



Two Hundredth
Annual Report
of the
Municipal Officers
Town of Orono, Maine

For the year ending June 30, 2008

TOWN OF ORONO, MAINE

Government:	Incorporated: March 12, 1806 Council/Manager Charter: 1969
Population:	9,112 (as of 2000 Census)
Land Area:	Approximately 20 square miles
Industries:	Byer Manufacturing Co., Lane Construction, Shaw & Tenney, Bank of America, Sensor Research and Development and Microdyne
Schools:	Asa C. Adams Elementary, Orono Middle, Orono Senior High, University of Maine
Banks:	Bank of America, Bangor Savings, Merrill Merchants, University Credit Union
Libraries:	Orono Public Library, Raymond H. Fogler Library (University of Maine)
Recreation:	Nadeau-Savoy Memorial Park at Gould's Landing, Municipal Pool, Webster Park, Marden Park, Keith Anderson Community House, Senior Citizens Center, Orono Bogwalk, Orono-Old Town Bikeway
(Other Facilities)	Penobscot Valley Country Club, Gass Riding Stables, Orchard Hill Farm, Alford Ice Arena
Churches:	Orono United Methodist Church, Church of Universal Fellowship, St. Mary's Church, Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel (Newman Center), Maine Christian Association (Wilson Center), Faith Baptist Church, Orono Community Church, Orono Friends Meeting
Service:	American Legion, Kiwanis, Orono Health Association, Knights of Columbus, Senior Citizens Club, Masonic Lodge, Rainbow Girls, Eastern Star

MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

As of December 2008

U. S. Senate

Senator Olympia J. Snowe

District Office:
1 Cumberland Place
Bangor, ME 04401
Tel: 945-0432

Senator Susan M. Collins

District Office:
Bangor State Office
P. O. Box 655
202 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04402-0655
Tel: 945-0417

U. S. House of Representative

Representative Michael Michaud (2nd District)

District Office:
202 Harlow Street, Room 23
P. O. Box 836
Bangor, ME 04402-0836
Tel. 942-5907

Maine State Senator - Senate District 30

Senator Elizabeth Schneider

55 Bennoch Road
Orono, ME 04473
866-7359

State House Station #3
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
287-1515

**REPRESENTATIVES
TO THE LEGISLATURE
As of December 2008**

District 18

State Representative: Hon. James Martin

Home address: 557 Forest Avenue
Orono, ME 04473

Residence: (207) 942-7681

Cell Phone: (207) 356-9418

E-mail: RepJim.Martin@legislature.maine.gov

District 19

State Representative: Hon. Emily Ann Cain

Home address: 103 Forest Avenue
Orono, ME 04473

Residence: (207) 866-3753

Business: (207) 581-3308

E-mail: CainOrono@hotmail.com

Capitol Address: House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Capitol Telephone: (207) 287-1400 (voice)
(207) 287-4469 (TDD)

Maine Legislative Internet Web Site - <http://janus.state.me.us/legis>
Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center:
1-800-423-2900

2008 ELECTED OFFICIALS

Town of Orono

Members of the Town Council

Three-year term

Lianne Harris 63 Forest Avenue Orono, Maine 04473	2009
M. Terri Hutchinson 24 Hamlin Street Orono, Maine 04473	2009
Thomas Perry 136 Bennoch Road Orono, Maine 04473	2009
Mark Haggerty 6 Grove Street Orono, Maine 04473	2010
Thomas Spitz 16 Kell Street Orono, Maine 04473	2010
Cynthia Mehnert 21 College Heights Orono, Maine 04473	2011
Geoffrey Gordon, Chair. 22 Hamlin Street Orono, Maine 04473	2011

TOWN COMMITTEES, 2008

Town of Orono

Planning Board

Five-year terms

Judson McIntosh	2009
Chris Dorion, V. Chr.	2009
Mark Kittridge, Chair.	2010
Phil Ruck	2011
Christa Schwintzer	2012
David Thompson	2013

Scott Wilkerson, Assoc.	2012
Warren Hedstrom, Assoc.	2012

Board of Appeals

Three-year terms

David Chase, Chair.	2009
David Sewall	2009
Shane Martin	2010
Betty Lee Comstock	2010
Jack Blease	2011
Mary Cathcart	2011

Board of Assessment Review

Three-year terms

Mark Bilyk	2011
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Library Trustees

Three-year terms

Louise Snow, Chair.	2009
Dana Devoe	2009
Judith Hakola	2010
David Chase	2010
W. Murray Bain	2011
Mary Cady	2011

Youth Member: one-year term

Emma Hornsby	2009
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Associate Trustees: two-year term

Kate Bulteel	2009
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Trustees of Orono High School District

Carol Mower	2009
Ted Curtis, Jr.	2010
Linwood Carville	2011

Voter Registration Appeals Board

Chairperson - four-year term - (Oct.)

Others - three-year term - (Oct.)

Dana C. Devoe, Chr.	2011
DEM - vacant	2010
REP - Mary Drew	2010
DEM - Mary Cathcart (Alt.)	2010
REP - Carol Mower (Alt.)	2010

Community Beautification Committee***Three-year term***

Chris Dorion	2010
JoAnn Hall	2010
John Bradson	2010

Orono-Veazie Water District Trustees***Five-year term (December)***

John McCormack	2009
Stephen Murray	2010
James Parker - VZ	2011
Kenneth Borneman - VZ	2012
Scott Hall	2013

Tree Board***Three-year term***

Jack Blease	2009
Kathy Pollard	2009
Emily Wesson	2010
Cynthia Blease	2010
David Thompson, Chair	2011
Patricia Thompson	2011

Trails Committee
Two-year term expiring 2009

Chris Dorion	Jack Blease
Sally Jacobs	David Frankel
David Thompson, Chr.	Gail White
Cynthia Blease	Norm Poirier

University/Town Relations Committee

Wanda Cunningham	Catherine Conlow
Angel Loredo	Gary Duquette
Deborah Mitchell	Ted Curtis
John Bradson	Ann Surprenant

Orono Village Association

Michelle Goldman	Ted Curtis	Elaine Clark
Mark Haggerty	Duska Hayman	Wanda Cunningham
Marlene Doucette	John Bradson	Bruce Farnsworth
Judy Smith	Philip Barb	Jim Rose
Jay Shields	Elizabeth Schneider	Tracey Richards
Chris Dorion	Norm Poirier	

Birch Street School Task Force

Mary Drew	Marie Lusth-Winn	Nancy Pare
Joan Netland	Mary Boyd	Leslie Peterson
Emily Wesson	May Lewis	Michael Lewis, Chr.
Marlene Doucette	Sherm Hasbrouck	Sarah Hasbrouck
Louise Bain	Dorothy Turner	Don Coates
Beth White	W. Murray Bain	Margaret Campbell

**Orono Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors**

John McDonough, Pres.	Arthur Comstock	Lianne Harris
Stevenson Sheppard, VP	Jay Shields	Geoff Gordon
Margaret Criner, Treas.	Janet Waldron	Fred Wlodarski
Tom Perry, Sec.	Howard Whelden	David Miller
Katherine Sewall	Michael Landry	Peter Gavett

Rural Zoning Working Committee

Geoff Gordon	Mark Haggerty	Chris Dorion
Mark Kittridge, Chair.	Warren Hedstrom	Sally Jacobs
James McConnon	Frederick Jamison	Andy Perkins
Sandy Cyrus	Milos Blagojevic	Gail White
Geoffrey Wingard		

TOWN OF ORONO EMPLOYEES*As of 6/30/08*

EMPLOYEE	DATE OF HIRE
Administration	
Catherine Conlow	01/05/04
Maria Weinberger	04/12/07
Wanda Thomas	07/24/69
Annie Brown	08/01/77
Nancy Ward	06/25/01
Sue Hart	01/02/91
Donna Emerson	06/15/98
Susan Tuholski	12/06/99
Ruth Vaughan	09/08/87
Rick Sands	08/03/94
Bill Murphy	08/20/07
Library, Parks & Recreation, Health	
Kathy Marks Molloy	01/24/94
Laurie Carpenter	12/03/85
Joyce Wiebe	03/23/99
Sue Rogers	08/03/92
Louise Jollife	07/01/07
Norman Poirier	09/18/89
Wesley Nelson	01/02/90
Maida Robichaud	01/14/91
Tim Baude	08/14/95

EMPLOYEE**DATE OF HIRE***As of 6/30/08***Fire Department**

Buddy Webb	08/07/83
Henry Vaughan	04/01/75
Bryan Hardison	12/03/90
Paul Haley	01/26/88
Rob St. Louis	11/20/90
Matt Grindle	11/21/90
Dennis Bean	10/20/96
Scott Luciano	09/14/98
Joel Sides	06/07/99
Erin Frank	11/19/02
Kevin Sirois	03/23/03
Mark Roy	08/11/03
Josh McNally	08/25/03
Kevin Peary	02/14/05
Brad Strout	07/24/06
Jared LeBarnes	02/19/08

Water Pollution Control Facility

Paul Wintle	08/31/87
Joe Madigan	10/15/90
Chris Prue	08/09/83
Galen Moody	01/19/90
Dana Cooper	02/19/07

EMPLOYEE**DATE OF HIRE***As of 6/30/08***Public Safety Administration**

Kathy Walton 12/01/03

Police Department

Gary Duquette 10/25/93
Scott Scripture 01/26/96
Josh Ewing 09/27/99
Scott Wilcox 03/01/00
Wilfred King 05/07/01
Scott Lajoie 07/15/02
Chris Watson 08/04/03
Jason Zalva 10/06/03
Andrew Whitehouse 12/01/03
Chris Foxworthy 12/06/04
Derek Dinsmore 11/07/05
Seth Burnes 09/11/06
Stephen Marko 04/16/07
Ed Leskey 05/12/08

Public Works

Calvin Smith 08/02/93
Wendell Young 04/05/71
Ken Beylerian 10/10/78
Ron Dube 11/09/81
Tony Boucher 11/01/95
Greg Daigle 03/31/97
Richard Rideout 09/04/01
Donald Wickett 10/24/05
Michael Smart 04/24/06
Scott Ouellette 07/16/07

REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL 2007-2008

The Town Council has continued to fulfill its responsibility to set policy and guide planning initiatives in the public interest. It is Council's goal to create an environment that supports a financially sound and culturally vibrant community.

Council continues to be highly pleased with our Town Manager, Catherine Conlow, and under her management and leadership progress on some major initiatives in planning and development are at hand. We believe that we have been able to maintain a good fiscal condition for our community under Catherine's leadership.

We have made great strides in seeing some important planning activities near completion. Committee work on zoning changes in the Town's Forest and Agriculture zone is completed and recommendations for changes to our comprehensive plan have been adopted. The final piece of that effort will take place in the coming months as the staff will begin the job of drafting ordinance language in support of the modifications to the comprehensive plan. Grant funds have been secured for the development of a river walk loop on our waterfront, complete with new river front water access. The Council continues to emphasize long-term planning in our commitment to the future growth and health of Orono.

Construction of our new library was begun in September of 2008. At the time I am writing these words there has been great progress on putting the building up. The project is rapidly taking shape and we look forward to the happy day when we begin to offer library services from the new facility.

Reorganization of the School Department into a new consolidated regional school district was completed thanks to the long and difficult work of the Regional Planning Committee. All the citizens of Orono owe the people serving in that capacity a great deal of gratitude. Implementation of the new Riverside RSU, consisting of Orono, Veazie, and Glenburn, will continue to be a challenge, but we are confident that the involvement of so many dedicated individuals will continue to deliver the quality educational opportunities that Orono has come to expect for our students.

I write virtually the same thing each year in these pages, but it simply cannot be said often enough. The Council gratefully acknowledges the high level of service delivered by the municipal staff at all levels. The efficiency and thoroughness of the staff is responsible in great part for our ability to deliver a comprehensive list of community services at a reasonable cost. Planning and policy making have their place, but ultimately the staff is responsible for seeing that the services are delivered. Their dedication and service is greatly appreciated.

The Council acknowledges and is grateful for the dedication of a large number of volunteers in community service. These volunteers serve on committees and boards, serve as election officials, work in the schools, support the police and fire departments, serve in our



Town Council

*Sitting L-R: Mark Haggerty, Tom Perry, Chairman Geoff Gordon
Standing: Lianne Harris, Cindy Mehnert, Terri Hutchinson
Top Photo: Tom Spitz*

library, and in many other capacities. Those contributions of time and effort enable us to do more than we ever could without their help and assistance.

Budgetary and finance issues continue to be a focus of the Council. The Manager's analysis of our financial situation has helped emphasize the concern for sustainability of our Community in the face of changing tax policies at the State level and increasing costs of the services that the Town provides to our citizens. Under the Manager's leadership we have been able to maintain stable operational budgets over the past few years in spite of dramatic changes in revenue streams and increasing costs. We have continued to work on financial policies that formalize our management of taxpayer dollars that emphasizes accountability and preparing for the future. The Town now has in place a new automated accounting system and upgraded computing resources that will enable us to provide new efficiencies in the management of the Town's finances. Council has committed itself to improving the Orono's financial situation with sound financial policies and evaluation. We continue to explore ways in which we can share in the cost of delivering services with surrounding communities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geoffrey A. Gordon
Council Chairman

REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER & ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER 2007-2008

On behalf of the Town of Orono, I am proud to submit this annual report. Over the past year, our Department Heads and Council have worked hard to ensure that high quality services are maintained while minimizing tax increases. For the past few years, the Town has kept taxes to support municipal services relatively flat. We have been able to do this because of steady increases in development, moderate increases in State revenue sharing, excise taxes, and other service fees. Over the past year, that has begun to change. A downturn in the housing market and decreases in retail sales statewide have led to declines in revenues to finance municipal services.

The Town anticipates that the economic conditions that have caused revenues to fall off for the past year will continue for the next few years. Like most of our residents, 2008 hit the Town budgets hard with the escalating fuel prices. At \$4 per gallon of diesel, our budgets in Public Works, Police, Fire, and Wastewater ran over. Ten years ago, the Town made a decision to convert the Town Office and Public Safety Building to natural gas, a decision which resulted in more stable costs for some town operations.

In addition, we face extraordinary challenges with old and failing infrastructure and increasing regulations from both the state and federal government. For the past few years, the Town has tried to complete larger scale projects including the Sailor development, Crosby Street and this year Pine Street. But our efforts are not keeping up with the needs. As always, the Town remains committed to finding ways to address our infrastructure needs. Despite these challenges, the Town Council, staff, and administration continue to focus on the future.

In 2008, Rob Yerxa was hired to replace long-time Public Works Director Cal Smith who retired. Although we miss Cal, Rob brings with him tremendous experience and a much different approach to utilizing technology to improve the quality of our services.

In 2008, the town appointed Assistant Town Manager Maria Weinberger as the Public Health Officer and initiated a Community Health Community Advisory Committee to look at public health issues in the Town of Orono. With the departure of the Town nurse,

the town budgeted funds to provide financial assistance to various non-profits that serve our neediest populations.

Planner Evan Richert has been instrumental in positioning the town for future growth. A master plan is underway for development of the Kelley Road Area through a cooperative association with the Boy Scouts, property owners and the Town. The completion of this master plan will give us the opportunity to pro-actively market an area of the town for economic development.

In 2006, the Town acquired the Webster Mill property located on North Main and Penobscot Street. With financial assistance from the Department of Environmental Quality, the Town has completed a Level I and Level II assessment. A community meeting was recently held with the Webster Park neighborhood to discuss the possibilities for redevelopment of that site. Parameters for this site include the return of this important property to a redeveloped state that pays taxes.

The Rural Zoning Working Committee has been reviewing new standards for the Forestry and Agriculture Zone. The purpose of these standards is to develop a policy for preserving true forest and agriculture lands and permit areas of town currently served by water and sewer to develop to its full potential. The result is additional lands zoned Medium Density Residential and a new zone which permits greater densities in the interface areas between I-95 and areas west of Stillwater Avenue. The net result is the potential to open up an estimated 300-500 lots for development.

A regional effort, called Greenprinting, is underway through the efforts of the City of Bangor and the Penobscot County Council of Governments. The purpose of this effort is to identify significant habitats that extend beyond geo-political borders thus resulting in a better understanding of important habitat. With the use of volunteers trained by University Staff the town has begun to identify vernal pool habitat in the Town of Orono. The primary purpose of these efforts is to better position ourselves to direct development to the appropriate locations within the town. By having the knowledge of where sensitive habitat is located and by having identifiable development lands, we will be better positioned to accommodate new development in the future.

Thanks to the leadership of Paul Wintle and the crew at the Wastewater Pollution Control Facility, the Town has nearly completed more than \$12 million in upgrades to our sewer system and wastewater treatment plant that will improve long-term capacity of the system and vastly improve the environmental performance of the system. Systems added to the plant will result in a reduction of bio-solid sludge and the use of chemicals to treat wastewater. We are proud of this facility and the extent to which it will improve water quality in the Penobscot River.

The Town Office under the direction of the Finance Director and the Town Clerk, are implementing a new financial software project which, when fully implemented, will provide the Town with more comprehensive information on its finances.

The Orono Town Council, City of Old Town and the University recently met to discuss areas of mutual interest. The University is interested in attracting and retaining new students to the Orono Campus. One of the recurring themes is that our downtown needs to be a more vibrant place. The attraction and retention of students demands this. Because the University is the economic engine that drives Orono, it is absolutely vital that we work together to rehabilitate the downtown.

Recently the University developed its first Master Plan. Throughout the development of the Plan, Town officials emphasized the need to bring development from the campus to the downtown. Currently, explorations are underway between private business owners, the Town, and the University to identify opportunities for such investment.

In an effort to bring people to the downtown, The Town has placed focus on creating cultural, civic, and recreational opportunities in the downtown. One aspect of this is the construction of a new library in the downtown which is a joint partnership between the Library Foundation and the Town. Thanks to the generosity of our citizens the Library Foundation was able to raise more than \$700,000 towards the construction of a new library.

Finally, the businesses in the downtown expressed concern that students don't come downtown during the day because they can't get parking back on campus. To address this, the Town, University, Bangor Area Transit, and DOT began to collaborate on the develop-

ment of a shuttle system that will stop on campus and downtown.

In addition to the items above, the Town Manager's Office is involved in distributing General Assistance and writing grants. In the 2007-2008 fiscal year the Town processed 73 General Assistance applications and served 126 individuals. The Town paid out more than \$29,000, which was higher than previous years due largely to an increase in the cost of fuel oil. Additionally, the Town wrote several grants for the new library and infrastructure.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that contribute so generously in making the Town of Orono a wonderful community. Virtually every department in town uses volunteers for countless jobs, including but not limited to planting trees and flowers, shelving books, maintaining trails, raising money, serving on boards and commissions, coaching athletics, maintaining trails and the list goes on.

