# Annual Financial Report of the Town of Aquinnah 



For the Year Ending June 30, 2019
with which is included the ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTS

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Dylan Fernandes<br>State Representative<br>Barnstable, Dukes<br>\& Nantucket

Kaylea Moore<br>District Liaison<br>kaylea.moore@<br>mahouse.gov

Dear Aquinnah Friends,
We kicked off 2019 by filing 26 bills focused on protecting our environment, expanding access to housing for those most in need, and breaking down barriers to voting, among many other issues. Locally, we filed and passed legislation for the Martha's Vineyard Airport to make much-needed capital improvements and equipment upgrades. As a legislature, we passed significant bills including hands-free driving legislation, major education reform which will infuse $\$ 1.5$ billion in new funding for our schools, and funding for women's reproductive healthcare.

This year, I spoke with students at a Youth Climate Summit at Felix Neck, sat on a climate change panel at the Environmental Film Festival and moderated a discussion on climate change at the West Tisbury School with John Kerry and Gina McCarthy, among other meetings focused on climate change adaptation with Island towns. These events, all organized by local community groups,
show how invested the Vineyard is in identifying solutions to combat climate change and plan for the future of this coastal community.

In the budget, Senator Cyr and I secured $\$ 175,000$ for regional shellfish propagation (over $\$ 550,000$ over the past three years), and will continue to support this culturally, economically, and environmentally important industry. We were also able to get $\$ 40,000$ for the Dukes County Substance Misuse and Detox Program, to provide medically assisted treatment to Islanders, as well as $\$ 50,000$ for the Transportation Access Program, to help with excessive costs of off-Island travel for those that need to access healthcare on the mainland, both administered by Martha's Vineyard Community Services. Finally, for the first time in 20 years, the legislature increased Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding by allocating an additional $\$ 36$ million for important local projects including affordable housing, restoration of historic sites, and preservation of open space.

My team and I are working for you on-Island and at the State House and we will always be here to serve you. Community engagement, transparency, and accessibility were tenants of my campaign and are the foundation of my office. Reach out to me anytime at (617) 722-2013, ext 3 or email me at Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov.

Yours,<br>Dylan

## Aquinnah Town Officers

## Elected

Term Expires<br>BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Gary Haley 2022
James Newman 2021
Julianne Vanderhoop 2020
TOWN CLERK
Gabriella Camillieri 2023

## MODERATOR

Michael Hebert 2020

## BOARD OF HEALTH

James Glavin 2021
Gerald Green 2022
Sarah Saltonstall 2020

CONSTABLES
Heidi Vanderhoop 2022
Roxanne Ackerman 2021
Term Expires
LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Marjorie Spitz ..... 2020
Faith Vanderhoop ..... 2022
Heidi Vanderhoop ..... 2021
MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION
James Vercruysse ..... 2021
SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE
Roxanne Ackerman ..... 2021
PLANNING BOARD
Jo-Ann Eccher ..... 2022
James Mahoney ..... 2022
Berta Welch ..... 2021
James Wallen ..... 2020
Thomas Murphy ..... 2020
Sophia Welch, Administrative Assistant
MARTHA'S VINEYARDLAND BANK COMMISSION
Sarah Thulin ..... 2022

## Appointments

## GENERAL TOWN GOVERNMENT

All terms expire on June 30, 2021 except as noted

## ACCOUNTANT

Emily Day

## ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Robin Robinson

ASSESSORS
Marsha Shufrin Adam Wilson
Elise LeBovit

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Leonard Jason, Jr., Building Inspector
Peter Dawley, Electrical Inspector
George Apostolides, Gas Inspector \& Plumbing Inspector
Simon Bollin, Smoke/Oil Burner Inspector

## BOARD OF APPEALS

| H. Ted Cammann | Peter Ives |
| :--- | ---: |
| James Vercruysse |  |

BOARD OF HEALTH ASSISTANT
Phoenix Becker

## BOARD OF REGISTRARS

| Mallory Butler | Carolyn Feltz |
| :--- | ---: |
| June Manning | Marjorie Spitz |

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Richard Skidmore

## CAPE LIGHT COMPACT

Michael Hebert

## CEMETERY COMMISSION

Eleanor Hebert<br>Fulton Malonson Gabriella Camillieri

## COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Derrill Bazzy
Marshall Lee Mary Elizabeth Pratt
Kathy Newman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Kathy Newman
Sibel Suman
Steve Yaffe

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Gary Robinson

# FINANCE COMMITTEE 

Mark Foster<br>Thomas Murphy

Allen Rugg, Chairman

## FIRE CHIEF

Simon Bollin

## HIGHWAY/PUBLIC WORKS

Jay Smalley, Director

## HOUSING COMMITTEE

Derrill Bazzy
Michael Hebert
Mary Elizabeth Pratt
Sibel Suman
Sophia Welch

## LAND BANK ADVISORY BOARD

James Newman, Selectman
Mary Elizabeth Pratt, Conservation Commission
Peter Temple, Planning Board
Durwood Vanderhoop, Health

## LIBRARY

Rosa Parker, Interim Director
Vera Dello Russo, Assistant

## LIGHTHOUSE ADVISORY BOARD

| Leonard Butler | Thomas Murphy |
| :--- | ---: |
| James Pickman | Richard Skidmore |

Bettina Washington

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

June Manning
Kathy Newman

Paul Manning
Alexandra Taylor

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Rhandi Belain, Chief of Police
Paul G. Manning, Sergeant
Steven M. Mathias
David Murphy

## SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS

Tyler Moreis
Donald Scranton
Bradley Fielder
Bret Stearns

## SHELLFISH COMMITTEE

| Ed Belain | James Sanfilippo |
| :--- | ---: |
| Hollis Smith | Brian Vanderhoop |
| William D. Vanderhoop, Jr. |  |

# SHELLFISH CONSTABLE/HARBORMASTER 

Brian Vanderhoop, Shellfish Warden/Harbormaster<br>Hollis Smith, Deputy Constable<br>William D. Vanderhoop, Jr., Deputy Constable

TAX COLLECTOR
Wenonah Madison

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
Emily Day

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Jeffrey Madison

TOWN COUNSEL
Ronald Rappaport, Esq.

TREASURER
Sibel Suman

## Appointments

REGIONAL OFFICERS

DUKES COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD
James Newman

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE
Richard Skidmore

## MARTHA'S VINEYARD CENTER FOR LIVING

June Manning

## MARTHA'S VINEYARD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Penny Weinstein

> MARTHA'S VINEYARD REFUSE DISPOSAL \& RESOURCE RECOVERY DISTRICT
> James Glavin $\quad$ Megan Ottens-Sargent

> SELECT BOARD'S REPRESENTATIVE MARTHA'S VINEYARD COMMISSION
Kathy Newman ..... 2022
MARTHA'S VINEYARD TRANSIT AUTHORITY
June Manning
MARTHA'S VINEYARD T.V. ADVISORY BOARD
Richard Skidmore
TRI-TOWN AMBULANCE COMMITTEE
James Newman
UP-ISLAND COUNCIL ON AGING
Jean LinceJune Manning

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LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY


> FUND EQUITY:

FUND BALANCES:
TRUST FUNDS - NONSPENDABLE
TRUST FUNDS - EXPENDABLE
RESERVED FOR CONTINUING ARTICLES RESERVED FOR ENCUMBRANCES

DESIGNATD
UNDESIGNATED
TOTAL FUND EQUITY
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY
TOWN OF AQUINNAH, MASSACHUSETTS
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

$4,390,565$
96,405
 $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$
 No

 REVENUES:
REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES,
NET OF TAX REFUNDS
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES
HOTEL/MOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX
PENALTIES \& INTEREST
CHARGES FOR SERVICES
INVESTMENT INCOME
CONTRIBUTIONS \& DONATIONS
DEPARTMENTAL \& OTHER INCOME
TOTAL REVENUES

EXPENDITURES
CURRENT:
GENERAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION
PUBLIC WORKS
HUMAN SERVICES
CULTURE \& RECREATION
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
STATE \& COUNTY ASSESSMENTS DEBT SERVICE
PRINCIPAL
TOTAL EXPENDITURES
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES
OVER EXPENDITURES

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES AND
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES OVER (UNDER)
EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES

FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |




## 位 BUDGET AND ACTUAL－BUDGETARY BASIS <br> YEAR ENDED JUNE 30， 2019

CURRENT YEAR CARRYFORWARD
ENCUMBRANCES





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| :---: | :---: |


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| CURRENT YEAR |
| :---: |
| INITIAL |
| BUDGET |


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105,546
47,003
-
21,875
48,51
115,005

REVENUES：
PROPERTY TAXES
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

hotelmmotel occupancy tax PENALTIES \＆INTEREST INVESTMENT INCOME

DEPARTMENTAL
total revenues

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CURRENT：GOVERNMENT
GENERAL GOVER
PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION PUBLIC WORKS
hUMAN SERVICES
CULTURE \＆RECREATION
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS


| CURRENT YEAR |
| :---: |
| CARRYFORWARD |
|  |
| ENCUMBRANCES |
| - |
| - |
| 197,259 |


$(197,259)$

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$(393,499)$

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$\$(3,539)$
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OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):
BOND PROCEEDS
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES).

TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)

DEBT SERVICE
PRINCIPAL
INTEREST
TOTAL EXPENDITURES
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES








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FY19
ORIGINAL
BUDGET
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FY19
EXPENSES
ACTUAL

No

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 | PRIOR YEAR |
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| CARRYFORWARD |
| ARTICLES \＆ |
| ENCUMBRANCES |

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 TREASURER - EXPENSES
TAX COLLECTOR
TOWN COUNSEL
DATA PROCESSING
TOWN CLERK - EXPENSES
GENERAL INSURANCE
TOWN REPORT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PLANNING BOARD
BOARD OF APPEALS
MV COMMISSION - ASSESSMEN
MV COMMISSION - TRAVEL
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - OTH
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - UNIT
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - BLDG
UTILITIES
ARTICLES
PUBLIC SAFETY

GENERAL GOVERNMENT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PLANNING BOARD
BOARD OF APPEALS
MV COMMISSION - ASSESSMENT
MV COMMISSION - TRAVEL
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - OTHER
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - UNIT RENTAL
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - BLDGS \& GRO
UTILITIES
BUILDING MAINTENANCE - BLDGS \& GROUNDS
POLICE - CHIEF
POLICE - WAGES POLICE - LONGEVITY FIRE - CHIEF - PAY EMERGENCY MGT DOG OFFICER

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| :---: | :---: |
| EXPENSES | EXPENSES |
| ACTUAL | ACTUAL |




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| :---: | :---: |
|  | $\stackrel{\bar{N}}{\stackrel{\sim}{N}}$ |


| FY19 |
| :---: |
| EXPENSES |
| ACTUAL |


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| PRIOR YEAR |
| :---: |
| CARRYFORWARD |
| ARTICLES \＆ |
| ENCUMBRANCES |

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BUDGET CATEGORY

EDUCATION
EXPENSES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ASSESSMENT
HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT
ARTICLES
EDUCATION

| FY16 EXPENSES ACTUAL | FY15 EXPENSES ACTUAL |
| :---: | :---: |
| 34,842 | 19,648 |
| 67,381 | - |
| - | 64,399 |
| 28,149 | 12,849 |
| 32,105 | 38,903 |
| - | 393 |
| 21,764 | 17,561 |
| 8,024 | 7,390 |
| 24,050 | 23,295 |
| - | 847 |
| 24,825 | 22,145 |
| 1,686 | 2,764 |
| - | 7,222 |
| 242,826 | 217,416 |

15,848
21,776
900
1,151



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BOARD OF HEALTH - INSPECTOR
HOMESITE
BOARD OF HEALTH

BUDGET CATEGORY

## PUBLIC WORKS

PERSONAL SERVICES
HIGHWAY SALARY
HIGHWAY DIRECTOR
HIGHWAY DIRECT
PUBLIC WORKS
PUBLIC WORKS PUORKS - BUILDING MAINTENANCE
SNOW REMOVAL - OVERTIME WAGES CEMETERY
$\frac{\text { EXPENSES }}{\text { HIGHWAY }}$
HIGHLIC WORKS -
PUBIC
PUBLIC WORKS - BUILDING MAINTENANCE
CEMETERY
GASRY TRAVEL
ARTICLES
PUBLIC WORKS
HUMAN SERVICES
PERSONAL SERVICES

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| FY16 EXPENSES ACTUAL | FY15 EXPENSES ACTUAL |
| :---: | :---: |
| 137,517 | 131,474 |
| 6,330 | 3,527 |
| 8,011 | 6,081 |
| 235,695 | 241,609 |
| - | - |
| 17,442 | 26,654 |
| - | 100,000 |
| 404,995 | 509,345 |
| 19,000 | 15,540 |
| 770 | 5,000 |
| 1,561 | 863 |
| 21,331 | 21,403 |
| 20,260 | 19,077 |
| - | 855 |
| 35,259 | 27,829 |
| - | 440 |
| 55,519 | 48,201 |
| \$ 4,036,245 | \$ 4,007,662 |





$$
\begin{array}{r}
182,519 \\
15,870 \\
7,200 \\
263,216 \\
- \\
21,320 \\
- \\
\hline 490,125 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$



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$\begin{array}{cc}\text { PRIOR YEAR } & \\ \text { CARRYFORWARD } & \text { FY19 } \\ \text { ARTICLES \& } & \text { INITIAL } \\ \text { ENCUMBRANCES } & \\ & \\ & \\ & \\ & \end{array}$






BUDGET CATEGORY
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
PENSION
WORKMENS COMPENSATION
UNEMPLOYMENT
HEALTH INSURANCE
HEALTH INSURANCE - MITIGATION
MEDICARE
ARTICLES
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

| DEBT SERVICE |
| :--- |
| PRINCIPAL |
| INTEREST - LONG TERM |
| INTEREST - TEMPORARRY LOANS |
| DEBT SERVICE |
|  |
| STATE \& COUNTY ASSESSMENTS |
| COUNTY TAX |
| AIR POLLUTION CONTROL |
| RTA |
| NON-RENEWAL EXCISE |
| STATE \& COUNTY ASSESSMENTS |

TOTAL EXPENSES

# TOWN OF AQUINNAH, MASSACHUSETTS COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 

|  | FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | NONEXPENDABLE TRUST |
| OPERATING REVENUES: |  |
| CONTRIBUTIONS \& DONATIONS | \$ |
| TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES | - |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | - |
| OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) | - |
| FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 18,832 |
| FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR | \$ 18,832 |

# Report of the Treasurer 

JUNE 30, 2019
To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

With no new debt issued in FY19 we retired \$158,725.00 in principal and paid $\$ 22,554.00$ in interest.

We ended the fiscal year with a total debt balance of $\$ 1,068,000.00$ \$400,000.00 Town Fire truck
\$210,000.00 Town Share Mortgage on Helens Place
\$458,000.00 CPC Share Mortgages \& Projects
By the end of June 2019 our OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) Pooled Trust Account for Aquinnah had a balance of \$493,999.00

The Gay Head Light Tours had their first full season in FY19 which generated $\$ 87,178.00$ in ticket sales. A nice addition to our beach parking \& permit revenue of $\$ 199,762.00$

Interest and investment earnings totaled $\$ 28,770.00$
The FY19 Treasurers Receipts and the reconciliation ending June 30, 2019 are listed below.

