



Two Hundred First  
Annual Report  
of the  
Municipal Officers  
Town of Orono, Maine

For the year ending June 30, 2009

## 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, University of Maine Fitness Center, Orono Bogwalk, Orono-Old Town Bikeway
(Other Facilities)	Penobscot Valley Country Club, Gass Riding Stables, Orchard Hill Farm, Alford Ice Arena
Places of Worship:	Orono United Methodist Church, Church of Universal Fellowship, Our Lady of Wisdom Chapel (Newman Center), Maine Christian Association (Wilson Center), Faith Baptist Church, Orono Friends Meeting, Islamic Center of Maine
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 2009

### 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 2009**

**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





**MEMBERS OF THE RSU #26  
SCHOOL BOARD -  
ORONO ELECTED OFFICIALS**  
*Three-year term*

James Bird, Chair                      2010  
139 Main Street  
Orono, ME 04473

Leo Kenney                                2011  
19 Page Place  
Orono, ME 04473

Geoffrey Wingard                      2011  
19 Cromwell Drive  
Orono, ME 04473

Alison Mitchell                         2012  
172 Main Street  
Orono, ME 04473

Frances Mary Neubauer              2012  
44 Forest Avenue  
Orono, ME 04473

**TOWN COMMITTEES, 2009**  
**Town of Orono**

**Planning Board**  
**Five-year terms**

Mark Kittridge, Chair.	2010
Phil Ruck	2011
Christa Schwintzer	2012
David Thompson	2013
Scott Wilkerson	2013
Judson McIntosh	2014
Chris Dorion, V. Chr.	2014
Warren Hedstrom, Assoc.	2012
Vinal Applebee, Assoc.	2012

**Board of Appeals**  
**Three-year terms**

Shane Martin	2010
Betty Lee Comstock	2010
Jack Blease	2011
Mary Cathcart	2011
David Chase, Chair.	2012
David Sewall	2012

**Board of Assessment Review**  
***Three-year term***

Mark Bilyk	2011
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**Library Trustees**  
***Three-year terms***

Judith Hakola, Chair	2010
David Chase	2010
W. Murray Bain	2011
Mary Cady	2011
Constance Perry	2012
Allison Applebee	2012

*Associate Trustee: two-year term*

Steve Colburn	2010
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*Youth Member: one-year term*

Kate Bulteel	2010
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*Assoc. Youth Member: one-year term*

Victoria Jain	2010
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**Voter Registration Appeals Board**

***Chairperson - four-year term - (Oct.)***

***Others - three-year term - (Oct.)***

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

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

Chris Dorion	2010
JoAnn Hall	2010
John Bradson	2010

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

Stephen Murray	2010
James Parker - VZ	2011
Kenneth Borneman - VZ	2012
Scott Hall	2013
Jay Fortier	2014

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

Dianne Charland	2010
Molly MacLean	2010
Cynthia Blease, Co-Chair	2010
David Thompson, Co-Chair	2011
Patricia Thompson	2011
Jack Blease	2012

**Trails Committee**  
*Two-year term expiring 2009*

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

**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	

**Rural Zoning Working Committee**

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

**Orono Cool Committee**

Farahad Dastoor	Ronald Davis	Shirley Davis
Paul Wintle	Rob Yerxa	Kathy Marks Molloy

**Orono Economic Development Corporation  
Board of Directors**

John McDonough, Pres.  
Stevenson Sheppard, VP  
Margaret Criner, Treas.  
Tom Perry, Sec.  
Katherine Sewall

Arthur Comstock  
Jay Shields  
Janet Waldron  
Howard Whelden  
Andrew Perkins

Lianne Harris  
Geoff Gordon  
Fred Wlodarski  
David Miller  
Peter Gavett

**Community Health Advisory Committee**

Jamie Comstock  
Lianne Harris  
Jean Carville

Dee Virtue  
Thomas Spitz  
Emily Wesson

Joan Netland  
Stephanie Egenhofer  
Maria Weinberger



**EMPLOYEE****DATE OF HIRE***As of 6/30/09***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
Kevin Peary	02/14/05
Brad Strout	07/24/06
Jared LeBarnes	02/19/08
Ben Pratt	08/04/08

**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 6/30/09***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
Derek Dinsmore	11/07/05
Seth Burnes	09/11/06
Stephen Marko	04/16/07
Ed Leskey	05/12/08
Daniel Merrill	12/14/08

**Public Works**

Rob Yerxa	07/15/08
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
Adam Smart	09/01/08

## REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL 2008-2009

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 was completed in 2008 and this year changes to our comprehensive plan were adopted in response to the Committee's recommendations. The Council under the leadership of the Town Planner, Evan Richert, has drafted ordinance language in support of the modifications to the comprehensive plan. We look forward to the final adoption of the new language in 2010. Significant progress has been made in planning for new development in the area around the Kelley Road and I-95 and in the redevelopment of the former Webster Mill site on the Penobscot River. 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 and completed in the August of 2009. A tremendous volunteer effort was undertaken to assist in making the move to the new building and a well-attended opening celebration was held on September 12th. After several months of operation in the new building we have witnessed a significant increase in both the number of Library patrons and in circulation. The Council wishes to express our great appreciation for all those who volunteered their time, energy, and dollars to make this significant contribution to the vitality of our community.

Shortly after the opening of the new Library, the Black Bear Shuttle service was begun, running continuous bus service between Mill Street and the University campus. This service is the result of

cooperation between the University, Orchard Trails, the Town, OVA and the City of Bangor, all sharing in expenses and providing the equipment that makes the service possible. The first few months of service have been well received both by the University and by merchants on Mill Street with ridership reaching and maintaining expectations.

Budgetary and finance issues continue to be a focus of the Council. The past year has been difficult for our Town, our State, and the entire nation as we have all struggled with the consequences of a severe economic downturn. The Manager's analysis of our financial situation has helped emphasize the concern for sustainability of our Community in the face of changing tax and revenue sharing 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 in increasing costs.

The Council continues to work on financial policies that formalize our management of taxpayer dollars that emphasize accountability and preparing for the future. As a result of those efforts, the Town



*Town Council*

*Sitting L-R: Tom Perry, Tom Spitz, Cindy Mehnert*

*Standing: Judy Sullivan, Chairman Geoffrey Gordon, Mark Maggerty*

*Top Photo: Lianne Harris*

was its bond rating upgraded in 2009. That is an important outcome of sustained, responsible, and forward looking fiscal management that will yield significant savings for years to come. With the new bond rating in place, the Council has scheduled a strategic restructuring of existing debt for 2010 and we anticipate an important reduction in the cost of debt service. Council members have committed themselves to improving Orono's financial situation with sound financial policies and evaluation.

I write the same thing in these pages each year, 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 set 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 also acknowledges and is grateful for the dedication of a large number of volunteers in community service. These volunteers are your friends and neighbors who serve on committees and boards, serve as election officials, work in the schools, support the police and fire departments, serve in our 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geoffrey A. Gordon  
Council Chairman

## **REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER & ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER 2008-2009**

I am pleased to present to the Town of Orono my 6th annual report. The best way to describe the past year for Orono is to say that it has been challenging, just as it has been for many of our residents. Although budget constraints have always existed, additional state mandates, cuts in State Aids, and consolidation issues have created on-going financial issues that cross between multiple fiscal years. The economic realities have provided continuing pressure on local funding both for town services and school services. As we plan for the future, we will have to change and adapt and most assuredly, local government services will change.

Like most communities, school consolidation has been difficult in Orono, mostly because we often define our community by the schools and services we provide as well as the people who reside here. After working countless hours, the school has successfully completed its consolidation with neighboring municipalities. As a result of this consolidation, this will be the final year that financial information for the school will be provided through the town audit.

Despite the many financial challenges facing Orono, we have continued to develop plans that build on our future capacity to serve the community and build our downtown.

After fifteen years of service to the town of Orono, Kathy Marks Molloy retired as Library Director for Orono. During those 15 years, Kathy brought her unique vision to Orono library services through her work with the Foundation on the development of the new library and in bringing automation to the Orono library. In September, 2009, the new Library opened under the direction of Laurie Carpenter who has served the town for nearly 25 years. Finally, there is no adequate way to thank the Library Foundation for their gift of a public library to the Town of Orono. Following their very active fund raising campaign, the Orono Town Library found a permanent home in the downtown. Continued landscape planning by the Orono Foundation will ensure that the Birch Street/Library campus will provide a vibrant attraction to our downtown, serving the people of Orono for years to come.

In February, the Council approved a three year plan for implementation of a downtown shuttle bus that connects the Town to the University. The benefits of the initiative will be to make downtown accessible to on campus students all hours of the day and into early evening and to encourage more individuals to leave their cars at home. With half-hour shuttle service in addition to the regular BAT service, it is our hope that this becomes a viable and reliable alternative to the automobile.

In 2006 the town acquired a waterfront piece of property located on Summer Street in the downtown and successfully obtained a Riverfront Development Bond for the development of a park and trail system in the downtown. This property offers easy hand carry canoe and kayak access to the Stillwater River and will anchor one end of a downtown trail system. The trail system will wind through various parts of downtown and along the river and connect the park to the new library and the Birch Street School. Additionally, a portion of those funds will be used for the reconstruction of sidewalks along Pine Street.

In 2007 the Town of Orono acquired the Old Webster Mill located at the confluence of the Stillwater and Penobscot Rivers. In the fall of 2008 the town submitted and was awarded an EPA Brownfield's grant for cleanup of the site. Additionally, the town put out a Request for Qualifications seeking a developer of the site. After reviewing the proposals the Town entered into an agreement with Developers Collaborative out of Portland. Developer's Collaborative has demonstrated experience working with similar sites throughout the State. Under the terms of the agreement, they have one year to evaluate the site and determine the opportunities that exist for redevelopment of the site.

For the past two years, the town has been working with the Boy Scouts and other neighbors in the Kelley Road area to put together a comprehensive plan for the development of approximately 100 acres at the I-95 Interchange. A draft concept plan was developed that included road connections, utility connections, and open space and trail connections. In 2009, the Town approached Senator Susan

Collins' Office to see if stimulus funds could be accessed by the town for planning and engineering of the site. Thanks to Senator Collins, the Town of Orono was able to obtain a \$345,000 grant through the Small Business Administration which will facilitate the development of this area.

In June of 2009, a fire at the Katahdin Building, which sat at the intersection of Main Street and Bennoch Road, destroyed this landmark building. The Orono Fire Department and crews from around the region did their best to save the structure; however, the building was too old and the fire spread too quickly. Fortunately, no one was injured. At the Council's direction, the Town approached the owners of the Katahdin Building along with adjacent landowners to determine whether it is feasible to work together on a masterplan for redevelopment of the site. During the winter of 2010, proposed site plans have been designed and are on display at the town office.

Finally, after more than five years of planning and two years of construction, a \$12 million upgrade of the new wastewater treatment plant was completed that uses state of the art technology to ensure that Orono is on the forefront of minimizing our impacts on the Penobscot River. Nutrient removal, secondary digestion and ultraviolet light treatment were three processes that were added to the wastewater treatment process in order to further protect the river and its ecosystem. With the proposed listing of the Atlantic salmon on the Federal Endangered Species list, Orono is in a good position to comply with additional standards on effluent that is released into the river.

Before I close I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that contribute their time to make Orono a wonderful place to live, visit, and work. Volunteers are an integral part of all our accomplishments including the construction of a new library, the selection of developers for Webster Mill, planting of flowers, shelving of books, coaching youth athletics, planting trees, grooming trails, planning our town, maintaining our police vehicles and the list goes on.

Finally, I would like to thank our committed Town staff, council and citizens. Without the heart and dedication of our many volunteers, staff, council and citizens, Orono would be a much different place.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine M. Conlow  
Maria Weinberger



*Town Manager,  
Catherine Conlow*



*Assistant Town Manager,  
Maria Weinberger*

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## REPORT OF TOWN OFFICE 2008-2009

This year has progressed with the continued use of the new software program. Tax bills were sent out in August after converting data from the Gemini System. These bills were produced and mailed by a printing service.

One of the bigger events of the year was the Presidential Election in November. All members of town staff worked for two months registering voters, issuing absentee ballots and entering all of the new voters on the computer. For more information, see registrar's report.

The banking relationship with Camden National has gone quite smoothly. The investment relationship with Acadia Trust was converted back to Camden National when interest rates fell so drastically. This has worked out well and afforded some interest on our investments.

The computer conversion and new programs have become more familiar, but every day seems to bring a new experience. Many new and analytical reports are able to be produced and department heads are able to view their accounts online. In mid-July, the town became a pilot town for issuing new plates in the Motor Vehicle Registration Program. Motor Vehicle worked closely with this office and Unifund to perfect this program. Updates are continuously made to the programs and staff has been very helpful and patient with this process.

Near the end of the fiscal year, a new copier/printer/scanner was purchased that is linked directly to everyone's computer, enabling a more organized workflow. It was relocated to the main office for efficiency of operation and has proved to be a valuable tool.

In mid-July, the Boston Post Cane was awarded to Ruth Dickey on her 100th birthday. After her death in November, the next recipient was Viola Purinton Giffin who also was honored on her 100th birthday on March 15th at her home on Hemlock Point.

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.

If we can be of any assistance with town licensing issues, please do not hesitate to call us at 866-2556 or visit the web at [www.orono.org](http://www.orono.org). It is a pleasure to serve you and thank you for your patience during this computer conversion.

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 2008-2009**

This was an extremely busy year for elections! The Town Office Staff prepared and conducted an unprecedented five elections this fiscal year. The first of which was the Presidential Election on November 4, 2008. Between October 1 and November 30, we added 2697 new voters, 791 voter records were changed, and only 93 voters were canceled. The Town Office Staff worked very hard and should be commended for these accomplishments in addition to keeping on top of their every day duties.

The Presidential Election was the first election where absentee or “early voting” was really encouraged. We devoted one day to absentee voting at the University of Maine. The campus organized the event and over 700 people registered and voted. We also spent four hours at Dirigo Pines and two hours at Orono Commons. An unbelievable 2355 absentee ballots were issued for this election representing 40% of the 5820 votes cast. The Secretary of State allowed us to process these the day before the election. It took most of the day and we were assisted by two councilors, one warden, and two election clerks. The Town Office Staff continued to assist residents with regular business along with voting 200 in person absentee ballots. Amazing!

The polls on Election Day were relatively calm with no long lines. The Secretary of State saved the day and delivered extra ballots at 5:30pm to the Campus Precinct just as we ran out. Special thanks to all the dedicated and knowledgeable wardens, election workers, and registrars – we couldn’t do it without your hard work!

Election number 2 was the January 27, 2009 Special Town Referendum Election. There was one question on the ballot “Do you favor approving the school administrative unit reorganization plan prepared by the Riverside Reorganization Planning Committee to reorganize Glenburn School Department, Orono School Department, and Veazie School Department into a Regional School Unit, with an effective date of July 1, 2009?” There was a total of 428 votes cast – 327 yes, and 101 no. This represented a 5% voter turnout.

The third Election was the March 10, 2009 Municipal Election. Lianne Harris and Thomas Perry were re-elected to the Town Council and Judith Sullivan was elected to the position vacated by Terri Hutchinson. Alison Mitchell and Geoffrey Wingard easily won seats on the School Committee. A total of 491 votes were cast representing a 6% voter turnout.

The May 5, 2009 Regional School Unit Board #26 Election was the fourth Election this fiscal year. James E. Bird, Leo C. Kenney, Alison S. Mitchell, Frances Mary Neubauer, and Geoffrey H. Wingard were elected to the RSU#26 Board for the Town of Orono. A very light turnout of 311 represented 4% of Orono’s registered voters.