Orono has been able to complete many projects because of the commitment of our town staff, Council, and citizens. Without the commitment of all these individuals working together, Orono would be a much different place.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine M. Conlow, Town Manager
Maria Weinberger, Assistant Town Manager



*Town Manager,
Catherine Conlow*



*Assistant Town Manager,
Maria Weinberger*

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICE 2007-2008

This year was the beginning of many changes within the operation of the Town Office.

As a result of bidding, Camden National Bank was chosen to provide full banking services. This includes checking, investment of overnight funds and long-term investments. In addition, we began the process of on-line scanning of all checks taken in. This was very new, but saves taking check deposits to the bank. In addition, the cash received is deposited at Merrill Bank and transferred to Camden National as needed.

A new software company was chosen, Unifund, and training began on the use of the programs. On March 15th the first sewer billing was sent out. The data is transferred electronically from the Water District and bills are printed and mailed by a printing service. Collection of the user fees remains with the town office.

A considerable amount of work went into setting up payroll data on all employees, including the School, in anticipation of a conversion to the new system on July 1. This, too, involved new processes in that a lot of payroll data is by ACH transfers. Most employees were encouraged to have direct depositing of their pay, eliminating the need to write numerous checks.

In addition, Voter Registration is now using the State of Maine Central Voting System. All voters are entered onto a central voting list that can be accessed by all registrars and clerks throughout the state. Voting lists are printed from this list and voters who have moved can be deleted or corrected right on line. This saves a lot of time and postage notifying other registrars.

Town staff provides full front counter service where all functions of the town clerk, tax collector and treasurer are available. Information can be accessed on the town's website www.orono.org and the town's newsletter, *The Observer*, which is published six times a year. For your convenience, the town's ordinances are posted on the web page as well as upcoming meetings and valuable information concerning trash pickup and recycling et al.

Cable Channels 5 and 7 are available for announcements and upcoming events as well as live cablecasts of Council, Planning Board and School Committee meetings. Encore showings usually occur the day after the meeting.

The town office staff is comprised of the following—Annie Brown, Finance Director; Sue Hart, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Registrar of Voters; Donna Emerson, Assistant Town Clerk/Sewer Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector/Municipal Agent; Wanda J. Thomas, Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer; Susan Tuholski, Cable Coordinator/Assistant Clerk; and Nancy Ward, Administrative Assistant.

Annie Brown was recognized for her thirtieth year with the town and Sue Hart received her Lifetime certification from the Maine Town & City Clerk's Association.

We are looking forward to next year and the introduction of more software programs, including tax billing and accounts payable.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda J. Thomas
Town Clerk



*L-R: Sue Hart, Susan Tuholski, Annie Brown,
Wanda Thomas, Donna Emerson, Nancy Ward*

REPORT OF REGISTRAR OF VOTERS 2007-2008

The Town Office Staff prepared and conducted four elections this fiscal year. The first election was the November 6, 2007 State Referendum Election. The ballot consisted of five questions – one citizen initiative, three bond issues, and one referendum. Voting for this election was held in two places – the Town Office Council Chamber and the Memorial Union. Voters cast 186 absentee ballots and we had a respectable 27.9% voter turnout.

Political parties in Maine nominate their Presidential candidates by caucus. The Registrar must be available one half hour before the caucus begins to register voters. The Republican caucus for Penobscot County was held on Saturday, February 2nd and it was quite slow. The Orono Democratic caucus held on Sunday, February 10th proved to be a different story. The party moved the caucus scheduled to be held at the Council Chamber to the High School gym because of an expected high turn out. The gym was packed, the Registrar and two deputies registered over 180 voters, and the caucus started two hours late.

The second election held this year was the March 11, 2008 Municipal Election. Geoffrey Gordon and Cynthia Mehnert were elected to three year terms on the Town Council. Leo Kenney won the three year term on the School Committee. All voting took place in the Council Chamber and the town had a turnout of 11.8%.

Two elections were held on June 10, 2008. We introduced the Birch Street School Senior Center as the new Polling place for Ward 1, Precinct 1, (replacing the American Legion Hall). The State Primary and Referendum Election consisted of six candidate ballots and one referendum ballot that were easily handled by our diligent election workers. All voters also received the School Budget Validation Referendum ballot. This was the first time that residents have voted on the school budget. Town voters passed the budget with a vote of 598 – 212. 822 residents voted in these two elections, representing 14% of Orono's registered voters.

Our Optech IIP voting machines have been declared obsolete. The June Election introduced the Optech Eagle voting machines. The Secretary of State's office is actually renting the machines for us until they decide which machines will be used statewide.

VOTER STATISTICS

ACTIVE VOTERS	5,837
INACTIVE VOTERS	2,437
NEW REGISTRATIONS	497
DELETIONS	341

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hart
Registrar of Voters

2008 Accomplishments

Vital Statistics for the year:

Births	38	Marriages	37	Deaths	95
Boat Registrations					290
Snowmobile Registrations					121
ATV Registrations					52
Dog Licenses					497

REPORT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT 2007-2008

I started here in Orono in late August of 2007. Each new opportunity for me has presented different but welcome challenges.

In what could be called a ‘baptism of fire’, one of my first official acts was to deny a permit to Irving Oil Company for new signage at their Stillwater Avenue store. This required extensive research into the original permits they were issued, and my opinion was that their proposal for new signage was not permissible. I also discovered that their existing signage violated the permits they were originally issued. They took my denial to the Board of Appeals, who eventually ruled that they could install new signs provided that their violation was resolved. It was, and they were issued their permits. Another action just after I started concerned one of the fraternity houses on College Avenue. Structural issues with the building became apparent, and an agreement was entered into to allow them to continue occupying the “house” provided that the structural issues were dealt with. This past spring an issue arose concerning the creation of a new lot, which again involved the Board of Appeals. My decision in that case was upheld by the Board. The property owner has chosen to pursue the matter through the courts as is his right. As of this writing the court has not issued its decision.



Code Enforcement Officer Bill Murphy

Several issues arose this year which, unfortunately, required enforcement action. It was determined that a property owner had constructed a new garage in violation of the Land Use Ordinance. This matter was resolved with the owner entering into a Consent Agreement and paying a penalty. On another matter, it became necessary for us to take a property owner to court for a violation of the Addressing Ordinance. We were successful in that action and the matter was resolved.

Work to implement the mandated storm water requirements is progressing, and our membership in the Bangor Area Storm Water Group will help to implement these requirements in a more cost effective way. Our third annual stream cleanup day was held on May 17th and this is becoming more popular every year. Not only does this result in a cleaner Town, it helps to create a sense of community among the participants that can't be measured.

Aside from reviewing applications, issuing permits, performing inspections, and dealing with enforcement issues, I am also periodically called on for opinions by property owners, realtors, and prospective buyers.

In addition to the Land Use Ordinance, the Town has several other ordinances which either require permits, or have standards for property uses. If you have questions about whether or not any plans you may have will require review or approval under any of our ordinances, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me or to stop in to the office.

A list of the permits issued this past year has been compiled by Ruth Vaughan, and follows on the next page.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Murphy
Code Enforcement Officer

PERMIT ACTIVITY

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

<u>Type of Permit</u>	<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Fees Collected</u>
Buildings	66	\$16,212.45
Electrical	84	\$ 7,243.00
Heating	25	\$ 1,250.00
Home Occupation	32	\$ 960.00
Plumbing		
Internal	40	
External	11	\$ 3,837.00
Road Opening	21	\$ 1,050.00
Sewer Connection	10	\$10,872.00

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Vaughan
 Administrative Assistant
 Assistant Code Enforcement Officer



Administrative Assistant Ruth Vaughan

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Building Permits:	
Single-family homes	7
Mobile homes	1
Duplexes	2
University of Maine	3
Additions	6
Alterations/Repairs	13
Garages	6
Decks	7
Sheds	4
Porches	1
Fences	1
Foundations	1
Demolitions	4
Pools	1
Signs	8
Bridges	<u>1</u>
Total Issued:	66

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD 2007-2008

The Planning Board met 5 times during fiscal year 2007 – 2008. The following projects were reviewed during this time:

- New Library on Pine Street
- Boat ramp at University of Maine
- Sargent Corp. gravel extraction on Taylor Road
- Sargent Corp. pond on Taylor Road
- Amended subdivision for Milos Blagojevic and Gladys Merritt on Merritt Drive.
- Sketch plan reviews for 3 proposed projects

The Planning Board is made up of seven regular members and two associate members. Their meeting schedule is once a month, but as you can see from the five meetings held, their services were not required to review any applications.

The current Planning Board consists of the following members:

Mark Kittridge, Chairman
Chris Dorion, Vice Chairman
David Thompson
Christa Schwintzer
Phil Ruck
Eloise Kleban
Judd McIntosh

The board lost Andy Perkins and Shari Kinnison earlier this year and Eloise Kleban at the end of May.

Evan Richert, Planner and Ruth Vaughan, Secretary staff the Planning Board meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kittridge
Chairman
Orono Planning Board

REPORT OF BOARD OF APPEALS 2007-2008

During fiscal year 2007-2008 the Board of Appeals met twice to review one request for a variance and one request for an administrative appeal.

The variance was approved while the administrative appeal was denied.

The Board of Appeals meets on an as needed basis to review both variances and administrative appeals. The board consists of 7 regular members and 2 associate members. Again this past year, we have not seen a full compliment of members.

The current board consists of the following members:

David Chase, Chairman
Shane Martin
Betty Lee Comstock
Jack Blease
Ann Surprenant
David Sewall
Rosemary Sidelinker
Mary Cathcart

Board members Rosemary Sidelinker and Ann Surprenant left the board in May.

Respectfully submitted,

David Chase
Chairman
Board of Appeals

REPORT OF ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION 2007-2008

All properties are assessed as of April 1st of each year. The fiscal year 2008 assessments are as of April 1, 2007. Fiscal year 2008 is from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.



Real Estate Taxable Valuation:	\$ 372,871,135.00
Personal Property Taxable Valuation:	\$ 20,003,500.00
Total Taxable Valuation:	\$ 392,874,635.00

Richard C. Sands, Assessor

The tax rate is calculated by dividing the total amount to be raised from the property tax by the total taxable valuation. $\$7,857,492.70 / \$392,874,635.00 = \$0.02000$ or \$20.00 per one thousand dollars of assessed value.

Fiscal year 2008 was the eighth year in which the assessment calculations involved Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts. A TIF is an economic development tool that is used to provide financial support to a new or expanding business. The Town Council and the State of Maine (DECD) must approve TIF applications. The three TIF districts in Orono are: (1) Sensor Research and Development Corporation Municipal Development Tax Increment Financing District, a 15 year TIF approved by DECD on March 1, 2000; approximately 64% of the real estate taxes and 30.7% of the personal property taxes were returned to the business; (2) Envisionet Municipal Development Tax Increment Financing District, a 20 year TIF approved by DECD on July 13, 2000; most of the property taxes are used to fund the project costs; (3) Dirigo Pines Inn Municipal Development Tax Increment, a 30 year TIF approved by DECD on March 31, 2003; approximately 30% of the real estate taxes are returned to the business.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard C. Sands, Assessor

OUTSTANDING PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

JUNE 30, 2008

2003-2004 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc	\$ <u>15.26</u>
	\$ 15.26

2004-2005 TAXES

AVG Acquisition, Inc.	208.12
Schreiber, Carl	<u>118.58</u>
	\$ 1723.98

2005-2006 TAXES

Automatic Vending & Games	\$ 97.02
AVG Acquisition, Inc.	170.94
Orono Medical Center	2884.69
Versionzero	<u>41.58</u>
	\$ 3194.23

2006-2007 TAXES

America Online, Inc	4.40
Automatic Vending & Games	83.60
AVG Acquisition, Inc	145.20
Knife Edge Productions	96.80
Linkview Motel	220.00
North Atlantic Business Group	47.30
Orono Medical Center	3042.60
Rural Family Counseling	26.40
Versionzero	28.60
Williams Bros. Inc	<u>367.40</u>
	\$ 4062.30

2007-2008 TAXES

ADT Security Services, Inc.	\$ 34.00
America Online, Inc.	2.00
Automatic Vending & Games	68.00
AVG Acquisition, Inc.	114.00
Black Pepper, Inc.	293.92*
Cingular Wireless	168.00
Dodge, Sylvia	26.00*
Fiberphilia	48.00
Finasys	100.00*
GE Capital Information	326.00*
Knife Edge Productions	78.00

**OUTSTANDING
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES**
JUNE 30, 2008 - Continued

Kodak Polychrome Graphics	264.00*
Linkview Motel	200.00
Mall Investments Inc	203.00
Nevels, Carl – University Barber Shop	26.00
Orono Medical Center	157.95
Rural Family Counseling	22.00
Uglug LLC, d/b/a/ Perfecto Pizza	200.00
Versionzero	38.00
Winters, Jim	<u>7.00</u>
	\$ 2375.87

2006-2007 VILLAGE CENTER TAX

Bradson, John P., Jr.	\$ 84.10*
Bradson, John P., Jr.	69.25*
Bradson, John P., Jr.	82.50*
Rural Family Counseling	.60
Secane Partners, LLC	122.20*
White, Linwood E., Jr.	30.27*
Williams Bros. Inc	<u>8.35</u>
	\$ 397.27

2007-2008 VILLAGE CENTER TAX

Black Pepper, Inc	\$ 7.50
Bradson, John P. Jr.	94.10
Bradson, John P. Jr.	76.90
Bradson, John P. Jr.	91.60
Fiberphilia	1.20
Goldman, Jeffrey A.	52.57
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	60.20
Nevels, Carl – University Barber Shop	.65
Rural Family Counseling	.55
Secane Partners, LLC	125.50
White, Linwood E. Jr.	<u>67.20</u>
	\$ 577.97

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

2002-2003 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING*JUNE 30, 2008*

St.Germain, John W. - c/o Francis Mooney	\$ 1474.68
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2003-2004 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING*JUNE 30, 2008*

Mooney, Francis X.	1341.60
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2004-2005 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING*JUNE 30, 2008*

Mooney, Francis X.	1282.60
Thurber, Arthur, Jr.	<u>3138.82</u>
	\$ 4421.42

2005-2006 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING*JUNE 30, 2008*

Atwood, Jennifer	\$ 211.24
Crowe, Clyde	1673.47*
Orono, Town of c/o Francis Mooney	970.20
Thurber, Arthur Jr.	<u>1005.29</u>
	\$ 3860.20

2006-2007 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING*JUNE 30, 2008*

Bradson, John P., Jr.	3760.46*
Bradson, John P., Jr.	3107.06*
Bradson, John P., Jr.	3690.06*
Brown, Gary K.	831.66*
Brown, Rob	193.74*
Burney, Lawrence E., Heirs of	4.73*
Clisham, John A.	1817.05*

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

2006-2007 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -
JUNE 30, 2008 - Continued

Cook, Mark R., Heirs of	1.64
Craig Ministries, Inc.	1011.85*
Craig, Sherwood H.	3689.48*
Crowe, Clyde	870.24*
Fortier, Rita, Heirs of	1154.04
Foster, John	296.04
Grant, Brian	750.05*
Lane, Jean L.	2870.04*
Lane, Jean L.	3549.84*
Libby, William G., Jr.	1993.05*
Mahar, Philip F.	1475.24*
Mahar, Philip F.	1209.04*
Mahar, Philip F.	1957.04*
Martin, David S.	3810.25*
Martin, F. Allen	964.84*
Nadeau, Mike	144.24*
Noyes, Dale	208.85*
Orono, Town of, c/o Francis Mooney	996.60
Paul, Nancy G.	1802.46*
Phi Kappa Sigma Corp.	89.56*
Russell, Arnold	205.26*
Secane Partners, LLC	5431.65*
Simpson, Charles	997.84*
Simpson, Charles	2148.44*
Thomas, Bodrai	219.04*
Thurber, Arthur Jr.	950.40
Ware, Pauline E.	5973.82*
Ware, Pauline E.	843.84*
White, Linwood E., Jr.	757.90*
White, Linwood E., Jr.	2188.04*
White, Linwood E., Jr.	1332.10*
White, Linwood E., Jr.	<u>1362.90*</u>
	\$64,660.38

* paid after books closed

** partial payment after books closed

2007-2008 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -
JUNE 30, 2008

Albenco, Inc.	\$ 11781.17*
Bowden, Darrell	135.21
Bradson, John P. Jr.	3821.85
Bradson, John P. Jr.	3133.85
Bradson, John P. Jr.	3721.85
Brown, Gary K.	2269.85
Brown, Rob	265.21*
Burney, Lawrence E. Heirs of	173.21*
Burney, Lawrence E. Heirs of	1380.92*
Burney, Lawrence E. Heirs of	1818.74*
Campbell, Louis P.	437.95*
Clisham, John A.	1858.53
Cook, Mark R., Heirs of	73.21
Cox, David S.	1099.21*
Craig Ministries, Inc.	1018.53
Craig, Sherwood H.	3750.49
Crowe, Clyde	1654.00*
Dowling, Mary Lee	181.21
Ellis, William G. Jr.	1843.85
Fortier, Rita Heirs of	1163.21
Foster, John	244.53
Goldman, Jeffrey A.	2103.00
Grant, Brian L.	750.53
Griffin, Rebecca	83.21
Hale, John	4898.49
Harper, Melissa P.	1395.43*
Houlsen, Joanne C.	1481.21
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	2455.21
Josco Partners, LLC	3189.21*
Lane, Jean L.	3021.21
Lane, Jean L.	3771.21
Libby, William G., Jr.	2036.53
Luchetti, Edward	2190.53*
Mahar, Philip F.	1485.21*
Mahar, Philip F.	1217.21
Mahar, Philip F.	2011.21
Maine Central Railroad Company	336.78

2007-2008 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -
JUNE 30, 2008 - Continued

Maine Central Railroad Company	635.21
Marsh, Kurtis	2142.53*
Martin, David S.	3870.53
Martin, F. Allen	976.53
McCormack, James B.	638.21*
Mellows, Romona	161.21
Mishio, Susan J, Hebert	2368.53
Modery , Robert	1352.21*
Murphy, Thomas E.	1515.21*
Nadeau, Mike	133.21
Nelson, Kenneth	175.21
Noyes, Dale	192.53
Paul, Nancy G.	1855.85*
Peirce, David L. Jr.	188.91*
Peirce, Mark A.	1669.21*
Penobscot Valley Country Club	30358.21
Perkins, Robert J.	701.21*
Perkins, Robert J.	542.21*
Russell, Arnold	189.85*
Secane Partners, LLC	5072.53
Simpson, Charles	1005.21
Simpson, Charles	2297.21
Thomas, Bodrai	201.21
Thompson, Brian J.	336.53*
Thompson, Brian J.	332.53*
Vandez, John P.	3412.53*
Vinal, A. Emile	1223.21*
Ware, Pauline E.	7869.21
Ware, Pauline E.	1651.21
Watson, Roderick K.	297.85
Wentworth, Lorraine E.	1448.09*
White, Linwood E. Jr.	1582.53
White, Linwood E. Jr.	2205.21
White, Linwood E. Jr.	2740.53
White, Linwood E. Jr.	2802.53
Wortman, Robert	139.45*
Young, Glenn A.	<u>1026.88*</u>
	\$ 159563.78

TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY

June 30, 2008

NAME	MAP	LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT
Desjardins, Albert	17	7	40 Margin St	\$ 50.98
Lynch, Heirs of Annie	23	34	Double A Landing	\$ 34.67
Mosher, Charles	21	5	Orono Landing Rd	\$ 82.86
Mosher, Charles	21	8	Orono Landing Rd.	\$ 82.86
St. Germain, J. W. II	21	1	Orono Landing Rd.	<u>\$459.22</u>
Total				\$710.59

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Valuation

Real Estate	\$372,871,135
Personal Property	<u>20,003,500</u>

Total Valuation \$392,874,635

Assessment

Valuation x Rate	\$392,874,635 x .020 = 7,857,493
Village Center Tax District	8,455
Supplemental Taxes	<u>396</u>

Total Assessment Charged to Collector \$7,866,344

Collection and Credits

Cash Collections	7,616,766
Tax Increment Financing Credit	85,320
Tax Abatements	<u>2,318</u>

Total Collection and Credits \$7,704,404

2008 Taxes Receivable – June 30, 2008 \$161,940

COMPUTATION OF ASSESSMENT

TAX COMMITMENT **\$7,857,492.70**

Requirements

Municipal Appropriation	\$ 7,952,467.00
Contingency	15,000.00
TIF Financing Plan	325,776.40
County Tax	403,114.00
Education	8,208,296.00
Adult Education	40,000.00
Adult Vocational Education	<u>1,247.00</u>
Total Requirements	\$16,945,900.40

Less

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 1,300,000.00
Municipal Revenue	3,712,300.00
School Revenue	4,002,724.00
Homestead Reimbursement	<u>141,772.00</u>
Total Deductions	\$ 9,156,796.00

Net Requirements **\$ 7,789,104.40**

Overlay **\$ 68,388.30**

PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS RECEIVED
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Name	Location	Amount
Foltz, Leonard & Donna	Map D Range 2 Lot 135	\$ 900.00
Murphy, Amelia	Map D Range 2 Lot 257	450.00
Perkins, B. Anne	Map D Range 2 Lot 83	100.00*
Piper, Edward & Helen	Map D Range 2 Lot 256	450.00
Westerman, Harold	Map D Range 2 Lot 5	<u>900.00</u>
		\$2800.00

* indicates partial payment



Stephen H. Purdy, CPA, CVA
Founder

PURDY POWERS & COMPANY

Certified Public Accountants

Marc J. Powers, CPA, CVA

Richard E. Emerson, Jr., CPA, CVA

David J. Shorette, CPA, CVA

Dana O. Dakers, CPA, MST, MBA

Bruce D. Moir, CPA, JD, MPA

Raymond G. Hamlin, CPA

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Town Council
Town of Orono
Orono, Maine

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orono, Maine, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Orono, Maine's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Orono, Maine, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 31, 2008, on our consideration of the Town of Orono, Maine's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and important for assessing the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis on page 3, is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Randy Power & Company
Professional Association

Portland, Maine
December 31, 2008



Town of Orono

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Town of Orono, we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Please read it in conjunction with the Town's financial statements, which begin on page 4.

Using this Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities (on pages 4-5) provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Town's finances. Fund financial statements start on page 6. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Town's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the Town's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the Town acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Reporting the Town as a Whole

The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

Our analysis of the Town as a whole begins on the next page. One of the most important questions asked about the Town's finances is, "Is the Town, as a whole, better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the Town as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include *all* assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Town's net assets and changes in them. You can think of the Town's net assets—the difference between assets and liabilities—as one way to measure the Town's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other nonfinancial factors, however, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of its roads, to assess the overall health of the Town.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, we divide the Town into two kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities-Most of the Town's basic services are reported here, including the police, fire and emergency medical services, general administration, streets, parks, and library. Town fees, franchise fees, fines, and state and federal grants finance many of these activities.
- Business-type activities-The Town charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides. The activities of the Water Pollution Control Facility and the School's lunch program are reported here.

Reporting the Town's Most Significant Funds: Financial Statements

Our analysis of the Town's major funds begins with the fund financial statements on page 6 and provides detailed information about the most significant funds-not the Town as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law. However, the Town Council establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Town's two kinds of funds, governmental and proprietary, use different accounting approaches.

- Governmental funds - Most of the Town's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Town's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Town's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in reconciliation at the bottom of the fund financial statements.
- Proprietary funds - When the Town charges customers for the services it provides, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the Town's enterprise fund is the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows.

The Town as Trustee

Reporting the Town's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The Town's School Department is the trustee, or fiduciary, for various student activity related funds. All of the Town's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets on page 14. We exclude these activities from the Town's other financial statements because the Town cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The Town is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

THE TOWN AS A WHOLE

For the year ended June 30, 2008, net assets changed as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Beginning net assets	\$ 10,155,837	\$ 8,528,292
Increase (decrease)	<u>1,831,230</u>	<u>1,627,545</u>
Ending net assets	<u>\$ 11,987,067</u>	<u>\$ 10,155,837</u>
<u>Business-type Activities</u>		
Beginning net assets	\$ 4,313,179	\$ 3,822,537
Increase (decrease)	<u>392,394</u>	<u>490,642</u>
Ending net assets	<u>\$ 4,705,573</u>	<u>\$ 4,313,179</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 16,692,640</u>	<u>\$ 14,469,016</u>

For the second year, the rate of increase in net assets has slowed slightly over that presented in the 2007 audit. The rate of increase in those activities classified as governmental activities increased by 18% as opposed to the 19.1% increase in 2007. The rate of increase in business-type activities has slowed even more significantly, from 13% in 2007 to only 9% in 2008. The combined increase in net assets for both activities was 15% for 2008 as opposed to 17% for 2007. Revenues for governmental activities increased by 5.8% over 2007. The increase in taxes was very small (.15%); intergovernmental revenues increased by 15.3% and miscellaneous revenues increased by 8.7%. Not unexpectedly, the revenue received from investments was down by 15.3% and user fees also revealed almost a 15% decrease. The majority of the increase in Intergovernmental revenues is attributable to State Revenue Sharing which increased by almost 22% over 2007 revenues. Among miscellaneous fees, higher than anticipated tuition revenues for the school (almost \$339,000 more than budgeted) and an increase in ambulance fees of \$74,770 over 2007 accounted for the majority of the increase. Reviewing budgeted expenditures compared with actual expenditures, once again all areas of general government reported expenditures lower than budgeted. In fact, even with a \$365,000 increase in expenditures for education, total expenditures for 2008 were \$434,844 less than in 2007. As a result of both fiscal prudence and unanticipated revenues, the Town's undesignated fund balance increased by \$677,166 over 2007 and \$272,000 was carried forward for designated purposes.

Governmental Activities

Revenues increased by \$995,825 over fiscal 2007. Tax revenues accounted for only \$12,418 of that increase reflecting the efforts of the Town Council to maintain a level tax burden on the residents of Orono. The mill rate fell from 22.0 in 2007 to 20.0 which was a result of increased taxable valuation of over \$39 million at the same time that the budget anticipated only \$79,000 in additional revenue from taxes. As in 2007, user fees showed a decrease of almost 15% over fiscal 2007. The largest losses were in building permits and plumbing permits, reflecting a slow down in new construction in Orono. Excise taxes showed a decrease over 2007 of almost \$13,000 which reflects the trend first noticed in 2007 of declining excise tax collections. Once again, the amount collected was over the estimated revenue of \$632,000 by almost \$24,000 but the collected amount was under fiscal 2007. Interest and costs on taxes were up almost \$3,000 over fiscal 2007. Tax revenues were \$6,461 less than estimated for fiscal 2008. Intergovernmental revenues were \$361,410 over estimate. The largest variance was recorded in State Revenue Sharing which was \$348,950 more than estimated. Education reported \$17,617 more than estimated; other areas reported small negative variances. The homestead tax exemption was \$13,830 less than fiscal 2007. The homestead exemption is considered by the tax assessor when he makes his final calculation of the mill rate and is not under the control of the Town. Investment income which reflects not only the interest that the town earns on general fund cash investments but also the amount transferred from reserve accounts was \$68,961 less than fiscal 2007. This is not only a reflection of decisions in how to use reserve fund revenues but also the declining rate of interest that the Town earned on its invested funds as the economy slowed and the federal reserve rate was reduced. Tuition revenue for the school department was \$338,963 more than estimated and \$122,728 more than collected in fiscal 2007. Tuition revenues are subject to a great deal of uncertainty as a result of in and out-migration to neighboring communities but there seems to be a general trend over the last three years to underestimate the anticipated revenue from tuition fees which results in a higher tax commitment than necessary.

Areas of increased expenditure over fiscal 2007 included general government, the majority of which is explained by cost of living increases for wages and a \$22,000 increase in employee benefits. Public Services experienced expenditures over \$100,000 over fiscal 2007. The majority of this is explained by capital expenditures for pool improvements and increases in general assistance spending. General assistance increased by a factor of 3 over 2007 (\$21,894 in 2008 compared to \$7,359 in 2008). General assistance is an area that shows such dramatic increases during times of economic downturns. It is important to note that the Town has little or no control over this area of the budget; if an applicant is eligible for general assistance, the Town must provide it. The state reimburses the Town for half the cost of program expenses in this area. The increase of close to \$750,000 in Public Safety expenditures over fiscal 2007 is a result of the purchase of a new ladder truck. Financing for the ladder truck was through grants, a contribution from the University of Maine and transfers from the Capital Reserve Fund. Other factors contributing to this increase include increased expenditures in the police department for personnel and an 11% increase in the cost of fire hydrant rental as a result of increases in the Orono-Veazie Water Company rates. A significant area of decrease in the area of Public Safety was in Public Safety Administration with the elimination of the position of Public Safety Director and the return to separate Police and Fire Chief positions. Public Works expenditures increased by \$248,000. Public Works as a whole was severely impacted by the increase in energy costs. (Other departments that felt this increase because of the extensive time that vehicles are in service are police and fire.) Over half of this increase was in the area of Winter Maintenance which was \$129,829 more than fiscal 2007, as a result of particularly challenging weather conditions. There were almost twice as many storms as in fiscal 2007 which increases the cost of labor and materials such as salt, sand and diesel fuel. Increased expenditures on street and road projects reflect a commitment to increase capital spending on

infrastructure. Capital Outlay was dramatically reduced by \$1,758,405 over fiscal 2007. Fiscal 2007 was an exceptionally high year for capital expenditures because of the infrastructure work undertaken in conjunction with the sewer improvements financed by the Water Pollution Control Facility. The bulk of the capital improvements were accounted for in fiscal 2007; capital improvements for fiscal 2008 reflected more normal levels of investment.

To aid in the understanding of the Statement of Activities on page 5, some additional explanation is given. Of particular interest is the format that is significantly different than a typical Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Balance. You will notice that expenses are listed in the first column with revenues from that particular program reported to the right. The result is a Net (Expense) Revenue. The reason for this kind of format is to highlight the relative financial burden of each of the functions on the Town's taxpayers. It also identifies how much each function draws from the general revenues or, if it is self-financing, through fees and grants. Some of the individual line item revenues reported for each function are:

General government	Building permits, town clerk fees, agent fees, land use ordinance fees, and plumbing/electric permits.
Public services	Recreation and library fees, and State general assistance reimbursements.
Public safety	Ambulance charges, police and fire special details, court reimbursements, and University fire reimbursements.
Public Works	State road subsidy, charges for services, tipping fee administrative charges, PERC performance credit, and cemetery income.
Education	State aid to Education, tuition and fees.

All other governmental revenues are reported as miscellaneous. It is important to note that all taxes are classified as general revenue even if restricted for a specific purpose.

Business-type Activities

The two funds that are classified as proprietary funds are the sewer fund and the school lunch program.

The Sewer Fund's capital assets have increased by a factor of 115% over fiscal 2007. The ambitious Treatment Plant Upgrade Project and CSO Abatement Project were approximately 80% completed by the end of fiscal 2008 which explains the increase in capital assets. At the same time, notes payable increased from \$2,095,761 to \$9,218,895. The increase in liabilities as a result of the issuance of bonds to pay for the capital projects mentioned above translates into an increase in net assets of only \$401,000. Expenditures for the plant update and CSO projects exceeded \$6,621,000 in fiscal 2008. The entire project will be completed in fiscal 2009; financing of the project was completed in fiscal 2008. Funding for these expenditures and the Town's capital work done in conjunction with the sewer reconstruction has been through the SRF Revolving Loan Fund. Bonds were issued through Rural Development in fiscal 2008 totaling \$12,420,000. \$2,460,000 of that debt was incurred by the Town to complete the infrastructure work in the area of storm water improvements; the remaining \$9,960,000 was issued for the treatment plant upgrade and CSO abatement. These bonds carry an interest cost of 4.25% and will be paid off over 27 years. It should be noted that the bonds issued in 2008 repaid the notes payable at

the end of fiscal 2007 which were short-term borrowing from the SRF Revolving Fund.

The increase in net assets reflects a net operating increase of \$399,201. Revenue for charges for service equaled \$1,291,943 while budgeted expenses (exclusive of capital activities) amounted to \$892,742. This net gain was combined with investment income to result in a \$400,971 increase in net assets, all of which is invested in either reserve funds or cash investments. Sewer rates were increased in the budget to cover higher than anticipated costs for construction caused by increased costs of fuel and materials at the time the construction took place. It should be noted that sewer rates have been increased gradually over the last several years in anticipation of the cost of the capital improvements and the increased debt retirement costs associated with the program. As a result of this gradual increase over the last 7 years, it will not be necessary to increase sewer rates over 30% in one year. This is an important consideration for the largest user of the services, the University of Maine. By gradually increasing rates, the University was able to increase their budgeted expenditures in an orderly fashion. The establishment of reserve accounts for repayment of debt, purchase of capital equipment in the future, and repair of sewer lines is a reflection of responsible practices that help to stabilize both the sewer rate and the tax rate over time. One factor which the Town cannot control is actual usage figures provided by the Orono-Veazie Water District for billing purposes. Over the last 18 months, there has been a steady decline in usage from the University which is a result of various projects undertaken to reduce water consumption on campus. Because the University represents 58% of consumption and with little growth in consumption, sewer rate increases are necessary to maintain the sewer system and treatment plant. Such increases also result in cost shifts to other sewer users.

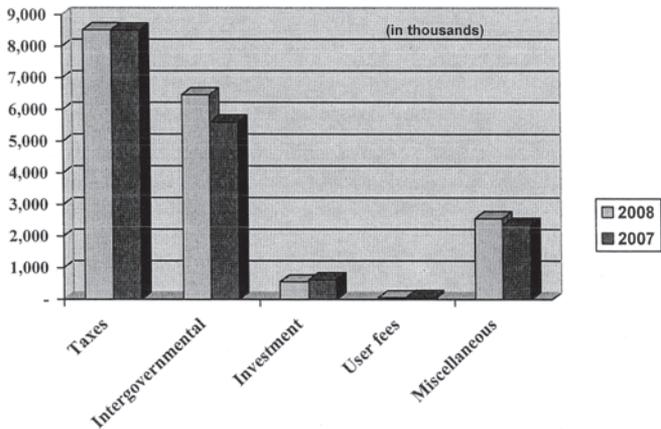
The School Lunch Fund showed a very modest increase in revenues from charges for service and intergovernmental subsidies (state and federal) of \$808. Operating expenses increased by \$12,326. The income loss before transfers from the School Department operating budget was \$71,327. The School Department transferred \$62,750 to the School Lunch program reducing the overall operating loss to \$8,577. Without substantial support from the Orono taxpayer, the School Lunch Program would not be able to operate. This is probably the case for virtually every school lunch program in the state because increasing the cost of meals to actually make the program pay its own way would be self-defeating if one considers that one of the goals is to provide a moderately priced meal for children of all economic strata. Over recent years, there has been reduced support for school lunch programs from both the federal and state government which leaves the taxpayer as the only means to balance the program. The School Lunch Program was not able to institute the cash card system for collecting revenues during 2008 so there is no way to evaluate whether this will result in operating savings for the program.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The following schedules present a summary of general fund revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, and the amount and percentage of increases and decreases in relation to the prior year.

REVENUES

Revenue	2008 Amount	FY 2007 Amount	Increase (Decrease) from FY 2007	% Increase (Decrease)
Taxes	\$ 8,525,587	\$ 8,513,169	\$ 12,418	0.15%
Intergovernmental	6,461,092	5,603,775	857,317	15.30%
Investment	559,992	628,953	(68,961)	-10.96%
User fees	60,056	70,574	(10,518)	-14.90%
Miscellaneous	2,563,496	2,357,927	205,569	8.72%
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 18,170,223</u>	<u>\$ 17,174,398</u>	<u>\$ 995,825</u>	<u>5.80%</u>

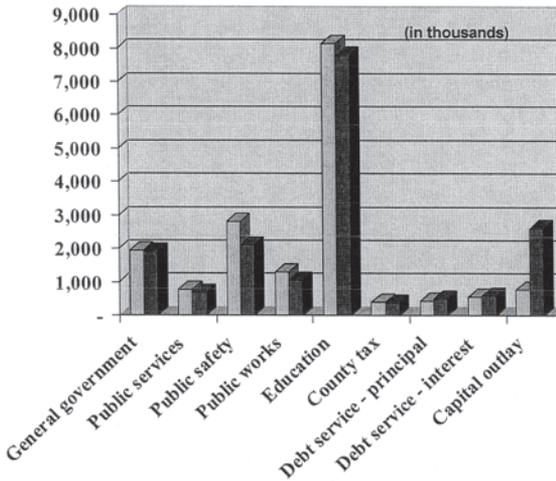


Revenues increased by 5.8% which is an 86% increase over the percentage of increase in fiscal 2007. In fiscal 2008, two areas showed significant increases: intergovernmental and miscellaneous. Tax collections reflected an increase of almost \$79,000 in property tax collections but a loss of almost \$13,000 in excise tax collections continuing a trend of reduced excise tax collections first seen in fiscal

2007. A change in the deferred property tax revenue reported in the audit from \$25,000 to (\$40,000) represents an actual decrease of \$65,000 which contributes to the virtual stability in the amount of tax revenue recognized in fiscal 2007 and fiscal 2008. Licenses, permits and fees (User fees) represent a very small percent of revenue collected (less than 1%); nevertheless, there was over \$10,000 less collected in fiscal 2008 compared to fiscal 2007 as a result of lower collections in building permits and plumbing permits. The only user fees that showed an increase were town clerk fees which include a variety of fees for vital records and the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, etc. Intergovernmental revenues showed major increases in two areas: state aid to education (\$302,381) and state revenue sharing (\$295,067). Payments from the University of Maine to help offset the cost of the fire, code enforcement and police departments increased by \$18,283 or 3%. All three of these intergovernmental revenues are a function of state revenue collections and will be vulnerable to a general downturn in the economy in years ahead. Just as the downturn in excise tax collections reflects a slowing of the economy, payments made for education and state revenue sharing will also reflect an economic downturn. Miscellaneous revenues increased by \$205,569 or 8.72% over fiscal 2007. The major areas of increase were high school tuition and fees, ambulance fees, recreation revenue, public works fees, and after school program fees. Future revenues from the ambulance service should show an increase because the town has signed a contract with the Town of Veazie to provide this service with an estimated revenue of \$30,000 per year. Areas which showed a decrease in revenue between fiscal 2007 and 2008 were disposal site fees, cemetery revenue, special detail billing for the fire department, sale of surplus property and police court time. Investment income represents not only interest earned by general fund investments but also the amount that is transferred from various reserve accounts to cover expenditures in the budget, usually related to capital purchases or projects. This decrease, therefore, is a function of decisions to not fund the budget from reserve funds as well as an actual loss in investment income. The loss in investment income for general fund investments (overnight sweeps of cash) will be significant in the future due to exceptionally low Federal Reserve rate.

