | \$3,480.00   |
| Snow/ATV license      | \$240.00     | CEO Citations        | \$1,550.00   |
| Boat license          | \$118.00     | Police Fines         | \$25.00      |
| Cash mgmt interest    | \$1,899.23   | Late fee dogs        | \$100.00     |
| Real estate interest  | \$13,884.30  | Service Charges      | \$0.00       |
|                       |              | RSU 16 Winter        |              |
| Lien Costs            | \$5,917.91   | Maint                | \$0.00       |
|                       |              | Municipal Gym        |              |
| Will/fax/notary fees  | \$533.00     | Rent                 | \$530.00     |
| Postage/copies/voter  | \$353.92     | USCTC Rent           | \$4,962.35   |
| Trfr Station stickers | \$5,680.00   | Head start rent      | \$1,000.00   |
| Driveway Entrance     | \$0.00       | Tennis lights        | \$0.00       |
|                       |              | Roll off Can Rent    |              |
| Pole Permits          | \$10.00      | fee                  | \$1,950.00   |
|                       |              | Insurance            |              |
| Building Permits      | \$8,312.65   | Reimburse            | \$1,170.00   |
|                       |              | Recycling            |              |
| Plumbing Permits      | \$1,713.75   | Reimburse            | \$6,059.55   |
| Electrical Permits    | \$2,225.00   | Welfare Reimburse    | \$0.00       |
| Conditional Use Per   | \$354.33     | Police Reimburse     | \$0.00       |
|                       |              | Business             |              |
| Hunt/Fish License     | \$428.25     | Advertising          | \$50.00      |
| Weapons Permits       | \$207.00     | Sold items           | \$150.00     |
|                       |              | Ball Field Lights    |              |
| Birth/Death           | \$715.00     | Reimb                | \$5,000.00   |
| Marriage License      | \$612.00     | Reserve Bank Accts   | \$4,192.29   |
| Victualer's License   | \$510.00     | Sale Town Owned      | \$0.00       |
| Liquor License        | \$500.00     | Tax Acquired Prop    | \$0.00       |
| Marriage Certificate  | \$390.00     | Pynt in Lieu of Tax  | \$1,733.62   |
|                       |              | Veteran's            |              |
| Burial Permits        | \$504.00     | Exemption            | \$1,931.00   |
| Add Certified Copies  | \$672.00     | Tree Growth Reimb    | \$3,947.02   |
|                       |              | BETE Tax             |              |
| Dog License           | \$1,009.00   | Reimburse            | \$10,408.00  |
|                       |              | Highway Block        |              |
| Dog Fees              | \$482.00     | Grant                | \$22,508.00  |
|                       |              | State Revenue        |              |
| Rabies Call           | \$3.00       | Share                | \$207,042.68 |
| Public Safety Reports | \$350.00     | State Welfare        | \$787.50     |

|                                 |              |                    |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Zoning Fee                      | \$0.00       | Reimb              |              |
| Court Fee                       | \$383.64     | Homestead Reimb    | \$77,705.00  |
| Water Admin Fee                 | \$26,000.00  | Snowmobile Refund  | \$880.46     |
| Home Occupation                 | \$80.00      | State Burn Permits | \$26.00      |
|                                 |              | FEMA               |              |
|                                 |              | Reimbursement      | \$0.00       |
|                                 |              | Sex Offender       |              |
|                                 |              | Registry           | \$30.00      |
|                                 | \$513,895.40 |                    | \$384,901.08 |
| <b>Total Revenues Received</b>  |              |                    | \$898,796.48 |
| Total Anticipated<br>(Budgeted) |              |                    | \$827,083.08 |
| % of Revenues Received          |              |                    | 108.67%      |