Thank you for your continued support.
Respectfully submitted,
SIBEL SUMAN,
Treasurer \& Benefits Administrator

## TREASURER RECIEPTS FY19 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)

TAX TITLE, INTEREST, COURT \& LEGAL FEES ..... 27911.46
MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES ..... 1000
DO (LANDFILL-DROP OFF) FEES ..... 35284.35
PARKING LOT ..... 160687
PHILBIN BEACH PERMITS ..... 39175
GHL TOURS ..... 87178.76
GAY HEAD LIGHTHOUSE GIFT FUND ..... 70560.55
GAY HEAD LIGHTHOUSE GIFT FUND - EVENTS ..... 13260.33
GHLH WEDDINGS/PRIVATE TOURS ..... 6975
BUSINESS LICENSE ..... 55
BUILDING PERMITS ..... 5881.25
CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY ..... 150
DEMOLITION PERMIT ..... 1000
ELECTRIC, GAS,PLUMBING PERMITS ..... 2550
FIRE DEPARTMENT PERMITS ..... 550
ELECTRICAL, GAS, PLUMBING INSPECTIONS ..... 9555
FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTIONS ..... 600
LIBRARY GIFTS ..... 11058.55
LIBRARY FINES/FEES ..... 185.95
POLICE DETAILS ..... 74850.5
POLICE FEES (DETAILS) ..... 4096.5
POLICE GIFT DONATION ..... 1163.35
FIREARMS PERMITS - TOWN SHARE ..... 125
FIREARMS PERMITS - STATE SHARE ..... 375
OTHER DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE ..... 1211.96
COPIES/FAXES/POSTAGE (XEROXING) ..... 62
MENEMSHA LOT LEASES ..... 2700
CLIFF LOT LEASES ..... 9841.5
CLIFF LOT LEASES-TRIBE (Includes part of FY18) ..... 41951.85
LIQUER LICENSE FEE ..... 800
VICTUALERS PERMIT ..... 1825
TAXI LICENSE/APPLICATION ..... 415
TRIBAL HOUSING-IN LIEU OF TAXES ..... 0
TRIBE-PUBLIC SAFETY ..... 0
HOMESTEAD SPECIAL EVENT LEASE ..... 2750
TOWN HALL LEASE ..... 160
AQUINNAH CULTURAL CENTER ..... 5000
DOG LICENSES-TOWN CLERK ..... 239
CLERK MARRIAGE/BIRTH/DEATH CERT FEES ..... 200
CONSERVATION COMM. FEES ..... 1220
PLANNING BOARD FEES ..... 6300
INNKEEPER PERMITS ..... 150
FOOD SERVICE PERMITS ..... 130
FIRE DEPT GIFT DONATION ..... 1000
SEPTIC \& WELL PERMITS ..... 3900
NITE SOIL PERMITS ..... 625
DAY CAMP PERMIT ..... 75
COMMERCIAL SHELLFISH PERMITS ..... 60
COMMERCIAL SCALLOP PERMITS ..... 2100
FAMILY SHELLFISH PERMITS ..... 945
SKIFF PERMITS ..... 2000
MOORING PERMITS ..... 11830
RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS ..... 10037.16
PARKING TICKETS ..... 9464.35
BY-LAW FINE - DRIVING ON BEACH ..... 200
BOH SEPTIC FINES ..... 300
REFUND - NON RECURRING ..... 10324.76
DUKES COUNTY LICENSE PLATE FEES (MGL90sec2) ..... 4512.5
STATE- MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL ..... 5000
STATE - CMVI (SPEEDING TICKETS) ..... 454.45
STATE - VETERANS SERVICES ..... 26
STATE - ROOMS TAX ..... 10465.72
STATE- CPA STATE MATCH ..... 85761
STATE - POLLING HOURS FOR SENATE SPECIAL ..... 630
STATE - ELDER AFFAIRS ..... 6000
STATE- LIBRARY AID ..... 2124.87
SOLAR LEASE ..... 587
SALE OF INVENTORY ..... 1000
INTEREST \& INVESTMENT INCOME ..... 28770
RECEIPT TOTALS ..... 827377.67

## TOWN OF AQUINNAH

TREASURER'S RECONCILIATION - FY19 JUNE 2019

| DESCRIPTION | $\begin{gathered} \text { BEGINNING } \\ \text { BALANCE } \\ 06 / 01 / 19 \end{gathered}$ | JUNE RECEIPTS | JUNE <br> WARRANTS | TRANSFERS <br> IN | $\begin{gathered} \text { TRANSFERS } \\ \text { OUT } \end{gathered}$ | ENDING <br> BALANCE $06 / 30 / 19$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENERAL | 736260.85 | 144914.61 | 23.44 |  | 276719.96 | 604,432.06 |
| PAYROLL | 2636.21 | 3.96 | 160981.6 | 160981.6 |  | 2,640.17 |
| COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT | 117880.2 | 113.92 |  |  |  | 117,994.12 |
| GAY HEAD LIGHTHOUSE FUND | 64481.51 | 275.47 |  |  |  | 64,756.98 |
| PETTY CASH | 4501.58 |  |  |  |  | 4,501.58 |
| VENDOR CHECKING | 238369.84 | 19.55 | 65690.34 | 118533.36 |  | 291,232.41 |
| CONSOLIDATED | 182643.21 | 123.4 |  |  | 2795 | 179,971.61 |
| ONLINE COLLECTIONS | 50607.14 | 0.8 |  |  |  | 50,607.94 |
| COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT | 308637.37 | 426.3 | 134.53 |  |  | 308,929.14 |
| STABILIZATION | 236315.28 | 326.4 | 103 |  |  | 236,538.68 |
| STABILIZATION-BLDG \& GROUNDS | 10674.31 | 14.74 | 4.65 |  |  | 10,684.40 |
| HOUSING | 499.32 | 0.69 | 0.22 |  |  | 499.79 |
| STABILIZATION-CAPITAL | 80707.11 | 111.48 | 35.18 |  |  | 80,783.41 |
| CONSOLODATED TRUST ACCOUNTS | 39860.22 | 55.06 | 17.37 |  |  | 39,897.91 |
| TOTAL | 2074074.15 | 146386.38 | 226990.33 | 279514.96 | 279514.96 | 1,993,470.20 |

# Report of the Tax Collector 

July 1,2018-June 30, 2019

| FY '05 | Collected | FY '14 | Collected |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 21.88$ | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 546.46$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 48.22$ | Interest/Fees | $\$ 386.96$ |
| FY '06 | Collected | FY '15 | Collected |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 250.31$ | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 854.70$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 431.66$ | Personal Property | $\$ 33.27$ |
| FY '07 | Collected | Interest/Fees | $\$ 500.44$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 301.56$ | FY '16 | Collected |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 461.45$ | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 1,125.51$ |
| FY '08 | Collected | Personal Property | $\$ 191.83$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 310.00$ | Interest/Fees | $\$ 535.15$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 450.41$ | FY '17 | Collected |
| FY '09 | Collected | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 950.52$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 334.48$ | Personal Property | $\$ 380.78$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 456.41$ | Interest/Fees | $\$ 339.09$ |
| FY '10 | Collected | FY '18 | Collected |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 247.50$ | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 16,254.83$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 315.93$ | Personal Property | $\$ 3,013.10$ |
| FY '11 | Collected | Real Estate | $\$ 152,080.85$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 207.29$ | Interest/Fees | $\$ 3,899.42$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 269.23$ | FY '19 | Collected |
| FY '12 | Collected | Motor Vehicle | $\$ 36,470.06$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 325.84$ | Personal Property | $\$ 58,935.25$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 300.81$ | Real Estate | $\$ 4,186,431.41$ |
| FY '13 | Collected | CPA | $\$ 113,377.96$ |
| Motor Vehicle | $\$ 611.25$ | Interest/Fees | $\$ 9,020.41$ |
| Interest/Fees | $\$ 431.53$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Total Motor Vehicle Collected ..... \$58,812.19
Total Personal Property Collected ..... $\$ 62,554.23$
Total Real Estate Collected ..... \$4,338,512.26
Total CPA Collected ..... \$117,277.38
Total Interest/Fees Collected ..... $\$ 26,964.37$
Total Collected ..... $\$ 4,604,120.43$

Respectfully submitted,<br>WENONAH MADISON, Tax Collector

# Report of the Town Clerk 

Births<br>January 27, 2019 - Alexander Stanley Hart<br>August 3, 2019 - Ocie Verna Colter<br>December 27, 2019 - Myles Xaysana Vanderhoop

## Marriages

February 23, 2019 - Residents
Patrick Thomas Brown
Suzanne Charlene Scordino
May 26, 2019 - Non-Residents Keelan Aileen Weiss
Edward Michael Parker II
June 29, 2019 - Non-Residents Kendra Salvatore
Chester George Gulland
August 7, 2019 - Non-Residents Richard Joseph Hopwood Jr. Judith McCoy Walker

August 17, 2019 - Residents
Ann Marie Ricci
Thomas Leonard Green
August 17, 2019 - Non-Residents
Brenton Burch Gilmore
Katie Elizabeth Pietrowski
September 3, 2019 - Non-Residents
William Troxell Fleming
Jennifer Rebecca Brennan
October 12, 2019 - Non-Residents
Isabelle Claire Kirkham-Lewitt
Nicholas Herrick Morris

## Deaths

April 13, 2019 - Angela Katherine Waldron, age 72
May 26, 2019 - Charles S. Eccher, age 96

## Dog Licenses - 38

Respectfully submitted,
GABRIELLA CAMILLIERI, Town Clerk

# Report of the Planning Board Plan Review Commitee 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

In FY2019, the Planning Board Plan Review Committee held 21 meetings and approved 58 decisions (special permits, amendments and zoning determinations). After multiple meetings reviewing and revising the bylaws and with your help at the 2019 Annual Town meeting, we were able to amend multiple bylaws as well as vote in a new bylaw which allowed for non-significant small projects to be approved by a Zoning Administrator. It was the hope that through this process, small projects deemed insignificant and not detrimental to abutters, could be streamlined and we feel that we achieved our intention.

We continue to review the bylaws and make revisions that both sustain the beauty of Aquinnah and allow us to ensure that the future of our town community continues to grow. As always, we invite our town residents to help us and direct us in reaching this goal as we look towards the future.

Respectfully submitted, JIM WALLEN, Chairman JO-ANN ECCHER JAMES MAHONEY BERTA WELCH TOM MURPHY ISAAC TAYLOR

# Report of the Town Administrator 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

If I were to pick a single word to describe the past 12 months in Aquinnah that word might be "challenging." Legal, budget, visitor control, several grant projects and Covid-19 each presented management issues for the Select Board.

Last summer our resident Tribe sought to build a Class II gaming operation on property they recently purchased from the Heirs of Sally Weiner on State Road. In the interest of public safety the Select Board requested that the Tribe follow requirements, similar to any other landowner, by obtaining a building permit from the Town. The Tribe refused. Their refusal set off a series of complex legal challenges.

Simply stated, the Select Board recognizes the Tribe's right under federal law to construct a casino on their trust lands. However, rumors persisted about size, parking, sewage disposal, impact on municipal services and traffic. Each of these would require scrutiny by a public or private developer on any Aquinnah property. The project, whatever it may be, was referred to the Martha's Vineyard Commission ("MVC") as a Development of Regional Impact ("DRI") by the Aquinnah Select Board.

In spite of the Select Board's request, without any permits, the Tribe began construction by completely removing vegetation and topsoil from nearly 5 acres of land, trucked the topsoil to another site across town roads with total disregard for public safety. The Town, together with the MVC, then sought enforcement through the Courts who found in the Town's favor and required the Tribe to secure Town permits for any non-gaming related activity. The Tribe has appealed and the issue remains unresolved.

Budgetary constraints continue to challenge effective town management. Those of us charged with the Town's functions are very happy that this year there is no requirement for a Proposition $2 \frac{1}{2}$ override. This relief will be short-lived. Deferred maintenance of Town-owned property, the need for additional restroom facilities at the Cliffs along with the need to upgrade our Town offices and harbor improvements cry out for attention that cannot be put off much longer.

Thank you to the team of residents including Derrill Bazzy, Jim Pickman, Berta Welch, Mitzi Pratt and Richard Skidmore whose efforts have been successfully solicited and helped to implement grants to make improvements at the Cliffs. Visitors to the Circle this summer will notice changes that improve handicap access and the overall visitor experience to our major tourist attraction.

Through a generous private donation of $\$ 50,000$ we were able to fund a public picnic area, including a stone wall, and plantings behind the shops at the Cliffs. A shade structure covering a portion of the patio is planned for the area. The project was constructed by Steve Yaffe. We hope that this will be installed before next season. Thank you to the anonymous donor for his, or her, generous gift.

The aforementioned residents also gave of their time to complete the construction of a handicap accessible viewing platform at the Lookout Area of the Cliffs. Visitors to the area will view our Registered Natural Landmark at a height exceeding the roof of the Aquinnah Shop. The project, constructed by Jed Smith Construction has impressed everyone. The project was funded by a State matching funds grant. Thank you to Gisele Gauthier, our fantastic grant writer for her more than capable assistance in managing and completing this project.

You will notice from the Report of the Building Inspector that once again there was virtually no growth in our tax base last year. As this report goes to print, all planned capital improvement projects have been shelved until at least FY22. The Select Board had hoped to plan and commence construction on new restrooms at Aquinnah

Park and needed repairs/expansion of the Town Hall/Town Offices complex. We were fortunate in that our school budget assessment was less due to a decrease in enrollment. Residents should know that this fluctuation will continue from year-to-year making long-term budgeting nearly impossible without resorting to Proposition $21 / 2$ overrides.

I have to send a special thanks to Bill Lake and Noli Taylor for their work that resulted in Aquinnah's designation as a Green Community. That designation will fund over $\$ 125,000$ worth of energy efficiency improvements to the Town Hall, Town Office and Fire Station. It will also offer a bit of help in funding new town vehicles.

Very shortly there will be electric vehicle charging stations located at Aquinnah Circle and the Town Hall. We are also working with Cape \& Vineyard Electric Cooperative ("CVEC") to install a solar array in front of the Fire Station and on the roof of the Town Hall (assuming that engineering reports show that the structure can support the weight).

A requirement of most grants for improvements to recreational facilities here in the Commonwealth requires the Town to have an up-to-date Open Space Plan (OSP".) With the assistance of Dan Doyle from the MVC, we will be completing Aquinnah's OSP. This is a project that was started some years ago but abandoned for unknown reasons. It will be a relief to finally have this document completed this summer.

Plans are underway by the Aquinnah Affordable Housing Committee to develop a plan for town-owned land behind the Town Hall. Graduate landscape design students from The Conway School in Northampton, MA have held several Zoom meetings with interested town residents to plan for locating three units of affordable housing, a playground and a food forest on the land. The design process is funded through Community Preservation Committee ("CPC") funds.

Noli Taylor, Bill Lake, Megan Gombos and others, again with assistance from staff at the MVC have organized several community
meetings to prepare a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant. They are presently developing plans Be on the lookout for more of this in the coming months.

Early this year the Town, and indeed every Massachusetts municipality, was forced by the Covid-19 virus pandemic to close the Town Offices, postpone hearings on requested permits and require Town officials to carry out official duties from their home. The Select Board have worked with the Aquinnah Board of Health, the offices of Representative Fernandes and Senator Cyr to develop safety regulations and funding necessary to protect our community. We continue to request visitors from out-of-state to self-quarantine for at least 14 days. Please continue to wear masks, wash your hands, and maintain appropriate social distancing when outside of your home. By observing these rules you will help us all to manage the spread of the disease.

The Covid-19 virus has required us to adjust parking throughout town for the 2020 season. While parking permits for use of the South Beach will be issued to short-term renters, parking at Philbin Beach will be limited to homeowners only. Renters will be allowed to park at the Cliffs Lot in an effort to limit the numbers of folks using the beach near Philbin.

Last year the voters accepted the Select Board's suggestion to outsource town Assessor duties. Taxpayers have been able to discuss any assessment issues with a face-to-face representative of Regional Resource Group through a portal at the Town Office. This has saved the Town over $\$ 100,000$ annually. This year, newly instituted programs will this allow face-to-face, live discussion between taxpayers and assessors from your home computer.