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures	FY 2008 Amount	FY 2007 Amount	Increase	%
			(Decrease) From FY 2007	Increase (Decrease)
General government	\$ 1,938,198	\$ 1,895,812	\$ 42,386	2.24%
Public services	773,456	672,662	100,794	14.98%
Public safety	2,817,414	2,093,252	724,162	34.60%
Public works	1,298,316	1,050,456	247,860	23.60%
Education	8,148,228	7,783,910	364,318	4.68%
County tax	403,114	380,209	22,905	6.02%
Miscellaneous	2,318	16,303	(13,985)	-85.78%
MSRS on behalf payments	824,998	810,463	14,535	1.79%
Debt service - principal	420,000	491,000	(71,000)	-14.46%
Debt service - interest	549,256	578,540	(29,284)	-5.06%
Capital outlay	764,963	2,602,498	(1,837,535)	-70.61%
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 17,940,261</u>	<u>\$ 18,375,105</u>	<u>\$ (434,844)</u>	<u>-2.37%</u>



There are several areas of increase in expenditures: general government, public safety, public works, education and the county tax. In the area of public services, which includes the public library, recreation and several buildings under the direction of the recreation department, much of the increase was the result of funds that were carried over from fiscal 2007 to complete repairs to the swimming pool. The increase in public safety is largely attributable to the purchase of a ladder truck half of which was financed by a grant from the Dept. of Homeland Security. The increase in expenditures in the public works department can be explained by the extremely severe winter. In fiscal 2007, the winter maintenance budget had a balance at the end of the season of over \$27,000; in fiscal 2008, the budget was overdrawn by over \$75,000. Part of this increase in the cost of winter maintenance is a function of the spike in gas and diesel fuel costs but the severity of the season accentuated this phenomenon. The severity of the winter as well as the timing of winter storms is obviously beyond the control of the Town. The increase in spending for education is almost entirely explained by increases in salaries and benefits. It is also important to note that the School Department continues to make capital improvements designed to make the physical plant more energy efficient. As the single largest user of energy in the Town, this investment will have payoffs in future budgets. Under general government, the increase is attributable to an increased expenditure of \$22,000 in the area of employee benefits and additional costs associated with the conversion to a new computer system for the financial accounting function of the Town. The Town has no control over the county tax; Penobscot County presents the Town with a bill reflecting its share of the entire county budget and the Town pays that assessment. Capital outlay showed a dramatic decrease over fiscal 2007 reflecting the fact that in fiscal 2007, the Town undertook a major storm water and street improvement project in the Mainewood/Gilbert area which was essentially completed that year. Fiscal 2008 included the remaining work in the Crosby

Street area in terms of storm water and street improvements. Debt service in both principal and interest showed decreases in fiscal 2008 as debt was retired; these areas will show increases in subsequent budget years reflecting the extensive bonding undertaken to finance the infrastructure improvements in the Mainewood/Gilbert area and Crosby Street.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

As indicated above, fiscal 2008 was notable for not showing any dramatic increases in spending in any one area. In fact, the single largest change was the decrease in capital spending as a percentage of the total budget. The percentage of the budget that was devoted to capital projects was 4.2% which is probably much too low when one considers the capital needs facing the Town. The School Department, in particular, has several million dollars in deferred capital needs. The Town has attempted to maintain a balance between general operating expenditures which cover the day-to-day needs of the Town and the need to repair/replace aging infrastructure. Fiscal 2007 represented the year that it became clear that infrastructure needs such as storm water and road replacements had to be met in order to coordinate efforts in the area of sewer replacement. The debt incurred for these improvements will be spread over 27 years. Even though the Town built a new Public Safety Building and completely renovated the Municipal Building only 12 years ago, there is a need for additional storage space for both these functions. The Town has recognized that many capital needs have been ignored or deferred in an attempt to maintain an acceptable tax burden for the residents of Orono and has made an effort to systematically dedicate any excess revenues to reserve funds that can meet these needs in the future. In 2007, for instance, a fund was established for the construction of a public library; in 2008, additional funds were allocated to this fund. Construction to build a free-standing library began in late summer, 2008. Prudent planning enabled this project to take place without huge infusions of tax dollars in one year. Other reserve funds showing significant balances as of June 30, 2008 include Landfill Closure (\$172,490), Capital Equipment Reserve (\$625,540), Public Works Garage Reserve (\$548,218) and an employee benefit reserve fund (\$40,962) which was established to cover any unanticipated increases in the area of employee benefits such as increases in the health insurance premium or increases in the contribution rate to the Maine State Retirement System. When all revenues and expenditures are examined for the general fund, at the end of fiscal 2008, the fund balance increased by \$679,894. On a budgetary basis, the Town's portion of the undesignated fund balance increased by \$685,900. This increase represents both savings in budgeted expenditures and revenues in excess of what was anticipated. \$272,000 of this increase is dedicated to specific areas in the 2009 budget; part of the remainder will be allocated to the Capital Reserve Fund to provide funding for projects without having to increase the tax burden.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

	Governmental		Business-type		2008 Total	Increase (Decrease)
	Activities		Activities			
	2008	2007	2008	2007		
Land	\$ 2,838,776	\$ 2,838,776	\$ 44,573	\$ 44,573	\$ 2,883,349	\$ -
Construction in Progress	-	2,300,812	10,597,342	3,276,850	10,597,342	5,019,680
Buildings	11,550,170	11,178,867	-	-	11,550,170	371,303
Improvements	458,210	458,210	-	-	458,210	-
Wastewater drainage system	2,631,814	-	-	-	2,631,814	2,631,814
Equipment	1,779,206	1,530,028	28,404	28,404	1,807,610	249,178
Vehicles	2,431,502	1,784,209	-	-	2,431,502	647,293
Infrastructure	7,973,957	7,973,957	-	-	7,973,957	-
Utility property	-	-	8,077,875	7,922,670	8,077,875	155,205
TOTALS	\$ 29,663,635	\$ 28,064,859	\$ 18,748,194	\$ 11,272,497	\$ 48,411,829	\$ 9,074,473

This year, the major capital expenditure was in the area of vehicles and equipment. The fire department acquired a new ladder truck at a cost of \$850,000. This was financed by a combination of grant funds (\$495,000), a donation from the University of Maine (\$75,000) and Town funds. It was anticipated that the City of Old Town would contribute \$175,750 to the purchase of the truck but this contribution did not materialize. The capital construction projects begun in fiscal 2007 (construction in progress) were completed with an addition of another \$300,000 in construction in the Crosby/Hill Street area. The storm water drainage work was undertaken in conjunction with the work done by the Water Pollution Control Facility in reconstruction of the sewers in the Mainwood/Gilbert and Crosby/Hill Streets areas. This combined effort has eliminated the need to return to these areas at a later date to complete improvements in the storm water removal system. Other equipment purchased included a sidewalk plow, a plasma cutter and a tractor for use in the cemeteries and parks. Additional allocations were made to the upgrade of the town's financial accounting system. The police department acquired two patrol cars. The Water Pollution Control Facility's ambitious upgrade of the facility was still in progress during fiscal 2008, with the anticipation that the final work will be completed in fiscal 2009. The increase in capital assets for the Town and Water Pollution Control Facility for the year total over \$9 million.

Debt

At year-end, the Town had \$19,499,499 in outstanding bonds and capital leases compared to \$12,254,971 last year.

	Governmental		Business-type		Totals	
	Activities		Activities			
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
General obligation bond:	\$10,280,554	\$10,159,210	\$9,218,895	\$2,095,761	\$19,499,449	\$12,254,971

The increase in outstanding bonds represents a 59% over fiscal 2007. As was noted in the fiscal 2007 audit, no new debt was issued during that year in spite of extensive capital outlays in the areas of storm water improvements by the Town and the extensive sewer rehabilitation and upgrade of the Water Pollution Control Facility. Those expenditures were financed by an interim financing package through the Maine Bond Bank SRF Program (State Revolving Loan). In fiscal 2008, the Town and Sewer Fund entered into a long-term financial package from the USDA – Rural Development Corporation. The reason that the Town’s total indebtedness increased by only \$121,344 is that the \$2,460,000 to finance storm water collection improvements was included in the fiscal 2007 audit as part of the funds borrowed from the State’s Revolving Loan fund. The Sewer Fund increased its indebtedness by over \$7 million as a result of the 2008 General Obligation Bonds issued by the USDA. The Town also entered into a General Obligation Bond agreement with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank in the amount of \$500,000 for the purpose of constructing a public library. The remainder of the funds for library construction will come from donations from the general public and contributions from the town’s undesignated fund balance. Construction of the library is expected to begin in early fall, 2008.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR’S BUDGETS AND RATES

The municipal budget for 2009 calls for expenditures and revenues in the amount of \$7,367,291, a decrease of over \$600,000 or 7.53%. This is a result of the inflated budget in fiscal 2008 to accommodate the purchase of the ladder truck for over \$850,000. It is important to note, that while expenditures were increased to account for this purchase, revenues were likewise increased for this purchase. The county tax assessment increased in the 2009 budget by \$36,697, an expenditure that the Town has no control over. The 2009 budget anticipates an increase in tax commitment to cover expenditures of almost 6.7% (\$223,846). When one removes the one-time capital expenditure for the ladder truck, the municipal budget actually increased by less than \$250,000. The largest area of increase is in road improvement projects in the public works department (\$150,000); other increases were for repairs to the air circulation system in the municipal building and increases of 3% in wages for employees. The 2009 budget continues the budgeted transfers to two reserve accounts: the landfill closing account and the capital reserve account. Both reserve funds serve to reduce the increase of tax dollars in any one year for these purposes. As was mentioned above, underspent funds remaining at the end of a budget year are frequently partially allocated to the capital reserve fund for the purpose of funding future purchases of capital equipment. The general economic environment is of increasing concern for anticipated revenues such as excise taxes, state revenue sharing and general state support of education. As the economy deteriorates, the amount of general revenue raised by the State of Maine and passed on to municipalities in the form of revenue sharing, support of local roads and homestead exemption will undoubtedly decrease. The State continues to increase exemptions at the municipal level in such areas as the personal property tax paid by businesses, but refuses to fund the loss of revenue at the same level. The Homestead Exemption is an example of this: the state doubled the amount of the

exemption but continued to fund it at the previous level. Such decisions place an increased burden on local tax collections. Another concern for the future concerns the possible drop in real estate value. The Town is required to maintain an assessment ratio that mirrors the real estate market in terms of actual sales. There is evidence that property values as reflected in sale prices are falling rather drastically in some areas. This will necessitate the lowering of property assessments and increases in the mill rate to raise the tax revenue necessary to cover expenditures.

In June, 2007, the State finalized the plan for school consolidation. The plan requires all schools of less than 2,500 students to enter into consolidation talks with their neighbors. The goal of school consolidation is to save millions of dollars for taxpayers by eliminating duplicate administrative efforts. For instance, if three school departments combine to make one regional school union, the theory is that there will be a need for fewer administrators, especially school superintendents. Other savings will possibly come by combining financial functions and eliminating support personnel as well. In addition, there are mandated decreases in special education and transportation costs. Schools which do not enter into newly created administrative units could see their state funding drastically reduced in areas such as administration. The Orono School Department has been working with the towns of Veazie and Glenburn and plans to present the proposed consolidation plan to the voters in January, 2009. It is unlikely that in the first or even the second year of operation (assuming this consolidation plan is accepted by the voters of all three communities) that there will be significant savings in the area of administration. One reason is that there will be two superintendents for a period of time since current contracts with administrators and professional staff will be honored until they expire. In addition, start up costs for this effort may be considerably more than expected because the town offices have been absorbing many of the costs of administration that must now be assumed by the new consolidated unit. For instance, the Town of Orono writes all the checks for the school department, handles all the banking, and maintains the data processing function. Tax collections which take place during September and February provide the cash for the school department to function before it can bill neighboring communities for tuition. There are many administrative details that must be assumed by the newly created unit which may result in higher costs until a regular routine is established.

One thing that is guaranteed by the school consolidation requirement is that the state will be devoting fewer dollars to support education – it has already estimated the reduced sums it will be sending local schools and this sum is a given in the equation. What this means for Orono taxpayers is yet to be determined. The Riverside Regional Planning Committee is projecting savings in administrative staffing, reduction in staffing for special education (the elimination of one director and one support staff person), and savings through cooperative purchasing of products and services and the elimination of duplication in the food service programs. The Town has agreed to continue to provide support services which have never been charged to the school such as snow removal for the first year of operation; after that the Town will bill for these services. In addition, the school will now be responsible for providing school crossing guard services which has been a part of the police department budget for many years. These changes should not adversely affect the Orono taxpayer since they merely represent changes in what budget pays for the service. If the Riverside Regional School Unit is rejected by voters and consolidation does not take place as mandated by the State, the increased cost to the Town will be considerable because of the loss of state support for the administrative function of the school budget as well as reductions in support for special education and transportation. If consolidation does not take place, the Town and School will be forced to look for ways to decrease the rate in increase in the delivery of services within the current framework. For the 2009 budget, the School Department accounts for 52.5% of the budget and claims 53.4% of the tax revenues. If state aid to education is drastically reduced, both Town and School will be forced to reduce services in an effort to contain demands for tax dollars.

The work on the capital improvement projects begun in fiscal 2007 in the Sailor Development (Mainewood/Gilbert Streets) and in the Crosby/Hill Streets area was completed in fiscal 2008. Bonds for the long-term funding of that project were issued in 2009; the first debt payment will be made in fiscal 2010. In addition, the Town will be assuming additional debt in the fiscal 2010 budget for the construction of a public library as well as the cost of maintaining a free-standing building. (The Orono Public Library has been housed in the Orono High School for over 30 years and has been part of the maintenance budget of the School Department.) Estimates for the cost of maintaining a free-standing building, even one that will be energy efficient are in the area of \$50,000 - \$60,000. This is in addition to the cost of debt retirement for the \$500,000 bond secured from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. The estimated cost of debt repayment for the infrastructure work undertaken in conjunction with the Water Pollution Control Facility is \$140,000 per year. The fiscal 2008 budget included lines for this debt repayment even though it was not needed in that budget in order to maintain the level of funding for debt retirement at a stable level following the retirement of the debt for infrastructure work completed in Dryden Terrace in fiscal 2007. The Water Pollution Control Facility budget has been building the anticipated debt payment increases into its rate structure for the past 6 years in order to avoid a sudden large increase in one budget year. Both the 6 year gradual rate increase by the Sewer Fund and the place-holding measure in the Town budget reflect prudent planning measures that recognize the vulnerability of municipal budgets to forces in the economy that cannot be controlled at the local level. The Town has seen declines in the excise tax collection rate for the past two fiscal years; state revenue sharing is estimated to be \$1.3 million for fiscal 2009. The reduction in the interest rate by the Federal Reserve Board has resulted in drastic reductions in the interest earned on invested funds in fiscal 2009. All of these revenues are reflections of the state of the general economy. There is little doubt that the economy of the nation as a whole is entering a recessionary stage. As to how long this will last and how severe it will be, there is no way of accurately predicting at this time. One area that has actually improved, at least briefly, has been in the area of energy costs which have shown dramatic decreases in the first half of the 2009 fiscal year.

The Town has been aware for many years of the need to maintain an active capital improvement program, knowing that deferred capital expenditures ultimately cost the taxpayer and the rate payer more when finally undertaken. The cost of repairing aging equipment and vehicles and performing emergency repairs to sewer and storm drain lines is ultimately wasted money representing temporary fixes as well as interruptions in service delivery. The 2009 budget calls for a 46% decrease in capital expenditures which reflects the abnormally high 2008 capital budget which included the purchase of a ladder truck and the completion of infrastructure work in the Crosby/Hill Streets area. It is important to note that the fiscal 2008 budget had one-time revenues in the form of grants, bonds and one-time money allocated for support of the capital budget. In fiscal 2009, sources of revenue for municipal capital expenditures were reserve funds, undesignated fund balance and general fund tax revenues. As we enter a period of severe economic downturn, the existence of reserve funds and a healthy fund balance will be more important than ever to keep the demand for tax revenues at a stable level. Fiscal 2008 reflects the continuing commitment to funding for capital expenditures through both reserve funds and the tax commitment.

Fiscal 2009 is the first year that the town will be reporting all of its financial operations on the new financial software suite chosen in fiscal 2008. Sewer billing was implemented in fiscal 2008; all other functions will be implemented in the 2009 budget year. The process has been more time-consuming than first anticipated but by the time of preparation of the 2009-2010 budget, it is anticipated that department heads will be able to directly prepare their budgets with access to financial information in detail previously not available to them. The software has enabled the direct allocation of fringe benefits

to appropriate budgets which is an invaluable budgeting tool, allowing the manager and council to evaluate program areas more accurately. Fiscal 2009 has been a transition year which has been more challenging than anticipated; by fiscal 2010, the full capabilities of the new system will be in operation. The switch to increased use of electronic banking services has reduced staff time in terms of issuing paychecks and has reduced the time for the collection of funds through direct scanning of checks received for deposit at the end of each day's business. While the practice of scanning checks and sending the batch directly to the bank at the end of each business day has decreased the collection time for revenues, it is important to note that this has also increased staff time in the collection of revenue process. Enhanced use of technology is not always without cost.