### Payments to Municipal Officials / Employees

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

| Department | Employee Name        | Total      | FIR     |                       |            |
|------------|----------------------|------------|---------|-----------------------|------------|
|            |                      |            | FIR     | Paul Harvey           | \$963.06   |
|            |                      |            | FIR     | Devin Herbert         | \$1,827.50 |
| Plan Board | Paula Bolduc         | \$60.00    | FIR     | Caleb Hodgkin         | \$267.75   |
| Plan Board | Walter Goss          | \$20.00    | FIR     | Ben Limerick          | \$663.26   |
| Plan Board | Paula Stotts         | \$50.00    | FIR     | Michael Limerick      | \$636.75   |
| Plan Board | Lou Goulet           | \$40.00    | FIR     | Randal Madore*        | \$1,065.00 |
| Plan Board | Dave Griffiths       | \$20.00    | FIR     | Stephanie Madore      | \$288.00   |
| Plan Board | Jeremy Judd          | \$10.00    | FIR     | Nathan Meserve        | \$187.50   |
|            |                      |            | FIR     | Cathy Proulx          | \$333.50   |
| Brd Appls  | Thomas Walton        | \$0.00     | FIR     | Chris Strout*         | \$255.38   |
| Brd Appls  | Nancy Richard        | \$0.00     | FIR     | Fred Sturtevant*      | \$6,736.38 |
| Brd Appls  | Martha Wiseman       | \$0.00     | FIR     | Logan Thomas          | \$337.38   |
|            |                      |            | FIR     | Richard Wing          | \$190.13   |
| Council    | Lou Annance          | \$600.00   | FIR     | Michael Wood          | \$66.38    |
| Council    | Wayne Hackett        | \$500.00   |         |                       |            |
| Council    | Steve Bolduc         | \$500.00   | Janitor | Burton Philbrick*     | \$9,407.79 |
| Council    | Cathy Fifield        | \$500.00   |         |                       |            |
| Council    | Nick Konstantoulakis | \$500.00   | Library | Connie Cushing-Sefcik | \$5,494.24 |
|            |                      |            | Library | Ann Look              | \$35.20    |
| ACO        | Robert Larrabee      | \$4,230.00 | Library | Michelle Paladino     | \$1,929.40 |

|          |                   |             |         |                    |             |
|----------|-------------------|-------------|---------|--------------------|-------------|
| Admin    | John Hawley       | \$30,782.58 | Library | Nancy Petersons*   | \$11,854.76 |
| Admin    | Koriene Low       | \$40,384.75 |         |                    |             |
| Admin    | Angela Grenier    | \$32,012.28 | Police  | Jeffrey Goss       | \$67,573.22 |
| Admin    | Shirley Marquis   | \$49,756.34 | Police  | Paul Harrison      | \$58,644.90 |
| Admin    | Lisa Prevost      | \$48,794.97 | Police  | Zachary Bisson     | \$12,495.77 |
|          |                   |             | Police  | Alfred J. Daigle   | \$54,681.24 |
| CEO      | Leslie Johnson*   | \$22,154.08 | Police  | Michelle Emery*    | \$11,683.84 |
| CEO      | Kieth Bennett     | \$1,412.50  | Police  | Shawn Gagnon       | \$52,596.81 |
| CEO      | Wayne Marquis     | \$100.00    | Police  | Zachary West       | \$10,648.50 |
| CEO      | Nick Adams        | \$475.00    |         |                    |             |
|          |                   |             | PWD     | Scott Penney       | \$54,106.16 |
| ELE      | Jacqueline Presto | \$108.00    | PWD     | Chris Arsenault    | \$35,200.36 |
|          |                   |             | PWD     | Andrew Coleman     | \$19,832.25 |
| EMA      | David Stimson*    | \$3,927.07  | PWD     | Wayne Edwards      | \$18,798.00 |
|          |                   |             | PWD     | Robert Goddard     | \$4,271.29  |
| GA Admin | Shannon Moxcey    | \$4,000.00  | PWD     | Jacob Hall         | \$618.75    |
|          |                   |             | PWD     | Kyle Jones         | \$1,731.38  |
| FIR      | David Barton      | \$1,597.33  | PWD     | Ronald Tirrell     | \$15,234.58 |
| FIR      | Wayde Boston      | \$398.00    | PWD     | Zachary Yates*     | \$11,699.09 |
| FIR      | Donald Boyd       | \$256.88    |         |                    |             |
| FIR      | Edward Brown      | \$1,192.75  | Rec     | Joseph Benedict    | \$1,161.14  |
| FIR      | Thomas Casey*     | \$1,114.39  |         |                    |             |
|          |                   |             | Rec     | Allison Emery      | \$1,000.02  |
| FIR      | David Clukey      | \$1,231.39  | Rec     | Courtney Marston   | \$4,112.50  |
| FIR      | Jonathan Damon*   | \$3,500.89  |         |                    |             |
|          |                   |             | Rec     | Suzanne Marston    | \$5,280.00  |
| FIR      | Kayla Damon       | \$50.88     | Rec     | Adriana McAllister | \$224.00    |
| FIR      | Kelli Doherty     | \$566.25    | Rec     | Michael Peppe      | \$161.12    |
| FIR      | Thomas Doherty    | \$1,722.76  |         |                    |             |
|          |                   |             | Rec     | Renee Reid         | \$2,246.25  |
| FIR      | Michael Doze      | \$126.00    |         |                    |             |
| FIR      | Jordan Emery*     | \$453.25    |         |                    |             |
|          |                   |             | Rescue  | Jennifer Casey*    | \$7,193.58  |
| FIR      | Matthew Fifield*  | \$2,050.13  | Rescue  | Elwood Strout      | \$386.38    |
| FIR      | Jennie Friree*    | \$192.00    |         |                    |             |