The fifth and final Election this fiscal year was the June 23, 2009 Regional School Unit #26 Budget Referendum Election. The ballot consisted of one article – “Do you favor approving the Regional School Unit #26 budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest Regional School Unit budget meeting?” There was a total of 174 votes cast in Orono - 103 yes, and 70 no. This represented a voter turnout of 2% for the Town of Orono. The other towns in the RSU also voted on this article. Veazie had 54 ballots cast – 42 yes, and 12 no. Glenburn had 66 ballots cast – 31 yes, and 35 no. The RSU#26 Budget for the upcoming school year passed with a total vote of 176 yes, and 117 no.

I received updates on June 19 from the Secretary of State’s office concerning the November 3, 2009 Referendum Election, the statewide purge of the Central Voter Registration System, and the scanning of the voter registration cards.

**VOTER STATISTICS**

ACTIVE VOTERS	7734
INACTIVE VOTERS	2025

Another year has gone by, and the Secretary of State's Office has not made a final decision regarding replacement of our voting machines. We continue to use the Eagle Machines that they are loaning us. The machines have worked well and have proven to be dependable.

I would again like to thank everyone that has a part in the Election process here in Orono.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hart  
Registrar of Voters

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### **2009 Accomplishments**

Vital Statistics for the year:

Births	41	Marriages	42	Deaths	72
Boat Registrations			299		
Snowmobile Registrations			124		
ATV Registrations			59		
IF&W Recreational Licenses			503		
Dog Licenses			492		

## REPORT OF CODE ENFORCEMENT 2008-2009

As the new report period began, we implemented the Rental Registration Ordinance and were able to document the number of rental units in Orono as well as the number of unrelated persons in rental units. According to our most recent count, we found that there were 395 apartment owners, 1463 rental units, and a total of 2870 unrelated tenants. The number of tenants declared does not show the “real” number of tenants residing in the units, as the registration forms used last year only requested the number of unrelated tenants. For 2009-2010 we sent updated forms adding a request for the actual number of tenants in the units.

Several different renovation projects took place at the University, and all were completed according to Codes.

We had several matters which required enforcement action. Some of these were small issues resolved without much dispute while we had several which involved lengthy discussion to avoid court action - an out of state natural gas installation company performing work without permits and in violation of Code requirements, and a local company doing electrical work without permits and in violation of Code requirements (not to mention allowing unlicensed and untrained workers install electrical service). Inspectors from the State were called in and both companies have had their licenses suspended.

During the year, issues arose which required the Board of Appeals to meet.

Following the Board’s decision, in both cases the landowners have exercised their right to file further appeals with the Courts. These matters have not yet been heard by the Court.

Safety violations and structural deficiencies in a fraternity house on College Avenue caused us to post the building as unsafe for occupancy. The fraternity organization is working to correct these problems and we will be reviewing their plan of correction to see if the building can again be occupied.

Aside from reviewing applications, issuing permits, performing inspections, and dealing with enforcement issues, I am also pe-

riodically 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 into 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  
Codes Enforcement Officer



*Code Enforcement Officer Bill Murphy*

## PERMIT ACTIVITY July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

<u>Type of Permit</u>	<u>Permits Issued</u>	<u>Fees Collected</u>
Buildings	90	\$17,711.24
Electrical	73	\$ 6,707.00
Heating	55	\$ 3,150.00
Home Occupation	31	\$ 930.00
Plumbing		\$ 3,047.00
Internal	29	
External	6	
Road Opening	54	\$ 2,600.00
Sewer Connection	4	\$ 2,815.00

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Vaughan  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Assistant Code Enforcement Officer



*Administrative Assistant Ruth Vaughan*

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## BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

### July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

Building Permits:	
Single-family homes	4
Mobile homes	1
Alterations/repairs/renovations	14
Additions	9
Garage	6
Deck	9
Sheds	10
Chimney	1
Communication tower	2
Daycare	1
Clearing	1
Sign	9
Commercial storage building	1
Foundation	1
Roof	1
Porch	1
Greenhouse	2
Gazebo	1
Fire Escape	1
Fill	3
Library	1
Demolitions	6
University	3
Total Issued:	90

## REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD 2008-2009

The Orono Planning Board met 8 times during fiscal year 2008 – 2009 with the following projects being reviewed during this time:

- A new culvert crossing over Johnny Mack Brook
- 18 additional units at Dirigo Pines Retirement Community
- Water District upgrades on Bennoch road
- A new mosque on Park Street
- An amendment to the Amesco Subdivision Plan on Forest Ave
- An amendment to the Meadow Brook Subdivision on Stillwater Avenue
- A bookstore at 103 Park Street
- An expansion of the medical facility at 84 Kelley Road
- A new Post Construction Stormwater Ordinance
- Amendments to the Floodplain Ordinance
- Amendments to the Shoreland Ordinance

The Planning Board is made up of 7 regular members and 2 associate members. Our meeting schedule is once a month, but there were some months when our services were not required to review any applications. We also meet for workshops to work on ordinance language and other business.

The current Planning Board consists of the following members:

Mark Kittridge (Chairman), Chris Dorion (Vice Chairman), David Thompson, Christa Schwintzer, Phil Ruck, Judson McIntosh, Scott Wilkerson, and Warren Hedstrom (associate member).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kittridge, Chairman  
Orono Planning Board



*Planner Evan Richert*

## **REPORT OF BOARD OF APPEALS 2008-2009**

During fiscal year 2008-2009 the Board of Appeals met 3 times to review a request for an administrative appeal. This administrative appeal upheld the decision of the Code Enforcement Officer in ordering a reduction on the height of an accessory structure. An abutting property owner then appealed this decision and the board found that the issuance of a permit by the Code Enforcement Officer was in error. The original applicant then asked for a reconsideration of that decision and the board did not reconsider the decision. The applicant is now reviewing the matter through the legal system.

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. Currently there are 3 openings on this board.

The current board consists of the following members:

David Chase, Chairman  
Shane Martin  
Betty Lee Comstock  
Jack Blease  
Mary Cathcart  
David Sewall

Respectfully submitted,

David Chase, Chairman  
Board of Appeals

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## REPORT OF ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION 2008-2009

All properties are assessed as of April 1st of each year. The fiscal year 2009 assessments are as of April 1, 2008. Fiscal year 2009 is from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.



Richard C. Sands, Assessor

Real Estate	
Taxable Valuation:	\$ 397,461,465.00
Personal Property	
Taxable Valuation:	\$ 20,037,800.00
Total Taxable	
Valuation:	\$ 417,499,265.00

The tax rate is calculated by dividing the total amount to be raised from the property tax by the total taxable valuation.  $\$8,224,735.52 / \$417,499,265.00 = \$0.01970$  or \$19.70 per one thousand dollars of assessed value.

Fiscal year 2009 was the ninth 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, 2009*

**2003-2004 TAXES**

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

**2004-2005 TAXES**

Automatic Vending & Games	118.58
AVG Acquisition, Inc.	<u>208.12</u>
	\$ 326.70

**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*
North Atlantic Business Group	47.30
Orono Medical Center	3042.60
Rural Family Counseling	27.00
Versionzero	28.60
Williams Bros. Inc	<u>375.75</u>
	\$ 3851.25

**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.	7.50
Cingular Wireless	168.00
Knife Edge Productions	78.00*
Mall Investments Inc	203.00

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

## OUTSTANDING PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

*JUNE 30, 2009- Continued*

Nevells, Carl – University Barber Shop	26.65
Orono Medical Center	157.95
Rural Family Counseling	22.55
Uglug LLC, d/b/a/ Perfecto Pizza	200.00
Versionzero	<u>38.00</u>
	\$ 1119.65

### 2008-2009 TAXES

6 Stillwater Avenue, LLC	\$ 449.16
AVG Acquisition, Inc.	66.98
Cingular Wireless	157.60
IM & M One Stop Home Repair, Inc.	189.12
Intelligent Spatial Tec	66.98
Jack, Ron	21.67
Knife Edge Productions	49.25*
LaPointe, Perry	187.15
Nevells, Carl – University Barber Shop	26.26
Orono Medical Center	1542.51
Penobscot Golf Holdings, LLC	3515.46*
Rags to Riches	20.20
Research Institute for Mathematics	16.74
Rosebush, Jamie	15.76
Smith, Dana	364.56
Uglug LLC, Perfecto Pizza	78.80
Versionzero	<u>29.55</u>
	\$ 6797.75

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

**2002-2003 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING***JUNE 30, 2009*

St.Germain, John W. - c/o Francis Mooney	\$ 1474.68
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**2003-2004 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING***JUNE 30, 2009*

Mooney, Francis X.	1341.60
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**2004-2005 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING***JUNE 30, 2009*

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

**2005-2006 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING***JUNE 30, 2009*

Atwood, Jennifer	\$ 211.24
Orono, Town of c/o Francis Mooney	970.20
Thurber, Arthur Jr.	<u>1005.29</u>
	\$ 2186.73

**2006-2007 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING***JUNE 30, 2009*

Cook, Mark R., Heirs of	1.64
Fortier, Rita, Heirs of	1154.04
Foster, John	296.04
Orono, Town of, c/o Francis Mooney	996.60
Thurber, Arthur Jr.	<u>950.40</u>
	\$ 3398.72

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

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**2007-2008 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -**  
*JUNE 30, 2009*

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
Clisham, John A.	1858.53
Cook, Mark R., Heirs of	73.21
Craig Ministries, Inc.	1018.53
Craig, Sherwood H.	3750.49
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
Houlsen, Joanne C.	1481.21
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	2455.21
Lane, Jean L.	3021.21
Lane, Jean L.	3771.21
Libby, William G., Jr.	2036.53
Mahar, Philip F.	1217.21
Mahar, Philip F.	2011.21
Maine Central Railroad Company	336.78
Maine Central Railroad Company	635.21
Martin, David S.	3870.53
Martin, F. Allen	976.53
Mellows, Romona	161.21
Mishio, Susan J, Hebert	2368.53
Nadeau, Mike	133.21
Nelson, Kenneth	175.21
Noyes, Dale	192.53
Penobscot Valley Country Club	30358.21
Secane Partners, LLC	5072.53
Simpson, Charles	1005.21
Simpson, Charles	2297.21

**2007-2008 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -**  
*JUNE 30, 2009 - Continued*

Thomas, Bodrai	201.21
Ware, Pauline E.	7869.21
Ware, Pauline E.	1651.21
Watson, Roderick K.	297.85
White, Linwood E. Jr.	1582.53
White, Linwood E. Jr.	2205.21
White, Linwood E. Jr.	2740.53
White, Linwood E. Jr.	<u>2802.53</u>
	\$ 105603.42

**2008-2009 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -**  
*JUNE 30, 2009*

Bartlett, Devan	180.68
Bear Brew Inc.	8027.84*
Bellefleur, Warren	1610.09*
Bowden, Darrell	139.00
Bradson, John P. Jr.	4337.97
Bradson, John P. Jr.	3535.48
Bradson, John P. Jr.	4207.64
Brown, Gary K.	2519.24
Bussell Family Realty Trust	4172.32*
Campbell, Louis P.	1539.24
Clisham, John A.	2069.16
Connole, David F.	1451.02*
Cox, David S.	1224.61
Craig Ministries, Inc.	1119.71
Craig, Sherwood H.	4142.44
Curran, Richard L.	1027.56*
Curran, Richard L.	1348.88*
Curran, Richard L.	1030.63
Dodge, David M.	226.85
Dowling, Mary Lee	186.93
Ellis, William G. Jr.	2029.57

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

**2008-2009 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -**  
*JUNE 30, 2009 - Continued*

Goldman, Jeffrey A.	4817.43
Goodrich, Burnett C.	1914.40*
Grant, Brian L.	914.80
Graves, Josh	141.09
Guay, Kent Vincent	2559.54*
Hale, John	4959.25**
Houlsen, Joanne C.	1630.93
Hunting, Robert Samuel Coulter	5502.01
Johnson, Leslie Dale	498.42*
Johnson, Todd	1905.47
Lane, Jean L.	3409.69
Lane, Jean L.	4272.34
LaPointe, Perry E.	4470.29**
LaPointe, Perry E.	68.16*
LaPointe, Perry E.	51.49*
Mahar, Philip F.	1635.09*
Mahar, Philip F.	2216.44*
Martin, David S. & Allen F.	4286.92
Martin, Allen F. & David S.	1068.33
Martin, Rebecca L & Charles Edward	855.62*
Mishio, Susan H. Hebert	3073.05
Moose, John C.	426.77**
Moran, Erlene M.	591.16*
Mosher, Howard Heirs of	3195.78*
Mosher, William	780.78*
Murphy, Thomas E.	1670.52
Peddie, Harry	5883.19
Peirce, David L. Jr.	139.93*
Penobscot Golf Holdings, LLC	64603.59
Penobscot Golf Holdings, LLC	347.37
Penobscot Golf Holdings, LLC	149.42
Pike Corporation of Maine	3058.88*
Pogorzelski, Henry A.	1302.25
Pogorzelski, Henry A.	1928.55

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

**2008-2009 TAX LIENS OUTSTANDING -**  
***JUNE 30, 2009 - Continued***

Red Shield Environmental, LLC	902.54*
Secane Partners, LLC	5736.16
Simpson, Charles	1105.84
Simpson, Carles	2608.18
Smith, Ricky D.	2457.44*
Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity	174.96*
Thomas, Bodrai	207.76
Vandez, John P.	3778.50
Ware, Pauline E. Trustee	8442.52
Ware, Pauline E. Trustee	1818.46*
Watson, Roderick K.	308.44
Wentworth, Lorraine	1636.47*
Whelden, Howard C. Sr.	3386.77
White, Linwood E. Jr.	1869.84
White, Linwood E. Jr.	3095.35
White, Linwood E. Jr.	3090.88
White, Linwood E. Jr.	<u>2436.61</u>
	\$223,509.53

\* paid after books closed

\*\* partial payment after books closed

**TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY***June 30, 2008*

<b>NAME</b>	<b>MAP</b>	<b>LOT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
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	\$397,461,465
Personal Property	<u>20,037,800</u>
Total Valuation	\$417,499,265

**Assessment**

Valuation x Rate	\$417,499,265 x .0197 = 8,224,736
Village Center Tax District	8,799
Supplemental Taxes	<u>512</u>

Total Assessment Charged to Collector	\$8,234,047
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**Collection and Credits**

Cash Collections	7,896,212
Tax Increment Financing Credit	79,931
Tax Abatements	<u>26,053</u>

Total Collection and Credits	<u>\$8,002,196</u>
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<b>2009 Taxes Receivable – June 30, 2009</b>	\$231,851
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## COMPUTATION OF ASSESSMENT

**TAX COMMITMENT** **\$8,224,735.52**

### Requirements

Municipal Appropriation	\$ 7,352,291.00
Contingency	15,000.00
TIF Financing Plan	312,111.24
County Tax	439,811.00
Education	8,617,991.00
Adult Education	40,000.00
Adult Vocational Education	<u>1,775.00</u>
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>\$16,778,979.24</b>

### Less

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 1,300,000.00
Municipal Revenue	2,924,975.00
School Revenue	4,273,462.00
Homestead Reimbursement	139,537.07
BETE Reimbursement	<u>15,259.62</u>
<b>Total Deductions</b>	<b>\$ 8,653,233.69</b>

**Net Requirements** **\$ 8,125,745.55**

**Overlay** **\$ 98,989.97**

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**PERPETUAL CARE FUNDS RECEIVED**  
**July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009**

Bouchard, Joseph, Daniel & Bennett	Map D Range 2 Lot 260	\$ 450.00
Burgess, Verna	Map D Range 2 Lot 254	425.00
Chute, Marion	Map D Range 2 Lot 34	900.00
Goater, Elaine	Map D Range 2 Lot 255	450.00
Lugdon, Beverly	Map D Range 2 Lot 265	450.00
Perkins, Anne B.	Map D Range 2 Lot 83	<u>100.00</u> *
		\$ 2775.00

\* indicates partial payment

## 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, 2009, 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, 2009, 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 March 10, 2010, 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.