Reviewing revenue collection and expenditures for fiscal 2008, revenue collection was up by 5.8% and expenditures were down by 2.37%. The decrease in expenditures was a direct result of the decrease in capital expenditures which was 70.6% less than fiscal 2007. The budget for fiscal 2009 showed a decrease in expenditures of .92% but also a decrease in revenues other than taxes of 5.73%. The mill rate was reduced slightly (1.5%) as a result of increased valuation of \$24.6 million. While the mill rate was reduced, the amount to be raised by taxes increased by 4.78%. The need to remain fiscally responsible in all areas of the budget becomes more urgent in a time of economic upheaval and uncertainty. The new administration seems to be committed to increased support for infrastructure spending throughout the nation which is a positive change in policy but it may take a year or more for those funds to trickle down to the local level. There is also a commitment by the Obama Administration to at least a partial program of universal health care. Again, this increase in financial support for health care should eventually result in a stabilization of the cost of health insurance for employers. The Town's increase for the cost of health insurance has remained relatively stable over the last five years, decreasing in two of those years. The rates for 2009 reflect an increase of 3.8% which is a result of increased claims in 2008. Nevertheless, this is still considerably less than the national rate of increase of over 7%. Fiscal responsibility has enabled the Town to reduce the tax rate for the last four budget years but the future for revenues from the state remains uncertain with the ultimate phase-out of the personal property tax over the next several years. While the state will replace some of the lost revenue, it will not replace all of it, and, of course, will have no effect on new construction. Orono has a relatively low reliance on personal property taxes (5.1% of the total tax commitment) as compared with a community such as Bangor but this loss of tax revenue will have to be borne by Orono taxpayers if there is to be no loss of service level. 90% of the property taxes in Orono are paid by residential property and the loss of the personal property tax would result in a higher burden on the residential property taxpayer. Uncertainty at this time about the future demands on tax dollars by the consolidated school unit provides yet another reason for strong fiscal restraint at this time.

Government exists to provide services to its citizens. The goal is to provide these services as efficiently and effectively as possible. Providing the broad range of services that Orono residents have come to expect at times of severe economic downturns presents more of a challenge when almost the entire tax burden is paid by residential property. Orono is a college community which can be both a blessing and a curse. As the home of the largest member of the state university system, more than 50% of the property in Orono is tax exempt. For many years, the University has made a generous payment in lieu of taxes to the municipal budget in recognition of the fact that the University is unable to provide fire services on campus as efficiently as the Town can. In recent years, the addition of the ambulance service to the fire department has also been a service that the University relies upon very heavily. At the current time, the university is facing large reductions in state support for its budget which may mean a reduction in the contribution that it is able to make to the Town's budget. This would represent yet another challenge to stabilizing the taxes raised to support the municipal budget. Virtually every aspect of life in Orono is affected by the presence of the University of Maine, which is also its largest tax-exempt entity.

Residents of Orono choose to live here because they recognize the unique opportunities afforded by the cultural and educational opportunities offered by a large university and by the range of services that Orono taxpayers are willing to support. The expectation is that the public education system will be of a very high quality, that there will finally be a free-standing public library after many years of planning and fund-raising, that there will be a renovated senior citizen building that serves as the venue for low-cost senior meals several days a week as well as providing a place for seniors to meet and socialize; that snow removal will enable the safe flow of commuters in and out of the community every day; and that public safety services will be effective. In the fiscal 2009 budget, the contribution from the University is 8.2% of the municipal budget. In addition to this very generous contribution to the Town's budget, they have been willing to explore potential partnerships in the delivery of services such as the construction and sharing of a public works garage on the campus. The uncertainty every year at the time of preparing the annual budget becomes particularly intense at a time when the state has reduced its funding to the university yet again so that it is now projected to provide only about 47% of its operating expenses. Paradoxically, Orono is the vibrant, dynamic community that it is because of the presence of the University but it is also a community that relies on residential property for over 90% of its property taxes and the presence of the university campus necessitates a much greater level of service delivery than the average Maine community of 9,100 residents. The large concentration of people living and working on campus makes it imperative that Orono have an efficient Public Safety Department consisting of police, fire and emergency medical services components. The heavy influx of traffic at peak times as students and employees commute to the Orono campus requires an effective, efficient Public Works department that can keep the roads open and passable at all times. The University is also the largest single user of the Water Pollution Control Facility. This too has the paradoxical effect of necessitating much of the growth in the sewer fund but also resulting in the University feeling the effects of the increased sewer fees over the last several budget cycles more significantly than any other single user. The increase in the University's operating budget in the area of sewage treatment may ultimately force it to reduce its support of the Town in terms of the contribution it makes annually to the municipal budget.

In summary, the demand for services of a high quality will continue and revenues, other than tax revenues which are under the control of the town, will remain either relatively flat or decrease in areas such as excise tax collection, state revenue sharing and state support for education. More than half of the Town's budget is currently devoted to education and the changes in the delivery of those services which will result from the consolidation efforts may have a significant effect on that component of the budget. It is important to note that local communities will still have the ability to decide to deliver a higher level of educational services than the state is willing to pay for but in that case, the cost will be borne entirely by the local community under the direction of local school committees. Potentially, therefore, taxpayer support for education in Orono could become higher than it is now. Capital investment at the municipal and school levels has increased significantly over the past four years but there are still huge unmet capital needs. The Town has made a serious effort to build reserves for both the construction of a public works garage and the closing of the landfill, but with every year that passes, the cost of accomplishing either task increases. While the increase in the cost of energy seems to have momentarily stabilized or decreased, it is not likely to remain this low for an extended period of time. The need to rely on additional bonding to fund such projects remains which will increase the amount devoted to debt retirement. The 2008 budget analyzed for this audit was able to increase capital investment without sacrificing municipal services. This remains one of the key accomplishments of the Town when one considers the diversity and level of services offered with a work force that has remained stable in terms of number of employees for the last six years.

CONTACTING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Town's finances and to show the Town's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Town Office at 59 Main Street, Orono, Maine or call 866-2556.

REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT 2007-2008

On behalf of the Orono Police Department, it gives me great pleasure to present the annual report for fiscal year 2007-2008.

The mission of the Orono Police Department is to provide a safe, secure atmosphere, and enhance the quality of life in the Town of Orono by working cooperatively with the public and within the framework of the U.S. Constitution. Our mission is to strengthen public confidence in the organization, develop and maintain positive relations with the community and to promote a safe and friendly community through enforcement and education.

Our department is currently staffed with fourteen full time officers, which includes the Chief of Police, Captain, three Sergeants, a Detective, a School Resource Officer, and seven Patrol Officers. We have a full time Administrative Assistant whose time is shared between the Police And Fire Department. We also continue to receive the invaluable assistance of two very dedicated volunteers who help with the many day to day administrative tasks, including fleet maintenance and repair and maintaining a data base to track our enforcement efforts of the Disorderly Housing Ordinance. These two individuals have been with us for several years now and we are very fortunate to have them as part of our organization.

Over the past year we have not seen much in the way of personnel changes. Officer Robert Sinclair resigned from his position in March of 2008, which left us with a vacant position. The department advertised for this position and following an extensive hiring process we are very pleased to have selected Officer Ed Leskey to fill the open slot. Officer Leskey was employed as a full time officer with the University of Maine Police Department and has several years of experience along with an excellent background. He will bring a high level of dedication and professionalism to the position.

The Orono Police Department has continued with its commitment to community policing by more interaction with community members and the continuation of several successful programs. The Citizen's Police Academy continues to be a successful program, which we have been running twice yearly. This past year we did some-

thing a little different and ran one academy class for a University of Maine fraternity house. This was at their request, as they wanted to get to know their local police department. We have initiated a prescription drug disposal program that provides an avenue for citizens to safely dispose of medications that are no longer of use to them. Several of our officers are regular visitors to the Birch Street School where they sit and have lunch with some of our senior citizens. This provides an excellent opportunity for us to interact with a very special part of our community, and it has been very rewarding for both the officers and the citizens. These programs would not be successful without the dedication and commitment of the officers who put much time and effort into them.

We continue to place a strong emphasis on the training and development of the officers and this past year has been no exception. In addition to the training courses mandated by the state, department officers spent of total of 992 hours in training courses throughout the year. All the supervisors received training on leadership and managing employees. The officer's training included topics such as active shooter response, drafting search warrants, defensive tactics, crisis intervention, OUI investigation, high risk traffic stops, child abuse and exploitation and multi-culture diversity training to name but a few. Officer Stephen Marko graduated from the 18 week Basic Law Enforcement Training Program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and is now officially certified. The Town of Orono and community members will certainly see the value of this training as the officers continue to become more capable in their knowledge, skills and abilities.

The Orono Police Department has continued to procure grants from the State of Maine to pay for special enforcement details that focus specifically on OUI's, speed, seat belts and underage drinking. We continue to monitor and conduct compliance checks of the local establishments that sell and/or serve alcohol in an effort to ensure that the Town of Orono has safe establishments for people to enjoy. We will continue to work diligently to meet the needs of the community and to be responsive to the requests for police services in the area of quality of life issues.

The Orono Police Department promises to uphold the laws that protect both life and property of the citizens of Orono without bias or prejudice. We pledge to conduct ourselves both professionally and personally in ways which clearly show that honesty and integrity are our code of honor.

I will close this report with my sincere thanks to the citizens of Orono, the Town Manager and the Orono Town Council for your continued support of our department. I would also like to extend a special thanks to the dedicated, professional officers of the Orono Police Department for the wonderful job that you do.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Duquette
Chief of Police

*Members of the
Police Department:*

*Sgt. Scott Scripture
and Sgt. Scott Lajoie*



*Officer Daniel Merrill,
Sgt. Scott Wilcox,
Capt. Josh Ewing,
and Officer
Willie King.*



Administrative Assistant Kathy Walton



Director of Volunteers: Lee Cookson

POLICE INCIDENT REPORT 2007-2008

NATURE OF INCIDENTS	TOTAL INCIDENTS
Abandoned Vehicle	12
Alarm	177
Ambulance or Medical Assist	108
Animal Problem	155
Alcohol Offense	107
Assault, Simple	39
Agency Assist	289
Attempt to Locate	5
Business or License Violation	11
Bail Search	11
Citizen Dispute	1
Custodial Interference	6
Citizen Assist	81
Civil Matter	18
Criminal Mischief	83
Communications Offense	20
Computer Crime	2
Court Service	185
Dead Body	1
Disorderly Conduct	94
Designated Patrol	119
DUI Alcohol or Drugs	31
Emotional/Behavioral Problem	13
Escort	2
Erratic Vehicle Operation	118
Family Fight	35
Fraud	34
Fireworks	10
Harassment	28
Police Information	470
Intoxicated Person	35
Juvenile Runaway	2
Juvenile Problem	38
Lost or Found Property	129

NATURE OF INCIDENTS	TOTAL INCIDENTS
Lifeline Program	3
Vehicle Lockout	9
Loitering	1
Littering/Pollution Problem	4
Message Delivered	4
Missing Person	12
Motorcycle/Recreation Veh Prob	6
Not Classified	8
Noise Problem	316
Nonsufficient Funds Checks	2
Overtime Detail	74
Other Offenses	4
Parking Problem	105
Property Check	626
Property Damage, Non-vandalism	17
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	122
Public Service	55
Property Watch	25
Skate Board Problem	1
Search Warrant	5
Suicide Attempt	5
Suicide Threat	11
Traffic Accident, Cruiser	1
Traffic Accident, Property Damage	261
Traffic Accident, Personal Injury	44
Traffic Hazard	57
Threatening	12
Tobacco Problem	2
Traffic Offense	106
Towed Vehicle	18
Theft, Property, from Motor Veh	24
Trespassing	11
Training	16
Theft, Vehicle	5
Unsecure Premises	31
Utility Problem	23
Vehicle Serial # Inspection	3

NATURE OF INCIDENTS	TOTAL INCIDENTS
Violation of P.O.	7
Violation of Release Condition	21
Warrant Arrest	20
Weapon Problem	16
Welfare Check	281
Persons Wanted Out	33
Zero Tolerance	<u>1</u>
 Total Incidents for This Report:	 5,651

REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT 2007-2008

For Emergencies, DIAL 9-1-1
For Administration 866-4000

On behalf of the fire department, it gives me great pleasure and pride as your Fire Chief to present the annual report for fiscal year 2007-2008.

The Orono Fire Department is a full service department. It is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by a full time chief and 16 full time personnel. To provide service, the department has three crews. Each crew has an officer, two paramedics and drivers. Personnel work 24 hours on duty with 48 hours off duty, on a rotating shift.

In FY 2007-2008 the department answered 1,683 requests for service. Delivery of service is accomplished with the following apparatus:

- 3 Ambulances
- 2 Class A Pumpers
- 1 100' Platform Tower Quint
- 1 Boat
- 1 HAZMAT Unit

Of those 1683 calls, 1125 were for EMS service.

In December 2007, we started providing Veazie with paramedic EMS coverage. We have placed our oldest ambulance in their station and they provide first response, when they have personnel available. We respond with a paramedic to handle the call.

In April 2007, we received our new 2007 PL Custom ambulance. In January 2008, we received our new 100 foot Quint Tower Ladder, which was purchased with a \$500,000 government grant.

We have had a couple of personnel changes over the past year. In June 2007, Lt. Larry Bruen resigned to go into business for himself, and in May 2008, Lt. Mike Spearing retired after 35 years of service. We wish both of them the best of luck.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

Lt. Kevin Sirois and Firefighter Dennis Bean lead all of our education and prevention programs. Through the efforts of on-duty staff, we are able to reach each grade on a monthly basis. The town should be very proud of all the firefighters who assist in this great program. The department also conducts weekly public clinics at various sites across town for blood pressure and education.

The University of Maine employs Student Fire Marshals to assist us with inspections, prevention activities and trouble alarms. They are a great help to us. Members of the Fire Marshals are as follows: Karen Landry, Rebecca Dyer, Jon Rolfson and Marie Frizzell.

The department offers several public programs, including CPR training, evacuation plan design, MSDS awareness and intervention of juvenile fire setters. Feel free to contact Lt. Kevin Sirois or Firefighter Dennis Bean for your needs.

Other areas of prevention include:

- Multi Family Inspections
- Learn Not to Burn curriculum
- Operation Risk Watch curriculum
- A Fire Field Day in June for all students at the Asa Adams School. This is a special day reaching over 200 children with emergency stations, demonstrations, contests and food.

INSPECTION DIVISION

Inspector Vaughan oversees all properties in Orono, including the University of Maine. Inspector Vaughan manages multi-family inspections; review of building plans and conducts Life Safety Inspections. Our inspection program looks for compliance with sprinklers, alarms, fire extinguishers, hood systems in kitchens, conducts fire drills and tests evacuation plans for businesses. The multi-family inspection program provides inspections of buildings containing three or more units. Inspections are done on a three-year rotational basis. Compliance issues noted include disabled smoke detectors, blocked exit paths, trash, and improper use of open flame devices. All firefighters have been trained and assist in the field inspections, along with conducting prefire incident planning.

TRAINING

The department attempts to provide 2 hours of continuing education on a daily basis. Most all training is accomplished on-duty, thus reducing costs. Teamwork is critical to fire service operations. The department's in-house program covers topics like suppression, emergency medical care, confined space rescue, breathing apparatus, apparatus driving, vehicle extrication, and counter terrorism. The most regulated of these services is the licensing and providing of Emergency Medical Care. In addition, we have been doing a lot of joint training with Old Town Fire Department.

EMS - EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The department offers full service emergency medical service to our residents. The department is permitted to paramedic level, with a mission to provide paramedic 24/7. For quality assurance, the department has an advisory board with a medical director - Dr. Bowie. The service works closely with Maine EMS and Region 4 for continuing education and quality assurance. EMS is extremely stressful and demanding work, with requirements for continuing education and training.

Orono citizens should feel very fortunate. We have eight paramedics, with at least two on each shift. We, along with Old Town, provide top notch care to our citizens. I have the utmost respect for our EMS people. They do a great job.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

We continue to provide protection for the Town of Orono and the University of Maine. We are also under contract to Penobscot County for Haz-Mat services. Orono also serves as WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Team for the State of Maine. We continue to train on a state and local level.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – EMA

The department is charged with responsibility for Emergency Management, a term formerly called civil defense. Time is spent de-

veloping and updating action plans for alert/warning, evacuation and sheltering in the time of disaster.

Respectfully submitted by,

Norman E. Webb
Fire Chief



*Fire Chief "Buddy" Webb
and Fire Marshal Henry
Vaughan*

INCIDENT RESPONSE: The department continues to be able to provide service to most customers within the three-minute goal established.

BUSIEST TIMES: 9AM to 7PM

INCIDENT RESPONSE: cooking, electrical motors/lights and candles continue to be the leading cause of fires within our town.

Fire	63
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat – No Fire	1
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incidents	1,125
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	70
Service Call	39
Good Intent Call	84
False Alarm & False Call	295
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1
Other	3
Blank or Invalid	2
 Total Incidents	 1,683

“A” Shift

L - R:
Dennis Bean,
Ben Pratt,
Bryan Hardison,
Brad Strout,
and
Kevin Sirois



“B” Shift

L - R:
Joel Sides,
Jared LeBarnes,
Robert St. Louis,
Paul Haley,
and
Kevin Peary

“C” Shift

L - R:
Matt Grindle,
Mark Roy,
Scott Luciano,
Nate Sockalexix,
and Erin Frank



REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 2007-2008

The Public Works Department has a very active and interesting year. Our director of 15 years, Calvin Smith, announced his retirement effective July 31, 2008. Major projects on Bennoch Road, the Sailor Development, and Crosby Street all came to a close, and we worked through one of the most difficult winters in recent memory.

The winter season of 2007 & 2008 saw Public Works crews called to plowing duty 46 times. To put this in perspective, the previous year's winter consisted of just 28 storm events. Snow started early and never seemed to slow down, though the majority of our work was in December and February with monthly storm events totaling 12 and 18 respectively. With winter sand stock depleted, we will need to screen and haul approximately 4,500 cubic yards of sand to build up our stock in preparation for the 2008 & 2009 winter season.

Road construction and maintenance funds this year were used primarily on the following projects:

- *Sailor Development & Crosby Street Reconstruction Projects* – This project was a complete reconstruction of the streets, including a completely closed storm drain system that included Crosby Street, Gilbert Street, Mainewood Avenue, Cedarwood Street, Maplewood Avenue, Fernwood Street, Glenwood Street, and Pinewood Street.
- *Bennoch Road Reconstruction* – This was a wide scoping Maine Department of Transportation project that was a full reconstruction of the roadway and sidewalks along with many drainage and safety improvements.
- *Pavement Maintenance Overlays* – Hot mixed asphalt overlays were completed on Colburn Drive, Winterhaven Drive, and Sylvan Road. The work consisted of the adjustment of existing sewer and drainage structures, curb repairs, driveway aprons, and gravel or loam edging.
- *Drainage Improvements* – A new 42" culvert was installed on Essex Street, we repaired the drainage system on a section of Gardiner Road, and did some ditching on Edgewood Drive.

Other miscellaneous projects taken on by the department include a new boat launch that was constructed at Gould's Landing replacing the existing one, repairing or reconstructing several deteriorated catch basin structures, removal of hazardous trees in the right of way, and constructing a parking area on Putman Road for trails access.