|                 |                     |              |                    |                 |              |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| SprClnUp        | Brandon Bearor*     | \$1,273.14   | Water Dept         | Anthony Corey   | \$37,811.80  |
| SprClnUp        | Zachary Irizarry    | \$150.00     | Water Dept         | Michelle Emery  | \$16,737.39  |
| SprClnUp        | Tate Ray            | \$300.00     | Water Dept         | Jacob Verrill   | \$13,738.48  |
| Transfer        | Kathryn Oak*        | \$30,443.15  | Total Utilities    |                 | \$120,749.81 |
| Transfer        | Lydia Fisher*       | \$6,941.86   | Salaries           |                 |              |
| Transfer        | Dennis Mazurkiewicz | \$9,907.52   |                    |                 |              |
| Transfer        | Stephen Turner      | \$606.25     | Total Municipal    |                 | \$804,758.62 |
| Transfer        | Norman Lowe         | \$5,625.74   | Salaries           |                 |              |
| Total Municipal |                     | \$804,758.62 | Total Utilities    |                 | \$120,749.81 |
| Salaries        |                     |              | Salaries           |                 |              |
|                 |                     |              | Total Municipal &  |                 | \$925,508.43 |
|                 |                     |              | Utilities Salaries |                 |              |
| Water Dept      | Stephen French      | \$52,462.14  | SprClnUp           | Brandon Bearor* | \$1,273.14   |

(\*) Indicates an employee received payment from more than one department

- (1) – Payment from Rescue
- (2) - Payment from Fire Department
- (3) – Payment from Safety and Health Compliance
- (4) - Payment from Election Clerk
- (5) - Payment from Code Enforcement



**EXHIBIT I**

**TOWN OF MECHANIC FALLS  
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2016**

|   | <u>Primary Government</u> |                   |                     |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
|   | <u>Governmental</u>       | <u>Business -</u> |                     |
|   | <u>Activities</u>         | <u>Type</u>       | <u>Total</u>        |
|   |                           | <u>Activities</u> |                     |
| <b>Assets</b>                                   |                           |                   |                     |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents                       | \$ 1,559,251              | \$ 74,172         | \$ 1,633,423        |
| Accounts Receivable                             | 61,764                    | 0                 | 61,764              |
| Taxes Receivable                                | 228,616                   | 0                 | 228,616             |
| Tax Lien Receivable                             | 105,781                   | 0                 | 105,781             |
| Inventories                                     | 4,911                     | 0                 | 4,911               |
| Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation | <u>3,601,428</u>          | <u>0</u>          | <u>3,601,428</u>    |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                             | <u>\$ 5,561,751</u>       | <u>\$ 74,172</u>  | <u>\$ 5,635,923</u> |
| <b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>           |                           |                   |                     |
| Related to Pensions                             | <u>\$ 81,103</u>          | <u>\$ 0</u>       | <u>\$ 81,103</u>    |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                              |                           |                   |                     |
| Accounts Payable                                | \$ 57,634                 | \$ 0              | \$ 57,634           |
| Accrued Expenses                                | 181,801                   | 0                 | 181,801             |
| Taxes Paid in Advance                           | 1,346                     | 0                 | 1,346               |
| Non Current Liabilities                         |                           |                   |                     |
| Due Within One Year                             | 176,145                   | 0                 | 176,145             |
| Due in More Than One Year                       | <u>580,007</u>            | <u>0</u>          | <u>580,007</u>      |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                        | <u>\$ 996,933</u>         | <u>\$ 0</u>       | <u>\$ 996,933</u>   |
| <b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>            |                           |                   |                     |
| Related to Pensions                             | <u>\$ 55,554</u>          | <u>\$ 0</u>       | <u>\$ 55,554</u>    |
| <b>Net Position</b>                             |                           |                   |                     |
| <i>Net Investment in Capital Assets</i>         | \$ 2,845,276              | \$ 0              | \$ 2,845,276        |
| <i>Restricted</i>                               |                           |                   |                     |
| Unemployment                                    | 0                         | 74,172            | 74,172              |
| <i>Unrestricted</i>                             | <u>1,745,091</u>          | <u>0</u>          | <u>1,745,091</u>    |
| <b>Total Net Position</b>                       | <u>\$ 4,590,367</u>       | <u>\$ 74,172</u>  | <u>\$ 4,664,539</u> |



# RSU 16

MECHANIC FALLS • MINOT • POLAND

[www.rsu16.org](http://www.rsu16.org)

Tina Meserve, Superintendent

January 24, 2017

Dear Citizens of Mechanic Falls,

The 2016-2017 school year has proven to be busy and productive as we work toward the promises of our Strategic Plan and our district goals. Our district goals are focused on three priorities: curriculum, effective instruction and culture. We are establishing structures for designing and reviewing curriculum, evaluating teachers on National Board Teaching Standards to ensure all our staff use effective teaching practices and developing system-wide behavior management plans to increase productive learning time for all students.