1

*Certified Public Accountants & Business Advisors*

Marc J. Powers, CPA, CVA

David J. Shorette, CPA, CVA

Bruce D. Moir, CPA, JD, MPA

Richard E. Emerson, Jr., CPA, CVA

Dana O. Dakers, CPA, MST, MBA

James D. Tatham, CPA

The management's discussion and analysis on page 3, and required supplementary information on page 37 are 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 Owen & Company*  
**Professional Association**

Portland, Maine  
March 10, 2010

**Please note:** The following audit pages are only a partial presentation of the financial report. The entire report can be viewed in the Orono Treasurer's Office, 59 Main Street, Orono.

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## Management's Discussion and Analysis

### Town of Orono, Maine

As management of the Town of Orono, Maine, 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, 2009. The Town's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section.

#### Financial Highlights

- The Town's assets exceeded liabilities by approximately \$14 million as of June 30, 2009, compared to approximately \$12 million as of June 30, 2008.
- The Town's governmental funds General Fund Balance was \$8.5 million as of June 30, 2009, compared to \$8.1 million as of June 30, 2008. Of the 2009 balance, approximately 36% is available for spending at the Town's discretion (unreserved fund balance).

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

The Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the Town's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. The Town also includes in this report supplemental information to the basic financial statements.

#### Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include a Statement of Net Assets and a Statement of Activities. These statements provide information about the activities of the Town as a whole and present both a long-term and short-term view of the Town's finances. Financial reporting at this level is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies.

The Statement of Net Assets includes all assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in the Town's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall economic health requires other non-financial factors, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's roads, as well as many others.

The Statement of Activities reports the current year change in net assets. This statement includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities are divided into two kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities: Most of the Town's basic services are reported here, including the police, fire, general administration, streets, and ambulance. Property taxes, excise taxes, franchise fees, fines, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine

- 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 Lunch Fund are reported here.

#### Fund Financial Statements

For governmental activities, these statements focus on how 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.

#### Financial Analysis of the Town as a Whole - Government-wide Financial Statements

The following schedule is a summary of nets assets for the years ended June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2008:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>			<u>Business-type Activities</u>		
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>
Current and other assets	\$13,181,643	\$11,996,367	\$ 1,185,276	\$ 2,389,652	\$ 1,911,842	\$ 477,810
Capital assets	<u>12,407,697</u>	<u>11,498,851</u>	<u>908,846</u>	<u>14,553,497</u>	<u>13,018,449</u>	<u>1,535,048</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>25,589,340</b>	<b>23,495,218</b>	<b>2,094,122</b>	<b>16,943,149</b>	<b>14,930,291</b>	<b>2,012,858</b>
Long-term liabilities	9,722,439	7,316,251	2,406,188	9,758,419	9,218,895	539,524
Other liabilities	<u>1,942,285</u>	<u>4,191,900</u>	<u>(2,249,615)</u>	<u>478,638</u>	<u>1,005,823</u>	<u>(527,185)</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>11,664,724</b>	<b>11,508,151</b>	<b>156,573</b>	<b>10,237,057</b>	<b>10,224,718</b>	<b>12,339</b>
Net assets:						
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	7,477,144	6,568,298	908,846	4,593,497	3,799,554	793,943
Restricted	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted	<u>6,447,472</u>	<u>5,418,769</u>	<u>1,028,703</u>	<u>2,112,595</u>	<u>906,019</u>	<u>1,206,576</u>
	<u>\$13,924,616</u>	<u>\$ 11,987,067</u>	<u>\$ 1,937,549</u>	<u>\$ 6,706,092</u>	<u>\$ 4,705,573</u>	<u>\$ 2,000,519</u>

**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

The rate of increase in net assets has slowed slightly over FY 2008 in governmental activities. For FY 2009, the rate of increase was 16.2% as opposed to 18% in FY 2008. The rate of increase in net assets for business-type activities has increased dramatically over FY 2008: 42.5% in FY 2009 compared to 9% in FY 2008. Much of this dramatic increase is a function of the completion of the capital improvement program at the Water Pollution Control Facility begun in FY 2007: capital assets for business-type activities increased by 7.7% and liquid assets increased by almost 25%. The combined increase in net assets for both activities was 23.6%, an increase of 8.6% over FY 2008.

General Fund revenues increased very slightly over FY 2008 (.45%). Total tax revenues were up over \$307,000, an increase of 3.6% with an increase in deferred property tax revenue due to the high level of uncollected taxes from previous years. Excise tax revenues continued to show the decline begun in 2008. Miscellaneous revenues decreased by more than \$276,000 and intergovernmental revenues were down by \$170,742. State revenue sharing which had shown steady increases for the last five years was down by over \$226,000 over FY 2008 reflecting the general downturn in the economy and a change in the formula governing the distribution of these monies by the State Legislature.

Reviewing budgeted expenditures, compared with actual expenditures, all areas of general government reported expenditures lower than budgeted. Total expenditures for general government were \$903,821 less than in FY 2008, a result of eliminating several full time positions through attrition as well as other cost-saving activities in both education and general government. Public Safety expenditures decreased by over \$320,000 as a result of reduced capital expenditures in the fire department and Public Works expenditures were higher by over \$434,000 than in FY 2008 because of infrastructure improvements. As a result of fiscal prudence and higher than anticipated revenues, the Town's undesignated fund balance increased by \$132,547 over 2008 and \$249,201 was carried forward for designated purposes. Given the general economic environment which may not improve significantly for several years, this healthy fund balance can be used for future tax relief in an effort to maintain a stable tax environment for rate payers while not sacrificing essential services.

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

Town of Orono, Maine

The following schedule is a summary of the statement of activities for the years ended June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2008:

	Governmental Activities			Business-type Activities		
	2009	2008	Change	2009	2008	Change
Revenues:						
Program revenues:						
Charges for services	\$ 161,339	\$ 104,231	\$ 57,108	\$ 1,622,343	\$ 1,416,664	\$ 205,679
Operating grants and contributions	5,686,824	6,764,726	(1,077,902)	110,877	95,770	15,107
Capital grants	-	428,463	(428,463)	1,529,623	-	1,529,623
General revenues						
Taxes	8,918,390	8,565,587	352,803	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	2,330,862	1,855,166	475,696	-	-	-
Investment	585,506	620,708	(35,202)	12,923	-	12,923
Miscellaneous	1,880,316	609,621	1,270,695	66,750	26,750	40,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>19,563,237</b>	<b>18,948,502</b>	<b>614,735</b>	<b>3,342,516</b>	<b>1,539,184</b>	<b>1,803,332</b>
Expenses:						
General						
General government	1,368,377	1,874,724	(506,347)	-	-	-
Public services	722,846	796,445	(73,599)	-	-	-
Public safety	2,623,100	2,070,772	552,328	-	-	-
Public works	1,953,440	1,420,236	533,204	-	-	-
Education	8,169,455	8,072,105	97,350	-	-	-
County tax	439,811	403,114	36,697	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	793,846	1,109,744	(315,898)	-	-	-
MPERS on-behalf	943,717	824,998	118,719	-	-	-
Interest on long-term debt	611,096	545,134	65,962	-	-	-
Sewer services	-	-	-	1,044,732	854,972	189,760
Food services	-	-	-	297,265	291,818	5,447
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>17,625,688</b>	<b>17,117,272</b>	<b>508,416</b>	<b>1,341,997</b>	<b>1,146,790</b>	<b>195,207</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,937,549</b>	<b>\$1,831,230</b>	<b>\$ 106,319</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,519</b>	<b>\$ 392,394</b>	<b>\$ 1,608,125</b>

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**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

Budgeted revenues for 2009 totaled \$16,706,216. Actual revenues exceeded this estimate by \$1,380,806. Tax collections were actually slightly under budget (\$10,145) as a result of an increase in deferred property tax revenue. This is a result of larger than expected lien balances at the end of the year. While this money will be collected as part of the normal lien process, prudence requires increasing the reserve for deferred property tax revenue. License, permits and fees were up over FY 2008 by over 91%. Town clerk fees and land use ordinance fees accounted for the bulk of this increase. State revenue sharing collections were higher than budgeted by over 9% but were \$226,373 less than FY 2008. This trend is likely to continue until the state's economic outlook improves. For FY 2010, estimates of state revenue sharing were reduced to reflect the downward trend begun in 2009 from \$1.3 million to \$1.2 million. Contributions to the budget from the University were 3% higher than in 2008 (\$18,829). This contribution is an offset to the cost of fire and code activities as well as other services provided by the Town. For FY 2010, this line item was flat funded, a trend which will probably be continued in future budgets. The state's allocation for education was up by almost \$300,000 over 2008. In addition, revenues for tuition were \$150,000 more than anticipated, though almost \$190,000 less than FY 2008. Ambulance fees were \$57,833 more than anticipated partially as a result of providing service to Veazie. Interest and costs on taxes were \$13,499 higher than anticipated but interest on general funds invested was \$30,000 less than anticipated. This trend of reduced interest on funds invested will continue until the prime interest rate goes up since the town's investments are in fully collateralized funds, earning less than 1% interest. Ensuring that the town's funds are not subject to custodial risks means that the rate of return is considerably less than if higher risk investments were allowed by the Town's investment policy.

At year end, total expenditures were closer to budgeted expenditures than has been the trend in recent years. This reflects much tighter budgeting practices in an attempt to keep the need for tax revenues as low as possible. In the areas of general government, public services, public safety and capital outlays, totals for FY 2009 were significantly less than those for FY 2008. Areas which showed increased expenditures over 2008 were public works, with increased expenditure in infrastructure improvements that have been long deferred and debt service. The public works expenditures were partially funded by over \$120,000 in carry forward funds from fiscal 2008.

The budget for education was over \$350,000 higher than the amount spent in 2008 but actual expenditures were \$457,532 less than budgeted. It is important to note that as of June 30, 2009, all teacher contracts were paid in full in anticipation of the change in organization for the school department. As of July 1, 2009, the Orono School Department became part of RSU 26 which consists of Orono, Veazie and Glenburn. This is the last audit that will include information about the school department; in the future, all that will be reported is the gross contribution made by the Town to RSU 26 for the purpose of educating Orono's school-age population. In conclusion, total revenues exceeded total expenditures by \$1,937,549. This resulted in an increase in net assets of \$106,319 over FY 2008.

Business-type activities resulted in an increase in net assets of \$392,394. Total operating revenues for the water pollution control facility exceeded operating expenses by over \$461,000. The capital improvement program begun in 2007 was basically finished in 2009. Financing for this program was also completed under the USDA enabling both the Town and the WPCF to repay the money from the state SRF program used during the construction phase of the program.

Management’s Discussion and Analysis - Continued

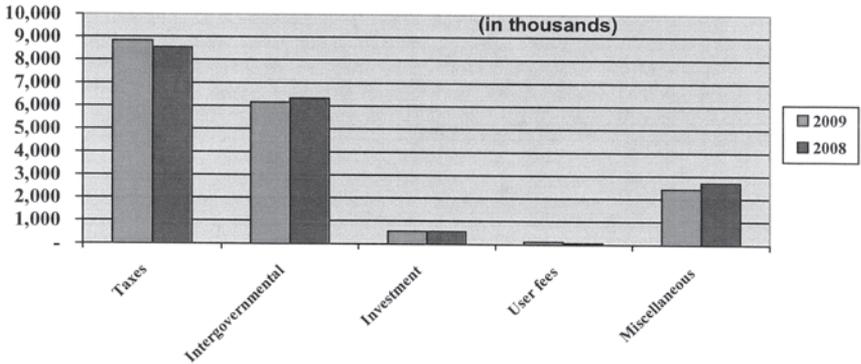
Town of Orono, Maine

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds - Fund Financial Statements

Our analysis of the Town’s major funds begins with the fund financial statements 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, many other funds are established to help control and manage money for particular purposes or to show the Town is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Town reports governmental funds and a proprietary fund.

- 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 -The Town maintains one type of proprietary fund, an Enterprise fund. Enterprise funds, as described above, are required to be used to account for operations for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services. Enterprise funds are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Town’s Enterprise fund accounts for sewer operations and school lunch program.

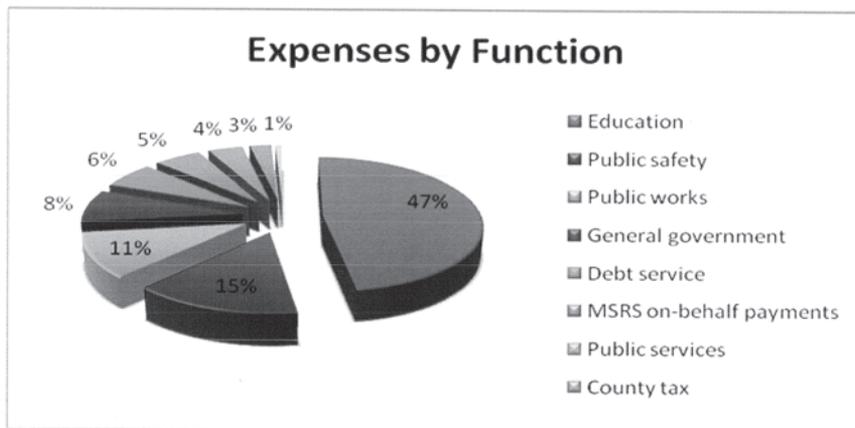
Comparative annual revenues in the general fund were as follows:



## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine

Current year expenditures were made up of the following:



Reviewing the source of revenue for general fund activities, certain trends over the last three years become apparent. Between Fiscal 2007 and 2008, taxes raised to support the functions of general government were virtually identical. In fiscal 2008, tax revenues equaled \$8,525,587; in fiscal 2007, tax revenues equaled \$8,513,169, a difference of less than \$12,500. In comparison, taxes raised in fiscal 2009 were \$8,918,390, an increase of \$352,803 or 4%. As reported on page 10 of the financial statements, intergovernmental revenues for fiscal 2009 were \$6.16 million as opposed to \$6.33 million in fiscal 2008. (These figures include the state's contribution to the teacher retirement program.) When state funding, notably in the area of revenue sharing decreases as it did in 2009, the burden on property taxes becomes greater to maintain the same level of services. Miscellaneous revenues include revenues such as tuition, ambulance fees, contributions from the WPCF to offset services provided by the town, recreation fees, cable franchise fees, etc. These revenues also decreased in fiscal 2009 by \$276,256 or 10.3%. The major area of decrease was in education tuition and fees.

Expenditures by function show the following trends: in fiscal 2009, education represented 47% of the budget as compared to 45% in 2008 and 42% in 2007. It remains to be seen if expenditures for education will be reduced as a result of state-mandated consolidation. What is clear is that if education demands an increased share of available resources every year, municipal services will be reduced. Public Safety's share of expenses went from 11% in 2007 to 16% in 2008 and 15% in 2009. Part of the steep increase between 2007 and 2008 was the result of purchasing a new ladder truck, 63% of which was funded by a federal grant. Public Works increased from 6% in 2007 to 7% in 2008 and 11% in

## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine

2009. This is a function of including expenditures for infrastructure improvements in the Public Works budget rather than separating them as Capital outlays as they were in the 2008 and 2007 audits. General government decreased its share of total spending from 10% in 2007, 11% in 2008 to 8% in 2009. This again is a function of how expenditures are reported. In 2009, the financial software made it possible to accurately ascribe expenses for all fringe benefits to individual departments rather than paying for them from one budget line. This has enabled the Town to have a much clearer view of what individual municipal services actually cost and provides better information for making difficult decisions in terms of manpower and staffing.

#### Business-type Activities

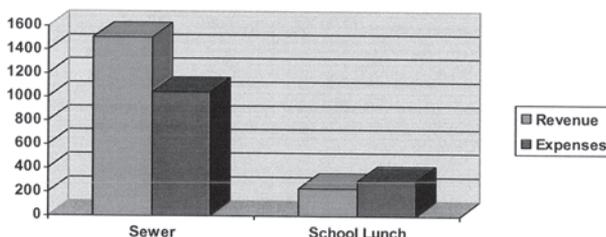
The two funds that are classified as proprietary funds are the sewer fund and the school lunch program.