Public Works continues to do our part in helping the town comply with our Phase II Stormwater Management Plan. Street sweeping and cleaning and inspection of our catch basin structures help keep our stormwater outfalls as clean as possible. Regular inspection of those outfalls along with our entire storm drain system helps us identify and correct problems. We labeled all of our existing stormwater catch basin structures this season with a message – "Dump No Waste, Drains To River." This is part of an education initiative to try help residents understand where stormwater goes once it is in our drainage system. We hope this has been helpful.

Fall and Spring Cleanup is another way we work to keep our drainage system free of debris and help keep our Town looking good. Public Works picks up over 200 tons of leaves and 60 tons of brush and limbs every year.

The Cemetery Crew had 34 burials this year. Along with keeping the cemetery grounds well groomed, they also mowed the roadsides and ditches on Godfrey Drive.

We are still doing curbside recycling pick up every other week. We had our "Free Landfill Week" again this year. There were 593 customers for a total of 360 cubic yards of material. The Town Garage was very busy keeping everything we own in working order so that we can do all of the work we do.

In closing, I want to thank the Town Council and the Town Manager for their continued support of the Public Works Department. Kenny and all of our employees worked through a busy construction season and an extremely demanding winter with great success and should be commended for their hard work and dedication to The Town of Orono.

I would also like to thank Cal Smith for all of his work and dedication to the department and the Town of Orono over the last fifteen years and wish him the best of luck on his retirement on July 31, 2008. Thank you and good luck.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J Yerxa
Director of Public Works and Engineering



L-R: Richard Rideout, Wendell Young, Don Wickett, Ron Dube, Greg Daigle, Ken Beylerian, Rob Yerxa (Director), Tony Boucher, Scott Ouellette, Adam Smart, and Mike Smart

REPORT OF THE ORONO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY 2007-2008

The operation and maintenance of the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) continues to go well. The facility had 8 effluent violations during FY 2007-2008. The facility treated 394 million gallons (MG) of wastewater. Approximately 436.5 MG were treated the previous year. The billed flow was 249.5 MG, down sharply from 290.8 MG for the previous year. This was due primarily to major capital improvements to recycle water made by the University of Maine.

During 2007, 6 combined sewer overflows (CSO) were recorded. A CSO can occur when the hydraulic capacity of the treatment plant is exceeded during heavy rainfall events and seasonal runoff and allowed to flow untreated to the Penobscot River. The Town and University of Maine continue to rehabilitate the sanitary sewer system to eliminate inflow and infiltration of extraneous water that causes CSO's. Completion of stormwater and sanitary sewer replacement, completed recently at Mainewood/Gilbert/Crosby/Hillside Streets, will reduce peak infiltration into our sanitary sewer system by 335,000 GPD. Additionally, peak inflow into our sanitary sewer system is estimated to decrease by 460,000 GPD/inch of rain.

Capital improvements and major equipment purchases made during FY 2007-2008 were as follows:

- Replaced 1996 GMC Pickup.
- Continue Treatment Plant Upgrade Project estimated to take 20 months to complete. Completion is planned for December 2008.
- Replaced Utility Billing Software Program.
- Upsized sanitary sewer (110 ft.) under Bennoch Road.
- Extend the sanitary sewer 200 feet at N. Main Avenue. Spring 2008.
- Continue CSO abatement projects at Mainewood /Gilbert area and Crosby Street.

Capital improvements and major equipment purchases planned during FY 2008-2009 are as follows:

Complete Treatment Plant Upgrade Project estimated to take 20 months to complete. Completion will be in December 2008. Several new processes and major equipment purchases are included in the upgrade. The Treatment Plant Upgrade Project is necessary to increase unit process capacity, eliminate outdated inefficient processes, identify energy conservation improvements, and to make physical plant improvements.

The Mainewood /Gilbert area and Crosby Street storm and sanitary sewer separation project is the last major Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project. Even with this project completed, CSO's may continue to occur. We have made great progress over the years to reduce the CSO's from 20-30 per year down to 1-3. We look forward to the continued work by the University of Maine as well as the Town's continued work to rehabilitate approximately 40,000 feet remaining of 50-90 year-old clay sewers.

Design and Inspection work (video camera) of the sanitary sewer at Pine/Beech/Middle/Plummer Streets will be done during the fall 2008 so that rehabilitation may begin during the 2009 summer construction season.

Four areas of the sanitary sewer need immediate rehabilitation this summer: Pine St. 245 ft., Main St. to Island Avenue 375 ft., Main St. from Sunset to Gilbert 675 ft., and University Place 450 ft. Our approach will be to reline all 4 areas. These areas have been prone to plugging in the past.

Last summer during the Bennoch Road Reconstruction Project a new 12-inch sanitary sewer was constructed under Bennoch Road (110 ft.). We wish to continue this project to upsize from 8 inch to 12 inch the remaining 700 ft. above and below Bennoch road to the Stillwater Interceptor.

The FY 2008-2009 Operation and Maintenance budget will decrease by \$119,000. However, due to the sharp decrease in consumption by the University of Maine, a rate increase from \$3.62 per 100 cubic feet of consumption to \$4.18 is necessary. The new rate will take effect July 1, 2008. The annual cost for the minimum household user will be \$200 and for the average user the cost will be between \$334 - \$376.

The WPCF Staff consists of Paul Wintle, Superintendent; Joe Madigan, Chief Operator; Chris Prue, Operator Mechanic; Galen Moody, Treatment Plant Operator; and Dana Cooper, Operator/Lab Technician.

I am beginning my 22nd year as Superintendent of the Orono WPCF. I would like to thank the citizens of Orono, Town Council, Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Office Staff, and most of all, the WPCF Staff for their support and commitment in maintaining public health for the community and environmental quality for the Penobscot River. Once again it has been my pleasure to serve the Town of Orono.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Wintle
Superintendent
Orono Water Pollution Control Facility



*Water Pollution Control Facility Staff
L to R: Galen Moody, Dana Cooper, Chris Prue,
Joe Madigan, and Superintendent Paul Wintle.*

REPORT OF THE ORONO-VEAZIE WATER DISTRICT 2007-2008

Your District continues to pursue its mission to provide superior quality and service at minimum practicable cost to our ratepayers.

Continued emphasis this year was on source of supply and treatment issues. District personnel and trustees have continued to interact closely with our engineering consultants, the firm of Weston and Sampson, to improve iron and manganese treatment efficiency, ensure future adequacy of water supply and to cost effectively dispose residuals from the treatment process. Pilot work to plan for necessary upgrade of aging filtration and residuals disposal systems was completed, and bidding and construction of significant upgrades at the Bennoch Road site is anticipated in 2009.

The distribution system continued to perform well with no major leaks and a very acceptable percentage of unaccounted for water.

The rate increase for which the District reluctantly filed in late 2007 went into effect, our first since 1993. The anticipated 2009 major renovations to the treatment process and residuals disposal systems will certainly impact future rates, but we are confident that we will continue to offer exceptional value compared to the majority of water utilities in Maine.

Construction this year consisted of normal system maintenance. Over the years since the District assumed responsibility for the system in 1976, management has aggressively identified and addressed numerous segments prone to leakage, freezing or chronic quality problems. The result has been a marked decrease in the expense and often misery of emergency distribution system repairs. While many components of the remaining system are old, it functions well. We continue to track problems and replace sections where justified by maintenance history.

Your current Trustees are:

Orono	Term Expires	Veazie	Term Expires
Davida Kellogg	12/31/08	James Parker	12/31/11
John McCormack	12/31/09	Ken Borneman	12/31/12
Stephen Murray	12/31/10		

Superintendent, Dennis Cross

REPORT OF THE ORONO HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2007-2008

Our office is open from 9:00 a.m. until noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from September until June and on Wednesdays and Thursdays during July and August.

Volunteer elected officers include:

- Co-Presidents - Jean Carville and Stefanie Egenhofer
- Secretary - Alida Coates
- Treasurer - Carol Reynolds

Board members include: Lynn Adkins, Connie Bates, Stan Borodko, Jean Carville, Alida Coates, Rosemarie Curtis, Marlene Doucette, Stefanie Egenhofer, Karen Kirby, Denise O'Donnell, Carol Reynolds, Trudy Tremblay, Melba Wallace, Leslie Peterson, and Emily Wesson.

Our volunteer drivers take individuals to medical appointments. There were 356 trips. The drivers include: MaryAnn Devoe, Bob Emerson, Barbara Murphy, Carol Reynolds, Margaret Russell, Nancy



Nancy Pare, OHA Office Manager

and Ed Andrews, Barbara Nichols, Joyce and Paul Harris, Fred Otto, Jenny Sawyer-Bayer, Judy Whitney, Don Coates, and Janet Bilyk.

“Meals for Me” provides meals five days a week. The individuals that deliver them are Wayne Hamilton, Stan Borodko, Paul Harris, Sam Hamilton, Fred Otto, Harry Cunningham, Paul Pangburn and Mary Ryan.

We had another successful blood drive for the Red Cross. It was held on Wednesday, September 12, 2007 at the Church of Universal Fellowship. The Kiwanians set up and took down the equipment. The board members of the Orono Health Association worked at various shifts throughout the day.

The Thrift Shop provided a service to many families. The workers include:

Lynn Adkins, Timothy Bruce, Heidi Bunn, Jean and Woody Carville, Alida Coates, Marlene Doucette, Irene Dupuis, Stefanie Egenhofer, Doreen Emerson. Karen Kirby, Ben Lynch, Allison Montg, Gert Nevells, Denise O’Donnell, Dorothy Soucie, Theresa Thomas, Wayne Hamilton, Stan Borodko, Rosemarie Curtis, MaryAnn Devoe, Kerstin Egenhofer, Andy O’Donnell, Conor O’Donnell, Eileen O’Donnell, Kate O’Donnell, and Melba Wallace.

Roger Taylor operated the loan closet, repairing wheel chairs, walkers, etc.

The children in our dental clinic go to Penobscot Community Health Center and to Dr. Farren.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Pare
OHA Office Manager

REPORT OF ORONO TREE BOARD 2007-2008

During 2008 volunteers planted eighteen trees in the Orono town rights of ways. Six trees were pruned and seven trees removed because they were dead. Several small trees are ready for planting in the spring.

The nursery was moved to the chair's address in order to simplify tree watering and care of the young seedlings.

Orono school children were willing helpers for the 2008 Arbor Day Celebration. Two groups planted 40 seedlings in individual pots with proper growing medium and lots of enthusiasm. These pot seedlings will be planted over the next several years. Each group planted seeds of plants that attract birds in the wildlife garden as well. Volunteers from the Tree Board prepared potting medium for the pots and prepared the garden for planting the seed.

Members of the Tree Board attended the Arbor Day celebration in August and received an award for being a **Tree City recipient for the 12th year**. Orono also received two sapling sized trees which were planted at the Orono celebration on the property between the high school and grade school near the wildlife garden. After the student Arbor Day participation, members of the Tree Board mulched 30 trees and shrubs at the site.

Visit the wildlife garden behind ASA Adams School via the stairs constructed by Tree Board volunteers Dave Thompson and Jack Blease.

Submitted by,

David Thompson
Chairman
Orono Tree Board

REPORT OF ORONO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2007-2008

The Orono Parks and Recreation Department is honored to provide the residents of Orono with this annual report for the fiscal year 2007-08. During this past year the Department has strived to provide the Orono citizens with programs, services and opportunities reflective of the interests expressed by the Orono community.

The summer season allowed the citizens to enjoy a series of Concerts in Webster Park with a variety of excellent performers ranging from the folk sounds of local bands Dirigo Winds to the blues/jazz performance of Blue Northern. The concerts are co-sponsored by the Orono Village Association and the Parks and Recreation Department and are a tradition of summer in Orono.

The Municipal Pool experienced a better year with fairly warm temperatures and an improved weather pattern. Approximately 8,780 patrons enjoyed the opportunities the Pool had to offer with various open swim times, Red Cross swimming lessons and a lifeguarding class for future lifeguards/swimming instructors. The total number of people making use of the facility is slightly greater than last year but still remains lower than in years past. The facility is 28 years old and is in constant need of improvements / renovations. The Town may want to consider a major renovation program to upgrade the facility and attract more people to the facility creating greater revenues.

The summer day camp, KidZone, experienced a good summer season averaging 49 children per week. The Department also sponsored a variety of one week sport clinics with the Orono Girls /Boys Basketball Schools, Challenger Soccer Camp, Football, Field Hockey and Chess as well as a Summer Track Club. The Youth Baseball / Softball programs have remained popular to the point additional field space is necessary and continues to be a scheduling issue. A girls softball field has been created at the Orono Recreation Field (formerly St. Mary's) along with hillside seating which will act as a natural area for parents/spectators. Improvements are being made to this facility every year with the addition of dugouts and fencing in the future.

As the weather transitioned to autumn and the leaves turned color children’s interest reflected the season and quickly turned to soccer. More than 108 children played soccer and 66 played flag /contact youth football. The fall season also provided a number of children with other activities such as ballet/tap, karate and an after school fencing club. The Afterschool Program was once again in high gear with an average 32 children per day. The Program continues to be a need with parents whose schedules are busy during the after school hours.

Finally the fall season was ushered in by the annual Orono Village Festival with many fun children’s activities, music, food vendors and crafts available for the public to enjoy in the Village District. The event had perfect weather and the more than 1,000 people enjoyed the wonderful small town atmosphere the event creates.

The event is coordinated by the Department and the staff would welcome any support or assistance if people or groups are interested in becoming involved with the planning and organization.

The winter months provides the community with a variety of recreational opportunities including indoor activities such as basketball to the outdoor excitement of sledding. More than 86 children participated in the youth basketball program ranging from kindergarteners



Orono Parks and Recreation Staff

L - R: Tim Baude, Wesley Nelson, Director Norm Poirier, and Maida Robichaud

to the 7th-8th grade travel team. Basketball was not just for the young with an over 30 year old Open Gym two nights per week. Some other adult programs included fencing and aerobics.. The Keith Anderson Community House has provided the community with a gathering place for such events as the Orono Art's Café under the auspices of the Orono Community Theater, Bluegrass Bands, Dadgad Coffee-house, Contra Dances and performances by the members of the Orono Community Theater. The Orono community is truly fortunate to have a facility with the character and warmth the Anderson Building provides!

The Holiday always provides for many exciting activities from the Community Tree Lighting Ceremony to the Tea with Santa and the Gingerbread House Construction for children of all ages. With each Holiday event comes the opportunity for the community to come together and enjoy the festivities these activities have to offer creating community spirit, interaction and a sense of community.

The beginning of a new year brings with it the opportunity for youth to participate in the Learn to Ski Program, Snowboarding Lessons, X-Country Ski Club and the Learn to Skate Program. The Learn to Ski and Snowboarding Programs are held at New Hermon Mountain and attracts more than 28 children from 2nd –7th grade. The month of February is the time we celebrate Valentines with the annual Family Valentine Dance. This special event is always a memorable one with dancing, food and fun!

During March our efforts turn towards the local Food Network with our Little Master Chef's Program. This program continues to receive rave reviews from parents and the master Chefs! The annual Easter Egg Hunt continues to be a spectacle with the "new" evening Egg Hunt for the more mature child, 3rd-5th graders. Using "glow in the dark" eggs the spectacle attracted close to 30 youth. The traditional Egg Hunt on Saturday morning, held in cooperation with the University Credit Union, attracted more than 200 toddlers to 2nd graders. The event included an opportunity for children to hunt for eggs, receive small prizes and candy from the Easter Bunny and Monty Moose. The day was complete with entertainment by "No Frown Clowns" with face painting and balloon animals. A special thank you to all the UCU volunteers for their assistance with the event.

The Parks and Recreation Department also manages and facilitates the activities at the Keith Anderson Community House. The weeks are jammed with a variety of activities from fencing, aerobics and ballet to the Art's Café and Community Theater performances. Look for the schedule of events on the web at www.oronorec.com.

The Senior Center continues to offer our more experienced population with activities and the opportunity to socialize in a comfortable setting. The Center is home to the senior meal program coordinated by the Housing Foundation, providing more than 5,000 meals a year for senior citizens. The Senior Center is also available for use and rental for special events, banquets, parties. The Thrift Shop area on the 2nd floor has never looked so good and provides the community with a shopping experience one will never forget – stop in and visit!

The Orono Parks and Recreation Department staff truly appreciates the opportunity to serve the citizens of Orono. It is because of your support that we are able to provide you with the services, programs and facilities. Once again thank you and if you have any comments about programs or would like to consider offering an activity for the community, please do not hesitate to contact our Office at 866-5056 or e-mail the Director, Norman Poirier at normp@orono.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norman Poirier
Director

Orono's Recreational Facilities, Parks and Public Buildings:

Keith Anderson Community House
Tredwell Building (Recreation Office)
C.M. Parker Senior Citizens Center
Marden Park, Park Street
Orono Rec Field (formerly St. Mary's)
Gould's Landing at Nadeau-Savoy Memorial Park
Sklar Park, Mainwood Avenue
Jeremiah Colburn Natural Area, Forest Avenue
Webster Park, North Main Avenue
Asa Adams Multi-Purpose Field
Municipal Pool, Goodridge Drive
Municipal Tennis Courts (behind the High School)
Outdoor Ice Rink (behind the High School)

REPORT OF ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY 2007–2008

The Orono Public Library continues to evolve to meet the needs of its patrons. It provides traditional information and entertainment through books and magazines. In addition, media such as audio books and videos have grown in popularity and now account for 34% of our total circulation. The library also serves as the living room for the community. The mornings bring a constant flow of preschool children and their parents, senior citizens and users of the six free public computers. Some individuals make the library their “home” for several hours. Many teens spend afternoon hours here, while working adults make short stops on their way home at the end of the day. The library offers daytime, evening and weekend hours in order to provide services when folks have free time.

The public library makes excellent use of the town’s resources. The total budget for 2008 was \$254,481, making the per capita cost for library services just \$28.00. However, the value of materials borrowed and services provided was over \$790,000. The return on the town’s investment was over 300%! When it comes time for indi-



*Orono Public Library Staff
L-R: Joyce Wiebe, Louise Jolliffe, Sue Rogers,
Laurie Carpenter and Director Kathy Marks-Molloy*

vidual families, or an entire community, to tighten the belt, the library is there to help. Library users no doubt saved money by borrowing instead of purchasing or renting materials.

“If we don’t have it, we can get it for you”, is a phrase often heard at our service desk. A glance at the interlibrary loan shipments reflects such a diversity of interests and tastes, it is clear we could never accommodate either the space or the purchasing budget to provide all these fascinating materials in one local collection. We are indeed fortunate to have access through the Minerva consortium to collections in libraries across the state.

Services Available:

- Loans of items for all ages including books, audio books on tape and CD, videos on tape and DVD, music on CD, and magazines.
- A comfortable place to read newspapers, magazines, and chat with friends.
- High-speed unfiltered Internet access from public computers or personal laptop computers through the library’s wireless connection.
- Special programs for children, teens and adults.