Early Release Wednesdays are critical to our goal to improve teaching and learning. On Wednesdays, staff have over 2 hours of professional time to develop new skills and common understanding for best practices. Here are some highlights from Wednesday sessions:


- **Curriculum:** Staff are working collaboratively to map out the curriculum for science, social studies and specialty subjects. At the middle school and high school all departments are mapping required courses. We are using an online mapping system, Rubicon Atlas, so our curriculum will be accessible to all staff, students, parents and community members once it is completed and approved by the Board.
- **Effective Instruction:** K-6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are receiving ongoing training on the new Everyday Math 4 (EM4) program. Each unit in the program includes a unit assessment to ensure students are meeting the standards taught. Teachers are looking at the assessment results and using that information to set Student Learning Goals. These goals provide the focus for future lessons. EM4 also offers online services, such as digital versions of lessons, games and activities so a part of the training has been focused on effective use of the online resources.
- **Culture:** Supporting students in developing positive behaviors is a focus across the district. K-8 staff continue to implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This system requires schools to set clear expectations for behavior in common areas, such as, the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, playground and buses. Staff provide positive recognition to students who demonstrate the desired behaviors and also establish consistent ways of responding to inappropriate behavior. Staff at the 7-12 grade level are implementing Restorative Practices to teach students how to use dialogue to build understanding during conflict and develop agreements to make things right.

In addition to our educational work, we have made significant progress in other areas. We are negotiating contracts with our teachers and support staff. The Strategic Plan has a goal to attract and retain quality teachers. We know that we must have competitive salary and benefit packages to meet that goal. We have made significant progress on addressing the overcrowding issues at Bruce Whittier Middle School. We purchased a third modular building to create temporary space for the middle school World Language and Wellness programs while we work on a permanent solution with a building addition. We now have a total of six classrooms in modular buildings. We will have a community forum on February 28, 2017 to gather feedback from our communities on the proposed design.

We are just beginning the 2017-2018 Budget process. Our Budget Committee includes members of the RSU 16 School Board, Central Office Administration and Town Representatives. Once again, we will be counting on your feedback as we develop a budget that allows us to meet the goals of our 5-Year Strategic Plan, while being fiscally responsible to our community members. As always, our FY '17-18 budget will be developed in a transparent and collaborative manner. Our Budget Committee meetings are open to the public and videotaped. Our website ([www.rsu16.org](http://www.rsu16.org)) will host all of our budget information.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

  
Tina Meserve

Central Office, 3 Aggregate Road, Poland, ME 04274  
207-998-2727 Fax 207-998-2753

# WHITTIER MIDDLE SCHOOL

SHAWN VINCENT - PRINCIPAL



JESSICA MADSEN - DEAN OF STUDENTS

January 14, 2017

Greetings from Whittier Middle School!

Bruce M. Whittier Middle School currently serves 232 seventh and eighth graders from Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland. We have twenty full-time teachers, four educational technicians, one school counselor, and one administrator. We share additional staff with each of the schools in our district.

Students take full-year courses in English language arts, math, science, social studies, and physical education. They also take art, technology education, wellness, and Spanish courses for one semester.

Students are encouraged to get involved in sports and other co-curricular activities to enrich their school experience and challenge themselves beyond academics. Ninety-seven students participated in sports during the fall season, playing field hockey, soccer, or running cross-country. Others played football through the recreation program. This winter, fifty-six students are playing basketball for Whittier, and a large number of students will compete with the indoor track team in February. In addition, many students are involved in Student Council, Drama Club, Yearbook Committee, Technology Club, Guitar Club, Writing Club, Civil Rights Team, and Math Club.

Academically, Whittier students continue to perform better than the state average on the Maine Educational Assessment. Investments of hard work, collaboration, creativity, and shared decision-making are paying off with relatively strong levels of student achievement. On the 2015-16 English language arts test, 54% of Whittier students met or exceeded the standard (compared to the state's 49%), and on the math test 50% of Whittier students met or exceeded the standard (compared to the state's 39%). Additionally, 80% of Whittier 8<sup>th</sup> graders met or exceeded the standard on the state science assessment (compared to the state's 61%). We continue to work toward supporting all students in meeting state standards.