Thank you to the Select Board for their cooperation in these trying times.

Respectfully submitted,
JEFFREY L. MADISON, ESQ.
Aquinnah Town Administrator

## Report of the

## Aquinnah Conservation Commission

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

The Aquinnah Conservation Commission is responsible for administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Aquinnah Wetland/Water Resource Bylaw. We oversee the regulations protecting wetland and water resources including all coastal bank and dune features. The commission also has oversight of properties where we hold conservation restrictions. Throughout 2019 we held over 20 public hearings. We issued 11 Orders of Condition and 10 Requests for Determination of Applicability for private and public building projects. We also issued approximately 11 Certificates of Compliance to Aquinnah property owners for successful completion of projects under our jurisdiction.

During 2019 and 2020 we have participated in island-wide discussions regarding climate change focusing on ways in which our town can respond to the effects of higher sea levels, more intense coastal storms, and loss of coastal banks and salt marshes. This past year we have fielded calls regarding a range of concerns such as tree die back on East Pasture, caterpillar infestation on Ox Cart, plus odor arising from wetland areas along Ox Cart Road. We encourage residents to call with their questions and concerns.

Obviously, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the conservation commission hearings have come to a temporary halt. When it is again safe to hold meetings using social distancing protocols we will do so. We are continuing to answer questions and concerns via the telephone. Stay safe and healthy.

Respectfully submitted,

| SARAH THULIN, Chairperson | STEVE YAFFE |
| :--- | :--- |
| KATHY NEWMAN | MITZI PRATT | SIBEL SUMAN

# Report of the Police Department 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

As I have been accustomed to doing each year as I start off this report is to let you know who the members of the department were during 2019. Different this year will be the number of years each Full Time Officer has been working for the department next to their names. Full Time Officers were Sgt. Paul Manning (18 years), Officer Steven Mathias (10 years), Officer David Murphy (7 years), and myself (23 years). Regarding the number of years each Officer has served, I believe part of the reason these Officers have stayed with the department is due to the support they have received from Town Officials and the residents of the Town. I also believe it is important to have Officers who work for the Town that are seasoned Officers who have a connection to the residents they serve. The Officers of this department are just that and I couldn't be prouder to have such professional and dedicated Officers serve this Town.

Special Officers were Tyler Moreis, Bret Stearns, Donald Scranton, and Bradley Fielder. Special Officer Scranton previously worked for the department during the 2016 summer season. Special Officer Bradley Fielder was a new addition to the department; however he was previously a Traffic Officer for the Edgartown Police Department. Former Special Officers Michael Sellitti, Michael Lecesse, and Patrick Souza left the department to pursue other personal interests.

During 2019 all Full Time Officers completed training centering on dealing with and responding to those with mental illness. Unfortunately mental health emergencies have been on the rise nationwide and as such Officers need to know how to properly respond to those experiencing a mental health crisis or emergency. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) recognized the need for Of-
ficers to respond appropriately and they instituted the "One Mind Campaign." The One Mind Campaign seeks to ensure successful interactions between police officers and persons affected by mental illness. The initiative focuses on uniting local communities, public safety organizations, and mental health organizations so that the three become "of one mind." To join the campaign, law enforcement agencies must pledge to implement four promising practices over a 12-36 month time frame. These practices include: establishing a clearly defined and sustainable partnership with a community mental health organization, developing a model policy to implement police response to persons affected by mental illness, training and certifying sworn officers and selected non-sworn staff in mental health firstaid training or other equivalent mental health awareness courses, and providing crisis intervention team training. I am proud to report that the department completed all of the above practices and on December 23, 2019 the IACP recognized the department completed the practices. We join a number of law enforcement agencies nationwide who have completed the "One Mind Campaign" pledge.

The summer of 2019 was another busy summer which consisted of dealing with pedestrian \& vehicle traffic at Aquinnah Circle and at our beautiful beaches. We also responded to various medical emergencies. One of the more serious emergencies we responded to occurred on July 29, 2019. On that day Sgt. Manning and I, along with Tri-Town Ambulance and Aquinnah Deputy Fire Chief Gordon Perry, responded to a call for a medical emergency at the Philbin Beach parking lot for a male who was not breathing and did not have a pulse. First Responders performed CPR and used the department's defibrillator which resulted in the male regaining his pulse and breathing which allowed him to be transported to the hospital. Unfortunately nine days later the male passed away. Although he passed away, I was proud of how all First Responders performed as a team to be able to give him a chance to receive advanced medical care at the hospital. Our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

On July 20, 2019 we held our annual Public Safety Day at Aquinnah Circle in partnership with the Aquinnah Fire Department, Tri-

Town Ambulance, and Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Natural Resources Department. It was a very hot day; however many people participated in the event. Each department provided "giveaways" to participants and a raffle was held to benefit the Aquinnah Volunteer Fire Department Association. However, the highlight of the day was a visit from the Massachusetts State Police helicopter which landed inside of Aquinnah Circle. Participants were able to ask the helicopter pilots questions and were able to look inside of the helicopter. Our thanks to the Massachusetts State Police for providing the helicopter for the event.

The department continued to apply for applicable grant funding. Sgt. Manning applied for the Child Passenger Safety Seat Grant through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety \& Security and again the department was successfully awarded the grant. This grant allows the department to purchase child passenger safety seats and provide these seats free of charge to eligible parents. Sgt. Manning has done an outstanding job applying for this grant and providing child passenger seat safety checks. If you are interested in having your child passenger safety seat inspected for a safety check, please call Sgt. Manning to schedule an appointment.

The department also received grant funding from the United States Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership in the amount of $\$ 995.00$ for the purchase of two bulletproof vests for the department. This amount was equal to $50 \%$ of the total purchase amount.

The department continues to participate in cancer awareness programs. In September I again participated in the Jimmy Fund Walk in Boston with Police Chiefs from around the Commonwealth and raised money for the Jimmy Fund which allows them to continue their research of this terrible disease. In October, the department again participated in Breast Cancer Awareness month in October by wearing our pink department patches and badges on our uniforms.

Our space needs at the Police Station continue. We still do not have adequate space for evidence storage and to interview suspects
and victims of crime. Luckily we don't have many crimes that require these spaces; however we still need to have adequate space for both as both have legal implications should we become involved in a criminal case that requires evidence collection and interview and interrogation of suspects and victims. I have expressed my concerns regarding our space needs to the Town Administrator and Select Board. Due to our space needs and other space needs in Town that will require a capital expenditure, the Town Administrator has started conversations with the Town Campus Planning Committee to address these needs. We hope to continue the discussions with the goal of presenting a plan to the Town to address the Town's space needs.

Along the lines of capital expenditures, the department will also be seeking funds from the Town at the Annual Town Meeting to replace our 2014 Ford Interceptor police cruiser. While the cruiser is still operational, it will need to be replaced as the mileage is increasing and repairs will be likely. We hope to replace this cruiser with a hybrid police cruiser that will save the Town's fuel costs. We understand this is a significant financial request; however this is an essential piece of equipment and we view this request as any other equipment request.

I'd like to remind you that the department has a Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, please "like" and follow our page. We try to post items that we feel the community should be aware of such as events, road closures, and employment opportunities.

In closing, I'd like to thank our various public safety agencies who assist our department on an almost daily basis: the Aquinnah Fire Department, Aquinnah Highway Department, Aquinnah Emergency Management, Tri-Town Ambulance, Dukes County Sheriff's Department Regional Emergency Communications Center, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) Natural Resources Department, and all the other Island law enforcement agencies. Without their assistance, we would not be able to operate our department efficiently.

Listed below are the numbers and some of the types of calls for service the department responded to from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 compared to 2018:

|  | 2018 | 2019 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Medical Emergencies | 29 | 40 |
| Alarms (Burglar) | 54 | 45 |
| Alarms (Fire) | 25 | 34 |
| Alarms (Other) | 7 | 11 |
| Assist Citizens (general) | 35 | 25 |
| Assist Law Enforcement Agency | 10 | 10 |
| Assist Aquinnah Fire Department | 2 | 3 |
| Public Utility/Hazardous Condition | 13 | 5 |
| Assault \& Battery | 1 | 1 |
| B\&E and Attempted B\&E | 2 | 1 |
| Domestic Related Activity | 2 | 5 |
| Harassment Complaints | 3 | 1 |
| ID Theft/Fraud | 2 | 3 |
| Larceny | 5 | 2 |
| OUI | 0 | 0 |
| Other Alcohol Related Incidents | 1 | 0 |
| Sexual Assaults | 0 | 0 |
| Lewd Behavior | 1 | 0 |
| Shoplifting | 0 | 0 |
| Vandalism/Destruction of Property | 4 | 1 |
| Motor Vehicle Complaints | 2 | 2 |
| Disputes / Disturbances | 2 | 3 |
| Animal Complaints | 12 | 9 |
| Fireworks/Gunshot Complaints | 1 | 0 |
| Hunting/Fishing Complaints | 3 | 4 |
| Noise Complaints | 2 | 4 |
| Parking Complaints | 17 | 9 |
| Trespass Complaints | 1 | 3 |
| Suspicious Vehicles, Persons, Activities | 26 | 33 |
| Marine Mammal Incidents | 2 | 3 |


| Welfare Checks | 4 | 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Missing Person | 1 | 1 |
| Child Welfare | 1 | 2 |
| Marine Watercraft Incidents | 1 | 3 |
| Bicycle Accidents | 2 | 0 |
| Moped Accidents | 0 | 3 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 12 | 13 |
| Motor Vehicle vs. Deer / Other Animal | 5 | 7 |
| Deaths | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  |
| By-Law Violations | 1 | 4 |
| Arrests | 0 | 2 |
| Protective Custody | 1 | 0 |
| Criminal Complaint Applications | 4 | 11 |
|  |  | 311 |
| Incidents on Tribal Lands | 26 | 34 |
| Total Incidents | 322 | 311 |
|  |  |  |
| Motor Vehicle Stops | 254 | 144 |
| Motor Vehicle Citations Issued | 27 | 51 |
| Parking Tickets Issued | 287 | 191 |

Respectfully submitted,
RANDHI P. BELAIN
Chief of Police

## Report of the Fire Department

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

It is my pleasure to present the 2019 Annual Report of the Aquinnah Fire Department.

The department continues to grow as we welcomed Firefighter Chris Manning. We are always looking for additional volunteers to join our team. If you are interested in learning more about what our department does, please stop by the station on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. during radio check.

## Our Current Members:

Simon Bolin, Chief; Gordon Perry, Deputy Chief; Ken Cottrell, Captain; Troy Vanderhoop, Lt.; and Firefighters Chris Camacho, Stephanie Devine, Darren Leport, Russell Long, Chris Manning, Paul Manning, Dan Marshall, Ben Moreau, Frank Perez, Joe Vanderhoop, and Troy Vanderhoop Jr.

I commend our Firefighters for their dedication to showing up for our monthly in-house trainings and our Sunday morning radio checks. Continued training and education are vital to honing skills and preparedness for safeguarding our community for any emergency that could arise.

The number of emergency calls this year was on pace with the previous year. In 2019, our department responded to a total of 64 calls for service. These calls included alarms, motor vehicle accidents, rescues and fires. We also completed 24 fire inspections that included inspecting Smoke/CO detectors, oil burning equipment and propane tank installations.

## Some friendly reminders:

The lifespan of a smoke detector is 10 years. All detectors are labeled with a manufacturer's date. If your detector does not have a label, it is already more than 10 years old and should be replaced. Please remember that working smoke alarms provide early warning of danger and are the single most important step in preventing fatal fires. Additionally, you should change the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors at least once a year. An easy way to remember is "Change your clocks, change your batteries." If you have any questions, concerns or need help to accomplish this, please feel free to contact the department and we will be happy to stop by and assist. My contact number is cell phone 508-958-2033.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the department for their continued dedication to the Town and its residents. The support from the Select Board and community has been critical to the continued success of the Fire Department as we strive to provide the best protection for our community.

Respectfully submitted,
SIMON BOLLIN, Fire Chief

## Report of the Highway/Public Works Department

Greetings Townspeople,
The Highway/Public Works Department continues to serve the town of Aquinnah. We have continued to maintain the public open spaces and roads with mowing and brush cutting duties. We also continue to maintenance the tinker weed restoration project at the Gay Head Lighthouse. The newly completed observation area and sitting area at the cliffs will also be a focus of maintenance this year.

Town roads required routine repairs. The Lobsterville Road repairs and culvert completion was done this year in conjunction with the Tribe.

The Highway/Public Works department will assist the community and other town departments providing support during this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We welcome any feedback from the community, please feel free to contact the department with any concerns.

Thank You,
JAY SMALLEY
Highway Superintendent

## Report of the Board of Health

Greetings to the Honorable Board of Selectmen and all the citizens of Aquinnah
Permits and Licenses issued:
Septic Pumpouts ..... 36
Septic Construction Permits ..... 12
Septic Installers ..... 10
Septage Haulers ..... 6
Well Drilling Permit ..... 5
Food Establishment License ..... 3
Frozen Dessert License ..... 1
Common Victualer's License ..... 5
Residential Kitchen License. ..... 1
Temporary Food License ..... 2
Inn Holder's License ..... 3
Children's Camp License ..... 1
Public Bathing Beach Permit. ..... 4

It is the duty of the Board of Health to safeguard public health. This is accomplished by licensing and inspecting food and hospitality establishments, monitoring water quality at our priceless and sacred beaches, ponds and wells. The Board regulates septic system installations and disposal of septage. Nursing services are provided and contracted through Island Health Care.

Besides the usual comings and goings, permitting and inspecting, joys and travails, this past year was, and continues to be, one for the history books; unique in our lifetimes methinks, with the coming of
the COVID-19 pandemic. The severe acute respiratory corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), first detected in Wuhan, China in December, 2019, has since affected the entire world, with an ever increasing death toll as this is written. The island, along with Aquinnah, has mobilized in unprecendented ways to meet this challenge with an entirely new social contract of home sequestering, construction bans, business closings, and novel terms such as social distancing.

Your Board of Health is in the forefront of the effort to meet, if not combat, this affliction and is open and available to offer what assistance we can to all our neighbors, despite the current closure of Town Hall. There has been daily communication with the other Island towns and amongst town officials to coordinate the effort. We are currently initiating an all Island effort to develop a testing program, which may be the best way to get our citizens back to work, and life back as close to normal as possible, until a vaccine becomes available.

Other effects are a dearth of traffic on the roads, spoiled travel and plans for family gatherings, and a new reason the dread the appearance of New York license plates. To avoid contagion, the normal tipping fees at the local drop off, the dump, have been suspended to spare Natalie Francis - who continues to offer a friendly smile behind her N-95 mask - the risk of infection. We all pray this malady leaves us relatively unscathed with an economy that is still able to function and prosper as it had been.

Overshadowed by the pandemic, but etched into town lore, we still recall the foul odor that engulfed the town at random times last summer. The result of the heavy spring rainfall, this smell would capriciously waft over various parts of town, especially with a northerly breeze. It was caused by the production of hydrogen sulfide $\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~S}\right)$ by anaerobic bacteria which thrive in the flooded conditions in the area of Ox Cart Road. While seemingly not as much as last year, the rain this year has been significant; which might indicate a recurrence. The only apparent solution would be draining that area, an exceedingly challenging proposition.

Aquinnah residents may and are encouraged to use the resources provided by both the All-Island Council on Aging and the Up-Island Council on Aging. In addition, residents are free to avail themselves of health care as provided by Island Health Care and Aquinnah's Town Nurse, Judy Jones. Other programs are in place to monitor Lyme disease and the nefarious tick infestations, manage a septic loan program, and adjudicate tenant-landlord disputes.