Collection Highlights:

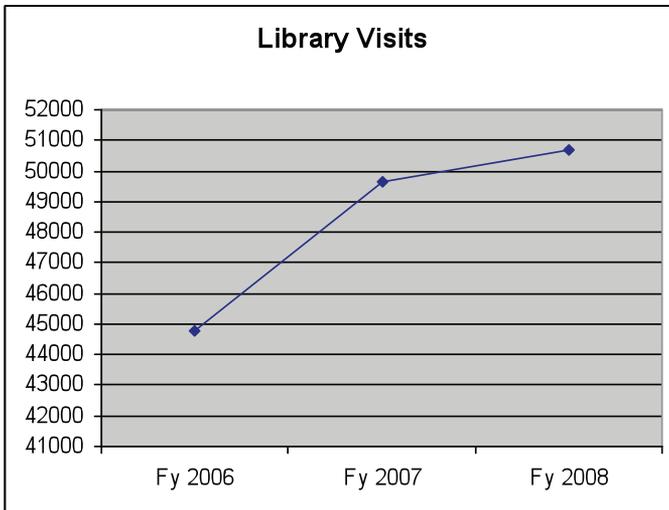
- 21,548 adult books
- 11,107 children’s books
- 3,395 audio, video, and music items
- 75 periodical titles
- Library patrons borrowed 52,667 items from the library’s collection including 13,854 adult books, 13,678 children’s books, 1,477 young adult books, 1,083 magazines and 17,802 audio books, videos, and music CDs.
- 5,278 items borrowed from other libraries for our patrons through the state and nation-wide interlibrary loan system. For the cost of our participation in Minerva, \$3,000 annually, we received

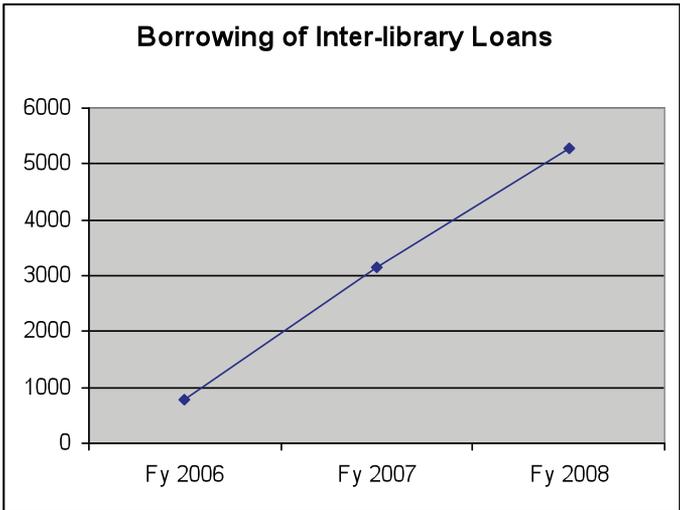
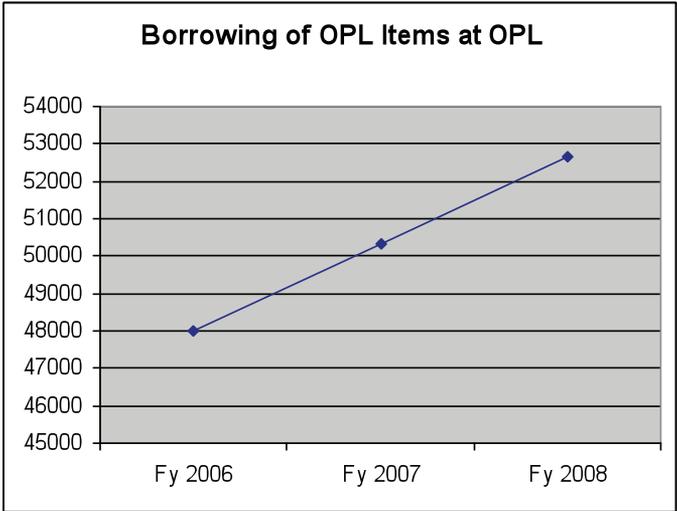
\$79,170 worth of incoming inter-library loans. 4,089 items from our collection were loaned to patrons in other libraries.

- Public computers were used 4,773 times for Internet, children's games and office applications. Accounting for over 10% of the library's borrowing activity, the public computers rank as the highest used of all the library's services.

Library Users:

- The library has 2,046 active patrons.
- 50,699 visits were made to the library in 2007-2008.
- 2,310 children and caregivers attended 55 children's programs.
- 391 teens attended 10 young adult programs.
- 214 adults participated in the 20 book discussion groups and other programs.





Library Building Project

Fundraising for the new library continued throughout fy 2008. Library staff helped with publicity for the OPL Foundation’s campaign for the new library, and assisted with the two Phonathons and with LEED Information Night. Laurie Carpenter co-chaired the OPLF’s 3rd annual Benefit Auction held May 17 which raised \$19,000 for the new library.

The library staff is excited about the future plans for the library and we look forward to seeing them come to fruition. We're grateful for the support the new library project has received from the community, the Town Council, town employees, OPL Trustees, Friends of the Library and for the spirited and tenacious efforts of the OPL Foundation. We're busy planning all aspects of operation within the new facility. From where to sort the interlibrary loans to how to manage snow removal we're visualizing the new, improved library facility and imagining how we can best use it to improve library service.

Town Employees and Volunteers Give Service to the Library

Library staff included Kathy Marks-Molloy, Laurie Carpenter, Susan Rogers, Joyce Wiebe and Louise Jolliffe. We appreciate the efforts of all people who volunteer their time and talents for special events and projects related to the library. They include members of the Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Library, the Orono Public Library Foundation and many others. Helping us to run the day-to-day operation of the library, twenty-six volunteers gave over 758 hours of service. Thank you to all who volunteer!

If you have any questions or would like to be involved in the library's many activities please contact the library at 866-5060.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Marks-Molloy
MSLS
Library Director

REPORT OF ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2007-2008

The Orono Public Library Board of Trustees ended FY 2007-2008 with the following members. Chairperson Louise Snow, Treasurer Mary Cady, Acting Secretary Judy Hakola, David Chase, Dana Devoe, Murray Bain, and Robert O'Neil, Youth Member Emma Hornsby and Associate Youth Member Kate Bulteel. Dorothy Pratt serves as the liaison between the Friends of the Library and the Trustees.

In September of 2007, the Trustees approved a donation of \$10,000 to be given to the OPL Foundation for the new library. Trustee Judy Hakola facilitated a Maine Humanities reading and discussion series entitled Mirror of Maine in addition to also facilitating the Friday Morning Reflective Readers book club. We discussed the landscaping for the new library which will use native Maine plants. The initial cost will be greater than the cost for other plantings, but the maintenance will cost much less.

The library is being used increasingly as a site where tests are proctored for those taking on-line courses. The Trustees recommended that the library be compensated for this service.

We wish to thank Hannah Cyrus, our graduating Youth Representative, for her many contributions to the library and to the Trustees. We continue to support the librarians in their endeavors to make our library a special place. The Trustees join the people of Orono in eagerly looking forward to the Ground Breaking Ceremony this coming Fall of 2008.

Respectfully submitted

Louise T. Snow
Chairperson

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 2007-2008

I am pleased to submit my fourth annual report to the citizens of Orono for the 2007-2008 school year. I have greatly appreciated the support that I have received from the school committee, town, staff and citizens throughout the year and look forward to continuing to work with all stakeholders during the upcoming year.

We have completed the first year of our new five-year strategic plan. The strategic plan outlines a series of umbrella statements that are used within our schools to develop yearly goals that focus on enhanced student learning. To this end, our schools have developed success plans that align with our system goals. Each year our schools along with our central office staff report the outcomes of their respective success plans. A reflective process is utilized that evaluates, reaffirms and at times redirects the focus of the various goals that are designed to enhance the educational success of our schools. Our school's staff continues to work collaboratively to identify specific areas that they feel are pertinent to 21st century learning. I would encourage you to visit our district website to view our five-year plan. I would also like to commend our staff and students for their participation in helping our school system develop and carry out various initiatives that were directly linked to our successes.



Kelly R. Clenchy, Superintendent of Schools

I continue to be very proud of the educational and extracurricular experiences that our children are receiving within the Orono school system. Academically, our students continue to do well in regard to our test scores on the Maine Educational Assessments. These tests are administered to our students in math and reading in grades 3-8. Our students were also tested in the area of science in the fourth and eighth grades. This year's results clearly indicated that our scores in all tested grade levels were consistently above state average in all content areas. Our students were assessed at the grade eleven level through the administration of the MHSA (Maine High School Assessment). The class average score for each of the four subjects tested (Math, Reading, Science and Writing) exceeded the state averages and required thresholds for percentage proficient in each subject area.

Throughout the year our students have had many opportunities to take part in co-curricular and extracurricular offerings that have provided invaluable educational experiences. As we all know, our students will cherish many of these experiences as they continue their educational journeys. I would like to commend our staff, coaches and community for supporting these programs throughout the year.

Regionalization has been an ongoing topic at our school committee meetings throughout the year. We began a process last August when we held a public meeting to disseminate information about the State's Regionalization Law. Much has happened since that time.

During the fall, a Local Reorganization Planning Committee was formed with representation from the School Committee, Town Council and public. A series of meetings were held with the surrounding school districts within our region, which included discussions that focused on various components of school district organization with the intent of finding suitable partners to form a new regionalized school district.

In January, the School Committee provided direction to the local Regionalization Planning Committee (RPC) to begin a series of meetings with the Glenburn and Veazie school districts. A joint regionalization planning committee was formed and this committee has met on a regular basis.

One of the primary tasks of the Regionalization Planning Committee is to design a reorganization plan for the proposed regional school district. The RPC presented a draft plan to the public in early September. Public meetings were held in each community to gather input as well as feedback on the proposed plan.

The timelines for regionalization are somewhat limited with a requirement to submit a plan to the Department of Education by the end of September. Upon approval of the plan by the Department of Education, the RPC will work with the various municipalities to arrange for a public referendum that will be held on January 27, 2009. In order for the reorganization plan to proceed, public support through the referendum process must be actualized in all three communities. The reorganization law requires school districts to be reorganized as of July 1, 2009. School districts that have not regionalized by this deadline will be subject to financial penalties. I would encourage you to access our website at www.orono.u87.k12.me.us which will provide a link to our reorganization updates. I would also encourage you to become actively involved in this process so that you will have the necessary information to be well informed prior to the referendum.

In closing, I would like to commend the staff of the Orono School Department, the parents of our students, and the residents of Orono for their long standing commitment to high quality education for all students.

Sincerely,

K. R. Clenchy
Superintendent of Schools

ASA C. ADAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2007-2008

As the new principal of Asa C. Adams, I will do my best to inform you about some of the things that made for a successful 07/08 school year.

After looking at last year's monthly school committee reports and talking with staff, I found many factors that contributed to a year of much learning.

As you all know, Mrs. O'Roak and Mrs. Gauthier both retired. They will be missed very much by staff and students.

In the area of professional development many accomplishments occurred.

Many teachers participated in training sessions around RTI (Response to Intervention).

Mrs. Manning, one of our special education teachers, received her masters degree from the University of Maine. Mrs. Oldenburgh assisted in leading the K-2 teachers in their efforts to establish Literacy Teams. This was a part of our initiative around looking at student data and improving our literacy assessments.



Asa C. Adams School Principal - Paula McHugh

We also celebrated many student successes last year. In December our Lego League participants were highly successful at their competition. These students brought back two trophies to our school as a result of their efforts. Our fifth graders had another successful DARE graduation, and our Destination Imagination teams did extremely well. We fielded five teams and accomplished a first, two seconds, and a third place at the North Central Celebration. These teams all went on to states. One team took first place at states and went on to Globals at Knoxville, Kentucky.

Our annual Passport Project through the library was a huge success. The trip this year was to China. We appreciate the extraordinary effort that Mrs. Smart our school librarian put forth in making this such a wonderful experience. Thanks also to Mrs. Fitch for her construction of the Great Wall, a Chinese Pagoda, and a Chinese peasant's hut.

In the area of building improvements, we continued the process of replacing windows during the summer. The addition of more new windows looks great and keeps our classrooms warm and comfortable. Many other small, but important tasks were completed during the year to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our students.

As before, our school made AYP (adequate yearly progress) in both reading and math based on the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.

As the new principal at Asa Adams, I am enjoying my new position and want to thank the community of Orono for making me feel so welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula McHugh
Principal
Asa C. Adams Elementary School

REPORT OF ORONO MIDDLE SCHOOL 2007-2008

I am pleased to provide this report of the 2007-2008 school year at Orono Middle School. We enjoyed an excellent school year and continue to make progress on numerous school-based goals. Some of these goals include the following: create a fair, safe and responsive school; increase our Student Assistance Team interventions; increase Internet safety awareness; and improve attendance at parent/student/teacher conferences.

In addition to our school-based goals, we also worked throughout the year on the following initiatives: developing service learning projects at each grade level that are connected to our curriculum and solve or address an identified need or service; designing interdisciplinary projects at each grade level that connect different subject areas; integrating laptop computers into the curriculum to enhance students' learning; differentiating instructional activities to address a variety of learning styles, academic readiness and student interests; implementing student recognition programs (like our quarterly Recognition Breakfast) that honor students for outstanding school citizenship, excellent school attendance, academic and personal growth, and academic achievement; providing the necessary instructional supports and enrichment activities to ensure that we meet the needs of all students; making our expectations for behavior clear; and operationalizing and reinforcing our school core values of respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, honesty and courage.

In addition to our initiatives, the following middle school themes continue to be embedded in our work with students:

- **Discovery** - We believe the middle school years are a great time for students to explore and discover new skills, interests and areas of success. Our goal is to provide instructional activities that give students an opportunity to perform knowledge, learn by doing, and engage their hands as well as their minds.

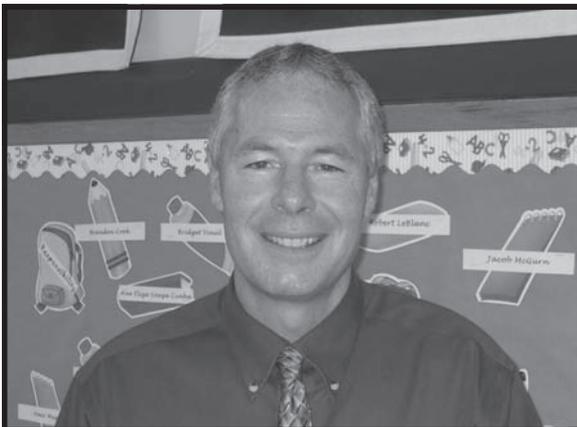
- **Teamwork** - We strive to teach students to be collaborative and quality workers through participation in group projects and cooperative learning activities.

- **Excellence** - We have high expectations for all students and challenge them to give their personal best effort in school so they may realize their greatest potential.

During the past year, Orono Middle School students excelled in a variety of academic and co-curricular areas. Some of the honors and recognition our students received during the 2007-2008 school year include the following:

- Our scaled school scores on the 2008 Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) for all grades in each content area ranked in the top eight out of all middle schools in Maine. Our seventh grade math scaled school score ranked first in Maine out of 204 schools, our eighth grade math scaled school score was tied for first in the state out of 208 schools, and our eighth grade reading scaled school score was tied for third in the state out of 208 schools. The following is information on the percentages of middle school students who met or exceeded the standard on the MEA in each grade level content area tested:

- Sixth Grade Math (76%)
- Sixth Grade Reading (78%)
- Seventh Grade Math (82%)
- Seventh Grade Reading (96%)
- Eighth Grade Math (82%)
- Eighth Grade Reading (93%)
- Eighth Grade Science (94%)



Orono Middle School Principal - Robert Lucy

- The Chess Team was the Penobscot Valley Middle League regular season and tournament runner-up.

- The Math Team finished first overall in the Eastern Maine Math League Large School Division for the 2007-2008 school year. This was the fourth consecutive year that our Math Team finished the school year in first place. Our students also did very well in the individual results for the 2007-2008 school year. We had the top individual scorer in the seventh grade competition, and the top two individual scorers in the eighth grade competition.

- We had fourteen students that had their artwork on display at the Bangor Mall “Art in the Heart” art show. One of our student’s artwork from this show was chosen to be part of the University of Maine Student Traveling Art Exhibit for the 2008-2009 school year.

- One of our eighth grade students won the Union 87 Spelling Bee.

- One of our seventh grade students won the Modern Woodmen District Speech Contest.

- One of our eighth grade students received an award in the Sylvan Learning Center Essay Contest.

- The Band and Chorus students did a great job at the District V Middle School Honors Festival.

- The Student Council organized a very successful canned food drive.

Our school continues to benefit greatly from the commitment to excellence our students and staff demonstrate, and the outstanding support from parents as well as the Orono community. We value the strong educational partnership in our community that enables our schools to provide the best possible education for the youth of Orono.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Lucy
Principal
Orono Middle School

REPORT OF ORONO HIGH SCHOOL 2007-2008

Greetings:

I came to Orono thinking that I would be here only for a year. I have been at Orono High School for three years now and it is time to submit my fourth school report. I have stayed here longer than expected because I have enjoyed working here and especially working with your young people. The challenges that appear keep me busy; however, we are constantly working on them and have established timelines for their correction. My goals for Orono High School have not changed. We need to work to make this high school a premier high school within the State of Maine. Our main areas of concern have also not changed as they include: technology, instruction, assessment, using assessments as data-driven changes, having all students ready for college, the use of advisory as an educational tool, make sure that all students play an important part in their education, and that all students have developed a Personal Learning Plan. I am looking forward to working with you on these important school initiatives.

The population of Orono High School for the 2007-2008 school year was 384 students. Approximately 45% of those students were tuition students from surrounding communities. The graduating class of 2008 had 85 members. Of that class 85 % enrolled in a two or four year college/university program. This school has always been highly cognizant of the support that is needed as they move on to further education in particular and society in general. Some facts and figures about the Class of 2008 include: 1 National Merit Scholar, sixty-three students took a total of 88 exams in 5 Advanced Placement Exam Areas. This included 15 students that in Biology had a section average of 3.467, 6 in Calculus AB had an average of 4.667, 14 in English Lit/Comp had an average of 3.500, 39 in U.S. History had an average of 3.154, and 14 in Human Geography had an average of 2.929. On the SAT I: Reasoning Test the Class of 2008 mean scores were: Critical Reading 529, 60 points over the State average; Math 478, 12 points over the State average; and Writing 471, 10 over the State average.