We have built flexible time into students' schedules to give them what they need to grow. For some students, this time is dedicated to math, reading or executive functioning interventions, while others participate in practical application of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Additional groups are being challenged in literature, math, and art enrichments.

Staff members continue to work to develop common curriculum and assessments to drive learning and build student engagement. Whittier teachers are involved in actively mapping a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum to support all learners in achieving growth. The curriculum work is part of a district effort, and we are excited to be part of improving the alignment of the student learning experience K-12.

We are extremely proud of the teaching, learning, and positive culture of our school, and we are truly grateful for the support and investment of our community.

Shawn J. Vincent  
Principal



## RSU 16 ADULT EDUCATION

Mechanic Falls ~ Minot ~ Poland

Making a Difference Since 1984

December 2016

Dear Citizens,

This year we celebrated the accomplishments of twenty-seven new Adult Education graduates at our cap and gown graduation ceremony on Friday, June 3, 2016. Close to 150 friends and family members gathered in the Elm Street School gymnasium to recognize the achievements of these students and to watch as Superintendent Tina Meserve presented them with diplomas. Our inspirational message was delivered by graduate, Janelle Kogut, who shared her personal educational experiences and her thoughts on finding success through alternatives.

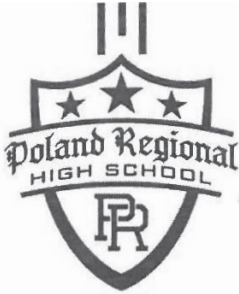
We were recently recognized by the State as a 2015/16 'Top Performer' for meeting and/or exceeding State benchmarks with regard to assessment follow-up, student gains and attendance. During the school year, which began with a five-week summer session, we served 81 students in academic High School Diploma and HiSET programming. Thirty-nine others participated in computer classes and career advising. In addition, we had 411 registrations in adult and community enrichment programs (fitness, arts and crafts, outdoor safety education, informational classes, etc.). Combined, this is a total of 531 registrations - over 100 more than the previous year.

We have lots to offer to our community. I encourage you to take a look at the classes in our course catalog or on our website at <http://mechanicfalls.maineadulted.org/>. You can also stay connected with events and developments by finding us on Facebook or Twitter. If we can be of assistance in any way, please email [jrose@rsu16.org](mailto:jrose@rsu16.org), call 345-3217, or stop by our Learning Center at Elm Street School in Mechanic Falls. Your ideas, support and involvement are always welcome and very much appreciated!

Respectfully,

Jenny H. Rose,  
Director

(207) 345-3217 ♦ fax 346-6223 ♦ PO Box 129, Mechanic Falls, ME 04256 ♦ 129 Elm St  
[rsu16adulted@rsu16.org](mailto:rsu16adulted@rsu16.org) ♦ <http://mechanicfalls.maineadulted.org/>



## Poland Regional High School

1457 Maine Street, Poland, Maine 04274  
 ph: 207.998.5400 fax: 207.998.5060

**Cari Medd**  
 Principal  
 cmedd@rsu16.org

**Patrick Flynn**  
 Assistant Principal  
 pflynn@rsu16.org

**Don King**  
 Dir. of Co-Curricular Activities  
 dking@rsu16.org

January 2017

Dear Mechanic Falls, Minot and Poland Residents;

Here is what PRHS looked like at the start of the school year:

- We have **56** students enrolled at LRTC
- We have **17** students enrolled in college classes first semester
- **3** students are enrolled in an AP4ALL course (online AP course offered through the state)
- Last spring **67** students took 71 AP exams. 41% of the students earned a 3 or better (3 is passing). This was our lowest AP participation in a very long time.
- Our October 1 enrollment was 469.

We are excited that our graduation rate for the class of 2016 is 91%. This is the highest graduation rate since 2006.

This year we are focusing on student Habits of Work (HOW) with the goal of instilling habits that will help make students good employees and citizens once they are in the community. To encourage strong work habits, we have been increasing the attention HOW gets but tying it to eligibility and other school privileges. Students whose work habits are lacking may find themselves ineligible for athletics or senior privileges. We are also building traditions that will celebrate strong work habits and honor those who are on time, good school citizens, and hard working students even if they do not have the grades to be on honor roll.

Our other goal this year is to work closely with teachers in grades K-8 to rewrite the curriculum in all content areas to ensure that our students have access to a strong and vertically aligned curriculum. We are excited to work with other teachers across the district to develop high quality curriculum that prepares our student for college, careers and citizenship.

Thank you for all of the great teenagers you send us and the support you provide them as they grow into adulthood. It takes a village and the village of RSU 16 is a strong one!