We are pleased to have a relatively new - but now battle hardened - assistant to the Board of Health, Karen Colombo, whose tenure got off to a bang, to say the least, with the corona virus infestation. Nonetheless, she swiftly got up to speed, interfaced with the other towns and off-Island governmental agencies, securing information, data management, equipment and funding.

Even though the town hall is temporarily closed due to the virus, please email our office for more information on any health topic. We welcome questions, comments and suggestions by calling 508/6452309; or email at [boh-assistant@aquinnah-ma.gov](mailto:boh-assistant@aquinnah-ma.gov).

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES A. GLAVIN, chairman SARAH SALTONSTALL, RN
GERALD GREEN, MD

## Report of the Tri-Town Ambulance

## To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

This year I thoroughly reviewed our past expenses, and worked to keep the overall budget down.

For fiscal year '21, we are expecting a $14.09 \%$ increase to our salaries. The major change for this line item is the that we are increasing our year-round night EMT stipend from $\$ 130$ per night, to $\$ 200$ for a night shift. We are also increasing our off-season day shift stipend pay from $\$ 110$ to $\$ 225$ a day. This increase is in part because we are having a difficult time filling our shifts, and to bring the pay for our volunteer EMTs more in line with the actual work and responsibilities that are required for them. It was determined by the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee and myself that this plan would be a better, and more cost effective approach then moving forward with Full Time EMT positions. Additional increases are due to yearly step increases, and the Annual Wage Adjustment.

On the expense side, again I reviewed historic numbers going back four years, and I have level funded the majority of our line items. I lowered a few line items, and only a few were raised to cover the increased cost of things, such as postage, and mileage reimbursement, and the increase in insurance, retirement. We are currently expecting an increase of expenses by $1.28 \%$.

In terms of our Revenue this year, as of the close of 11/30/2019 we have received approximately $\$ 185,000$ ( $75 \%$ of our revenue) from insurance. This is close to what we brought in last year, and we still have the month of December to close out with billing cycles before we can have a final number. We are optimistic that this number will increase.

Speaking about revenue, each year we review what we are able to bill out as compared to insurance reimbursement. We then adjust our billing rates, in an effort to maximize revenue. In speaking with Comstar, the agency that helps us with our billing, we have an average of $95 \%$ collection from private insurance providers, and $93 \%$ percent collection from Medicare/Medicaid. You'll see our collection results on the reports I've provided. This is some of the highest collection rates that Comstar has seen, and I give full credit to the wonderful work that our Administrative Assistant Allison Graczykowski does for these numbers.

In this budget cycle, and going forward, you will see an additional two items included. One is a debt services line, for the agreed upon payment of debt services for the new Tri-Town Ambulance Headquarters. The second line is carry forward balance.

In 2016, while performing a cost analysis for a full time paramedic, it was determined that the Town of Chilmark had been solely paying for the retirement costs of Tri-Town Ambulance Employees. Over the course of the following years, it was determined that that a total amount of $\$ 282,176.95$ was paid solely by the town of Chilmark, going back to FY97. Additionally, the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee voted starting with FY17 to hold any balance from the operating budget of Tri-Town Ambulance to be used to pay back that amount. Currently Tri-Town Ambulance has a carry forward balance of $\$ 166,783.52$

Furthermore, starting in FY22, Tri-Town Ambulance will start to incorporate a debt services amount in its budget to cover the debt of the new Tri-Town Ambulance Headquarters in Chilmark. Each town agreed to pay $1 / 3^{\text {rd }}$ of the Debt Services, which is approximately $\$ 60,000$ per year.

At the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee meeting on November 19, 2019, it was discussed to use the carry forward balance to both start paying down the Retirement debt, as well using the carry forward balance to lower the increase in the annual Tri-Town Ambulance Budget.

It was also discussed that Debt Service line would be a separate line, outside of the usual Tri-Town Ambulance Assessment to each town, to prepare the three towns, and their respective Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees for the inclusion of the debt services for the new Tri-Town Ambulance Headquarters.

In conclusion, our overall budget is $\$ 1,435,477.88$. This is up $\$ 124,643.23$ over the last fiscal budget. If you take away the $\$ 185,000$ for revenue, and include the $\$ 80,000$ from the carry forward balance, that leaves us with a balance of $\$ 1,170,447.88$ which is an estimated increase of $3.99 \%$ from last year. The assessments to each town would be $\$ 390,149.29$ which is a $3.99 \%$ increase.

I look forward to answering any questions you may have. Thank you very much,

Respectfully submitted,
BEN RETMIER
Tri-Town Ambulance Chief

## Report of the Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

The soft-shell clams (steamers) that I have been propagating around the North side of the pond have finally grown to harvestable size. From the parking lot East, if you go down toward the left as you are looking straight out at the pond, to the last dune at low tide there are lots of steamers down there. The more that people dig in these areas the better it is for the health of the clam flats. Digging helps to aerate the sand. When the clams spawn, the larvae will land on the flats and have a better chance to survive in a well aerated area. In areas that are left alone for too long the opposite happens the sand becomes (low oxygen) and almost nothing can survive there. Blood worms are the only things that live in anoxic sandy areas.

The scallop season was not very productive this year not only for this town but for all the towns who reported very low harvests.

Here is a little information on the fragile little bay scallop:
Most people are thrilled to learn that scallops can swim but get even more excited when I show them the 40 or so glistening blue eyes positioned in the mantle tissue along the margin of the shell. Eyeless, less animated quahogs and oysters are less likely to elicit this "love at first sight" response. Granted, multiple stalked eyes staring out of a headless creature is pretty alien however the presence of any eyes seems to encourage engagement. Vision is an important human trait and it is not surprising that we find it easier to bond with life forms that share it and may be looking back at us.

Scientists too are fascinated by scallop vision. How, what and why do they see? Scallop eyes are unique. Unlike human eyes that function like a camera using a lens to focus an image on the retina,
scallops are equipped with a complex system of mirrors not unlike a reflecting telescope. Incoming light is focused by the mirrors onto two different retinas providing both forward and peripheral images. Despite their sophisticated eyes, scallops lack a brain in the true sense only having more simple nerve clusters called ganglia and as such the scallops are limited in interpreting what they see. It is believed that scallops are capable of detecting shadows and some clearer imaging. They likely use their vision to avoid predators and to locate suitable habitat and food within their immediate environment. In one neat experiment, scallops were shown "movies" of food particles on a computer screen and were found to open their shells to feed when shown proper sized food particles moving at the right speed. Not bad for a brainless invertebrate!

Bay scallops are generally more delicate than their sightless, sessile bivalve cousins. Unlike quahogs and oysters they cannot completely close their shells for long periods. Their shells are thinner and they are more likely to expose more of their soft tissues to the environment outside of protective shells. They do not burrow into the bay bottom like quahogs nor live in protective reefs like oysters. They must find eelgrass beds and other protected habitats to survive. Unlike quahogs and oysters, they have a short life span, rarely living past two years. The loss of a single year class can remove the spawning population and impact the population for years to come. It is not surprising that bay scallop stocks have dramatically declined throughout their range. Reliable commercial scale populations are now limited to Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and Long Island.

Respectfully submitted,
BRIAN F. VANDERHOOP
Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable

# Report of the Martha's Vineyard Commission 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

The Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC or Commission) is the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) for Dukes County, offering planning services to the seven towns in Dukes County (including Gosnold); and to the County itself. The Commission's enabling legislation also allows Island towns to adopt special regulations targeting Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPCs), and requires the Commission to review Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) on the Vineyard.

The 17 -member Commission includes nine members elected Island-wide biennially, and one appointed member each from the Dukes County Commission, each Island Board of Selectmen, and the Governor of Massachusetts. Commission officers in 2019 were Doug Sederholm of West Tisbury, Chairman; Josh Goldstein of Tisbury, Vice-Chairman; and Ernie Thomas of West Tisbury, Clerk-Treasurer. The Commission is supported by a professional staff of ten. More detail is provided below and is available on the Commission's website, www.mvcommission.org.

## COMMISSION FOCUS 2019

## Removal of Nitrogen from Island Ponds

The Commission continues to focus on the development of a robust pond monitoring program, and participating in innovative technologies designed to address nitrogen contamination. In 2019, Commission staff completed a fourth year of extensive testing. Since 2016, multiple samplings have been conducted in 16 Island ponds.

Samples are used to examine nutrient and chlorophyll content, pond visibility, temperature, salinity, and other factors. The testing was conducted using the same locations and methods as those used in the Massachusetts Estuaries Project, which ensures comparable results. Comprehensive reports between 2016 and 2018 detail the results of the testing and evaluate the current trends for each pond. A similar report will be completed for the data obtained over the summer of 2019, along with a report evaluating the changes observed over the prior period of study. The MVC has created one-page pond summaries for each of the ponds, and is in the process of updating the MVC website to make data and reports more accessible.

The Commission was heavily involved in the development and testing of various alternative technologies, receiving \$250,000 in Federal grants to develop and implement a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB) along the coast of Lagoon Pond in Tisbury. Groundwater wells have since been placed, and monitoring and evaluation is ongoing for the micro-siting of the PRB. Engineering and installation are expected to begin in early 2020.

The MVC also funded and participated in the development and monitoring of innovative wastewater systems that have the potential to radically reduce the amount of nitrogen leeching into ponds from Title 5 septic systems. In order to demonstrate their effectiveness to State and Federal regulators, these systems require extensive and meticulous testing. The systems have functioned well and are expected to make large impacts in addressing the nitrogen degradation in Island ponds. MVC staff assists with the testing of the pilot systems.

## Healthy Aging

The Commission continued its collaboration with Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard (HAMV) and Martha’s Vineyard Community Services (MVCS), completing a survey and analysis of the Island's elderservice network. The project aims largely to help Island towns and organizations document their annual spending, and to generate wider conversations and planning surrounding the topic of healthy aging. The results are included in the MVC's 2019 Elder-Service Database,
which is designed to be easily updated in the future; and a narrative report, Martha's Vineyard Elder-Service Mapping, which summarizes the data and explores key issues. The project offers a foundation for additional data collection and analysis in the future.

The Commission also worked with the Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) and the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority (Cape RTA) to create a pilot program for transporting seniors from the Woods Hole Ferry Terminal directly to the door of their Cape-based medical provider and back to the Island. The program ran from October 2018 to September 2019. The MVC then convened the VTA and Cape RTA, along with the Councils on Aging, Martha's Vineyard Hospital, Martha's Vineyard Center for Living, and Elder Services of the Cape and the Islands, to discuss potential solutions moving forward.

At the meeting, social service and healthcare providers explained the most pressing needs for seniors seeking transportation to off-Island medical appointments, and the Cape RTA explained the idiosyncrasies of their different services originating from Woods Hole and Falmouth. MVC staff and HAMV compiled a short profile of services best suited to Island seniors who might utilize the Cape RTA for medical appointments, and gained a commitment from Island service providers to disseminate this information to their clients and patients. The Cape RTA agreed to collect data to share with the MVC and other partners to help better understand this segment of the senior population.

As HAMV moves into a new phase (a new governance structure and full-time director are planned for 2020), the MVC has provided administrative and planning support, including coordination with the HAMV Executive and Oversight committees to host and document their meetings, and additional guidance during the transition. The partnership with HAMV and MVCS has benefitted the MVC by providing additional data and resources, along with insight into the elder and caregiver communities, which will help inform all types of regional planning in the future.

## Martha's Vineyard Statistical Profile

In February 2019, the MVC released its first Martha's Vineyard Statistical Profile, which highlights trends in demographics, land use, economy, health, education, housing, real estate, transportation, energy, environment, and taxes and town services in Dukes County. The report compiles hundreds of data sets from 70 different sources, including Island towns and organizations, and State and Federal agencies. The report will be updated every two years starting in 2021 when the 2020 Census becomes available. The profile is available on the MVC's website, and paper copies are available for reference at every Island library and town hall.

## Climate Action Task Force

The climate crisis has become a top priority for the MVC, which formed a Climate Action Task Force in 2019 to focus on mitigating the effects of global warming and adapting to the changes that are projected or already underway. The Task Force is made up of MV Commissioners and staff, along with Island leaders and other professionals. The Task Force has begun the process of developing integrated mitigation and adaptation master plans for the Island, with extensive public outreach planned for 2020. It also advanced a nonbinding resolution for the Annual Town Meetings in each town, seeking support for an initiative to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions on the Island by 2040 and pursue methods of carbon capture. In addition, the MV Commissioners adopted a resolution to 1 ) incorporate climate impacts into the MVC's regulatory and planning activities, 2) support the non-binding resolution mentioned above, and 3) draft both an energy and adaptation master plan to help guide the Commission's work in the future.

## Permanent Traffic Counters

In November 2019, six traffic counting stations were constructed and came online. The MVC worked with Weymouth-based Bell Traffic; consultant TrafInfo; the Towns of West Tisbury, Edgartown, and Oak Bluffs; the State Police; and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) to obtain the necessary approvals for the
project. The data is updating daily, and a range of reports detailing the direction, speed, and length of vehicles can now be generated. The installation culminated an 18 -month process initiated by the Island's Joint Transportation Committee (JTC). The MVC managed the $\$ 139,715$ contract funded through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and automated data collection commenced in midNovember. Data can be found on the public-facing MS2 portal.

## Finances

The Commission's FY19 income was $\$ 1,676,580$, of which $63.3 \%$ came from town assessments, $31 \%$ from grants and contracts, and $5.7 \%$ from other sources. The Commission received $\$ 519,355$ in grant funding, a $16.3 \%$ increase over the previous fiscal year. FY19 expenses were $\$ 1,753,418$, of which $53.4 \%$ was for salaries, $23 \%$ for salary-related costs, $5.4 \%$ for legal costs, $5.4 \%$ for mortgage payments for two MVC-owned properties, and $12.8 \%$ for other expenses. The annual audit by Anstiss Certified Public Accountants showed fiscal soundness. The FY19 budget and FY18 audited financial statements are available on the website.

## Review of Aquinnah Casino



In February 2019, the Towns of Aquinnah and Chilmark referred the proposed tribal casino in Aquinnah as a Discretionary Referral for the Commission to review. This began a lengthy process to review the project, determine the impacts associated with it and develop a process to render a decision. This process, already complex, was made even more so when the Tribe determined that it would not participate. Ultimately the MVC developed a comprehensive legal analysis, compiled a staff report that detailed as much information as could be gleaned from public disclosures related to the project, held a public hearing, took testimony, and rendered a decision stating that the proposal could not be approved based on the lack of information provided. The decision was not appealed.

## ALL-ISLAND EFFORTS

## Affordable Housing

- FY19 Community Development Block Grants (CDGB): Edgartown and Oak Bluffs, the two CDBG lead communities for Dukes County, were awarded more than $\$ 1.9$ million for housing rehabilitation and childcare subsidies in August 2019. Both programs assist individuals and families that are income-qualified, earning up to $80 \%$ of the Area Median Income (AMI). The AMI for Dukes County in 2019 was $\$ 50,350$ for an individual and $\$ 71,900$ for a family of four. The Town of Edgartown, applying with Aquinnah and West Tisbury, was awarded $\$ 1,134,472$ to rehabilitate 20 homes, providing $0 \%$ interest, deferred-payment, forgivable loans. The funds will also help low- to moderate-income families pay for childcare, allowing parents to work or go to school knowing that their children are safe and wellcared for. The Town of Oak Bluffs, applying with Tisbury, was awarded $\$ 838,871$ to rehabilitate approximately 12 homes and provide childcare assistance. (Chilmark has to sit out the CDBG applications for the next two years.) MVC staff worked with an Edgartown-Oak Bluffs consultant to provide supplemental materials, and coordinated a public hearing for the FY19 CDBG grant application.
- Community Development Block Grant Advisory Group: MVC staff will continue to assist the towns and grant writer Alice Boyd of Bailey Boyd Associates with the CDBG application process.
- Community Resiliency by Design: In May 2019, the MVC hosted the Cape Cod Commission's Community Resiliency by Design program to develop model housing designs for compact development in three different but typical Cape Cod development patterns. Each focused on compact design forms, which allow more units with fewer infrastructure demands, while maintaining the community character of the surrounding neighborhood. The design techniques could also be applied to Island towns.
- Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP): In July 2019, the MVC coordinated an educational workshop with Mass Housing Partnership to provide an overview of the State's Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit Law. MHP provided the necessary guidance and resources needed by the local zoning boards of appeal.
- Site Suitability Tool: The MVC continues to work with Bluegear Labs to execute a grant issued by the State Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to ultimately develop a user-friendly, web-based site suitability tool for affordable housing development in Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, and West Tisbury. This tool is built upon local, Vineyard-centric datasets, and customizes user input prior to ranking properties across each town. Planning boards and affordable housing committees are then able to visualize spatial data distribution of high-scoring sites. Results can be saved for further research and review. The tool has been refined in the beta stage this year, and the MVC and Bluegear are now preparing a hosting arrangement so the tool can officially be deployed.