Orono High School students take a number of higher level courses above and beyond the AP courses listed above. The high school offers a number of Honor Courses for grades 11 & 12 plus a number of Honor Challenge courses in grades 9 & 10. The Honors Committee is now working on an articulation program with the University of Maine known as Graduate with Distinction. Other colleges will be asked to consider an articulation program. Orono students also enjoy taking a number of courses at the University of Maine through the Academ-e and Aspirations programs. Thirty-six students took classes in seventeen different offerings ranging from Calculus II to Nutrition. New this year is a pilot program with the use of Virtual High School, an on-line program that allows students to work at their own pace. Course selections for the Virtual High School are many and varied. On the other end of the spectrum students that struggled last year have a chance to gain credit in the schools pilot Credit Recovery Program. This program is for three courses, Earth/Physical Science, Geography & Economics, and Health, where teacher referred students may recover lost credits through retaking materials on standards that were previously failed.

Two of the five goals of this school, as stated in our Mission Statement, are best exemplified in our athletic teams and co-curricular events, namely, being responsible and involved citizens, collaborative and quality workers. We offer a wide variety of athletic endeavors.



Orono High School Principal - Bruce Bailey

ors plus a wide range of other activities such as chess, drama, musicals, math team, speech & debate, newspaper, student council, etc. where these characteristics are matured. More than 80% of our students are involved in one or more of our co-curricular activities.

The Freshmen Alliance, composed of the freshmen teachers, and the newly formed SAT (student assistant team) are very much alive and functioning. They concentrate on improving the academics of that class. They meet every other week to strategize for the success of all freshmen. Last years Freshmen SAT Program was so successful that a second program was formed for grades 9-12. The High School's 101 program works with all 9th grade students on areas of study skills, time management, and organizational skills; weekly team meetings of core 9th grade teachers. Another intervention includes Ninth Grade Web Page which is designed to keep all students and parents informed.

The students and staff of Orono High School are fortunate to enjoy the involvement of the community in the educational process. From Homecoming events, Booster Club activities, to coaching, many volunteers work hard at making this school what it is. Orono is fortunate to keep the small town community-centered life for its students. Our theme for Orono High School is "Small School Atmosphere with Large School Opportunities".

We hope to make the 2008-2009 year even more eventful as we strive to make this the best high school within the State of Maine.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bailey
Principal
Orono High School

Asa Adams Elementary School Teachers

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
Allen, Patrick	4	St. Francis Univ., U of M	Grade 4
Brooker, Sally	18	U of M	Grade 4
Cavazos, Laura	3	U of M, U of Findlay	Grade 2
Connor, Nancy	11	U of M, Marietta College, OH	ESL Teacher
DeGrasse, Julie	9	U of M	Music
Dill, Kelley	12	U of M	Grade 3
Donovan, Meredith	6	U of M, U of Pheonix	Spec Ed
Dreher, Megan	5	U of M	Grade 2
Erhardt, Lisa	7	Bates College/U of M	Guidance
Fournier, Darcie	8	U of M	Phy Educ
Gauthier, Suzanne	42	State University of Fredonia/ U of M	Grade 1
Harper, Lea	7	U of M	Kindergarten
Kruetz, Sara	9	U of NH, U of M	Grade 4
Lloyd-Fitch, Nancy	14	U of M	Art
Manning, Linda	24	No. Kentucky Univ.	Spec Ed
Mellor, Madeline	2	U of M	Speech
Melrose, Kasey	1	U of M	Kindergarten
Metcalfe, Janet	12	U of M	Grade 2
Molloy, Elisabeth	6	Washington Coll./Penn State	Grade 5
Morcom, Michael	28	U of Nevada	Grade 5

Asa Adams Elementary School Teachers - continued & High School Teachers

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
Oldenberg, Kim	13	U of M	Grade 1
O'Mara, Kelly	2	U of M	Kindergarten
Rutherford, Katrina	7	U of M	Kindergarten
Smart, Diana	25	U of M, U of M - Augusta	Librarian
Soderberg, Lars	8	U of M	Grade 3
Surette, Elizabeth	29	U of M	Spec Educ
Thurston, Heidi	32	U of M	Grade 3
Weigang, Jennifer	14	U of M	Reading Recovery
White, Deborah	18	Muhlenberg College /U of M	Grade 1
Whitney, Stephen	34	U of M	Grade 5
High School Teachers:			
Andresen, Jessica	3	U of M	Art
Archer, Michael	16	U of M	Phys Ed
Bayer, Andrew	9	U of M	Spec Ed
Berthiaume, Laurence	30	State College at Firchburg	Ind Tech
Bessey, Paul	35	U of M	Soc Studies
Boyd, Christine	18	U of M at Machias, Evangel College, MO	Bus. Tech.
Boyd, Leslie	20	U of M at P.I.	Science
Bulteel, Jim	21	U of Washington, U of Bristol, U of Oxford	English

Orono High School Teachers - continued

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
Caballero, Waldo	9	U of M, Colby, Nat'l Conserv. of LaPaz, Bolivia	Music
Clay, Cynthia	16	U of M	Science
Cowan, William	21	U of M - Farmington	Soc Studies
Crocker, Christine	19	U of M	Foreign Lang
Deane, Beric	30	Tech Inst, U of M, Lesley College	Tech Coord
Elnagar, Hala	8	Lycee Laliberte School	Math
Frye, Karen	23	U of M	Spec Ed
Goodall, Shana	6	Bowdoin, U of M, Bryn Maur	Soc Studies
Henry, Terrence	25	U of M	Music
Hodgdon, Steve	32	Allied Music/Gorham College	Band
Holmes, Heather	8	U of M, U of M - Farmington	Math
Hubbard, Judith	14	U of M/Harvard/Oberlin, OH	Foreign Language
Innis, Margaret	9	Ohio Univ, Ohio State	Math
Joseph, Donald	30	Seattle Pacific Univ.	English
Kern, Carrie	13	U of M, Syracuse Univ.	Speech
Libby, Christopher	6	U of M	Math6
Luthin, Christopher	17	U of M	English
Marin, Leeann	14	U of M, U of M - Ft. Kent	Guidance
Tourtlotte, Jaclyn	3	U of M, U of M - Augusta	Phy Ed

Orono High School Teachers - continued

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
McLean, Alexander	31	U of M at Fort Kent	English
Moriarty, Claire	11	U of M, U of MA, St. Joseph	English
Norris, John	26	U of CT, US Naval Acad	Science
Owen, Jeffrey	18	U of M	Science
Pearce, Aphrodite	23	U of M, U of Florida, BU	Com Science
Reese, Victoria	1	U of Winnikeg, U of M	Foreign Lang
Scheidt, Rose	3	U of M, U of M-PI	Spec Ed
VanArsdale, M. Jane	38	U of M	Library
Winchester-Mabee, Leslie	8	U of M	Phys Ed

Orono Middle School Teachers & Nurse

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
Anthony, Julie	9	U of Mass	Art
Archer, Jessica	15	U of M	Grade 7
Bishop, Debra	10	U of M	Grade 7
Carr, Ellen	5	U of M	Grade 8
Chapman, Daniel	33	U of M	Grade 7
Foster, Matthew	1	U of M	Grade 8
Gallant, Brian	25	U of M	Grade 8
Glueck, Richard	28	U of M/SUNY at Stony Brook	Grade 6
Kirkpatrick, Chad	6	U of M	Phys Ed
Larsen-Soderburg, Deborah	6	U of M	Grade 6
Libby, Jessica	3	U of So. Maine	Phy Ed
Luthin, Elaine	18	U of M	Foreign Lang
Mountcastle, Carolee	39	Lesley College, U of VA, GWU in D.C.	Guidance
Schmidt, Christine	7	U of M/Univ. of So. Maine	Spec Ed
True, Thomas	3	U of M	Grade 6

NURSE

Wesson, Emily	6	U of Vermont	Nurse
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Administration

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/08	Institution	Position
ADMINISTRATORS			
Archer, Michael	14	U of M	Athletic Dir.
Bailey, Bruce	42	U of M, Masters	Principal, OHS
Brady, Sharon	12	U of M	Dir Spec Srvs
Cookson, Sandra			Technology Integr. spec.
Higgins, Meredith	14	Florida State	Curric Coord
Lucy, Robert	23	U of M	Principal, OMS
O'Roak, Susan	35	U of M	Principal, Asa Adams
Phillips, Mary	22	Univ of New York- Queens College/ UMO	Dir of Adult Ed
Sinclair, Bob	20		Asst Principal OHS
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE			
Clenchy, Kelly			Superintendent
Belanger, Cindy			Sec.-Super.
Bell, Sue			Payroll
Buck, Sandra			Admin Assist of Finance
Tuffley, Leah			Sec.-Spec. Ed.

Secretaries & Education Technicians

Name	Position
SECRETARIES:	
Brooks, Mary Ellen	Secretary, Asa Adams
Clark, Rosemarie	Secretary, High School
Garland, Kerry	Adult Ed Secretary
Gray, Lynn	Secretary, High School
Nevels, Sally	Secretary, High School
Batchelder, Renee	Secretary, Middle School
Powers, Judy	Secretary, High School
EDUCATION TECHNICIANS:	
Bango, Allissa	Bauer, Nancy
Bean, Ashley	Bernhardt, Amy
Billingham, Kelsi	Breece, Linda
Clark, Lynn	Degrave, Mary
England, Patricia	Estabrook, Amy
Flynn, Katherine	Frank, Lisa
Gray, Christopher	Gray, Lynn
Hennessy, Terrie	Josselyn, Jane
Langevin, Heather	Lehan, Traci
Libby, Jessica	Mansfield, Kevin
Matturo, Mathy	McAlleer, Cynthia
Merrill, Elijah	Mills, Abigail
Pangburn, Malvina	Pearson, Wendy
Poulsen, Erik	Quinney, Deborah

Education Technicians, Food Service & Custodians

Name	Name
EDUCATION TECHNICIANS (continued):	
Quirion, Amy	Rancourt, Teal
Read, Jean	Rich, Christina
Rudnicki, Stacy	Terrill, Barry
Theriault, Adam	Thibodeau, Teena
Thurlow, Chris	White, Molly
FOOD SERVICE:	
Damboise, Barbara	Hatch, Deborah
Jacobs, Karen	Nadeau, Rosemary
Poulsen, Janice	Samiya, Tracie
Trask, Sarah	Vinal, Diane
CUSTODIANS:	
Babcock, Michael	MacDonald, William
Martin, Gerry	Miller, Arnold
White, Ronald	

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
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COMMITTEES:
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS;
RANKING MEMBER
ARMED SERVICES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

January 9, 2009

Dear Citizens of Orono:

In 2008, Mainers entrusted me to serve another term in the U.S. Senate. I am deeply honored and pledge to continue to work with my colleagues, both old and new, and with President Obama to forge bipartisan solutions to the economic crisis and the many other challenges facing our nation. I appreciate this opportunity to report on some highlights of my recent work in the U.S. Senate.

The number one priority continues to be to strengthen our struggling economy. We must look at additional ways to get our economy back on track. Last summer, I introduced an economic recovery bill, which included a proposal for \$50 billion in infrastructure funding to create jobs and improve our nation's aging transportation infrastructure. Anyone who drives in Maine recognizes the deteriorating state of many of our roads and bridges. Investing in our infrastructure not only creates jobs but also leaves communities with lasting and needed assets. My proposal also includes \$1 billion in additional funding for the Workforce Investment Act and tax incentives to help small businesses and to encourage energy conservation.

One of the energy provisions of the legislation was signed into law last year. It provides a \$300 tax credit to help individuals purchase clean-burning wood pellet stoves in order to provide an affordable alternative for heating their homes.

Soaring energy prices throughout much of 2008 highlight the critical need for our nation to achieve energy independence. As a nation, we should set a goal of energy independence by the year 2020—an ambitious goal that will require a multi-faceted approach, but one that can be achieved through resolve and commitment. I joined a bipartisan group of 20 Senators that has developed a comprehensive bill to expand production of American energy, promote conservation, and spur the development of alternative sources of energy. To immediately mitigate the effects of high prices, I fought to increase funding for programs that help our seniors and low-income families such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

As the Ranking Member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, I am committed to ensuring that our nation is as safe as possible and that government is prepared to respond to disasters. Maine certainly has had its share of natural disasters during the past year. This year, my homeland security priorities include renewing a port security law that I coauthored and strengthening security at labs containing dangerous pathogens.

Other priorities include supporting the vital work being done at Bath Iron Works, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and other defense-related businesses throughout Maine – all of which are making significant contributions to our national security. We must also continue to improve and expand access to affordable health care – particularly in our rural communities – expand aid for education, protect our environment.

While this is just a brief summary of my recent work in Washington over the past several months, please know that I will continue to work as hard as possible representing Maine in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for many blessings, including the opportunity to continue representing Orono and Maine in the United States Senate.

If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Bangor office at 207-945-0417, or visit my website at <http://collins.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
2ND DISTRICT, MAINE

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1724 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-6306
FAX: (202) 225-2943
www.house.gov/michaud

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2009

COMMITTEES:
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, PIPELINES
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
SMALL BUSINESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL AND URBAN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAX AND FINANCE

Dear Orono residents and friends,

This year, Mainers are facing some of the greatest challenges seen for several generations. As I travel across Maine, I hear from many people worried about losing their jobs, heating their homes, putting food on the table, and getting affordable health care.

The economic crisis affects us all as Americans. Here in Maine, we must continue to create new jobs and help our businesses develop new ideas and products.

In my first three terms as your Congressman, I have found and won funding for research, training, and job development. In 2007, I authored a bill, which became public law, to create a Northern Border Regional Commission. The NBRC will invest federal resources in economic development and job creation projects in the most economically distressed areas of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and northern New York. I have supported efforts to restore funding to the Small Business Administration to make sure it can offer Maine businessmen and women the capital they need to start and invest in their businesses. I have also secured substantial investments in federal research and development at the University of Maine, promoting valuable research and creating jobs throughout Maine.

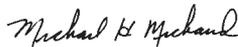
There is still so much else to do. Raising the truck weight limits on Maine's interstate north of Augusta will help our businesses, cut fuel costs and emissions and make so many of our rural and secondary roads safer for our families.

We need to keep our promises to our veterans and make sure that their benefits and health care are there when they need them. As the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Health Subcommittee, I have worked to make health care more accessible for rural veterans and to increase the overall spending for the Department of Veteran's Affairs. In 2008, I sponsored HR 1824, the Montgomery GI Bill Expansion, to expand the scope of educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill so it may be used to obtain a commercial motor vehicle operator license.

Finally, my staff and I remain committed to providing quality constituent services whether it is help with cutting through red tape or a question about federal programs and benefits. If my office may ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at my Bangor office at 207-942-6935 or by emailing me through my web page at www.house.gov/michaud. While on my website, I also encourage you to sign up for occasional e-mail updates on issues important to Mainers.

Thank you again for the opportunity to represent you in Congress.

With warmest regards,



Michael H. Michaud
Member of Congress

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BANGOR, ME 04401
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PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769
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FAX: (207) 764-1060

WATERVILLE:
16 COMMON STREET
WATERVILLE, ME 04901
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FAX: (207) 873-5717





ELIZABETH M. SCHNEIDER

Maine State Senate District #30

Representing Communities of Alton, Argyle, Bradford, Edinburg, Enfield, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman, LaGrange, Lee, Lincoln, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Old Town, Orono, Passadumkeag, Penobscot Indian Island, Springfield, Twombly, Veazie, Webster, and Winn in Penobscot County

CONTACTING SENATOR SCHNEIDER

In Augusta
1-800-423-6900 (toll free)
207-287-1515
207-287-1583 (TTY)
207-287-1585 (FAX)

In Orono
(207) 866-7359

*For up-to-date information
on State House
happenings, hearing
schedules, or to email
Senator Schneider,
please visit
www.mainesenate.org*

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It gives me great pleasure to update you once again on some of the issues that are currently being debated at the State House in Augusta.

One of the top priorities that I am focusing on this session as your State Senator is the economy. While many other states across the country are experiencing double-digit unemployment right now, Maine's economy is actually stronger than most. Despite our situation, many people are still hurting and need a job or more money in their pockets to make ends meet.

Working together in true bipartisan cooperation, Democratic and Republican lawmakers have already closed a \$166 million budget shortfall for the state's fiscal year ending in June. Despite these efforts, our state government still needs to reduce spending for the next two-year budget cycle. According to the latest budget plan put forward, our state would actually spend less over the next two years than we did in the previous budget. Although it is important our state government do more with less, I will also be working closely with my colleagues to minimize the impact of these cuts to key government services and aid to K-12 and higher education.

If you have any questions about the budget process or any other legislative matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at either 866-7359 or at my office in Augusta at 287-1515. If you would like to e-mail me, please go to my Web site www.mainesenate.org/schneider and click on the contact form on the Web page to let me know how I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Schneider
Senator, District 30



Emily Ann Cain

103 Forest Avenue
Orono, ME 04473
Residence: (207) 866-3753
E-Mail: CainOrono@hotmail.com

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400
TTY: (207) 287-4469

REPORT TO THE CITIZENS OF ORONO

Dear Neighbors:

The 124th Maine Legislature is drawing to a close and this session has offered many unique challenges. The slowing economy as the result of a worldwide economic downturn, have exacerbated the state budget shortfall that became evident late last year and is reflected in our new two year budget. As the House chair of the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, I have spent many hours crafting a budget that has the least negative impact on the daily lives of Maine citizens.

As I write this letter, we are working on the last few items of the first session. In light of the current economy, more consolidation and belt tightening efforts have been necessary – not only in our schools, but also in our jails and social service agencies, as well as all state government departments. We have looked at all state programs in a careful and thoughtful way to determine how to shrink government while maintaining vital services for those families disrupted by the failing economy.

Without major revenue increases (taxes), cuts in programs were inevitable. In addition to these difficult budget balancing decisions, we have given a great deal of attention to providing affordable health care to all citizens, improving our transportation system, promoting job development, and protecting our natural resources, all while managing the tax burden. I was also pleased that the Legislature passed and the Governor signed LD 1020, the marriage equality bill. The legislation, of which I am a co-sponsor, ensures that all citizens of our state have the right to marry. This law will treat all couples in our state fairly and provide that everyone is entitled to equal protection under our laws.

In regard to the tax burden, I am pleased that the House and Senate have passed a tax reform bill that is designed to lower the income tax rate for Mainers, putting an additional \$55-\$60 million in the pockets of Maine families each year. The bill is now before the Governor, and I am hopeful that he will sign it.

Even though session is coming to a close I want you to remember that I am here for you. Please feel free to contact me directly to share your concerns and opinions about state issues. Your input allows me to more accurately represent your views in the State House. I am committed to working to create a more efficient and cost effective government.

I am deeply humbled by your trust in me to be your representative in Augusta. Please feel free to contact me with issues that may arise in your dealings with our various state agencies. You may reach me at home at 866-3753, in Augusta at 1-800-423-2900, or by email at cainorono@hotmail.com.

Let's stay in touch!

Sincerely,

Emily Ann Cain
State Representative

District 19 Orono (part)

Printed on recycled paper

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