Sincerely,

Cari Medd  
 Principal

RSU #16  
 ELM STREET SCHOOL  
 "Dedicated to Creating a Quality Tomorrow"

129 Elm Street  
 Mechanic Falls, ME 04256

Ryan Patrie, Principal  
 Telephone (207) 345-3381  
 Fax (207) 346-6224

January 23, 2017

Dear Friends and Family of Elm Street School & Mechanic Falls:

It is a great privilege to serve Mechanic Falls, Elm Street School and the greater RSU #16 community. I am extremely impressed with the support of the community, staff and students of Elm Street School and RSU #16. The genuine support began at community day before Open House and emanates at every Wildcat Assembly, Student Led Conference and school event.

For all returning and new community members, Elm Street School serves approximately 296 students in grades PK-6. The class sizes range from 14-22 students. Elm Street School provides services and programming to ensure that every learner receives an excellent education; ranging from Gifted and Talented Services to Title I services to services for students with special needs. These services are provided by the full time teaching staff of 23 teachers as well as several itinerant staff that support multiple buildings or do not work full-time; 1 of which are new to Elm Street School. These services are supported by the full time Ed. Tech. staff of 20; 4 of which are new to Elm Street School. Overall, I am proud of the accomplishments of our students, the commitment of staff, and the support provided by our community. Elm Street will continue our work with literacy and we are also using our early release time to learn and implement the new Everyday Math 4 program aligned to the Common Core. Elm Street School has eleven teachers participating in the k-12 Curriculum Mapping process to ensure that all children receive an excellent education.

Elm Street School continues to create and sustain family and community partnerships. The Elm Street School PTO graciously supported the installation of an outdoor classroom so that students can learn beyond the confines of the classroom walls. This year, the PTO has set a goal to raise enough money to construct an outdoor structure more suitable for children in grades K-2. The Mechanic Falls Fire Department provides strong support to the school through visitations, discussions of fire safety and assistance during fire drills. Elm Street School is utilized for basketball during the winter months and will be used for a summer recreation program beginning in June. The Mechanic Falls Police Department continues to assist the school with any safety needs. This year Mrs. Botellio, Mrs. Savage and Mrs. Whitten have partnered with 18 students to bring back a yearbook at Elm Street School. This year we were able to hire a Registered Nurse to address the district-wide and individual school complex medical needs. We are very fortunate to have Kayla Marston as a school counselor to help support the social and emotional needs of our students. She has provided lessons on safety, friendship and acceptance in all of our classrooms and also supports a civil rights team that is fully promoting inclusion for all. Other school partnerships include being a 5-2-1-0 school, 7 Habits for Happy Kids School and a strong partnership with the Ecology School, which culminates in a three-day two-night experience at Ferry Beach.

It is a privilege to be part of Elm Street School and to be an active member of our community. I welcome and encourage your involvement, questions and feedback. I personally and professionally appreciate the support provided by the community, the municipal departments, the RSU #16 administration, staff, school board, and the dedicated staff of Elm Street School. I am proud to represent our school and community.

Sincerely,

*Ryan W. Patrie*

Ryan W. Patrie, Ed. D.

## Unpaid Property Taxes

### Personal Property – 2014

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| HARVEST HILL FARMS | 4,035.83 |
|--------------------|----------|

### Personal Property – 2015

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| HARVEST HILL FARMS | 4,613.52 |
|--------------------|----------|

### Personal Property – 2016

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC | 1,277.45 |
| G & G PROPERTY MANAGEMENT   | 507.18   |
| HARVEST HILL FARMS          | 5,122.75 |
| HOLBROOK, SHAWN             | 276.06   |
| POLAND, DANIEL              | 62.06    |

### Personal Property – 1<sup>st</sup> half 2017

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC | 636.31   |
| EGGCEPTIONAL                | 79.94    |
| G & G PROPERTY MANAGEMENT   | 284.61   |
| HARVEST HILL FARMS          | 2,806.85 |
| HOLBROOK, SHAWN             | 169.49   |
| KATHY'S DINER               | 93.81    |
| NUCO2 SUPPLY LLC            | 7.82     |
| POLAND, DANIEL              | 41.57    |
| ROY, LAURIER & DIANA        | 43.97    |
| ROY, LAURIER/DIANA          | 6.37     |