## Cartography Department

Maps, maps, maps, and more maps! The MVC's Cartography Department's goal is community service. The mapping/Geographic Information (GIS) Office is staffed by Chris Seidel. During her 16 years with the MVC, Chris has made mapping services easily available to

## Cartography Department mapping technology



Desktop Mapping Software

- ArcMap
- AcrGIS Pro


## Online Mapping

- ArcGIS Online

GPS Technology

- Trimble Geo 7x (sub-foot accuracy)
- Trimble Positions (for post-processing)
- Collector for ArcGIS (GPS/field data collection on your device)

Aerial Imagery Acquisition

- Phantom 4 (Pro) sUAS/

Drone

- Video
- Still Photography
- Drone Pilot App
- Georeferenced Aerial Photos

Printing/Scanning Services

- HP DesignJet T2530 36"

Large Format Plotter/
Scanner

- HP5500DN Color Laser Printer
all municipal employees, citizen action groups, and local non-profits. If you need a map or data, just give Chris a shout at 508-693-3453 ext. 120.

To readily provide information in a visually intuitive fashion, Chris first focuses on listening to your needs and goals. Depending upon the end-goal, some maps are made for an online interactive experience, some for on-screen presentations or reports, and some for marking up hard copies during planning discussions. The MVC's Cartography Department has the latest mapping technology at its disposal.

New this year, the mapping department intensified its efforts to push spatial data to the cloud. Fueled by our county-wide ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) contract, the MVC is using the ArcGIS Online cloud space to host spatial and map data. These data sets can be accessed by town employees and the public. The data can be viewed online in interactive maps, or downloaded for use in desktop mapping software. Please contact Chris to discuss your project's data needs.

Lastly, the Cartography Department also provides dependable GIS technical support to all town employees to aid them in using the ESRI GIS software provided through the county-wide GIS license.

The major Island-wide mapping initiatives this year have focused on populating the MVC Data Hub with the County's GIS data, and working with Island emergency responders to develop the EROMP.

- Emergency Responders Online Mapping Portal (EROMP): A collection of data, maps, and apps in the County's ArcGIS Cloud for use by emergency responder personnel. This group, comprised of police, fire, emergency management directors, etc., can access shared interactive data-rich maps from any device or desktop computer with an internet connection. The EROMP encourages collaboration across the towns, since users can share project-specific maps with the group. The maps may also be shared with the public if desired.

Funding for the EROMP project was awarded through the Commonwealth's Community Compact Mass Efficiency and Regionaliza-
tion Grant Program. These funds will cover the County's entire annual ESRI licensing fee of $\$ 25,000$ (plus the County administration fee, if any) for FY21. Examples of projects underway include:

## Aquinnah Emergency Management: Delineating Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) leader's outreach area

Chilmark Fire: Identifying areas with challenging water availability for fighting fires

Edgartown: Event planning maps (such as for the 4th of July)
Tisbury Police: Obtaining interior building layout designs for public buildings (schools, churches, town halls, etc.) and making those layouts accessible through an online map

- Island Climate Action Network (ICAN): As part of ICAN's engagement with Island entities around sustainability, the MVC and ICAN members engaged the Martha’s Vineyard Steamship Authority to discuss its efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate disruption. As a follow-up item, the MVC agreed to collect data from sites where electric-vehicle charging stations are available, and to map those locations; the SSA indicated that would help their customers who struggle with range anxiety when considering the practicality of bringing their electric vehicles to the Island.

The MVC works with towns, the Commonwealth, and Federal agencies on planning coastal areas, ocean conservation and development, and mitigating natural hazards. Coastal planning in 2019 focused on hazard mitigation and especially climate change adaptation. There is very little doubt that climate change has begun to produce significant effects on the Vineyard, and that it is accelerating. However, there are many ways that the impacts can be mitigated. Adaptation to sealevel rise, in particular, involves a choice of retreat, abandonment, or elevation of buildings and infrastructure-all necessary and costly options. There are difficult choices ahead for Island leaders, homeowners, and business owners. As planning professionals, it is the re-
sponsibility of MVC staff to provide material for thoughtful solutions and to encourage responsible and clear-headed decision making.

- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation: The MVC continued investigation and outreach related to the impacts of sea-level rise and climate change, along with mitigation and adaptation strategies. The main challenge is in preparing for the coming changes, with vulnerability assessments and mitigation/adaptation strategies to improve the Island's resiliency.
- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program: MVC staff participated in the State's MVP program to strategize and prioritize actions for climate change adaptation. The program is similar in thrust to hazard mitigation planning, but more focused on the impacts of climate change.
- Hazard Management: The Dukes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) includes management tools and keeps the towns eligible for Federal funding of mitigation projects. MVC staff tracked progress in preparation for the 2020 update, and began collecting GIS and other materials. The MVP program provided helpful prioritization for the update. The 2019 round of FEMA funding is unusually generous, and MVC staff encouraged the towns to pursue $75 \%$ funding available by means of the approved 2015 HMP. MVC staff submitted a planning application for a seven-town Wildfire Preparedness Plan, as part of the 2020 update.
- Wetlands Vulnerability and Adaptation: MVC staff continued assessing the vulnerability of wetlands to the impacts of climate change, particularly inundation. Staff continued a program of sophisticated wetland elevation monitoring to assess wetlands' abilities to grow in height as sea level rises. Measurements were taken and recorded at a monitoring station at Felix Neck, hosted by Mass Audubon with funding from the Friends of Sengekontacket and the Edey Foundation. Those measurements provided enough data for a preliminary assessment that the marsh is keeping up with sea-level rise. MVC staff also began taking measurements at the second monitoring site, on Tribal lands, hosted and funded by the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah).
- Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan: The MVC Coastal Planner is the Governor's appointed representative on the Massachusetts Ocean Advisory Commission. In 2019 the group continued to advise the Commonwealth on data collection and preparation for offshore wind energy projects.
- Martha's Vineyard Wind Energy Area: The MVC, towns, Tribe, and fishing community kept in close contact with the leaseholders for wind development south of Martha's Vineyard. MVC staff participated in Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) review of the Vineyard Wind project, part of which was reviewed as a DRI by the full Commission.


## Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs)

In 2019, 40 projects were reviewed in some manner by the MVC through the DRI process. Fourteen projects were referred as full DRIs and reviewed with public hearings; of those, eight were approved with conditions, and six remain under review at the end of the year. One project was referred as a Discretionary Referral by two different Towns, and was denied. Eleven projects were referred as Concurrence Reviews; of those, five were remanded back to their Towns without a DRI public hearing, two were determined by MVC staff to not require any action by the MVC, two are on hold at the request of the applicant, and two remain under review at the end of the year. Twelve projects were referred as Modifications to previously approved DRIs; of those, 10 were determined to be minor modifications not requiring a DRI public hearing and were remanded back to the Towns for approval, one was determined to have a significant impact (a DRI public hearing was held, and the project is still under review at the end of the year), and one modification was withdrawn before a decision was made. Two projects were previously approved DRIs returning to the Land Use Planning Committee (LUPC), one for approval of their landscape and lighting plans, and one was granted an extension. Additionally, one lawsuit was settled. A total of nine projects remain under review at the end of the year, and many large projects are slated to be referred in the beginning of 2020.

In May 2019, the MVC bid farewell to DRI Coordinator Paul Foley, who steadfastly served the Commission for 15 years. We wish Paul all the best in his new position as Director of Planning and Economic Development in Fairhaven, MA.

- DRI Checklist Review: The biennial review of the DRI Checklist began in 2019. Among the most significant proposed changes would be the review of residential development that exceeds a certain square footage. As of the year's end, the Checklist Review Committee has decided to meet with each Town Planning Board to discuss DRIs in the broader context of Town and Island-wide issues, before forwarding the final recommended DRI Checklist changes for public hearings in 2020.


## Districts of Critical Planning Concern

The Commission designates DCPCs to afford additional protection to sensitive areas, in support of special town regulations. In 2019, MVC staff provided responses to many queries from town boards, attorneys, and property owners. In an otherwise quiet year for DCPCs, MVC staff assisted in many ways with the smooth functioning of the Districts.

- Island Road District (Tisbury): The MVC accepted a nomination and held a designation hearing and vote on a new Special Ways Zone for Tisbury: Shubael Weeks Path and Red Coat Hill Road, both of which are already protected in West Tisbury.
- Island Road District (West Tisbury): The MVC continued to support the Planning Board's efforts to update the Town's Special Ways regulations, after voters approved the update at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.


## Economic Development

- Economic Development Listening Sessions: In June 2019, the Governor held Economic Development Listening Sessions to solicit input for the Administration's strategies for economic development and public policies for the Commonwealth. MVC staff prepared an
outline for the towns to provide feedback to the Commonwealth about the State projects and programs that have had or are having a positive impact on the Island, such as the following:

1. Establishing the Rural Policy Advisory Commission to assist the 170 rural communities in Massachusetts and identify existing and future challenges facing small towns.
2. Signing the Short-Term Rental Tax, along with creating the Cape and Islands Water Protection Fund. The local revenue to the expanded Room Occupancy Tax will provide Island towns a much needed financial cushion to town budget limits under Proposition $21 / 2$.
3. Creating the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program (MVP) and MVP Plans and Action Grants, which assist municipalities to plan and prepare for climate change and sea-level rise with an eye toward implementing the MVP Plans.
4. Creating the Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Small Town Grant Program, which fulfills a critical engineering design step to bring projects from a plan to shovel-ready status.
5. Providing a financial incentive for towns to participate in DHCD's Housing Choice Program by granting a lower interest rate through the State's Clean Water Trust Fund.
6. Working with the Massachusetts Seaport Economic Council on coastal infrastructure improvements.
7. Encouraging MassDOT to work with Regional Planning Agencies to consider refining population, housing, and employment projections that more accurately reflect the seasonal variations on the Cape and Islands.
8. Encouraging the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to consider piloting advanced denitrifying systems for affordable housing.
9. Supporting Oak Bluffs and Edgartown as lead communities for DHCD's Community Development Block Grant Program for housing rehabilitation and childcare subsidies.

- Short-Term Rental Tax: On December 28, 2018, the Short-Term Rental Tax was signed into law by Governor Charlie Baker. The legislation subjects short-term rental properties to the Room Occupancy Tax, (G.L. c. 64G) for hotels, motels, and inns. The new law imposes State and local option excises on short-term rentals that are rented for more than 14 days in a calendar year, starting July 1, 2019, and for which a rental contract was entered into on or after January 1, 2019. All short-term rental operators are required to register with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR).

Of the 351 municipalities in Massachusetts, 175 collect Room Occupancy Taxes. The Room Occupancy Tax is split in two parts: a State tax rate of $5.7 \%$ and a local-option tax rate of up to $6 \%$. All local option revenues go directly to a town's General Fund. In 2018, Martha's Vineyard had 1,216 hotel and inn rooms, which generated a total of $\$ 1,969,004$ in revenue for the five participating towns.

The MVC has been working with the towns and other agencies to provide information regarding the new legislation. In June and September, the MVC hosted two workshops, with Host Compliance and Hamari STR, to provide best practices and options relating to monitoring and enforcement. The MVC will continue to work with the towns and DOR to monitor the State's short-term rental registration, and revenues generated by the short-term rental tax.

## Transportation

The MVC performs transportation planning for the Vineyard, in association with the towns, VTA, Martha's Vineyard Airport, the Steamship Authority, MassDOT, and the public. MassDOT contracts for planning in the region and provides approximately $\$ 300,000$ to the MVC budget for transportation planning and related services, such as mapping.

- Joint Transportation Committee (JTC): The MVC facilitates meetings of the JTC, made up of appointees from each town, the Tribe, and the County; along with ex-officio members from the VTA, MVC staff and BPAC, Federal Highway and Transit administrations, Steamship Authority, Martha's Vineyard Airport and MassDOT, to coordinate Island transportation planning.
- Martha's Vineyard Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): The TIP is produced annually on Martha's Vineyard through the JTC and includes Federal-aid projects to implement within the constraints of available Federal and State funds. In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019, \$712,712 in Federal funds were obligated for Martha's Vineyard. 2019 TIP projects included the following:

Permanent Traffic Counting Stations: Installation of the permanent traffic counting stations was completed in November 2019. The counters provide comprehensive traffic counts for each site, 365 days per year. With this data, Island planners can better understand seasonal fluctuations in vehicle volume and infer some circulation patterns.
Beach Road Shared-Use Path: A cost increase of \$188,410 was added to the FFY19-20 Tisbury Bike and Pedestrian Improvements along Beach Road, and was approved and endorsed by the JTC in May 2019. The advertisement date for this project was scheduled for August 31, 2019.

## Martha's Vineyard Regional Transportation Plan 2020-2040

Commission staff and the JTC updated the Martha's Vineyard Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which provides an analysis of the Island's transportation network, including goals and recommended actions for each sector, and proposes transportation expenditures for the years 2020-2040. The RTP is updated every four years, and allows the Vineyard to qualify for State and Federal transportation funds. The 2020-2040 update includes a greater focus on climate change in regard to roads and infrastructure, and prioritizes alternate modes of transportation and the reduction of single-occupant automobile use on the Island. It also includes new sections on rideshare networks
(Uber and Lyft), mopeds and electric vehicles, and expanded data on Island demographics and each transportation sector. Public outreach was conducted via public meetings and an online survey, with comments also solicited by email.

- Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC): In the spring, the JTC re-constituted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee with eight appointees from across the Vineyard. The MVC provides staff support. Among the BPAC's activities in 2019 were:

Support of proposed state legislation categorizing types of electric bikes (e-bikes) and treating some classes the same as regular bikes.
Support of Oak Bluffs' effort to develop a shared use (i.e. bike) path from the Lagoon Pond Drawbridge to Eastville Avenue and County Road. Staff provided detailed comments and suggestions for making the preliminary project design more suited to the needs of cyclists and pedestrians, while retaining the roadside character of the community.
Creating a new bike map for the Island with route characteristics that will enable viewers to better assess how routes match their abilities.

