

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

**Solid Waste Disposal** – Residential trash and solid waste continued to be collected by licensed contractors and delivered to Wheelabrator Resource Recovery Facility in Millbury. The “Tipping Fee” charged by Wheelabrator was \$70.87 per ton. This rate is adjustable from year to year based on the changes in the consumer price index. The total tons delivered in 2010 from Princeton amounted to 800.40 tons, a decrease of 252.88 tons from 2009.

**Sewage Disposal Systems** – During the calendar year 2010, there were twelve (12) permits granted for new or repaired subsurface sewage disposal systems. There were thirteen (13) Title Five inspections made.

**Food Establishments** – Jim Hillis inspects all establishments licensed to provide food to the public, including school lunch services, and investigates any complaint filed against such provider. There are currently sixteen (16) establishments in town that require inspections. We appreciate Mr. Hillis’ time and expertise that it takes to accomplish this task.

**Rabies Clinic** - The annual immunization clinic against canine rabies was conducted by Dr. Jennifer Downes of the Holden Veterinary Clinic who volunteered her services of which we greatly appreciate. A total of twenty three (23) animals were inoculated at a fee of \$10.00 each.

**Seasonal and H1N1 Flu Clinics** – The annual seasonal flu clinic was provided for by the Board and over 200 people took advantage of this service. Several flu clinics and home visits were performed this year to ensure that everyone would have an opportunity to get vaccinated. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Linda Orrell RN and Judy DeNittis RN for volunteering their services to the many folks who received their flu shot. Also, we would like to thank Judy DeNittis RN for volunteering her expertise to the Fire and Police department personnel for administering flu shots and TB testing. They are truly an asset to our community and we thank them immensely. Their kind and gentle manner was greatly appreciated by all who were vaccinated.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gregory Dowdy, Chairman  
James Hillis  
Robert Mason

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging devoted time, energy and spirit during 2010 identifying the needs of elders in the community, establishing new programs designed to meet daily living needs, prevent isolation and generally improve the quality of life for the Princeton senior population. At this time about 11% of the Princeton population is age 60 and over.

The Executive Office of Elder Affairs has awarded the Princeton COA \$3500 Formula Grant monies to be used for monthly mailing and preparation of the senior newsletter. In 2010 we will continue to publish important information and referrals about programs and services that enable our elders to live with dignity and independence.

The Council on Aging provides contact with regional and state organizations which support seniors, makes available funding for fees for conferences, training sessions and membership dues for MA Council on Aging and Central MA Council on Aging organizations.

SCM Elder bus 1- 800 321 0243- provides transportation to seniors and the disabled for medical on Monday and Wednesday as well as food shopping.

The Council on Aging, through Montachusett Opportunity Council, has started a mealsite for elder citizens at the Princeton Center Building. Meals are delivered once a week on Tuesday for the congregate meal. The Congregational Church offers an event for seniors 'Food for Thought, serving a wonderful lunch on the third Wednesday of the month.

Also in place, well attended gentle stretch, osteoporosis prevention exercise and monthly coffee socials, a weekly bridge group meeting weekly on Tuesday afternoons. Oriol Health Care sponsors Girls and Guys Fitness class on Tuesdays. Other services offered:

General information and referral, including fuel assistance and winterization programs, donations of equipment for use to physically challenged individuals. We see this need increasing as our population is living longer. Coordinating AARP volunteer Tax-Aide program as well as S.H.I.N.E. help for seniors and Medicare beneficiaries understand their health insurance options. Blood pressure screening. Senior Work-off abatement, as well as other tax programs to assist senior homeowners is available. Operation Sandbucket is in place, a monthly food pantry.

Volunteers who give their time and talent make the COUNCIL ON AGING an important community resource.

Beverly Lind Joined the Council on Aging Board in December.

Gaile T. Rollins, Director  
Mary P. Gundersen, Chairman  
Priscilla Genest, Treasurer  
Beverly Lind

Nancy Wheeler, Secretary  
P. Jane Fife  
Beverly Kohlstrom



## **Veterans' Service Department**

### **January 2010 – December 2010**

The Veterans' Department is under the direction of Chapter 115 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Local Veterans' Agents direct the Veterans' benefits program, which is a joint program with the Commonwealth and the Town of Princeton to deliver financial benefits for qualified veterans' and/or their dependents. The office also assists and advises veterans and/or their dependents with questions and applications concerning their federal and other state benefits.

For some veterans, their families or widows of veterans we hope to assist them with their monthly expenses only temporarily. Forms of more permanent income could include returning to employment, qualifying for VA (Veterans' Affairs) or Social Security benefits. Any veterans benefits expended through the town are reimbursed by the state at a rate of 75%.

I am available during the day at 508-799-1041 for any questions and if necessary to set up an appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Greenwood  
Veterans' Agent