The Sewer Fund's capital assets have increased over 2008 by a factor of 12%. The Treatment Plant Upgrade Project and CSO Abatement Project were essentially completed in Fiscal 2009. In fiscal 2008, the bulk of the debt related to these projects was incurred; thus the increase in total liabilities for the year was only \$12,339. Net assets for the Sewer Fund increased by over 43%. The Sewer Fund had operating revenue of more than \$1.5 million and expenditures of \$1,044,732. Operating income (revenue exceeded expenses) was \$461,627. Net assets at the end of FY 2009 were \$6,701,872; \$2,112,595 was unrestricted and could be used as desired. The planned increments in the sewer rates over the last several years have accomplished the purpose of providing the revenue necessary to absorb the increased cost of debt retirement without requiring a sharp spike in rates in one year to cover the increased debt payments. The hope is that sewer rates will now remain stable or increase at a lower rate than has been the case for the last five years.

The School Lunch Program once again operated at a loss. Operating expenses exceeded revenues from sales of school lunches and government subsidies by \$70,404. The school department transferred \$66,750 to the school lunch program to mitigate the deficit. Revenues increased by \$6,370 over FY 2008; expenditures increased by \$5,447. Revenues from the sale of school lunches actually fell between FY 2008 and 2009 by \$8,737; the increase in revenues collected was a result of increased intergovernmental payments. The dilemma faced by school lunch programs such as Orono's is that to truly make the program self-supporting would require charging fees that would be beyond the ability of many families to pay. Without substantial support from the Orono taxpayer, the School Lunch Program would not be able to operate. One of the major purposes of the school lunch program is to provide at least one hot meal a day to children of all economic strata in the community. The School Lunch Program did institute the cash card system for collecting revenues but there seems to be no evidence at this time that it has resulted in either increased revenue collection or reduced operating costs. However, the first year of any program which represents a radical change in the way things have always been done is not really a fair test of the program. This is the last year that the School Lunch Program will be reported in this audit because it is a part of the newly-formed RSU 26.

## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine



Noteworthy Special Revenue/Trust/Capital Project Funds include the Capital Equipment Fund, Public Works Garage, Library Construction, and Landfill Closure Funds. There are several smaller funds reserved for special purposes such as the purchase of voting machines, offsetting sudden increases in the cost of employee benefits, or purchasing safety equipment not included in the budget. Total assets in these funds at the end of FY 2008 amounted to \$2,628,991. At the end of FY 2009, the total was \$3,185,246, an increase of 21%. (Funds that were under the control of the school department totaled \$55,614 at the end of FY 2009.) The purpose of special funds is to set aside available moneys until they are needed as in the case of the Capital Equipment Fund, and thus reduce the need to increase the demand on tax dollars in response to changing needs every year. Essentially, by planning to fund long-term projects such as closing the landfill over 10 or 15 years, the tax rate is stabilized and “emergencies” do not arise to throw individual budget years into chaos trying to fund customary needs and unexpected needs.

#### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

FY 2009 was noted for its fiscal restraint. Revenues and expenditures both increased over 2008 by almost the same percentage, producing a change in net assets at year end of \$106,319. Taxes increased by over \$350,000, a figure which translated into higher tax bills for most homeowners since there were no major additions to the tax base. Capital expenditures for equipment were only \$130,000 which is lower than FY 2008 by over \$600,000. By planned contributions to funds such as the Landfill Closure Fund and the Public Works Garage Fund, it is hoped that much of the resources will be available when these projects actually take place. The longer that capital and infrastructure needs are postponed, the more expensive it ultimately is to take care of them. The replacement of the Town Garage has been discussed for over 15 years; at the end of FY 2009, there was only \$550,000 in a reserve fund for a building that has been estimated to cost as much as \$3,000,000. Plans to build a joint facility with the University have not progressed very far, possibly due to budgetary constraints at the university. The construction of the library which was over 89% completed as of June 30, 2009 was the culmination of over 10 years of planning and fund-raising. The Town contributed \$600,000 from the fund balance and borrowed the remaining \$350,000 needed when fundraising failed to raise the full cost of the project.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

Prudent planning and the dedication of undesignated fund balance moneys to this project over several years made it possible to build this facility without increasing the tax burden to do so. Nevertheless, the debt incurred to complete the library plus the cost of maintaining a free-standing facility has increased the operating budget by approximately \$80,000 in FY 2010. Annual allocations to the employee benefit fund will help the Town meet the increased costs of benefits in two major areas: contributions to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (Maine PERS) which will increase by about 1% per year for the next two years, and the continued increase in the cost of health insurance. A fund such as the employee benefit fund cushions the blow of the first several years of increases but ultimately, the full cost is borne by current revenues, with property taxes making up any shortfall from other sources such as State Revenue Sharing.

The Town used over \$678,000 from the fund balance to finance activities of the general fund. Even with this heavy draw upon surplus funds, the fund balance increased by \$413,704 at the end of FY 2009.

**Capital Assets**

As of June 30, 2009, the Town of Orono's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities amounted to \$27 million (net of accumulated depreciation) compared to \$24.5 million last year. This investment includes land, buildings, machinery and equipment, roads, and sewer lines.

This year's major additions included the purchase of one police car; a copier/scanner for the Town Office; 12 life paks, an extraction tool and a thermal imaging camera for the Fire Department; a mower-tow-behind for the cemetery and other town-maintained areas; a 10 wheel dump truck with plow/wing and computer system to accurately distribute salt/sand and provide the records of this use for the Public Works Department; and the purchase of a web-based registration program for Parks and Recreation. At year end, both the Town and the Water Pollution Control Facility were involved in active construction projects. The work for the WPCF was a continuation/completion of the capital improvement program that began in FY 2007. The construction in progress for the Town centered on the completion of the free-standing Public Library on Pine Street. Road work completed in FY 2009 included major projects on Essex Street, Margin Street, and Winterhaven Drive. Storm water projects accounted for approximately \$20,000 in expenditures.

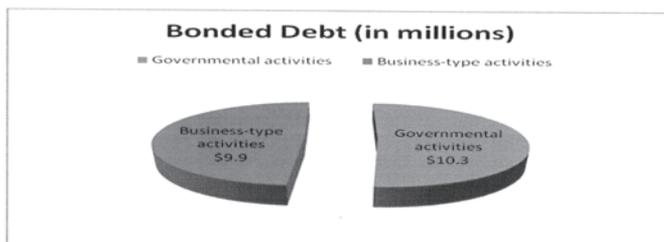
## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

## Town of Orono, Maine

	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		2009 Total	Increase (Decrease)
	2009	2008	2009	2008		
Land	\$ 2,838,776	\$ 2,838,776	\$ 44,573	\$ 44,573	\$ 2,883,349	\$ -
Construction in Progress	1,257,512	-	12,269,695	10,597,342	13,527,207	2,929,865
Buildings	11,550,170	11,550,170	-	-	11,550,170	-
Improvements	458,210	458,210	-	-	458,210	-
Wastewater drainage system	2,631,814	2,631,814	-	-	2,631,814	-
Equipment	1,893,020	1,779,206	34,693	28,404	1,927,713	120,103
Vehicles	2,579,654	2,431,502	-	-	2,579,654	148,152
Infrastructure	7,973,957	7,973,957	-	-	7,973,957	-
Utility property	-	-	8,079,436	8,077,875	8,079,436	1,561
Totals at cost	\$ 31,183,113	\$ 29,663,635	\$ 20,428,397	\$ 18,748,194	\$ 51,611,510	\$ 3,199,681
Total accum depreciation	18,775,416	18,164,784	5,874,900	5,729,746	24,650,316	755,786
Net Capital Assets	\$ 12,407,697	\$ 11,498,851	\$ 14,553,497	\$ 13,018,448	\$ 26,961,194	\$ 2,443,895

## Long Term Liabilities

At year-end, the Town had \$20,239,304 in outstanding bonds compared to \$19,499,449 last year.



The increase in outstanding bonds represents an increase of less than 4%. As was outlined in the FY 20087 & FY 2008 audits, the Town and the Water Pollution Control Facility, entered into an interim financing agreement with the Maine Bond Bank SRF Program (State Revolving Loan) to finance extensive sewer and storm drain rehabilitation and the upgrade of the WPCF. This interim financing

**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

was converted to long-term loans with the USDA – Rural Development Corporation at the end of FY 2008. The Town actually decreased its debt principal obligation by about \$1200 as a result of payments and not issuing additional debt. What has increased significantly is Total Long-Term Debt which includes the interest due over the next 24 years. In FY 2008, the total indebtedness, including interest was \$23, 642,291; in FY 2009, total indebtedness was \$32,920,622. Factoring in the interest due over the next 28 years shows a 39% increase in total indebtedness. This is a function of the conversion of the SRF short-term loan to the USDA 27 year loan, with the accompanying increase in interest for funding a 27 year loan as opposed to a 2 year short-term loan. In 2008, the Town also entered into a General Obligation Bond Agreement with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the purpose of finishing the construction of the Orono Public Library and for improvements in Pine Street which runs in front of the library. At this time, \$150,000 has been placed in a reserve fund for the improvements to Pine Street; the Library expects to open its doors in early September, 2009. At this time, there are no definite plans to borrow additional money though construction of a new Public Works facility, for instance, would undoubtedly necessitate additional debt be assumed.

**ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES**

The budget for FY 2010 is the first budget that does not include a full budget for the Orono School Department. In January, 2009, the voters approved the creation of the Riverside Regional School Unit (RSU 26) combining school departments from Glenburn, Veazie and Orono. The taxes levied for education will be passed through the Town budget in much the same way as the County tax. The municipal budget for FY 2010 reflects an increase of only \$70,298 (.93%) in expenses. Anticipated revenues increased by \$79,724 (1.8%). The County tax increased by 5.7% or \$25,219. Adding the County tax to the municipal budget increases results in a 1.19% increase in expenditures. The total additional tax dollars to support municipal activities is \$15,793 or .44%. The increase in school funding was projected to be \$180,000 or 4.1% over FY 2009. Some of the areas of increase in the municipal budget are the Police Department, fire hydrants as a result of a 9% increase in water rates, Solid Waste Disposal as a result in an increase in the cost of curbside pickup and the addition of \$25,000 to start the engineering to close one cell at the current landfill facility and open another, Debt Principal reflecting the first year paying back the 2008 General Obligation Bonds, the first year of funding the operation of a free-standing library, and the introduction of a shuttle between downtown Orono and the University of Maine to encourage more people to visit downtown Orono.

These increases were offset by significant decreases in other areas such as Planning & Code Enforcement, TIF Expenditures, Public Safety Administration, Public Works General and Winter Maintenance, the elimination of the Town Nurse position, the elimination of one full-time position at the Public Library, and a reduction in transfers to reserve accounts. The 2010 budget continues to fund transfers to two major reserve accounts: capital equipment and landfill closing. On the recommendation of the public works director, it was determined that it will cost less than originally anticipated to close the current cell at the landfill and open the new one ; thus, the contribution to the landfill closing reserve was reduced. Unspent funds at the end of any fiscal year that are not needed to complete projects started but not completed in that fiscal year, are partially allocated to the Capital Reserve Fund . The goal is to be able to pay for capital equipment from the Reserve Fund rather than raising taxes when major pieces

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## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine

of equipment such as a fire truck or an ambulance are purchased.

The general economic environment was reflected in certain areas of anticipated revenues. Preferring to be conservative in our estimates, the FY 2010 budget anticipated decreases in building and plumbing permits, state revenue sharing, state road subsidy, interest income, and in the sale of surplus property. As the economy continues to either further deteriorate or remain stagnant, municipal concerns about all areas of state revenues remain high. Reductions in contributions to education, for instance, will result in a higher levy on local taxpayers to maintain the same level of support. Continued reductions in revenue sharing, support of local roads and the homestead exemption will all contribute to an increased reliance on the local property tax or on one-time forms of revenues such as grants or the sale of surplus property. The likely reduction in property values indicated by real estate sales lower than the assessed values of many properties makes the reliance on property taxes more difficult because decreased valuation means increases in the mill rate to maintain the same high level of services. One way of avoiding dramatic increases in the amount to be raised by taxes is to have a healthy fund balance that can be used to cover much of the shortfall in anticipated revenue.

FY 2010 is the first year of operation of RSU 26 and many of the anticipated savings from consolidation will take several years to be realized. For instance, at the present time, there are essentially two superintendents, one serving as the finance director for the new entity and the other serving as the full-time superintendent. Start up costs will distort the expected savings for the next year or two as the RSU purchases its own computer software system for instance. All current contracts will be honored until they expire which may result in duplication of efforts for two or three years. Even if the anticipated savings emerge, the reduction in state aid to education will mitigate against the effect of these savings for the local community. While savings were anticipated in reductions in staffing in areas such as special ed as well as administration, cooperative purchasing and the elimination of duplication in the school lunch program, it may take two budget cycles for those savings to be seen in reduced budget requests. The Town has agreed to provide support services for FY 2010 which were never charged to the School Department by virtue of the fact that they were a department of the Town. Two examples of these services are snow removal on school property and provision of school crossing guards which have been part of the police budget for many years.

Including these costs in the School budget will have little or no impact on the Orono taxpayer since the services have to be provided and payment for them will simply be moved from the municipal budget to the school budget. The biggest factor that will affect Orono taxpayers will be the level of support from the state for education.

The capital improvement program for both the Town and the Water Pollution Control Facility will be completed in FY 2010. The Public Library will open in late August/early September; the work on storm drainage in the Sailor Development was completed in FY 2009; the Treatment Plant upgrade will be completely finished in FY 2010. These projects have been in the planning stages for many years and it is a testament to the public spiritedness of the community that it has supported all these expensive projects at a time when the economic climate is not encouraging. Capital budgets for both the Town and WPCF are considerably decreased over the recent levels required to do major infrastructure projects.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

Favorable pricing for asphalt and other materials allowed the Public Works Department to begin the reclaim of Essex Street in the FY 2009 budget; it will be finished in FY 2010. Other major Public Works projects planned for 2010 include the Pine Street Reclamation Project which will include sewer, storm drain, sidewalk and street improvements. Cromwell Drive rebuild, and Cromwell/ Lexington sidewalk projects as well as an ambitious project on Bennoch Road replacing a major culvert are all scheduled to at least begin in FY 2010. The Pine Street Project will be largely funded by the 2008 Maine Municipal Bond Bank loan; the other projects are funded through the normal budgeting process with transfers from the fund balance to minimize increases in the tax rate. The total Capital Budget for FY 2010 is \$808,166 down significantly from FY 2009's total of \$2,483,219. It is important to remember that the FY 2009 totals were inflated by the construction work on the Public Library which was funded by over \$800,000 in donations as well as over \$600,000 which was transferred from the Fund Balance over two years in support of a free-standing public library in downtown Orono.

Reviewing revenue collection and expenditures for fiscal 2009, revenue collections were down slightly over fiscal 2008 which reflects the downturn in the economy. Comparing budgeted expenditures with actual expenditures, all areas of general government reported expenditures lower than budgeted. Total expenditures for general government were over \$900,000 less than in fiscal 2008. This was a result of eliminating several full-time positions as a result of attrition and the exercise of exceptional fiscal prudence on the part of management. Fund balances at the end of the year were very healthy for both the School Department and the Town. The designated fund balance for expenditures in fiscal 2010 was \$249,201. The undesignated fund balance for the Town was \$3,067,185. The undesignated fund balance for the School was \$598,770. The school's fund balance would have been almost a half million dollars more if the decision had not been made to pay teachers the remainder of their contracts on June 30, 2009. This was done to give the school department (now part of RSU 26) the opportunity to start the fiscal year without lingering contract obligations from previous school arrangements. The almost \$600,000 in the school's undesignated fund balance will be used to offset the Town's contribution to the RSU, probably spread out over three years. Such a large fund balance in the education department is remarkable, perhaps reflecting a need for closer budgeting so that tax payers are not forced in any one year to experience an increase in taxes to support educational programs that do not require budgeted amounts. With the creation of the Regional School Unit form of educational administration, the Town Council has lost a great deal of the oversight it had in the budget process as it relates to education and it will be essential that the school administration exercise restraint and fiscal responsibility in the preparation of budgets in the future.