- Up-Island Shared-Use Path Feasibility: As initiated by the BPAC, the MVC has done a desktop analysis to evaluate the path of least resistance when considering the prospects of a Shared-Use Path parallel to the three up-Island corridors (South, Middle, and North roads). Variables included wetlands, frontage, proximity of structures to the roadway, and the number of intersecting driveways and roads. South Road was eliminated from consideration, and Middle and North roads are being evaluated further before the MVC requests formal presentations to West Tisbury and Chilmark town boards. MVC staff has met with various conservation groups with landholdings along the roads to gauge their level of support, and have thus far been met with an encouraging response.
- Trails Planning: The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank continues to contract with the MVC to assist with trail planning across the Vine-
yard. Three new trail easements were recorded and discussions began with multiple landowners for three new trails and a fourth to realign a planned trail. Staff continued working with the Town Byways Committees in Edgartown and West Tisbury, and assisted Sheriff's Meadow Foundation's initiative to develop a cadre of "trail champions" to pursue trail development for that organization.
- Transportation Mangers Group: The MVC is a member of the Transportation Managers Group (TMG). As with the Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA), the 13 RPAs across the State that form TMG are advisory bodies to member communities, private business groups, and State and Federal governments. The MVC Transportation Program Manager meets monthly with other members of TMG, along with senior Commonwealth officials, to discuss legislation and funding programs related to transportation, and to collaborate on many fronts.
- Island Transportation Engineer: The MVC received a grant of $\$ 100,000$ through the Lt. Governor's Community Compact program to hire Island-wide transportation engineering services for a 10 -month pilot term. Following the issuance of an RFP, Howard Stein Hudson (HSH) was chosen to provide this new capacity for the towns, working directly with MVC staff to focus work plans within budget. A total of nine projects were assigned to HSH, following a concerted effort between the MVC and town staff to identify projects where clear goals could be achieved. For those projects, deliverables came in all forms, ranging from formal design plans with cost estimates and book jobs, to concept schematics and technical memos. The Island partnership afforded the towns a great deal of flexibility for services at a reduced, negotiated rate.


## Water Quality

The Commission continued its scientific and community work helping to protect the Vineyard's water quality, especially our threatened coastal ponds.

- Massachusetts Estuaries Project (MEP): For more than a decade, the MVC provided extensive water-quality testing and land-use data
analysis as a basis for the Commonwealth's Mass Estuaries Project, which prepares detailed models of water quality problems in coastal ponds and helps identify the most cost-effective solutions. MVC staff worked with the Friends of Sengekontacket, Tisbury Waterways, the Lagoon Pond Association, Edgartown Great Pond Foundation, and the Joint Lagoon Pond Watershed Wastewater Committee to devise plans to address excess nitrogen.
- Water Testing: MVC staff collected water samples from Farm, Sengekontacket, Lagoon, Tashmoo, Edgartown Great, Chilmark, Katama, Cape Pogue, Pocha, Tisbury Great, James, Menemsha, and Squibnocket ponds, and the Oak Bluffs Harbor, for analysis at the UMass Dartmouth School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST). Results will be compared with data used for the MEP, to determine the status of the coastal ponds. Staff also collaborated with the Buzzards Bay Coalition for the sampling of Vineyard Sound-facing waterbodies.
- Water Alliance and Associations: The MVC Water Resource Planner is an active participant in the Martha's Vineyard Water Alliance, which meets monthly in the MVC building. Staff also attend and present at meetings of all Island pond advisory committees, and in 2019 staff presented their findings at pond association annual meetings.
- Groundwater monitoring: In conjunction with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) the Water Resource Planner takes monthly groundwater measurements and maintains a database of groundwater elevation at nine well sites around the Island.
- Island Blue Pages: Staff worked with members of the Water Alliance to edit and update the 2006 Island Blue Pages. An Edey Foundation grant and donations were obtained for the printing of the updated version. The Blue Pages are also available online. Currently a Portuguese translation of the Blue Pages is underway.
- SNEP (Southeast New England Program) Grant: The MVC received a $\$ 250,000$ grant for an innovative project to reduce groundwater pollution into Lagoon Pond, through the installation and testing of a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB). Throughout 2019, testing
and monitoring continued for the micro-siting of the PRB. Engineering and installation will begin as early 2020.
- Northeast Acidification Network (NECAN) Shell Day: Staff participated with organizations from Long Island Sound to Downeast Maine in a single-day monitoring event to help determine the relationship of salinity and total alkalinity as a way to monitor coastal acidification.

Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Review: MEPA conducts inclusive reviews that incorporate local and State agency comments and questions to discern the readiness of a project to proceed. MEPA ensures that all of the necessary review information is available before a project proceeds. In 2019, MVC staff participated in MEPA review of a number of projects, including the Martha's Vineyard Shipyard expansion, Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) review of a Gosnold property, Clam Point dredging in West Tisbury, the Tower Hill Road Estate plan in Edgartown, the Martha's Vineyard Airport Capital Improvements Plan, and the Vineyard Wind proposals.

## Inter-Regional Collaboration

- Education and Training: The MVC hosted courses and information sessions on topics of interest to town officials, the business community, and members of the public.
- Governor's Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC): The MVC is one of nine regional planning agencies represented on a 15-member Governor's Commission within the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. The RPAC is charged with making recommendations over a four-year period to enhance the economic vitality of the Commonwealth's rural communities and advance the health and well-being of its rural residents. (The State has defined "rural" as having populations of no more than 500 per square mile - which excludes Oak Bluffs and Tisbury). The principal
achievement of the RPAC in 2019 was the production and release of the Rural Policy Plan. The plan is targeted to State administration and legislators "to illustrate the unique attributes and challenges faced by rural communities, inform policy makers of existing best-practices and identify a series of recommendations to be explored and implemented under a proposed new Office of Rural Policy." Among the top three priorities of the plan is the creation of a rural factor within state funding formulas that also take into account the impact of seasonal population swells of tourist areas. The plan also recommends the creation of an Office of Rural Policy to sustain focus on rural issues at the State level.
- State Socio-Economic Projections: Staff joined representatives from other regional planning agencies (RPAs) to review and comment on MassDOT's multi-year effort to develop new population and workforce housing forecasts out to the year 2040, for use in longrange transportation planning. The projections weighed heavily the aging population, which was projected to decline in many regions, including Cape Cod. MVC staff was able to demonstrate that the State forecasting methodology did not accurately reflect the continual infusion of retirees relocating there. MVC staff also pressed the State for recognition of how the second-home economy affects year-round population, employment, and housing. The tremendous surges in seasonal and visitor populations place infrastructure and service demands upon local communities, which is not accounted for in State funding mechanisms that are based on year-round populations.
- Statewide Workforce Development Strategic Plan: As part of the Governor's Workforce Skills Cabinet initiative, the MVC participated in developing the Cape and Islands Regional Workforce Blueprint. The Blueprint is a comprehensive report on current trends in labor force (those working or willing to work) and workforce (those actually working) participation rates in leading industries on the Cape and Islands. The MVC will continue to work with MassHire Cape and Islands Workforce Board, Adult and Community Education of Martha's Vineyard (ACE MV), and Martha's Vineyard Regional High School's Career Technical Education (CTE) and Science, Technology,

Engineering, Math (STEM) staff to provide greater educational and professional workforce development opportunities to students and residents of Martha's Vineyard.

- Promoting the Blue Economy: In 2019, the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce's Blue Economy Project worked with schools in Plymouth, Barnstable, Nantucket, and Dukes counties to launch the Blue Economy Career Intention and Perceptions Survey for students in grades 6-9. The MVC worked closely with the Superintendent's Office to ensure that the High School, along with the Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, West Tisbury, and Charter schools, participated in the survey. Over 3,600 students participated, which will help align educational and workforce development resources with the needs of our growing year-round Blue Economy. In January 2019, the MVC worked with the High School and Charter School, and 34 Island students participated in the WaterWORKS Blue Economy Career Day at Cape Cod Community College.

The MVC will continue to work with local businesses and organizations in water-based industries, in an effort to provide workforce development opportunities in aquaculture, commercial fishing, transportation and boating, harbor and marina management, education and marine sciences, engineering and design, boat building, dredging, wastewater, alternative nitrogen management and technology, energy, environmental advocacy, climate adaptation, water resources and climate adaptation planning, and tourism and recreation.

- US Small Business Administration (SBA): MVC staff continues to work with the SBA and the South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation to provide technical and financial resources to small businesses on the Vineyard.
- Cape Cod Canal Bridges: The MVC continued to provide updates on the US Army Corps of Engineers' decision to replace the Cape Cod Canal bridges. As the three-year transportation planning process moves forward, the MVC will continue to collaborate with the Cape Chamber of Commerce, the Cape Cod Commission and Nantucket Regional Planning Agency on issues of shared interest regarding the Bourne and Sagamore bridges.


## SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES FOR AQUINNAH

## Geographic Information Systems

The MVC's GIS department is supporting the Town's completion of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Summary of Findings Report. Once submitted and accepted by the State, then the Town will be eligible to apply for MVP Action Grants to fund Town projects.

Through the EROMP (Emergency Responders Online Mapping Portal) initiative, the GIS staff are collaborating with the

Community Emergency Response Team to compile online interactive maps \& apps that will be utilized by CERT leaders when checking on those Aquinnah residents most in-need during emergencies.


Hurricane Inundation


FEMA Flood Zones

## Affordable Housing

MVC staff worked with The Resource Inc. (TRI), which received funding for an Island-wide Community Preservation Act Application to create an Island-wide Interest Free Housing Loan Program. TRI received CPA funding for a third year at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

## Coastal Management

- Saltmarsh Elevation Monitoring: MVC staff took measurements at an elevation monitoring station installed last year on Tribal lands at Lobsterville, hosted and funded by the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). MVC staff continued a program of sophisticated wetland elevation monitoring to assess wetlands' abilities to grow in height as seal level rises. This will help plan for sea level rise impacts to Aquinnah's marshes.


## Districts of Critical Planning Concern

- Town of Aquinnah DCPC: The MVC approved a boundary amendment for the Town of Aquinnah District. The change allows Aquinnah to petition for the Green Communities status, by providing an area for solar power as of right. The MVC also approved amendments to the regulations for the Town of Aquinnah District, as part of the Town's 20th Anniversary update. The Town of Aquinnah District was designated 20 years ago.


## Hazard Mitigation/Climate Change

- MVP/HMP Update: MVC Staff secured funding for and contracted with the Town of Aquinnah to execute its Municipal Vulnerability Project (MVP) certification and update of Aquinnah's portion of the Dukes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update (HMP).


## Transportation

- Local Technical Assistance: The MVC continued to work with different stakeholders to create a short-term and long-term concept plan for the Aquinnah Circle that would improve bicycle and pedestrian circulation, and improve vehicular use of existing paved areas - both for parking and departing.


## Water Quality

- Menemsha, Squibnocket, and Nashaquitsa Ponds: MVC staff conduced water sampling and on-station field data collection in Mememsha, Squibnocket and Nashaquitsa Ponds to assess changes in nutrient concentration and salinity. Sampling was done in cooperation with the Shellfish Warden, the Aquinnah Wampanoag Water Resource Department and the Buzzards Bay Coalition.

Developments of Regional Impact In 2019, one project from Aquinnah was reviewed by the MVC as a DRI. The referral for the Wampanoag Gaming Facility (DRI 690) was received as a Discretionary Referral from both the Aquinnah Select Board as well as the

Chilmark Select Board in February 2019. A Public Hearing was held on June 6, which was continued to June 20, and continued again to July 11. The Commission closed the public hearing, deliberated, and voted to deny the project on July 11. The written decision for denial of the project was approved on July 18, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
ADAM TURNER, Executive Director LUCY MORRISON, Executive Assistant KATHY NEWMAN JAMES VERCRUYSSE

## Report of the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

In 2019, the Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Group, Inc. continued programs to fulfill its mission of enhancing shellfish resources for the wellbeing of the entire Island community. MVSG received funding from all six Island towns, the MA Division of Marine Fisheries, the Wampanoag Tribe of Aquinnah, the Jewish Communal Fund, Edey Foundation, Lagoon Pond Association, Slough Farm Foundation, Permanent Endowment for Martha's Vineyard, Farm Neck Foundation, Proud Pour, Cardinal Brook Trust, The Boston Foundation, and many private donors. Town funding ensures each member town an equal portion of the shellfish seed we grow.

## Seed Shellfish Production for Municipal Enhancement

MVSG operates the Richard C. Karney Solar Shellfish Hatchery in Vineyard Haven; The John T. Hughes Hatchery and Research Station in Oak Bluffs; and the Chappy Point nursery on Chappaquiddick. Although the Solar Hatchery is "home base," each site has its strengths and each is important to maximizing the quantity and quality of seed we grow. In 2019 we used these 3 facilities to produce 13.5 million quahogs, 27.5 million scallops and 12.5 million oyster seed for the Shellfish Departments of our six island towns. We also released over 146 million scallop eggs and larvae and 45 million oyster eggs to help supplement the wild populations.

We spawn local shellfish and grow the seed in our hatcheries to an average of 1 mm . At that point we distribute them evenly to the Shellfish Departments. West Tisbury receives only oyster seed because there is no quahog or scallop habitat in West Tisbury. The remaining 5 towns receive quahog and scallop seed only. Edgartown

Great Pond hosts an oyster restoration project which is funded by a private grant, and therefor receives a fraction of the oyster seed. The Constables grow the seed in nursery systems such as floating cages, bags and rafts where they are safe from boats, people and predators. At the end of the summer they are released to good shellfish habitat where they can improve water clarity and be harvested by recreational and commercial fisherpeople.

## Oyster Restoration and the Shell Recovery Partnership

MVSG has managed oyster restoration projects in Tisbury Great Pond (funded largely by the Town of West Tisbury) and Edgartown Great Pond (funded by a private grant) for 30 and 12 years, respectively. The primary restoration strategies are production of spat-onshell and planting of loose shell. Spat-on-shell yields clumps of oysters that are better protected from predators and creates habitat for many other estuarine creatures. The addition of shell to the ponds helps to harden the bottom of the pond, so that oysters do not perish into soft mud; provides calcium-based substrate for wild oyster larvae to set on, and acts like a natural TUMS® by buffering against increasingly acidic conditions. Both of these tools depend on shell. In the past, we have purchased clam shell from off-Island; only as of recently, we are able to rely solely on scallop shell and shells that have been saved from the trash by our Shell Recovery Partnership.

Since 2011 the Shell Recovery Partnership has committed to rescuing this valuable resource from the waste stream by collecting it from Island restaurants, letting it age, then returning it to the Great Ponds. Thanks to letoile, The Port Hunter, Offshore Ale, Noman's, The Lookout Tavern, Chowder Company, Beach Road, the Oyster Bar and the Edgartown Yacht Club, we collected more than 3 times our previous benchmarks in 2019.

## Pilot Eelgrass Propagation Project

Eelgrass, Zostera marina, is an important nursery habitat for many species, especially bay scallops. It is sensitive to summer heat and poor water quality. On a global scale, seagrass meadows contain 10-40 times more carbon than forests, and are an effective carbon
sink. On an ecosystem scale, eelgrass buffers acidic water which helps shellfish produce shell. This summer we planted dislodged eelgrass into biodegradable containers at the Hughes Hatchery. In the spring we will plant them in to Lagoon and Menemsha Ponds. The two main goals are to 1. "Rehabilitate" plants that would perish otherwise; and 2. Plant re-established, potted plots instead of bare root plants.

## Updated edition of the Island Blue Pages

Almost 15 years ago, a committee of the Water Alliance, lead by Amandine and Rick of MVSG, published an illustrated environmental booklet to teach Islanders to be kind to our watersheds and our sole source aquifer, every day. In 2019, with contributions from many organizations and the Edey Foundation, an updated edition was printed by the MV Commission. A Portuguese edition will be printed, pending available funds. Pick up a copy at your Town Hall, Library, pond group, MV Commission or access online at www. mvshellfishgroup.org/island-blue-pages.

Respectfully submitted,
EMMA GREEN-BEACH and AMANDINE SURIER HALL Co-Directors and Biologist

# Report of the Cape Light Compact 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

Cape Light Compact JPE is an intergovernmental organization consisting of the 21 towns on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard and Duke's County. The Compact's mission is to serve our 205,000 customers through the delivery of proven energy efficiency programs, effective consumer advocacy, and renewable competitive electricity supply.

Effective July 1, 2017, the Cape Light Compact reconstituted itself as a joint powers entity pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 4A1/2, becoming the first joint powers entity in Massachusetts. Reorganizing as a joint powers entity protects member towns from potential liabilities and mandates greater financial accountability through expanded reporting requirements to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and member Towns, and designation of Treasury functions to an independent entity.