### Real Estate - 2016

|                                    |           |                        |          |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------|
| 14 PEARL ST RESIDENTIAL LAND TRUST | 1,354.23  | BRAY, CYNTHIA M.       | 1,368.42 |
| ALLEN-PARKER, DIANA G              | 248.58    | CALABRESE, BRETT       | 461.36   |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE LLC         | 2,824.78  | CARTER, DONALD         | 1,955.81 |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC        | 25,787.60 | CARTER, JODIE          | 393.50   |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC        | 1,900.83  | CHILDS, CHRISTINE (LE) | 3,122.37 |
| BEAL, RICHARD/KAREN                | 410.27    | COZZOLINO, MICHAEL     | 515.89   |
| BEAULIEU, RAYMOND E                | 1,416.73  | DAVIS, JOHN W JR       | 5,113.53 |
| BENSON, KRISTINA N                 | 1,611.31  | DION, PENNY            | 56.80    |

|                           |          |                         |          |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| DUFOUR, BARBARA           | 124.23   | PARSONS, JENNIFER J     | 5,902.55 |
| DUFOUR, DENIS             | 3,610.39 | PLUMMER, RANDY          | 163.51   |
| DUHAMEL, KAREN M          | 779.41   | PORTER III, EARLE G.    | 1,633.08 |
| GAGNON JR, DAVID E.       | 957.75   | RAY, AMY L              | 260.48   |
| GEORGE, ROBERT            | 554.75   | RING, MICHAEL           | 350.68   |
| GOULET, SUSAN             | 776.80   | RITCHIE, MARY           | 33.39    |
| HILL-FRANCISCO, DOROTHY M | 804.30   | ROWE, JULIANNE F        | 948.73   |
| HOBBS, GREG               | 471.70   | SAUCIER, PAUL & DIANE   | 449.29   |
| JORDAN, SHIRLEY A.        | 1,102.91 | SCHMIDT, JEFFREY        | 1,027.22 |
| LARRABEE, DEBRA L         | 1,108.39 | SWANSON, JOHN M         | 569.34   |
| LEONARD, DAVID M JR       | 3.60     | TIBBETTS, ELVA HEIRS OF | 1,259.37 |
| LEONARD, JOYCE            | 1,421.22 | TOUSSAINT, RUSSELL E    | 2,287.81 |
| LIZOTTE, LISA J           | 755.61   | WHEELER, TRACY ROSE     | 449.40   |
| MADORE, RANDAL L          | 1,029.73 | WILCOX, RICHARD         | 1,194.76 |
| MARTIN, CYNTHIA A.        | 5,568.71 | WILLSON, BRUCE W        | 2,073.57 |
| MORRELL, EUGENE L         | 82.77    | WING, TIMOTHY           | 483.06   |
| O'DONNELL, RICHARD        | 2,721.33 | WING, TIMOTHY D.        | 263.22   |

## Real Estate – 1<sup>st</sup> half 2017

|                              |           |                           |          |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------|
| 14 PEARL ST RESIDENTIAL LAND | 621.26    | DEPOT SQUARE, LLC         | 60.18    |
| ALLEN-PARKER, DIANA G        | 70.53     | DION, PENNY               | 3.30     |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE LLC   | 1,407.05  | DONOHUE, BRIAN L          | 327.47   |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC  | 12,845.00 | DOSTIE, JEROME            | 532.02   |
| ANDOVER COVERED BRIDGE, LLC  | 946.82    | DOSTIE, JEROME            | 29.66    |
| ANKETELL, SETH               | 69.78     | DUDLEY, HEIRS OF ALVIN    | 602.20   |
| BEAL, RICHARD/KAREN          | 408.72    | DUFOUR, BARBARA           | 8.58     |
| BEAULIEU, RAYMOND E          | 712.65    | DUFOUR, DENIS             | 1,745.07 |
| BENSON, KRISTINA N           | 802.61    | DUHAMEL, KAREN M          | 356.75   |
| BLACK, PAMELA                | 1,000.57  | ELLINGTON, KRISTEN        | 367.31   |
| BRAY, CYNTHIA M.             | 681.62    | G & G PROPERTY MANAGEMENT | 5.68     |
| CALABRESE, BRETT             | 176.51    | GAGNON JR, DAVID E.       | 487.83   |
| CARTER, DONALD               | 924.48    | GAGNON, JUNE              | 527.01   |
| CARTER, JODIE                | 142.71    | GAGNON, KEITH S           | 1,288.90 |
| CHILDS, CHRISTINE (LE)       | 1,501.98  | GARY, MATTHEW A           | 729.79   |
| CHINNOCK, MARK               | 4.38      | GARY, MATTHEW A           | 698.63   |
| CLUKEY, DANIEL               | 12.22     | GARY, MATTHEW A           | 10.66    |
| CONANT, NEAL                 | 1,402.42  | GARY, MATTHEW A           | 360.00   |
| CONANT, NEAL                 | 379.75    | GARY, MATTHEW A           | 229.90   |
| COZZOLINO, MICHAEL           | 1,177.22  | GAUTHIER, NORMAND         | 273.31   |
| CRANDALL, SCOTT              | 700.53    | GLATZ, KEVIN A            | 1,165.99 |
| CROCKETT, DONALD             | 217.73    | GOULET, SUSAN             | 386.93   |
| CUSHMAN, JOSEPH              | 1,441.92  | HEIRS OF ROBERT GEORGE    | 223.03   |
| D & D MANAGEMENT, LLC        | 608.13    | HILL-FRANCISCO, DOROTHY M | 400.63   |
| DAVIS, JOHN W JR             | 2,493.79  | HOBBS, GREG               | 234.96   |
| DEPOT SQUARE, LLC            | 3,797.56  | IKOSI, MARIA              | 5.89     |