The need to be fiscally responsible and prudent in all areas of the budget becomes even more urgent in times of economic instability and uncertainty. In March, 2009, the Housing Foundation, one of the Town's largest taxpayers, applied for tax exempt status at the urging of their mortgage holder. In FY 2009, the combined taxes for all properties managed by the Housing Foundation were over \$183,000. The loss of this taxpayer represents an additional challenge for a community in which more than 50% of the property is tax-exempt because it is part of the University of Maine campus. The Housing Foundation will make a payment in lieu of taxes but this amount will be a small percentage of what they paid in property taxes.

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**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine**

The first year of the Obama Administration has been one of increasing partisan squabbling with little tangible achievement to help state and local governments deal with the revenue shortfalls resulting from the economic environment. The promise of health care reform has remained just that: a promise without a coherent program to present to the public or to Congress. While Congress delays passing legislation that would help with the diverse problems posed by the health care delivery system and how to pay for it, reports are emerging of health care premiums rising by as much as 39% in some parts of the country. The Town has been fortunate that the increase in premiums for 2010 was kept to 8%. This percentage translates into over \$54,000 in increased spending for health care premiums, with employees sharing some of the cost of that in their payroll deductions for the family plan, but the bulk of that amount is borne by the Town. In another area of employee benefits, Maine PERS, the retirement system for participating local districts such as Orono has recognized the need to raise the contribution rate of employers over the next three years in order to meet all future obligations. As wages increase, the combination of an increased contribution rate on top of higher wages will demand more financial commitment from the Town to provide for a secure retirement for current and future employees. Without increased support from the State in such areas as school funding and state revenue sharing, the increase in the cost of employee benefits will translate into either decreased or no cost of living raises for employees, reduction in the labor force through either attrition or layoffs, and ultimately reductions in services provided. Municipalities throughout the country are being faced with difficult choices and the ability to draw upon reserve funds to maintain key services and continue to invest in a sturdy capital improvement program will be even more important in the future than it has been to date. Orono is fortunate to have a healthy fund balance as well as numerous reserve funds that have been established over the years to deal with times of diminishing resources and stable or expanding demands.

Orono is embarking on various ambitious economic development projects, such as providing infrastructure for the Kelley Road Interchange area to encourage the development of businesses in this area, implementing a downtown TIF district to improve the appearance of the downtown region and encourage greater commercial development in this area, attempting to mitigate industrial contamination in the area of the Webster Mill which was tax-acquired several years ago in the hope that this might ultimately be a site for redevelopment, and exploring ways that the Town can work with abutting owners to find new uses for the former site of the Katahdin Building, perhaps developing a mixed use building with upscale commercial stores or restaurants as well as apartments on the upper levels. In fiscal 2010, the Town began an experimental program working with the University, the downtown merchants and one of the larger student housing developments to provide free shuttle service between campus and the downtown area. This service not only reduces the amount of vehicle traffic going to and from campus, it also allows residents along the shuttle route to go between campus and downtown Orono with ease and hopefully will bring more business into the downtown area.

Government exists to provide services to its citizens. The goal is to provide these services as efficiently and effectively as possible. One question which is frequently raised is how to measure these services. Do they meet the needs of the majority of the citizens regardless of their ability to pay for them? It is difficult to measure efficiency in providing services because they are not easy to quantify and there is little agreement as to what should be measured. It may take an hour to register a new car or ten minutes. The end result is the same yet the employee who spent an hour to accomplish the same end product of

## **Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued**

### **Town of Orono, Maine**

handing the car owner a license plate and a registration was not less efficient than the employee who accomplished the same result in ten minutes: different circumstances require more work than others. Orono provides a very wide range of services that its residents have come to expect. At times of economic downturn, the challenge of continuing to provide the same level of service with no means to increase revenues other than increasing the property tax becomes exceptionally challenging. As the home of the University of Maine, the largest campus in the state university system, more than 50% of the property in Orono is tax exempt. The University has consistently made a generous contribution in lieu of taxes to the Town for many years but the ability of the University to continue to do so may be threatened by continuing reductions in support from the State. The Town will continue to provide both fire and code services, particularly in the area of life safety to the University but the challenge of providing these services which are very labor and equipment-intensive will be greater with reduced financial support. 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; property owners have made a commitment to buy a home and maintain that residence because they want to be in a community that offers unique cultural and educational opportunities and value the wide range of services that Orono offers. Some of the expectations that residents in Orono have include a high-quality public education system, a public library that stands alone and is the result of over 10 years of planning and fund-raising, a senior citizen center that is accessible and welcoming and provides a place for seniors to meet four days a week for a nourishing inexpensive midday meal and to socialize and decrease the isolation that frequently comes with advancing years, a public works department that efficiently handles both snow removal and spring cleanup and maintains the roads that enable the efficient movement of commuters in and out of the community during the week, and a public safety department that provides police, fire and ambulance services effectively. In fiscal 2010, the University's contribution to the municipal budget is slightly less than 8% of the total revenues. This is a very generous contribution yet it becomes harder and harder for them to continue to provide that level of support as they lose revenues from the state legislature faced with its own budget crises. It is somewhat ironic that Orono is the vibrant, attractive community that it is because of the presence of the University of Maine but it is also a community that relies on residential property for over 90% of its tax revenue partly because of the tax exempt status of the University. In addition, the presence of the university campus in the community necessitates higher levels of service delivery than the typical Maine community of less than 10,000 residents. The large number of people living and working on campus requires an efficient Public Safety presence providing police, fire, ambulance and occasionally hazardous materials professionals. Heavy streams of commuters in and out of Orono every week day means that the Public Works Department must keep the main arteries into and out of town open and passable during all manner of weather conditions. The University is also the single largest user of the Water Pollution Control Facility. As the major contributor to the WPCF, it is the major reason for increasing the capacity of the plant but the inevitable increase in sewer fees over the last several budget cycles has resulted in huge increases in the sewer fees that the University pays. It may well be that the increase in the cost of handling sewer treatment for the University will impact its ability to contribute to the general fund for the provision of other key services. While it is easy to cite the challenges of the presence of the University in the community, it is also important to note that college towns tend to do better during economic downturns because students continue to seek their

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## Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

### Town of Orono, Maine

services, professionals on the staff continue to be able to support their life styles in Orono including the relatively high property taxes, and unemployment as a whole is relatively low. This optimism about Orono's future, tempered with awareness of the challenges ahead was reflected in the recent upgrade of the Town's Bond rating by Moodys Investment Services. In November, 2009, Moodys upgraded the Town's bond rating from A2 to A3 with the negative outlook removed. Moodys cited the strength of the Town's financial policies, healthy reserves and undesignated fund balances, and our role as the home of the University of Maine as reasons for the improved rating. This upgraded bond rating will result in lower borrowing costs for the town if we need to bond for future capital improvements such as the construction of a Town Garage.

In summary, the demand for services of a high quality will continue and revenues, other than property tax revenues which the Town controls, will remain relatively flat or decrease. There may be occasional one-time revenues from grants, etc but these one-time revenues are designated for specific purposes and not usually for delivery of services. Areas such as excise tax collection, state revenue sharing, and state support for education will likely remain flat or decrease over the next 4 or 5 years. This being the first year of the separation of the education department from the Town, it is too soon to know if all the projected savings will actually take place. It is also important to know that the local community can still decide to deliver a higher level of educational services than the state is willing to support which would mean that the total cost of such enhanced programs would fall totally on the Orono tax payer. Capital investment has increased significantly over the last six years, and there are additional plans to accomplish even more needed infrastructure improvements in spite of a tendency to not support any new initiatives. Cutting capital expenditures might seem like an easy way to gain tax relief but down the road those improvements will cost considerably more to accomplish and the problems that would be solved by these projects will continue to be problems for many years to come. While the Town has built significant reserves for some of the major capital needs such as construction of a town garage and the reclaiming of Pine Street, the cost to do these projects increases with each year: the amount of interest these funds are earning do not bridge that gap, The cost of energy seems to be relatively stable at this time but there are no guarantees that this will remain the case over the next budget cycle. The 2009 budget analyzed in these pages was able to deal with the challenges presented by the economic downturn without sacrificing municipal services. This is one of the key achievements 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 through the last five budget cycles. There have been three positions eliminated as a result of attrition over the last 18 months but further reductions in staff will mean reduced services in some areas. The reality about government is that someone has to pay for the services provided – they are not free though they are not charged for when delivered nor is the ability to pay considered when delivering public services. Local government is less isolated from those who use its services and from those who pay for those services in the tax bills they receive than larger units of government. This is a challenge that the Town of Orono has met with fiscally responsible policies and practices.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued****Town of Orono, Maine****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. Citizens are welcome to visit with the appropriate staff on any financial matters.

## **REPORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT 2008-2009**

On behalf of the Orono Police Department, it gives me great pleasure to present the annual report for fiscal year 2008-2009.

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. In addition, we currently have one reserve officer, who provides extra coverage for special events and peak activity periods. We have a full time Administrative Assistant whose time is shared between the Police and Fire Departments. 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.

There was one vacancy that occurred over the past year in our department. Officer Chris Foxworthy tendered his resignation early in the year to accept a position with the Maine State Police. The department conducted a statewide search and after an extensive hiring process, Officer Dan Merrill was selected to fill the vacant position. Officer Merrill was a part time officer in Hampden prior to coming to Orono. In May 2008 he graduated from the rigorous eighteen week Basic Law Enforcement Training Program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro and is now a fully certified full-time officer. Officer Merrill will be an excellent addition to our department.

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. We continue to run a bi-annual Citizen Police Academy and have remained active in programs that allow us to interact with the senior citizens in our community. We have conducted several classes throughout the community in an effort to educate them about issues such as fraud and identity theft. We initiated a new program in November called the "Project Good Morning" Program. Residents are eligible for the program if they are a senior citizen or an adult with disabilities living alone. An Orono PD officer calls each participant by telephone between the hours of 8 AM and 10 AM seven days a week. If there is no answer an officer will respond to the person's residence to conduct a welfare check. This program ensures a daily check on a particular segment of our community and has proven to be very valuable. These programs would not be successful without the dedication and commitment of the officers who put so 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 over 1,000 hours at training courses throughout the year. All the supervisors received training on leadership and managing employees. The officers' training included topics such as Critical Incident Management, Elder Abuse, Identification of Deceptive Behavior, Investigating Use of Force for Field Supervisors, Leadership and Mastering Performance Management, Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Investigation, Interactive Use of Force Instructor and Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor. This is a very short sampling of some of the classes our officers have attended. We have several certified instructors in our department who are expected to actively teach their particular discipline, which has enhanced our in-house training program by sharing what they have learned with the other officers. 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 several different sources to pay for special enforcement details

that focus specifically on OUI's, speed, seat belts and underage drinking. This is a great benefit to our department and the Town of Orono as we would not be able to support these efforts without the grants. 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 that demonstrate 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 they do.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Duquette  
Chief of Police



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

*Sgt. Scott Scripture  
and Sgt. Scott Lajoie*



*Administrative Assistant Jessica Mason*



*Director of Volunteers: Lee Cookson*

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## POLICE INCIDENT REPORT 2008-2009

NATURE OF INCIDENTS	TOTAL INCIDENTS
Abandoned Vehicle	5
Alarm	147
Ambulance or Medical Assist	129
Animal Problem	166
Alcohol Offense	219
Assault, Simple	32
Agency Assist	305
Attempt to Locate	15
Business or License Violation	6
Bomb Threat or Attack	1
Bail Search	37
Citizen Dispute	6
Custodial Interference	3
Citizen Assist	161
Civil Matter	23
Criminal Mischief	98
Communications Offense	26
Court Service	133
Dead Body	2
Disorderly Conduct	66
Designated Patrol	101
DUI Alcohol or Drugs	25
Emotional/Behavioral Problem	13
Escort	10
Erratic Vehicle Operation	134
Family Fight	32
Fraud	29
Fireworks	6
Harassment	41
Police Information	562
Intoxicated Person	38
Juvenile Runaway	4
Juvenile Problem	27
Lost or Found Property	121
Lifeline Program	4

<b>NATURE OF INCIDENTS</b>	<b>TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>
Vehicle Lockout	9
Loitering	2
Littering/Pollution Problem	8
Message Delivered	4
Missing Person	7
Motorcycle/Recreation Veh Prob	3
Not Classified	6
Noise Problem	259
Nonsufficient Funds Checks	5
Overtime Detail	104
Other Offenses	2
Parking Problem	90
Property Check	529
Property Damage, Non-vandalism	10
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	134
Public Service	135
Property Watch	15
Resisting/Interfering w/ Police	1
Skate Board Problem	3
Search Warrant	1
Suicide Attempt	5
Suicide Threat	22
Traffic Accident, Cruiser	2
Traffic Accident, Property Damage	300
Traffic Accident, Personal Injury	36
Traffic Hazard	85
Threatening	19
Tobacco Problem	1
Traffic Offense	126
Towed Vehicle	4
Theft, Property, from Motor Veh	20
Trespassing	22
Training	13
Theft, Vehicle	7
Unlawful Burning	9
Unsecure Premises	27
Utility Problem	29

<b>NATURE OF INCIDENTS</b>	<b>TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>
Vehicle Serial # Inspection	1
Violation of P.O.	6
Violation of Release Condition	15
Warrant Arrest	39
Weapon Problem	14
Welfare Check	254
Persons Wanted Out	<u>32</u>
Total Incidents for This Report:	5,863

## REPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT 2008-2009

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 2008-2009.

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 2008-2009 the department answered 1,732 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 1,732 calls, 1290 were for EMS service.

We provide 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.

We have had one personnel change over the past year. January 9, 2009, Josh McNally resigned to be Fire Chief in Island Falls. We wish him 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 Town of Orono employs 5 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: Marie Frizzell, Aaron Perreault, Ryan Urquhart, Chris Gravelle, and Danni Perratto.

The department offers several public programs, including CPR training, evacuation plan design, MSDS awareness and intervention of juvenile fire setters. Feel free to contact the Fire Department with your needs.

Other areas of prevention include:

- Multi Family Inspections
- Learn Not to Burn curriculum
- Operation Risk Watch curriculum
- A Fire Field Day held 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. Inspector Vaughan 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 pre fire incident planning.

## Fire Inspection Report for July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009:

## Town

419	Buildings visited
315	Fire & Life Safety Inspections
167	Sprinkler System Inspections
79	Fire Extinguishing Systems Inspection
1203	Fire Extinguishers Inspected
109	Fire Drills/ Alarm Tests Conducted
169	Apartment Buildings Inspected
547	Apartment/Rental Units Inspected
19	Chimney/Heating Inspected
21	Knox Boxes Installed/Keys Checked
27	Meetings Attended
131	Letters of Corrections Sent
126	All Correspondence Received
4	Other
17	Hydrants Flow Tested
6	Classes Taught

## University of Maine

219	Buildings Visited
129	Fire & Life Safety Inspections
34	Sprinkler System Inspections
32	Fire Extinguishing Systems Inspection
11	Fire Extinguishers Inspected
23	Fire Drills/ Alarm Tests Conducted
49	Knox Boxes Installed/Keys Checked
204	Event Forms Reviewed
15	Events Inspected
74	Meetings Attended
85	Letters of Correction Sent
147	All Correspondence Received
6	Other
1	Class Taught

## Greek Houses

77	Houses Visited
39	Fire & Life Safety Inspection
24	Sprinkler Systems Inspected
21	Fire Extinguishing Systems Inspected
12	Fire Extinguishers Inspected
36	Fire Drills/Alarm Tests Conducted
12	Knox Boxes Installed/ Keys Checked
14	Meeting Attended
1	Fire Prevention Class
35	Letter of Correction Sent
45	All Correspondence Received
3	Other Heating/Fire Lane

## TRAINING

The department attempts to provide 2 hours of continuing education on a daily basis. Almost 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 great deal of joint training with Old Town Fire Department. Number of hours of Training: 1,624

The Orono Fire Department continues to maintain core skills in firefighting and emergency medical response through its training program. The other primary focus of the training program is to improve and expand technical skills so that the department is prepared to respond to various emergencies that may be experienced by residents of, and visitors to, the Town of Orono. These emergencies include motor vehicle and industrial accidents, confined space rescues, hazardous material emergencies, electrical emergencies, rope rescue, and a variety of other calls. The department continues to utilize traditional and nontraditional methods of training in order to maintain a quality training program in a cost effective manner.