## Power Supply

During 2019, the Compact's power supplier for all residential, commercial, and industrial customers was NextEra Energy Services of Massachusetts (NextEra). The Compact is pleased that our residential price in 2019 was lower on average than the utility's basic service residential price. The Compact has been a green aggregation since January 2017, meaning $100 \%$ of Compact's power supply customers' annual electricity usage is met with renewable energy certificates (RECs). Each REC represents the generation of 1 megawatt hour ( 1,000 kilowatt hours) of electricity produced by a renewable resource, such as wind or solar. By retiring RECs to match the Compact's customers' usage, Compact customers are financially support-
ing renewable energy resources, including resources located on Cape Cod and southeastern Massachusetts.

In March, the Compact launched two new power supply options, CLC Local Green 50 and CLC Local Green 100. The CLC Local Green program gives customers the ability to support local renewable energy development by opting to pay a small premium on their monthly electric bill. The Compact uses this premium to purchase and retire Massachusetts Class 1 RECs to match either $50 \%$ or $100 \%$ of customers' annual electricity usage, in addition to the RECs retired as part of the Compact's standard power supply product. These RECs are sourced from renewable energy projects in New England, including several solar installations on Cape Cod. By participating in CLC Local Green, customers are driving the market to bring new renewable energy resources online at home in New England.

At a regional level, New England continues to face electricity pricing spikes during the winter months. Over the last 15 years, New England has greatly increased its reliance on natural gas for electricity production, and now over $50 \%$ of the electricity is generated with natural gas. However, natural gas pipeline capacity has not substantially increased during that same period. As a result, during winter cold snaps, demand for natural gas to generate electricity competes with natural gas demand for heating purposes. Allocation of natural gas for heating has priority. This creates a supply shortage of natural gas for electricity production, and therefore increases prices for electric generators, which is passed on to all New England power supply customers. Until this issue is resolved, either through additional natural gas or electric transmission infrastructure, demand reduction, or other targeted programs, the possibility of future high winter pricing remains, and as such, consumers should still expect seasonal pricing fluctuations for the foreseeable future. The Compact will continue to seek ways to help customers mitigate the impacts of higher winter electricity pricing through innovative energy efficiency programs.

As of December 2019, the Compact had approximately 406 electric accounts in the Town of Aquinnah on its power supply.

## Consumer Advocacy

Since 1997, Cape Light Compact has advocated for the ratepayers of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard at the local and state level.

In 2019, the Compact continued its focus on grid modernization, joining with other parties to submit a letter to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) urging the opening of an investigation on the grid-facing grid modernization investments, including advanced metering infrastructure. This follows the DPU's last set of grid modernization orders in May 2018, which approved some of the utilities' requests but deferred decisions on customer-facing technologies (such as advanced metering infrastructure) to future proceedings. The Compact and other parties are now asking the DPU to begin where their last orders left off and start investigating how customerfacing grid modernization technologies will be deployed.

The Compact also participated in regulatory proceedings at the DPU related to the retail electric market, pushing for policies that promote a competitive power supply market while ensuring com-mon-sense protections for consumers.

## Energy Efficiency

| Jan - Dec 2019 | \# of Partici- <br> pants | Customer Sav- <br> ings | kWh Saved | Rebates/Incentives <br> Paid to Customers |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Low Income | 0 | $\$ 0.00$ | 0 | $\$ 0.00$ |
| Residential | 31 | $\$ 10,072.20$ | 50,361 | $\$ 37,331.35$ |
| Commercial | 7 | $\$ 153.00$ | 765 | $\$ 3,042.00$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{3 8}$ | $\$ 10,225.20$ | $\mathbf{5 1 , 1 2 6}$ | $\$ 40,373.35$ |

Note: In the Residential Retail Initiative several measures may reduce energy use from one fuel source but may increase use of another fuel resulting in negative kWh savings. Strategic electrification for example is primarily focused on the adoption of Heat Pump technology which may reduce the use of oil or propane but increase the use of electricity and increase peak demand. The Program Administrators
have determined that these measures are still cost effective, and provide benefits to customers in a more holistic, integrated approach that helps customers address their energy use and associated costs based on their individual needs and goals, while aligning with the broader Commonwealth energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

Funding for the energy efficiency programs (i.e. energy audits for homes and businesses, rebates on the purchase of energy efficient appliances and energy education in our schools) comes from the monthly customer "energy conservation" charge on each customers' electric bill, which is multiplied by the number of kilowatt hours used during the month ( $\$ 0.02113$ for residential customers and $\$ 0.00545$ for commercial and industrial customers).

Respectfully submitted,
MIKE HEBERT
Aquinnah Representative

## Report of the Up-Island Council on Aging Center

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

The Up-Island Council on Aging (UPICOA) and Senior Center is a branch of municipal government of the Towns of West Tisbury, Chilmark and Aquinnah. We are responsible for the administration, development and coordination of elder programs. We are committed to expanding our programs to meet the ever-changing interests and needs of elders. Funding sources include local tax dollars, grants from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Friends of the Up-Island Council on Aging. The Senior Center is open for both scheduled and drop-in activities from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon-day-Friday; and is home to a variety of social/cultural, educational and health programs. These programs resulted in the utilization of the senior center for an average of 180 hours per month in 2019.

## Senior Population

$35 \%$ of West Tisbury residents are 60 yrs. of age \& over
$49 \%$ of Chilmark residents are 60 yrs . of age \& over
$40 \%$ of Aquinnah residents are 60 yrs of age and over

## Service Indicators January 1 - December 31, 2019

Unduplicated Count
Approximately 966 up-Island residents (seasonal \& year-round) 60 years of age and older, and 64 individuals under the age of 60 received services and/or participated in our programs in 2019.


## Social, Recreational \& Cultural Programs

335 individuals participated in the following:

Day Trips (theatre, museums)
Lobster Picnic
Annual Cookout

Recreational games
Holiday Events
Off-Island Shopping Trips

## Direct Service Programs

486 seniors received direct services in the following areas:

Surplus Food Distribution
File of Life
(medical info. cards)
Housing Assistance
Transportation
Case Management

Fuel Assistance
Health Insurance Counseling
Notary Public Services
Home Repair Program
Respite Care

Legal Assistance
Lifeline
Client Support (assistance with errands, companionship \& socialization)

Friendly Visits
Food Stamps
Telephone Reassurance
Calls

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association)
Tax work-off program (West Tisbury)

## In-Kind Services and Goods

Durable Medical Equipment
Fish (M.V. Bluefish Derby)
Reusable Shopping bags (Cronig's Market)
Fresh Vegetables (Island Gleaners)

## Educational Programs

280 people participated in the following educational programs:
Community Education Talks Writing Group
Watercolor Classes Discussion Group
Felix Neck Sanctuary Programs
M.V. Museum

Outreach Programs

## Nutrition Programs

72 individuals participated in the following nutrition programs:
Congregate Lunch
Home Delivered Meals (holiday meals included)

## Health \& Fitness Programs

294 individuals received and /or participated in the following:

Pedi-care Nurse
Freestyle Dance
Parkinson's Support Group

Strength Training Class
Yoga Class
Balletics

Smile Program (Free dental checks \& cleanings)
Meditation Group (new)

## Health Programs Sponsored by the Up-Island Boards of Health:

40 elders received the following services and/or participated in the following:

Monthly Blood Pressure Checks \& Nursing Clinics
Health Promotion Visits
(In-home health assessment conducted by a R.N.)
V.N.A. R.N. \& co-facilitator for Parkinson's Support Group

## Outreach Program

The Outreach Program provides for individual case management. The Outreach Coordinator's primary role is to ensure that basic needs for housing, food mobility, socialization and access to health care are being met. Emphasis is placed on those who are isolated and/ or homebound by assisting them in defining their needs, and to facilitate access to meet those needs. The Outreach Coordinator assists elders in navigating through the seemingly endless amount of paperwork required to participate in state and federal service programs. Outreach services range from reassurance calls to crisis intervention. These services are especially helpful to families of elders who are acting as caregivers for at-risk family members. The Outreach Program served 110 elders in 2019.

## UPICOA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is appointed by the Boards of Selectmen representing the Towns of West Tisbury, Chilmark and Aquinnah. The Board consists of nine voting members, three each from the participating towns.

## Volunteers

19 volunteers contributed approximately 325 hours in 2019 . We
estimate the fair market value of their services to exceed $\$ 4,800$ :

Watercolor Instruction
Lunch Servers
Meals on Wheel Drivers
Tax Preparers
General Office Assistance

Writing Group Facilitator
Special Event Organizers
Fish Baggers
Discussion Group Leader
Community Education
Speakers

## Formula Grants

Formula Grant funding is provided by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs. The Up-Island Council on Aging applied for and received $\$ 19,000$ for the following:

Defray utility costs (propane \& telephone)
Provide for meeting/conference attendance
Defray transportation costs to off-Island meetings \& client transportation
Purchase a Commercial Ice Maker
Purchase assisted listening equipment
Purchase one office laptops \& printer
Sound mitigation for basement level floor
Defray costs for office supplies, including postage
Professional Development (Staff)
Office furniture

## Friends of the Up-Island Council on Aging

Friends of the Up-Island Council on Aging (FOUICOA) is a nonprofit support agency formed in 1987 to raise funds for the benefit of the Up-Island Council on Aging and Senior Center. The Friends enable the COA to provide services and programs beyond those that can be afforded through tax and grant income. The Friends generously contributed $\$ 20,028$ in 2019 for the following:

Commissioned Melissa Patterson to make a new sign for the Howes House (see below)
Special Programs Support
Monthly Cell Phone Service

## \& <br> Friends' Gift Fund

Many of our seniors are especially vulnerable and are struggling to put food on the table, pay for heating bills, purchase prescription drugs, along with other everyday expenses. The Friends, concerned about the welfare of our elderly population on fixed incomes, established a Gift Fund to provide assistance paying for heating costs and food. Twenty-nine households received a total of $\$ 13,850$ to pay for heat $(\$ 7,750)$ and food $(\$ 3,025)$ The Gift Fund is administered by the COA Director and Outreach Worker.

In closing, I would like to thank the Staff for their commitment to enhancing the quality of life of our seniors, and the taxpayers for their continued support and participation in our programs.

Respectfully submitted,
JOYCE ALBERTINE, Director

# Report of the Vineyard Health Care Access Program 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah:

The Access Program's core service is connecting Island residents with Massachusetts' affordable health insurance programs and helping them to retain this coverage. We provide health care program and insurance applications, enrollment and retention services, information, referral and advocacy, referrals to medical providers, scheduling of doctor's appointments and assistance with client medical debt, and we also facilitate access to services like dental care, vision care and prescription medication assistance. The Senior Assistance Program provides application assistance, benefits counseling and program navigation for Island seniors and their families.

In FY2019, the Access Program provided application and enrollment assistance for 3,977 individuals of all ages for MassHealth and Health Connector affordable insurance programs. 378 Seniors were assisted with Medicare, Medicare Part D and Prescription Advantage, MassHealth Long Term Care and Frail Elder Waiver programs, and Disability. We provided health insurance, medical, dental, prescription and related referral assistance 6,744 times.

The Access Program is a grantee of the Massachusetts Health Connector's Navigator Program. The Navigator program is an outreach, education and enrollment program for health insurance re-
quired by the federal Affordable Care Act. The Access Program's enrollment staff must participate in extensive training and pass an annual exam to maintain certified Navigator status.

The David Kurth Memorial Fund provides emergency financial assistance to Islanders with medical-related expenses that they cannot afford, primarily prescription medication. We also provide transportation assistance for low income Islanders and for those who need help paying for travel to medical appointments off-island. In FY2019, we assisted many uninsured or underinsured Islanders to get prescription medications and related assistance by providing \$6,594 in financial assistance. Contributions to the fund came from the Elizabeth and Peter Tower Foundation, the United Methodist Church, individual donors, and local businesses. This fund has provided over \$65,000 in financial assistance to help Islanders get needed medications and medical transportation since its inception.

Vineyard Smiles provides school-based mobile dental services and dental education for children in grades $\mathrm{K}-12$, monthly dental hygiene clinics for seniors, and care facilitation for adults with unmet oral health needs. In SY 2019, 220 children received dental care including exams, cleanings, fluoride treatment, sealants and fillings. Dental hygiene clinics for low-income adults were held once per month on average at senior centers and Island Elderly Housing. Eighty five low income adults received services, including elderly and disabled patients. These services are made possible by funding from the Town Boards of Health for health promotion services.

Access Program employees have been involved in a number of additional health care initiatives including:

- The Dukes County Health Council
- Regional Advisory Board for the Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance
- The DCHC's Oral Health Work Group
- Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard
- Elder Care Providers Work Group

The County maintains a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each of the six Island Towns for the ongoing funding of the Access Program. This MOU describes the Access Program's governance structure, the County's role and services provided, town obligations, Municipal Membership Assessments, and indemnification and insurance. Our total FY19 budget was $\$ 499,911$.

By having agreements in place with each town, the Access Program's funding is secured and not subject to service cuts if grant funding is reduced. When the program succeeds in obtaining grants, these will offset the town funding in the following year. Town funding for FY19 was \$359,184.

Other FY19 funding sources totaling \$140,727 included Island Health Care via the US Health Services Resources Administration, the Massachusetts Health Connector Authority, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, Martha's Vineyard Hospital and local funders including the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation, as well as local businesses and individual donors.

## Program and Staff Information:

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STAFF:

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Advisory \& Oversight Board: Pam Bennett, Eleanor Beth, Tad Crawford, Beth Donnelly, Karen Gear, Rex Jarrell, Herb Kiehn, Marina Lent, Kathy Perotta, Susan Sanford, Adam Wilson

Respectfully submitted,
SARAH KUH,
Director

## Report of the Dukes County Social Services

In 2015 Dukes County created its Social Services Department (DCSS) in response to the community's need for assistance with safety net programs, public benefits, and resources for low income Islanders under age 60 . DCSS connects needy Islanders with a variety of programs and services that support economic self-sufficiency for residents of Martha's Vineyard. The population that the department serves ranges in age, socio-economic status, and education levels. We provide services in English and other languages, including Portuguese and Spanish.

## DCSS Funding

The department is funded by the six towns of Martha's Vineyard and grants from the Community Action Committee for the Cape and Islands (CACCI), the USDA via DTA's SNAP Outreach Grant from UMass Medical School, and the South Shore Community Action Committee Fuel Assistance Program. We are staffed by a part-time Social Services Caseworker as well as a part-time Program Assistant.

## DCSS Activities

The Social Services department's primary functions include, but are not limited to, application assistance for the following programs:

- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- WIC (Women, infants and children)
- Fuel Assistance
- Utility Assistance
- Emergency and non-emergency food programs
- Social Security Disability Income and Supplemental Security Income
- Department of Transitional Assistance cash assistance

The Department provides information and referrals to local and regional agencies that can offer services and resources to complete addressing the needs of every client and household that we serve. DCSS facilitates applications and referrals for childcare subsidy programs including Bailey Boyd and voucher programs, emergency housing and rental assistance, Cape Cod Times Needy Fund, and unemployment insurance.

Clients receive application assistance for outside agencies that address housing and homelessness and are advised of their options as to what is available to them in terms of rental assistance, housing search assistance and support, homeless shelters and programs available as well as resources that can support presently homeless individuals. DCSS works closely with the County's Homelessness Prevention Program, the Houses of Grace, and the Warming Shelter.

Information and referrals are made to agencies like the Housing Assistance Corporation, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, the Cape Cod Organization for the Rights of the Disabled (CORD), and Community Action Committee for the Cape and Islands (CACCI). Locally, the department collaborates with organizations ranging from Elder Services, Martha's Vineyard Hospital, Martha’s Vineyard Community Services, The Resource Institute, Salvation Army, The Clergy Fund, Vineyard Housing Office, the Vineyard Committee on Hunger, Vineyard Health Care Access Program, and many additional agencies on the island.