|                              |          |                     |          |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| JORDAN, SHIRLEY A.           | 496.07   | VALLEE, NORMAND J   | 46.88    |
| KENISTON, HEATH              | 66.17    | WEAGLE, SUSAN E.    | 413.78   |
| LACROIX, RICHARD             | 228.00   | WHEELER, TRACY ROSE | 223.85   |
| LARRABEE, DOUGLAS M          | 1,385.29 | WHITAKER, JESS      | 779.74   |
| LARRABEE, KIMBERLY           | 81.36    | WILCOX, RICHARD     | 541.82   |
| LARRABEE, DEBRA L            | 552.10   | WILLSON, BRUCE W    | 979.57   |
| LEONARD, DAVID M JR          | 1,122.87 | WING, TIMOTHY D.    | 131.11   |
| LEONARD, JOYCE               | 654.62   | WING, TIMOTHY D.    | 1,376.18 |
| LIZOTTE, LISA J              | 699.46   |                     |          |
| MACGREGOR, IRVING JR         | 1,737.64 |                     |          |
| MADORE, RANDAL L             | 459.62   |                     |          |
| MARTIN, CYNTHIA A.           | 2,773.82 |                     |          |
| MCINNIS, SHIRLEY K           | 858.73   |                     |          |
| MERRILL, ROBERT S.           | 355.86   |                     |          |
| MORIN, BEVERLY J             | 889.04   |                     |          |
| MORRELL, EUGENE L            | 610.51   |                     |          |
| NAZARENE CHURCH PARSONAGE    | 379.66   |                     |          |
| O'DONNELL, RICHARD           | 1,302.22 |                     |          |
| PARSONS, JENNIFER J          | 2,940.11 |                     |          |
| PEARL, CHARLES JR            | 385.03   |                     |          |
| PEARL, CHAD                  | 184.36   |                     |          |
| PELLETIER, GLORIA A          | 519.93   |                     |          |
| PELLETIER, GLORIA A          | 1,230.34 |                     |          |
| PERRY, JEANNE                | 607.28   |                     |          |
| PERRY, JEANNE A              | 152.74   |                     |          |
| PIKE, SAMUEL M               | 689.13   |                     |          |
| PLUMMER, RANDY               | 109.60   |                     |          |
| PLUMMER, THOMAS              | 425.73   |                     |          |
| PORTER III, EARLE G.         | 813.45   |                     |          |
| PORTER, ROBERT L             | 1,039.68 |                     |          |
| POST, BRUCE                  | 366.97   |                     |          |
| RAY, AMY L                   | 259.50   |                     |          |
| RAY, STEVEN T                | 42.65    |                     |          |
| RING, MICHAEL                | 121.38   |                     |          |
| RIVARD, DANIEL R             | 849.62   |                     |          |
| ROBERTS, HOMER               | 527.61   |                     |          |
| ROBINSON, DEE A              | 836.70   |                     |          |
| ROWE, JULIANNE F             | 1,374.97 |                     |          |
| SAUCIER, PAUL & DIANE        | 248.28   |                     |          |
| SCHMIDT, JEFFREY             | 458.37   |                     |          |
| SMITH, FOREST B              | 793.17   |                     |          |
| SPH PROPERTIES, LLC.         | 939.95   |                     |          |
| STIMSON, NINA M              | 195.97   |                     |          |
| STOTTS, MARK S               | 1,056.20 |                     |          |
| SWANSON, JOHN M              | 478.45   |                     |          |
| TIBBETTS, ELVA HEIRS OF      | 627.30   |                     |          |
| TIMBERLAKE, HEIRS OF GINNI B | 1,228.17 |                     |          |
| TIMBERLAKE, HEIRS OF GINNI B | 183.24   |                     |          |
| TOUSSAINT, RUSSELL E         | 1,098.08 |                     |          |
| VALLEE, NORMAND J            | 617.72   |                     |          |
| VALLEE, NORMAND J            | 213.19   |                     |          |
| VALLEE, NORMAND J            | 162.71   |                     |          |