During the last fiscal year, the members of the department attended 127 classes or drills and dedicated 1,624 hours of time. All paramedics were recertified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and attended many hours of medical continuing education (CE). This training is necessary to maintain licensure through the State of Maine. All members of the department attended certification classes in ice water rescue, hazardous materials, and confined space rescue. Additional training throughout the year focused on risk management, safety, and skills maintenance.

### **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 coverage. 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 nine paramedics, with at least three 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**

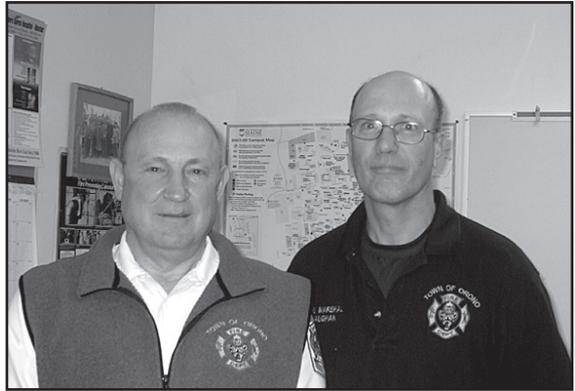
We continue to provide protection, for the Town of Orono and the University of Maine. We are also under contract to Penobscot County for Haz-Mat services. Orono also serves as the WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Team for the State of Maine. We continue to train on a state and local level.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – EMA**

The department is charged with responsibility for Emergency Management, a term formerly called civil defense. Time is spent developing 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 residents 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	55
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat – No Fire	4
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incidents	1,136
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	76
Service Call	68
Good Intent Call	108
False Alarm & False Call	276
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	4
Other	3
 Total Incidents:	 1,732

**"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 Sockalexis,  
and Erin Frank



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## REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 2008-2009

The Public Works Department has had a very active and interesting year. Major projects on Essex Street, Winterhaven Drive, among other areas all came to a close, and we worked through the second consecutive long and difficult winter.

The winter season of 2008 & 2009 saw Public Works crews called to plowing duty 41 times; just a few less than last year's total of 46. Snow came early in December and continued to fall through March. Increased effort was placed on sidewalk clearing as we continue to work toward making Orono a safer place for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Things quieted down mid March and we were able to keep our spending under budget. A slow spring snow melt helped keep the river and stream levels manageable and allowed our drainage system to keep up.

This year's capital road construction and general road maintenance funds were spent primarily on the following projects:

- North Main Avenue Reconstruction Project – A section of North Main Avenue from Pond Street to the railroad tracks was reconstructed. We excavated the existing roadbed, installed new drainage structures and sewer lines, and then graveled the new roadbed constructing a new 24 foot wide roadway and 6 foot sidewalk.
- Margin Street Reclaim Project – Margin Street was reclaimed, graded, and a new pavement surface was installed. The existing crown of the road was such that it held stormwater back from draining. The road was graded to slope toward the river and promote better drainage.
- Winterhaven Drive Sidewalk Reconstruction Project – The sidewalks on Winterhaven Drive were excavated seven feet wide and 18 inches deep, new gravel was placed and compacted over geotextile separation fabric, and a new six foot paved surface was installed. The edges and driveways were repaired to match the new grades to the existing grades.
- Essex Street Reclaim and Drainage Improvements Project – Essex Street was reclaimed and graded then paved with a new

smoother, wider surface. The improved cross slope and increased width will provide a safer travel way that will be easier to clear of snow and ice during the winter months and allow for better drainage. Once the base course pavement was placed, new driveway culverts were installed and the roadside ditches were cleaned to promote drainage of stormwater. The surface course pavement is planned for the 2010-2011 budget year.

- Pavement Maintenance Overlays – Hot mixed asphalt overlays were completed on Union Street and Brook Street. The work consisted of the adjustment of existing sewer and drainage structures, curb repairs, rock excavation, driveway aprons, and gravel or loam edging.

- Drainage Improvements – A new stone protected ditch was constructed between College Avenue and Chapel Road. Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt on Park Street, Pine Street, College Avenue, Pierce Street, and Forest Avenue. Culvert Repairs and drainage ditch improvements were completed on Crosby Street, Westwood Drive, and Gardner Road.

Other miscellaneous projects undertaken by the department include the demolition of a house on Summer Street in preparation for a new trail head, the construction of a safety barricade at the end of Cedarwood Street, hazardous tree removal, street light repairs and maintenance, mowing of all municipal lots, and general maintenance of the ball fields.

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 to help residents understand where stormwater goes once it is in our drainage system.

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. Also, in May, the town held its annual stream cleanup event. This year over 100 residents worked together to help pick up trash and other debris from our trails, streets, and river banks. Congratulations to all that participated in a fun, educational, and productive event!

The Cemetery Crew had 30 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 over 600 customers for a total of over 235 tons of wood, metal, and demolition debris. The Town Garage was very busy keeping everything in working order so that we can do all of the work we do.



*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 (Absent: John Collins)*

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 Calvin 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. Cal officially retired on July 31, 2008. Thank you and good luck.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J Yerxa  
Director of Public Works and Engineering

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## REPORT OF THE ORONO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY 2008-2009

The operation and maintenance of the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) continues to go well. The facility had 3 effluent violations during FY 2008-2009. The facility treated 517.41 million gallons (MG) of wastewater. Approximately 394 MG were treated the previous year. The billed flow was 256.2 MG, up from 249.5 MG for the previous year.

During 2008, 7 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 2345 feet of sanitary sewer reline from Main Street down Pine Street to the interceptor sewer on Broadway was completed in July 2009. We hope to continue the sewer reline process well into the future.

Our major capital improvement to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant is winding down. The project began in April 2007 and substantial completion was in December 2008. Punch list issues will be completed through 2009. The new plant has several new processes that include: headworks building to remove grit and trash; modified aeration basins (2) and selectors (3) for biological nutrient removal (BNR); clarifiers (2) mechanical upgrade; ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection system; and aerobic digester for sludge storage/reduction. Physical plant improvements were operations building modifications and construction of maintenance garage.

Capital improvements and major equipment purchases made during FY 2008-2009 were as follows:

- Replaced 1996 GMC Pickup.
- Continue Treatment Plant Upgrade Project estimated to take 20 months to complete. Substantial completion was in December 2008 with Final completion planned for December 2009.
- 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 2009-2010 are as follows:

- Complete Treatment Plant Upgrade Project.
- Install 2345 feet of sanitary sewer reline from Main Street down Pine Street to the interceptor sewer on Broadway. Completed in July 2009.
- Design, inspect (video camera) and evaluate the sanitary sewers at University Place (600ft) and upper Middle Street (350ft). The actual rehabilitation may be done during the summer, 2010. End of line manhole installed in September 2009.
- Replace sewer flusher trailer.
- Replace compositor sampler.

The FY 2009-2010 Operation and Maintenance budget will increase by \$83,684 or 5.4% over the previous year. The increase is due in part to higher energy consumption resulting from new treatment plant upgrade processes and planned increase in the first bond payment for the treatment plant upgrade. Therefore, sewer billing revenue needs to be increased by 6.2%. By Council order effective July 1, 2009 the rates will increase from \$4.18 per 100 cubic feet of consumption to \$4.44. The minimum quarterly charge increases from \$50.16 to \$53.28. Unmetered quarterly charge increases from \$79.42 to \$84.36. Therefore the annual cost for the minimum household user will be \$213 and for the average user the cost will be between \$320 - \$355.

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 23rd 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 2008-2009

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 construction of significant upgrades at the Bennoch Road site is well underway. The distribution system continued to perform well with no major leaks and a very acceptable percentage of unaccounted for water.

The 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.

After over 30 years of being a Board member Steve Murray retired from the Board. The District appreciates his many years of dedicated service and wishes Steve well in his retirement.

Your current Trustees are:

<b>Orono</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>	<b>Veazie</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Scott Hall	12/31/13	James Parker	12/31/11
John McCormack	12/31/14	Ken Borneman	12/31/12
Jay Fortier	12/31/10		

Superintendent, Dennis Cross

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## REPORT OF THE ORONO HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2008-2009

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

Volunteer elected officers include:

President-Trudy Tremblay  
Vice President-Jean Carville  
Secretary-Alida Coates  
Treasurer-Carol Reynolds

Board members include: Lynn Adkins, Lou Bain, Connie Bates, Janet Bilyk, Stan Borodko, Jean Carville, Janet Cloutier, Alida Coates, Marlene Doucette, Claire McDonough, Carol Reynolds, Trudy Tremblay, and Judy Whitney.

Our volunteer drivers take individuals to medical appointments. There were numerous trips. The drivers include: Nancy Andrews, Frank and Mimi Barnes, Janet Bilyk, Don Coates, MaryAnn Devoe, Bob Emerson, Joyce and Paul Harris, Patty McMahon, Barbara Murphy, Barbara Nichols, Fred Otto, Carol Reynolds, Margaret Russell, Margene Smith, Claude Westfall, and Judy Whitney.



*Nancy Pare, OHA Office Manager*

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

We had another successful drive for the Red Cross. It was held on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 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:

Lyn and Randy Adkins, Robin Aston, Lou Bain, Connie Bates, Janet Bilyk, Stan Borodko, Jean and Woody Carville, Janet Cloutier, Alida Coates, MaryAnn Devoe, Marlene Doucette, Stefanie Egenhofer, Wayne Hamilton, Karen Kirby, Terry Legere. Nancy and Rick Paré, Jean Schick, Sue Sullivan, Trudy Tremblay, and Judy Whitney.

Marlene Doucette operated the Loan Closet, distributing wheel chairs, walkers, etc.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Paré  
Office Manager

## REPORT OF ORONO TREE BOARD 2008-2009

During 2009 Tree Board volunteers planted nineteen trees in the Orono town rights of ways. Three trees were pruned and fourteen trees removed because they were dead. Several small seedlings were added to the nursery for planting in the spring of 2010.

Students from Mr. Allen's fourth grade were willing helpers for the 2009 Arbor Day Celebration. Lianne Harris, of the Orono Town Council, read the Orono Arbor Day Proclamation to the group and assisted in the planting. Each student planted a seedling that had been potted by the fourth grade class of Arbor Day 2008. Orono Tree Board members assisted the students in their activities of digging holes, planting the seedlings into the ground on the school hillside, mulching the trees and stakes were put in to mark the planting location.

The hillside between the elementary and high school is becoming a forest/garden for the attraction of wildlife and birds. I am sure you will see tracks of deer and perhaps rabbit tracks in the snow at the garden this winter!! We saw evidence of browsing on bushes from the winter of 2008.

Members of the Tree Board attended the Arbor Day celebration in Augusta and received an award for being a Tree City recipient for the 13th year. Orono also received two sapling-sized trees which were planted at the Orono Arbor Day celebration on the property between the high school and grade school near the wildlife garden.

Arbor Day 2009 concluded with the Tree Board members weeding around the shrubs and doing general cleanup, and mulching trees planted in the area in years past by the Board members.

Submitted by,

David Thompson  
Chairman  
Orono Tree Board

## **REPORT OF ORONO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2008-2009**

The Orono Parks and Recreation Department is honored to provide the residents of Orono with this annual report for the fiscal year 2008-09. 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, such as 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 8,340 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 less than the previous year. The facility is 28 years old and is in constant need of improvements/renovations. The Town may want to consider a renovation program to upgrade the facility, make it more energy efficient and attract more people to the facility creating greater revenues.

The summer day camp, KidZone, experienced a good summer season averaging 48 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 interests reflected the season and quickly turned to soccer. More than 109 children played soccer and 65 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 36 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 more than 1,000 people enjoyed the wonderful small town atmosphere the event creates.

The Village Festival 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 provide the community with a variety of recreational opportunities including indoor activities such as basketball to the outdoor excitement of sledding.

More than 88 children participated in the youth basketball program ranging from kindergarteners to the 7th-8th grade travel team.



*Orono Parks and Recreation Staff*

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

Basketball was not just for the young with an over 30 year old Open Gym two nights per week. 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 Arts Café under the auspices of the Orono Community Theater, Bluegrass Bands, Dadgad Coffeehouse, 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 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 25 children from 2nd –7th grade. The month of February is the time we celebrate Valentine’s Day 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 traditional Egg Hunt on Saturday morning held in cooperation with the University Credit Union attracting 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 Dadgad Coffeehouse and Community Theater performances. Look for the schedule of events at [www.oronorec.com](http://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 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 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 us at 866-5056 or e-mail the Director, Norman Poirier at [normp@oronno.org](mailto:normp@oronno.org).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Orono Parks and Recreation Department Staff  
Norman Poirier, Director  
Maida Robichaud, Recreation Programmer  
Wesley Nelson, Facilities Supervisor

### **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, Mainewood 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)

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## REPORT OF ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY 2008–2009

2008-2009 was the year Orono citizens walked down Pine Street after the September groundbreaking to watch as the new walls and roof went up for the long awaited new library facility, while, up on Goodridge Drive, library staff served the town's reading, entertainment and information needs, and continued careful preparations for the move.

Like most municipal services, running a library requires trained staff and much time spent meeting the needs of a clientele that runs the gamut from preschoolers to retirees, and from working adults to students or job hunters of all ages. To meet modern library standards, OPL offers everything from free Internet and database access to multimedia and traditional print resources. In order to provide so much for so many, staffing covers a wide spread of weekly hours, including daytime, evenings and weekends, and requires numerous volunteer hours in addition to regular staff positions.

Preparations for the new building were ongoing throughout the year, and included selecting and ordering new shelving and furnishings. Custom circulation desks and children's shelving were



*Orono Public Library Staff*

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

designed. It was exciting to plan and place the orders for furnishings that would, for the first time, provide adequate and comfortable accommodations for people wishing to spend time exploring the library's resources. Considerations were made for sight impaired and physically challenged library users of all ages.

Much planning attended the effort to make the new library a "green", energy efficient facility, and to select, for its interior, carpeting, wall paint, furnishings and shelving that would meet the highest standards for having a low impact on the natural environment. How to move to and operate within the new library in a manner that would keep additional expenses to a minimum was the goal of numerous efforts by the library in the area of budgeting and planning. Every effort was made to lower costs, and to carefully calculate how to do things well, while expending less time and money.

Throughout this period of new facility planning, library services in the "old" facility on Goodridge Drive were in full swing. In times of economic hardship, people turn to public libraries to save money by borrowing and using free services. The library provides the community multiple opportunities for resource sharing and cost reduction.

In the midst of its "last minute" preparations to move to the new building (scheduled for late July) the library experienced in May 2009 the sudden loss of a staff position, and adjusted to this loss by planning a decrease in open hours plus changes to job descriptions for the remaining staff (three and a half positions).

#### 2008-2009 Ongoing Services:

- Minerva consortium (interlibrary loan and collection sharing with other libraries)
- Loans of items for all ages: books, audio books, movies, music, magazines, newspapers, road maps
- High speed, wireless, unfiltered Internet access from your laptop or a library computer

#### 2008-2009 New Services:

- Downloadable audio books
- Health and Wellness materials grant
- Chickadee book club for grades K – 2

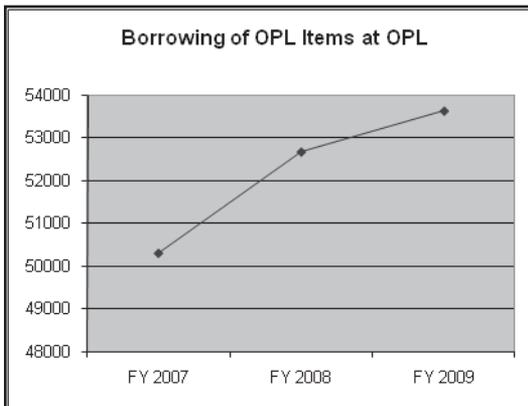
**2008-2008 Programs and Events:**

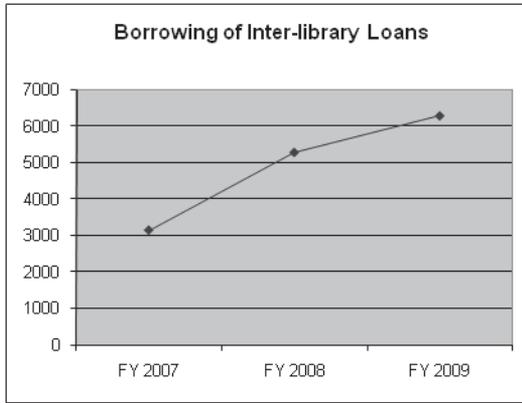
- Book clubs for adults, children, families, conducted mornings, after school, and evenings
- Film series
- Story hours for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers
- Shows, concerts and events, including puppet shows and the annual Pixie Ball
- Outreach to area preschools and senior citizen housing
- Field Trips for youth cook groups
- Summer Reading program
- Holiday events and family activities

Library programming is planned and conducted in coordination and collaboration with the Orono schools and preschools, adult retirement housing, the Orono Parks and Recreation Department and other community organizations and facilities.

**2008-2009 Use Statistics:**

- Number of active library users: 3172
- Per Capita cost for library services: \$ 31.31
- Items borrowed from OPL collection: 53620
- Items borrowed from other libraries: 6281
- Use of library public computers: 4340
- Visits made to the library in 2008-2009: 46683
- Program attendance: 2483





The library, as a municipal department, is governed by and receives the bulk of its funding through the Town; however, it enjoys a network of support that includes the other municipal departments, the OPL Board of Trustees, The Friends of OPL and the Orono Public Library Foundation. To the members of these organizations, and to so many countless others who volunteered their time or who contributed financially to library services and to the new building project, the library is thankful and grateful.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Marks-Molloy, MSLS  
Library Director

## REPORT OF ORONO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2008-2009

Members of the Board of Trustees at the end of FY 2008-2009 were Louise Snow; chair; Judy Hakola, secretary; Mary Cady, treasurer; Dana Devoe; David Chase; Murray Bain; Constance Perry; Allison Applebee; Kate Bulteel and Emma Hornsby, youth representatives. Dorothy Pratt was the representative from the Friends of the Orono Public Library.

At its monthly meetings, the Trustees received updates from the librarian, Kathy Marks-Molloy, about library usage, new programs, and budget considerations. Youth Services librarian Laurie Carpenter Rose kept us apprised of the many programs and services offered to the town's young people. We commend both of them for their creative ways of maximizing the impact of the very limited resources available to them.

Monthly reports on progress toward completion of the new library building were provided by Trustees Chase and Devoe and Librarian Marks-Molloy.

The Trustees wish to thank now-retired Louise Snow for her many years of service to the Board of Trustees, several of them as Chair. As well, we offer our appreciation to Treasurer Mary Cady for the effort she puts into managing the often-complex financial affairs of the Trustees, which range from paying monthly bills for certain library expenses to tracking the stock market to ensure that the Trustees' endowment account is maximally productive. Finally, we express our appreciation to now-former Librarian Kathy Marks-Molloy for the years that she devoted to working with inadequate space and a limited budget to make the Orono Public Library such an important part of the town and especially for her contributions to making the new library building, of which we are all so proud, a reality.

All Library Trustees meetings are open to Orono citizens. Call the library at 866-5060 for dates and times.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Hakola  
Chair

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 2008-2009

I am pleased to submit my fifth annual report to the citizens of Orono for the 2008-2009 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 second 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 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 New England Comprehensive Assessment Program. 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 fifth 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 state averages.

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.

In June 2007, the State Department of Education finalized the language of the School Administrative Reorganization Law. This law outlines policy that strongly encourages school districts to regionalize by July 1, 2009. For over a year, our school committee has been busy meeting with school districts, as well as holding public forums to solicit input on which districts we should pursue a partnership with. A Regionalization Planning Committee was formed and was delegated the task of creating a reorganization plan through a collaborative process involving prospective school districts. In November 2008, the Regionalization Planning Committee submitted a reorganization plan that included combining the school districts located in Veazie, Orono and Glenburn into a new regional school district. This plan was approved by the Maine Department of Education and supported by a successful referendum that was held on January 27, 2009. School Board elections for the new school district were held in May 2009 with the intent of having an interim school board in place by the middle of May. The new school district will be up and running as of July 1, 2009.

This is the last formal report that will be written on behalf of the Orono School Department. As of July 1, 2009 the Orono School Department will cease to exist and will become a member of Regional School Unit 26. I have thoroughly enjoyed my five years as the Superintendent of Schools for the Orono School Department and will take away many fond memories as we forge ahead as a new regionalized district. I look forward to continuing to represent our community as the Superintendent of the new school district.

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 2008-2009

It was a great first year as the new principal at Asa Adams. I enjoyed the challenges and successes of my first year, and I want to thank the students, staff, parents, and community for making my first year such a success.

A few improvements occurred at Asa C. Adams over the summer break. One of the major accomplishments was the addition of a window to the office at the main entrance of the school. This is an addition that improves the safety of all the students and staff at Asa. Any visitors entering the building during school hours (8:35 A.M. to 2:45 P.M.) are now required to sign in and out at the office window and are required to wear a visitor's tag while in the building.

In August, we welcomed Mrs. Bonnie Lyford as a new special education teacher to the Asa Adams teaching staff. Also joining the Asa team were several new educational technicians, Erin Ayer, Chelsea Sherman, Jill Conley, and Heidi Crahen. We were sad that Mrs. Twitchell ended her teaching at Asa due to the small number of first grade students for the 09/10 school year. We were excited to learn that she would return as a Title I Educational Technician and would be training as a literacy coach through the University of Maine.



*Asa C. Adams School Principal - Paula McHugh*

We also said good-bye to a couple of our educational technicians. Ms. Langevin accepted a teaching position in Utah, and Mrs. Davis was accepted into the MAT Program at the University of Maine. She plans to return during the next school year to student teach at Asa. Good Luck to both of them!

In the area of professional development, teachers continued to participate in training sessions around RTI (Response to Intervention) and also participated in offerings through PREP (Penobscot Regional Educational Partnership). Mrs. Dreher, grade 2 teacher, completed her masters in literacy. We also formed a Literacy Leadership Team at Asa to make decisions regarding our literacy program.

We held our annual Passport Project in the library thanks to Mrs. Smart. This past year we traveled to Mexico. Mrs. Smart also organized two successful book fairs and arranged for an author visit with Ryan Higgins. Mr. Allen's class assisted in planting trees for Arbor Day, and Mrs. Fournier's "Jump Rope for Heart" went very well. Students had fun participating and the optional fundraising piece turned out to be a huge success as well.

Once again, we are proud to announce that we made AYP (adequate yearly progress) in both reading and math based on the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act for the 08/09 school year.

A Fireman's Field Day was held on June 12th, which proved to be lots of fun for the whole school. Our fifth grade "Challenge and Celebration Day" took place on June 11th. Many fifth grade parents attended the slide show, which Mrs. Erhardt worked diligently to create. Fifth grade also successfully completed Starbase and the Dare Program. I enjoyed a visit to Starbase as well.

Our final music concert in May was a big hit. Mrs. DeGrasse and the students at Asa Adams provided us with a wonderful performance. Mr. Caballero and Mr. Hodgdon also need to be commended for providing and leading the fourth and fifth grade students with instrumental entertainment throughout the year. We also don't want to forget Mrs. Fitch for all her hard work in preparing and assisting students with the annual "Art Festival." Students definitely created some beautiful artwork with Mrs. Fitch's assistance.

As you can see, there were a lot of great things going on at Asa Adams throughout the 08/09 school year. We appreciate the efforts of all those who helped contribute to another successful school year at Asa, and thanks to our wonderful PTO for their efforts as well!

Respectfully submitted,

Paula McHugh  
Principal  
Asa Adams School

## REPORT OF ORONO MIDDLE SCHOOL 2008-2009

I am pleased to provide this report of the 2008-2009 school year at Orono Middle School. We enjoyed an outstanding school year and made excellent progress on numerous school-based goals. Some of these goals included the following: create a fair, safe and responsive school; enhance student learning and achievement; promote effective communication strategies throughout our school community; and engage all stakeholders in school planning and improvement.

In addition to our school-based goals, we also worked throughout the year on the following initiatives: screening all students in the areas of reading and behavior, developing intervention strategies to support students who do not meet academic and behavior standards; creating programs to provide Internet safety awareness for students and parents; administering a Bullying Questionnaire to students; administering the Maine Integrated Health Survey to students; establishing a mentoring program for students; 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 honors students for outstanding school citizenship, 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 ac-

tivities 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 excelled in a variety of academic and co-curricular areas. Some of the honors and recognition our school received during the 2008-2009 school year included the following:

- Orono Middle School ranked 1st out of 192 Maine public middle schools by Schooldigger.com. Schooldigger.com is a site dedicated to test scores, rankings, and other information for over 120,000 elementary, middle, and high schools in the United States.
- Orono Middle School students did an excellent job on the 2009 Maine Educational Assessment (MEA). The following is information on the percentages of middle school students who met or exceeded the standard in each grade level content area tested:

Sixth Grade Math (73%)	Sixth Grade Reading (85%)
Seventh Grade Math (94%)	Seventh Grade Reading (98%)
Eighth Grade Math (83%)	Eighth Grade Reading (86%)
Eighth Grade Science (85%)	

- The Math Team finished first overall in the Eastern Maine Math League Large School Division for the 2008-2009 school year. This was the fifth 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 2008-2009 school year. We had the top individual scorer in the eighth grade competition, and overall thirteen students who finished in the top ten in their grade level competitions.

- We had seventeen students that had their artwork on display at the Bangor Mall “Art in the Heart” art show.
- One of our sixth grade students won the Union 87 Spelling Bee, finished first in the Penobscot County Spelling Bee, and was the Runner-Up in the State Spelling Bee.
- Four of our students competed as a team and won the Penobscot Valley Middle League Team Spelling Bee.
- One of our seventh grade students finished in third place at the Modern Woodmen District Speech Contest.
- One of our seventh grade students finished in third place in the National Political/Editorial Cartoon Contest sponsored by News Currents, an online current events organization.
- The Girls’ Basketball Team won the Penobscot Valley Middle League Sportsmanship Award.
- 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, as well as a campaign to raise money to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
- Students in Spanish Classes collected school supplies for needy Honduran children.

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



*Orono Middle School Principal - Robert Lucy*

## REPORT OF ORONO HIGH SCHOOL 2008-2009

The current population of Orono High School is 345 students. Approximately 45% of those students are tuition students from surrounding communities.

The class of 2009 graduated 85 students, 81% of these students are headed to college. The remainder will enter the workforce. This class scored above the state and national average on the SAT Reasoning Test in reading, writing and math. We are very proud to boast 4 National Merit Scholar Finalists. The school administered 74 Advanced Placement Exams with a high percentage of students scoring a “3” or higher.

Orono High School continues to provide a rigorous and broad selection of courses for students. The course offerings include a full compliment of math, science, social studies and English language arts. The high school maintains a great relationship with the University of Maine, where many students enroll in early college courses as well as participate in summer internships. While all OHS classes are college preparatory, we maintain a relationship with United Technologies Center in Bangor where students can take high-tech trade oriented courses.

Student participation rates in athletics and clubs is nearly 90%. We offer 16 varsity athletic programs and 23 club/organization programs. This year OHS brought home 3 Eastern Maine championships, 1 runner-up and a semi-finalist finish. All juniors and seniors continue to be involved with a Service Learning requirement to graduate. We value this community service component.

This year marks the first year as an official RSU (Regional School Unit 26). This change has created a new school board and a higher student population (1200). While there are challenges in restructuring, there are also new opportunities; one such opportunity is a newly formed relationship with a “sister school” in China. Hunan University High School has signed a letter of cooperation with Orono High School to both send and receive students. The high school is waiting final approval from the U.S. government to receive tuition students. As the enrollments decline state-wide, we are challenged

to find alternative methods to support enrollment and enhance the student experience. The school board's planning and promotion committee is involved with this effort.

The high school has opted into the state laptop initiative (MLTI). Every high school student at OHS has a laptop computer that is wirelessly connected to the internet. This decision was made on the premise that OHS students need to acquire 21st Century Skills in an increasing global economy. Apple Computer has visited the high school and commended our efforts in implementing a Geek Squad, these students maintain the laptop program as part of their learning experience.

There is an educational atmosphere at Orono High School. The students and staff are fortunate to enjoy the involvement and support of the community in the educational process. Our theme for Orono High School is "Small School Atmosphere with Large School Opportunities". The discipline at OHS is very strong; there are very few significant discipline referrals from the classroom.

There are some current challenges at OHS that have become part of our school goals. These include maintaining a viable enrollment, enhancing facilities, and adjusting to decreases in funding. The high school is building its budget in the midst of significant fiscal shortfalls in general purpose aid and special education funding. The facilities are in need of more "green" approaches towards energy consumption and the building needs several capital improvements.

Sincerely,

Jim Chasse  
M.A. Ed., Principal  
Orono High School



*Orono High School Principal - Jim Shasse*

## Asa Adams Elementary School Teachers

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yrs of Exp. as of 6/09</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Position</b>
Allen, Patrick	5	St. Francis Univ., U of M	Grade 4
Brooker, Sally	19	U of M	Grade 4
Cavazos, Laura	4	U of M, U of Findlay	Grade 2
Connor, Nancy	12	U of M, Marietta College, OH	ESL Teacher
DeGrasse, Julie	10	U of M	Music
Dill, Kelley	13	U of M	Grade 3
Donovan, Meredith	7	U of M, U of Pheonix	Spec Ed
Dreher, Megan	6	U of M	Grade 2
Erhardt, Lisa	8	Bates College/U of M	Guidance
Fournier, Darcie	9	U of M	Phy Educ
Gauthier, Suzanne	43	State University of Fredonia/ U of M	Grade 1
Harper, Lea	8	U of M	Kindergarten
Kruetz, Sara	10	U of NH, U of M	Grade 4
Lloyd-Fitch, Nancy	15	U of M	Art
Manning, Linda	25	No. Kentucky Univ.	Spec Ed
Mellor, Madeline	3	U of M	Speech
Melrose, Kasey	2	U of M	Kindergarten
Metcalf, Janet	13	U of M	Grade 2
Molloy, Elisabeth	7	Washington Coll./Penn State	Grade 5
Morcom, Michael	29	U of Nevada	Grade 5

## Asa Adams Elementary School Teachers - continued & High School Teachers

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/09	Institution	Position
Oldenberg, Kim	14	U of M	Grade 1
O'Mara, Kelly	3	U of M	Kindergarten
Rutherford, Katrina	8	U of M	Kindergarten
Smart, Diana	26	U of M, U of M - Augusta	Librarian
Soderberg, Lars	9	U of M	Grade 3
Surette, Elizabeth	30	U of M	Spec Educ
Thurston, Heidi	33	U of M	Grade 3
Weigang, Jennifer	15	U of M	Reading Recovery
White, Deborah	19	Muhlenberg College /U of M	Grade 1
Whitney, Stephen	35	U of M	Grade 5
<b>High School Teachers:</b>			
Andresen, Jessica	4	U of M	Art
Archer, Michael	17	U of M	Phys Ed
Bayer, Andrew	10	U of M	Spec Ed
Berthiaume, Laurence	31	State College at Fitchburg	Ind Tech
Bessey, Paul	36	U of M	Soc Studies
Boyd, Christine	19	U of M at Machias, Evangel College, MO	Bus. Tech.
Boyd, Leslie	21	U of M at P.I.	Science
Bulteel, Jim	22	U of Washington, U of Bristol, U of Oxford	English

## Orono High School Teachers - continued

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/09	Institution	Position
Caballero, Waldo	10	U of M, Colby, Nat'l Conserv. of LaPaz, Bolivia	Music
Clay, Cynthia	17	U of M	Science
Cowan, William	22	U of M - Farmington	Soc Studies
Crocker, Christine	20	U of M	Foreign Lang
Deane, Beric	31	Tech Inst, U of M, Lesley College	Tech Coord
Elnagar, Hala	9	Lycee Laliberte School	Math
Frye, Karen	24	U of M	Spec Ed
Goodall, Shana	7	Bowdoin, U of M, Bryn Mawr	Soc Studies
Henry, Terrence	26	U of M	Music
Hodgdon, Steve	33	Allied Music/Gorham College	Band
Holmes, Heather	9	U of M, U of M - Farmington	Math
Hubbard, Judith	15	U of M/Harvard/Oberlin, OH	Foreign Language
Innis, Margaret	10	Ohio Univ, Ohio State	Math
Joseph, Donald	31	Seattle Pacific Univ.	English
Kern, Carrie	14	U of M, Syracuse Univ.	Speech
Libby, Christopher	7	U of M	Math6
Luthin, Christopher	18	U of M	English
Marin, Leeann	15	U of M, U of M - Ft. Kent	Guidance
Tourtclotte, Jaclyn	4	U of M, U of M - Augusta	Phy Ed

## Orono High School Teachers - continued

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/09	Institution	Position
McLean, Alexander	32	U of M at Fort Kent	English
Moriarty, Claire	12	U of M, U of MA, St. Joseph	English
Norris, John	27	U of CT, US Naval Acad	Science
Owen, Jeffrey	19	U of M	Science
Pearce, Aphrodite	24	U of M, U of Florida, BU	Com Science
Rees, Victoria	2	U of Winnipeg, U of M	Foreign Lang
Scheidt, Rose	4	U of M, U of M-PI	Spec Ed
VanArsdale, M. Jane	39	U of M	Library
Winchester-Mabee, Leslie	9	U of M	Phys Ed

## Orono Middle School Teachers & Nurse

Name	Yrs of Exp. as of 6/09	Institution	Position
Anthony, Julie	10	U of Mass	Art
Archer, Jessica	16	U of M	Grade 7
Bishop, Debra	11	U of M	Grade 7
Carr, Ellen	6	U of M	Grade 8
Chapman, Daniel	34	U of M	Grade 7
Foster, Matthew	2	U of M	Grade 8
Gallant, Brian	26	U of M	Grade 8
Glueck, Richard	29	U of M/SUNY at Stony Brook	Grade 6
Kirkpatrick, Chad	7	U of M	Phys Ed
Larsen-Soderburg, Deborah	7	U of M	Grade 6
Libby, Jessica	4	U of So. Maine	Phy Ed
Luthin, Elaine	19	U of M	Foreign Lang
Mountcastle, Carolee	40	Lesley College, U of VA, GWU in D.C.	Guidance
Schmidt, Christine	8	U of M/Univ. of So. Maine	Spec Ed
True, Thomas	4	U of M	Grade 6

### NURSE

Wesson, Emily	7	U of Vermont	Nurse
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## Administration

Name	Position
<b>ADMINISTRATORS</b>	
Archer, Michael	Athletic Director
Brady, Sharon	Director of Special Services
Chasse, James	Principal, Orono High School
Cookson, Sandra	Tech. Integr. Spec/Curriculum
Lucy, Robert	Principal, Orono Middle School
McHugh, Paula	Principal, Asa Adams School
Tardie, Matthew	Director of Adult Ed
Sinclair, Bob	Asst Principal, Orono High School
<b>SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE</b>	
Clenchy, Kelly	Superintendent
Batchelder, Renee	Administrative Assistant to Superintendent
Bell, Sue	Payroll
Buck, Sandra	Administrative Assistant of Finance
Tuffley, Leah	Secretary for Special Education

## Secretaries & Education Technicians

Name	Position
<b>SECRETARIES:</b>	
Brooks, Mary Ellen	Secretary, Asa Adams
Clark, Rosemarie	Secretary, High School
Garland, Kerry	Adult Ed Secretary
Gray, Lynn	Secretary, High School
Nevells, Sally	Secretary, High School
Lyford, Heather	Secretary, Middle School
Gray, Lynn	Secretary, High School
<b>EDUCATION TECHNICIANS:</b>	
Bauer, Nancy	Beard, Chris
Bernhardt, Amy	Billingham, Kelsi
Breece, Linda	Clark, Lynn
Coakley, Rachyl	D'alessio, Jeanne
Davis, Abigail	Daye, Kristen
Degrave, Mary	Douglass, Thea
England, Patricia	Estabrook, Amy
Hakola, Amy	Halsey, Josh
Herasymchuck, Brian	Hennessy, Terrie
Johnston, Amanda	Josselyn, Jane
Kane, Kathleen	Langevin, Heather
Lehan, Traci	Libby, Jessica
Luellen, Greta	Mansfield, Kevin

## Education Technicians, Food Service & Custodians

Name	Name
<b>EDUCATION TECHNICIANS (continued):</b>	
McAlleer, Cynthia	McCormick, Courtney
Merrill, Elijah	Najum, Molly
Pangburn, Malvina	Pearson, Wendy
Poulsen, Erik	Quinney, Deborah
Rancourt, Teal	Read, Jean
Ringuette, Rachel	Straine, Dan
Thibodeau, Teena	VanUden, Elizabeth
<b>FOOD SERVICE:</b>	
Damboise, Barbara	Hatch, Deborah
Jacobs, Karen	Nadeau, Rosemary
Poulsen, Janice	Samiya, Tracie
Trask, Sarah	Vinal, Diane
<b>CUSTODIANS:</b>	
Babcock, Michael	MacDonald, William
Martin, Gerry	Miller, Arnold
White, Ronald	

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2323  
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
January 14, 2010

COMMITTEES:  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

RANKING MEMBER  
ARMED SERVICES  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING

Town of Orono  
59 Main Street  
Orono, ME 04473

Dear Citizens of Orono:

In 2009, I began my third term in the United States Senate. I remain deeply honored by the trust the people of Maine have placed in me, and I appreciate this opportunity to report on some highlights of my recent work in the U.S. Senate.

A significant accomplishment came in December when the President signed transportation legislation that includes a provision I authored to create a one-year pilot project to allow trucks weighing up to 100,000 pounds to use federal highways in Maine. This is moving heavy trucks off Maine's secondary roads and out of our downtowns and onto our modern, multi-lane, controlled access highways for one year, during which time a study of the impact on safety, commerce and road wear-and-tear would be conducted. In addition, this change helps to level the economic playing field, as neighboring states already have this exemption.

My appointment in early 2009 to the powerful Appropriations Committee has allowed me to have greater influence on the funding of priorities that are important to Mainers, such as shipbuilding, health care, education, and transportation, while also giving me the ability to continue pressing for the elimination of wasteful spending that exacerbates our federal deficit.

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I continue to be an advocate for Bath Iron Works, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the Maine Military Authority in Limestone, and the many other defense contractors and institutions in Maine that contribute so much to our national security. In August, I traveled to Iraq and Afghanistan and had the opportunity to meet with many service men and women from Maine. My conversations with them were the most important aspect of my trip to the region. Our troops are brave, dedicated, compassionate, and highly skilled. I will continue to work hard to ensure that they have the support their difficult missions require.

Perhaps the greatest challenge facing our nation continues to be the struggling economy, and among my highest priorities are getting our people back to work and our economy back on track. That is why in early 2009 I joined a bipartisan effort to pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The bill contains robust infrastructure spending, significant funding for state aid and education, and tax relief for low- and middle-income families and for small businesses. As a result of this bill, Maine is receiving approximately \$133 million for highway investments, more than \$50 million combined for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, and \$70.5 million for weatherization and energy efficiency projects.

Energy policy remains another great challenge: America's reliance on foreign oil harms our economy, our security, and our environment. Meeting the challenge of developing energy alternatives will provide great opportunities for Maine to build an economy for the future, with new industries and thousands of good jobs. This endeavor received a significant boost last October when the U.S. Department of Energy announced an \$8 million grant for deepwater offshore wind research at the University of Maine, and Congress also approved \$5 million I sponsored for the Maine Offshore Wind Initiative at UMaine. This January, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced a \$12.4 million laboratory construction grant for the University of Maine. I strongly advocated for these projects because, with some of the strongest winds in the nation off our coast and some of the best engineers in the field, Maine has great potential as an ideal location for offshore wind projects and

can take the lead in the development of clean, renewable, and affordable energy for America. Estimates are that development of five gigawatts of offshore wind in Maine – enough to power more than 1 million homes for a year – could attract \$20 billion of investment to our state and create more than 15,000 green energy jobs that would be sustained over 30 years.

Of course, this past year brought not just successes. A disappointment was the failure of Congress to produce bipartisan health care reform legislation that would contain soaring costs and provide more choices for struggling families and small businesses. I am deeply concerned about the nearly \$500 billion in Medicare cuts included in the bill.

It is fiscally irresponsible to raid Medicare – a program which already has long-term financing problems – to pay for a new entitlement program, particularly at a time when the number of Medicare beneficiaries is on the rise. The bill would saddle Maine's hospitals with some \$800 million in Medicare cuts over the next ten years, and could push one in five hospitals, nursing homes, and home health providers into the red. Ultimately, such cuts could jeopardize access to care for millions of our nation's seniors.

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 better prepared to respond to disasters. The Christmas Day terrorist attempt to detonate explosives on an aircraft reminds us of the dangers we continue to confront. My homeland security priorities include further strengthening our defenses against terrorism and providing our first responders with the resources they need.

On March 19, 2009, I reached a personal milestone when I cast my 4,000th consecutive roll call vote, continuing a record of participating in every single roll call vote since I first came to the Senate in 1997. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve 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>. May 2010 be a good year for your family, your community, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

MICHAEL H. MICHAUD  
2ND DISTRICT, MAINE

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

COMMITTEES:  
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CHAIRMAN  
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROAD, PIPELINES  
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
SMALL BUSINESS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RURAL AND URBAN  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND TAX

January, 2010

Dear Orono residents and friends,

This past year, Mainers have faced many challenges. Yet as I travel across our state, I am inspired by the stories I hear of people coming together to help their friends, families and communities. I also continue to hear from many people who are worried about losing their jobs, heating their homes, putting food on the table and getting affordable health care. Although there are a few hopeful signs that our nation's economy is beginning to recover, there is much more we need to do to help Maine's economy.

As an example, I am very pleased that late last year the newly-created Northern Border Regional Commission received funding and will now be able to start working to create economic development and job creation projects in the most economically distressed areas of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and northern New York.

I am also pleased that Congress authorized a pilot program that would exempt Maine's interstate highways from the 80,000 pound federal truck weight limit and help get larger trucks off our back country roads. This is a good first step in addressing this issue, and I will continue to work to find a lasting solution that will improve road safety and increase productivity.

Our country has also taken important steps forward in protecting and improving veteran's benefits and health care. In October, I joined a number of my colleagues at the White House as President Obama signed the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act. The legislation, which I helped introduce earlier this year, authorizes funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical care programs one year in advance of the start of each fiscal year, helping to end decades of uneven budget cycles and funding shortfalls that have contributed to the rationing of VA health care and inadequate access to treatment for our veterans.

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](http://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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WATERVILLE, ME 04001  
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FAX: (207) 873-5717





### Senator Elizabeth Schneider

Senate District 30  
 Business, Research, and Economic Development Committee, Chair  
 Education Committee Member  
 3 State House Station  
 Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
 (207) 287-1515 Office  
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### 124th Maine Legislature

Dear Constituent,

The global economic recession has challenged our state's economy more than any other time in our history since the great depression. Across Maine people have had to make difficult decisions with their family budgets. Just as Maine people have had to make tough choices with their budgets, so too have we, lawmakers with our state budgets. With revenue projections down over \$400 million, we have been working to reduce state spending.

I have listened and spoken with hundreds of constituents all across our Senate District and the overwhelming majority want to see our state and local governments continue to provide the same quality services they have received in the past. With the budgets of state and local governments strained, fewer dollars means many services will be impacted. Leaders at all levels of government are working hard to minimize the effect on core areas such as education for our children and health care services for our most vulnerable populations.

As the Senate Chair of the Business, Research, and Economic Development Committee, I recognize that to move our state forward out of this recession, we must focus on jobs. Maintaining support for higher education and economic development programs that work will help position our state on a solid road to recovery. At the K-12 level, I have strongly advocated for increased emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) learning. The business leaders I speak with routinely emphasize the need for students with this knowledge base to expand our economy.

Meanwhile, researchers at the University of Maine have engineered world renowned composite materials that can be used to build bridges, boats, and windmill blades. These composite windmill blades in time will provide reliable offshore wind energy and jobs at a variety of levels. While our current economic environment remains challenging, the people of our state have demonstrated time and again that we can rise to any challenge. The strong work ethic and resiliency of our workforce will be key to a stronger and more competitive Maine.

I understand times may still be hard for many citizens. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you think I may be able to provide assistance on legislative matters, or help navigating state agencies or services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth M. Schneider".

Senator Elizabeth M. Schneider  
 District 30

*Towns represented by Senator Elizabeth M. Schneider in Senate District 30 are Alton, Argyle Twp., Bradford, Edinburg, Enfield, Greenbush, Howland, Hudson, Kingman Twp., LaGrange, Lee, Lincoln, Mattawankeag, Maxfield, Old Town, Orono, Passadumkeag, Penobscot Nation Indian Island, Springfield, Twombly, Veazie, Webster Plantation, and Winn.*



## MESSAGE TO THE CITIZENS OF ORONO

Spring 2010

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It is an honor to continue serving the residents of Orono as your State Representative in Augusta. With the second session of the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature recently adjourned, I still encourage you to contact me with your thoughts on any state issue or for help with any state agency.

As a result of the national economic recession and slow recovery, Maine has seen a significant decline in state revenues over the last year. In order to deal with the slow economy the Legislature, working with the Governor has reduced the state budget an additional \$310 million to bring the budget into balance. These budget cuts will be felt across all levels of state government and throughout towns and counties in our state. While cuts of this magnitude will have a significant impact on state and local services, as House Chair of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, I personally I worked hard alongside my fellow legislators to minimize those impacts as much as possible.

We were faced with many difficult decisions in the last session; however those hard decisions offered us significant opportunities to change how Maine delivers services so that we emerge from these hard times with a more cost-effective state government. As we worked on the state budget, we always sought to ensure that the quality of education does not suffer, that our families remain safe and healthy, and that all Maine citizens have access to vital services during these tough times. At the same time we must also continue to do all that we can to boost the economy and to ensure that federal stimulus funds are spent wisely.

With the challenges and opportunities that we have seen in this session, I believe we have been able to continue to move Maine forward by setting priorities based on fundamental Maine values and common sense. Again, please feel free to contact me to share your thoughts on state issues or if you need assistance with state services. I can be reached at home at 207-866-3753, or by e-mail at [emily.cain@gmail.com](mailto:emily.cain@gmail.com)

Once again, I am honored for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily".

Emily Cain  
State Representative

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*Town Municipal Building*

# NOTES

# NOTES