Local and regional agencies refer their clients to the Social Services Department as a valuable and helpful resource. The outcome of this collaboration is that clients receive complete wrap around services in a multitude of areas.

The Department sponsors in collaboration with CACCI the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program which is an Island wide, free tax preparation program, geared towards households under the age of 65 from January through April.

## Applications

Applications submitted in FY19 for state and federal assistance on behalf of individuals and families who are Island residents.

In FY19 DCSS submitted:

- 120 SNAP applications on behalf of 144 individuals
- Fuel Assistance applications on behalf of 77 individuals
- 9 Social Security Disability Applications
- 6 Cash Assistance applications for 17 individuals

DCSS is a SNAP Outreach Partner via our contract with the Commonwealth Medicine SNAP Unit at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. We participate in trainings and receive regular updates to stay current on changes to SNAP and related programs. The County also hosts an annual site review to ensure we are meeting our program goals and objectives. Sarah Kuh is an Island representative to the Department of Transitional Assistance Cape and Islands Advisory Board.

## Assistance

Assistance includes information, referral, follow-up and advocacy for social services related to client self-sufficiency.

## Proposed Program Expansion

We currently have grant funding for a 19-hour/week position. The demand from the community for our services exceeds what we can provide in this part-time capacity and clients may have to wait to get the assistance they need. The granting organizations do see the need for the expanded hours and are willing to increase their funding. Additional funding is however needed to cover the benefit package of an employee over 20 hours per week.


We would like to offer additional hours of service to the clients as well as provide additional services with the goal of moving clients beyond public benefits and well fair and towards economic selfsufficiency, when possible and appropriate. These enhanced services include job training, mentoring/coaching for low-income individuals and families, and related life-skills development to create economic independence.
Supervisor:
Sarah Kuh, MPH skuh@mvhealthcareaccess.org
Social Services Caseworker:
Eve Gate
socialservices@dukescounty.org
Phone:
Physical Address: 9 Airport Road, Edgartown MA
Mailing Addres (508) 696-3844
P.O. Box 190, Edgartown MA 02539

# Report of the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority 

To the Honorable Select Board and Residents of Aquinnah

The 6 towns of Martha's Vineyard established the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority through State public charter in 1986 in response to the Island's growing need for stable year-round affordable \& community housing. The Island-wide Housing Forum of 2000 resulted in several significant housing efforts including the 6-town agreement to proportionately share the administrative costs of the Housing Authority. Fully funded by the towns since 2005, the staff of the Housing Authority collaborates with town, state, and island-wide efforts to provide year-round rentals, rental assistance and homelessness prevention; homebuyer training, lottery support and affordability monitoring; and advocacy and planning for future housing program development, management and support.

The Housing Authority's work on homeownership in 2019 included management of a re-sale process for an Island Housing Trust home in Tisbury; assistance with application and lottery preparation for resale of a home in Edgartown; preparation and opening of a lottery process for 6 townhouses being developed by the Island Housing Trust on Greenwood Ave in Tisbury; support of Trust development of ownership opportunities at Daggett Ave in Tisbury; service as affordability monitor for properties in 6 towns including support of 3 affordable home re-finances and 6 re-sale requests including assistance to 2 towns faced with difficult resale and affordability maintenance issues; 26 referrals through Edgartown's Demolition Delay by-law; and maintenance of the Homebuyer Clearinghouse used to publicize homebuyer opportunities and currently numbering over 400 Island households.

2019 saw the Housing Authority managing 94 rentals on 16 properties in 5 Island towns. Each apartment requires initial and annual income and tenant certification and apartment inspection, attention to service requests throughout the year, work on household and apartment turnovers, and compliance with multiple funding source requirements including program and household income audits and Fair Housing policy strictures. During this past year, the Housing Authority has supported needed development of new rentals by the Island Housing Trust at the Perlman House, the Hanover House, and Kuehn's Way in Tisbury; Meshacket Road by the Town of Edgartown; the Town of Chilmark's planning of housing development at Peaked Hill; the Town of West Tisbury's effort on Old Courthouse Road; the Town of Oak Bluff's replacement of the commercial tenant at the Noyes Building; and the Town of Aquinnah's revisit of rental development in the Town center. The Housing Authority maintains a rental housing waitlist currently numbering over 240 households;

In this time of a near total absence of 12 -month leases on the Island, the Housing Authority is particularly appreciative of town voters who continue to dedicate Community Preservation Act funding to the Rental Assistance program which helps stabilize an annual average of 65 working Island households. Since 2002, the Housing Authority has administered these funds to work with over 300 tenant households and 260 landlords who have utilized Rental Assistance for an average of 3 years. Each Rental Assistance situation requires initial and annual income certifications and apartment inspections, support contracts, and lease addendums. Beginning each fall, the Housing Authority provides town Affordable Housing and Community Preservation committees the figures of usage, need, cost and landlord availability necessary for thorough deliberation before Annual Town Meeting funding votes.

Island-wide, the Housing Authority provides income certifications and administrative assistance for town programs such as accessory apartments, resident homesite subdivisions and multi-family density allowances. The Housing Authority actively partners with Harbor Homes, the Housing Assistance Corporation, The Resource

Inc, the County Manager's office, the Tower Foundation and other organizations that assist with rent, utilities, emergency support and apartment rehabilitation for Island tenants and their landlords.

The staff of the Housing Authority is available to work on individual and community housing needs and opportunities at its office at 21 Mechanic St. off State Road in Vineyard Haven. For more information please stop by, call (508) 693-4419 or check our website at https://housingauthoritymarthasvineyard.org/

The DCRHA Board of Directors and Staff:
Harvey Beth: Oak Bluffs
Ann Wallace: Chilmark
Dan Seidman: Tisbury
Melissa Norton Vincent: Edgartown
Richard Skidmore: Aquinnah
Michael Belissimo: West Tisbury
Linda Mott-Smith: Governor’s Appointee
Lucy Morrison: At-Large
David Vigneault: Executive Director
Terri Keech: Finance Manager
Barbara Hoffman: Operations Coordinator
Karin Kugel: Administrative Assistant
Respectfully submitted,
DAVID VIGNEAULT, Executive Director

## Report of the Chilmark School Principal

Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.
Superintendent of Schools
4 Pine Street
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

## Dear Dr. D'Andrea:

The Chilmark School has had several changes in 2019! Class sizes have stayed high, we've added some great new teachers, increased our project/STEAM activities, and added several afterschool clubs, including film club, chess, and photography.

Our school community includes 55 students in three classrooms (a K/1 class, a $2 / 3$ class, and a $4 / 5$ class).

Our K/1 teacher, Robin Smith, decided to retire after a long and rewarding career. We miss her, but are excited to welcome Ellen Rossi into the $\mathrm{K} / 1$ classroom. Also in our $\mathrm{K} / 1$ we have added Fallon Pulford as the $\mathrm{K} / 1$ assistant. In our 2/3, Gretchen Snyder is teaching and she has a new assistant, Keelan Weiss Parker. We have also added Robin Moriarty to our staff as a part-time Math Specialist and Catherine Mafcher as our new SPED teacher. We are pleased to have found such great additions to our staff.

We have an all-school morning circle daily to start our day as a community. We often have several parents participating with us each morning. During this time, we celebrate birthdays, have a thought for the day, pledge the flag, sing a song, share news, and end with a symphonic musical selection from the "MusicWorks! Everyday" program developed by the Cape Cod Symphony.

The Responsive classroom is the social curriculum of choice at the Chilmark School. This approach to building a learning commu-
nity is built around six central components that integrate teaching, learning, and caring into the daily routine. These components are expressed in the context of commonly-shared values such as honesty, fairness, and respect. They are implemented through the development and strengthening of social skills such as cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control. In addition, our counselor, Joan Rice, visits each classroom weekly to share activities discussing Social-Emotional Learning. In past years, she has utilized the Second Step Program, but this year all schools are using the Michigan model for SEL as well as for Health and Wellness. In addition to this program, Joan also uses a large bibliotherapy library packed with children's books on a wide variety of sensitive topics. She focuses on integrating social-emotional learning into the classrooms and schoolwide.

We have a strong arts program at the Chilmark School. Every week, all students attend art, music, theater, mindful movement (yoga), and gym. Students in grades 2-5 can participate in strings, and in grades 4 and 5, in band. This is our 2nd year of Arts Integration. This one-hour class focuses on learning through the arts. The integration teacher works with the classroom teacher to select a topic and then the integration teacher comes up with lessons to teach this concept using music, theater, or movement.

Our school continues to focus on project-based learning. Proj-ect-based learning is "a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge." An example of this at the Chilmark School would be the $2 / 3$ 's class investigation of the Wampanoags and the Pilgrims. They began the year learning about Wampanoags with a visit to the tribe. They also produced early tribal weapons, which they made out of materials they found on the grounds of the school. Their study of Pilgrims focused on Pilgrim children. They each chose Pilgrim names for themselves. Students researched Pilgrim children and have written stories about their lives as a "Pilgrim Child." They are learning a lot about the differences between today's children and Pilgrim children.

The K/1 class studied the town of Chilmark. They each choose a Chilmark landmark and researched it and then built it. They listed various facts about their landmark and then, after setting up a "street map" in the foyer, they placed their landmark building in the appropriate area. Parents and community members came and visited our "Chilmark Town." These types of activities keep students actively engaged in learning by being immersed in a specific topic. The current focus on STEAM activities (combining science, technology, engineering, art, and math) is very similar to project-based learning and enlists just a few changes to incorporate the STEAM concept in all of our lessons.

Chilmark School has many "Whole School Activities" involving the entire school community. These activities allow students to get to know and work cooperatively with children of different ages and abilities. Whole School Activities, as well as the multi-age classroom model, allow for maximum differentiation of curriculum as well as helping students develop leadership skills. Teachers within each multi-age classroom encourage older students to become role models and to demonstrate leadership skills. With our proximity to the Chilmark Preschool and their participation in our various Whole School Activities, even our kindergarten students can begin to learn leadership skills. Our recess time is also multi-age, so students can participate in a variety of activities with students of all ages and abilities. To promote physical awareness, as well as self-regulation, we have continued to embrace mindfulness and yoga instruction. Theater instruction for all students encourages self-expression and selfassurance. Our hot lunch program continues to grow as we promote Island-grown foods and healthy lunches. Outdoor recesses during the day help promote healthy living, as well.

We are in our 4th year of utilizing "Math in Focus-Singapore Math." This is the same program being utilized at the West Tisbury School, ensuring continuity to our graduates that move on to 6th grade at the West Tisbury School.

The Lucy Calkins Writing Program helps students produce a great product in the area of writing. This year, teachers continue to
work together monthly to be sure that students' compositions are graded similarly based on required skills and elements.

In the computer lab, students utilize various programs to improve their skills on the computer while participating in academic learning. They use "Type to Learn" for keyboarding skills, "Aleks" and "Dreambox" for math, and "Lexia" for reading. These programs are web based, which allows the student to work at their own pace both at school and home. Students also work with the web-based Suite, developed by Google, which incorporates creating documents, spreadsheets, drawing, and more.

Many traditions make our school special, starting with the $4 / 5$ outdoor education week of sailing aboard the tall ship, Shenandoah, during the first full week of school. Since this trip takes place during the school year, with teachers on board, students complete all of their lessons while on the ship. The $4 / 5$ class sponsors a fundraiser at the end of October. This year, we raised funds for "Reach Out and Read." The K/1 and $2 / 3$ classes visit the residents at Windemere once a month. The K/1 students do a short performance for the residents, while the $2 / 3$ students meet with them to share photos of the Island. In November, we hold the Turkey Trot, where students "race" a mile down Middle Road. We then return to school for a reading of 2 versions of Stone Soup, followed by comparing and contrasting the different stories. We then eat Stone Soup for lunch. This year, the stories were read by Catherine Mafcher, our new SPED teacher, and Susan Stevens, Head of School. In February, the 5th graders visit Sugarloaf Mountain in Maine for our annual ski trip. At the beginning of May, we have a May Day Celebration. The $4 / 5$ students perform a Ribbon Dance around the May Pole. Afterward they organize games as a Whole School event. At the end of May, we travel to Menemsha to listen to "Taps" (played by students) and throw flowers into the water in memory of our veterans. An annual end-of-year tradition is our 5th grade graduation. A High School senior who attended the Chilmark School joins us to read their scholarship-winning essay about their experience here. All 5th graders share a speech about their time at the school and then we have a Whole School potluck lunch. Our final
tradition of the year is a kayak trip for the 3rd and 4th graders. This prepares the students for their adventure on the Shenandoah the following fall. These traditions foster community involvement and help create the uniqueness of our school. For more details and photos of what is going on at the Chilmark School please visit our website at www.chilmarkschool.org.

Over the last two years we have been offering tours of the Chilmark School. These tours are led by a parent and/or a current student. Community members and perspective families have come for tours as well. These tours help show the unique characteristics and teaching methods that the Chilmark School offers. One unintended side effect of these tours has been the pride felt by the students who have led these tours. Many have commented about this in their graduation speeches. There are many contributors that support the Chilmark School's success. The staff, a group of talented individuals, work closely to meet the needs of all students. The school PTO and School Advisory Council put in countless hours and are a valuable resource. The Chilmark School parent body makes the school a true community. Volunteers bring their unique experiences and expertise, giving students another perspective. The Up-Island School Committee works to help our school be successful. I would like to thank all those who have contributed and helped the Chilmark School continue to be a place where children come "to live, to love, to learn."

Respectfully submitted,

SUSAN STEVENS

Head of School

# Report of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Principal 

Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.

Superintendent of Schools
4 Pine Street
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
Dear Dr. D'Andrea:
It is my pleasure to present to you the accomplishments of our departmental staff at MVRHS in the service of our students and community. There are many reasons to be proud of that are highlighted by each department. As an all-Island school, we strive to represent the best of this unique community through our high-performing academic core, our hands-on career and technical programs, our abundantly-talented performing and visual arts departments, and our very competitive sports teams.

## Art, Design \& Technology

The MVRHS Art, Design \& Technology Department had an engaging and fruitful year in 2019. In addition to the successful annual Evening of the Arts event in May, students showcased their talents in the "Nothing Without Joy" community art show at Featherstone, in the Old Sculpin gallery, in the MVRHS Yearbook (which won a 2019 Highest Achievement Award from the New England Scholastic Press Association), and in our art \& literary journal, Seabreezes. A team of computer technology students placed second and third at Code Quest, an international computer programming competition. 19 students won a total of 24 statewide awards at the Scholastic Art Awards, five of whom advanced to the national competition, and one of whom won a National Silver Medal in New York.

This year, the department introduced a new course, AP Studio Art and 14 students will be submitting AP portfolios in May, 2020. Drawing \& Painting students have been working closely with the leadership class to create art installations and much-needed beautification around the building, while Design \& Architecture students held architectural tours of the Campgrounds, Edgartown, and Hutker Architects. Students are illustrating backdrops for this year's musical, "Big Fish." Tech Support, now in its second year, played an important role in supporting the computer-based MCAS tests last year and is also helping the leadership class set up a TV/kiosk system throughout the school. A large contingent of students shared their work at Portfolio Day in Boston in November. Dozens of students participated in the Vineyard Conservation Society's "The Art of Conservation" competition and exhibit and five students won awards in the 2019 Cape Cod Times' "Classroom Times" photography competition, including a first place award.


#### Abstract

Athletics The athletic program had its share of successes this past year. As we entered this year we were first-year members of the Cape and Islands league, a league in which we were original members during the '60s, '70s, and '80s. This fall, we saw the Cape \& Islands take full shape as Falmouth, Barnstable, Sandwich, Dennis Yarmouth, and Nauset joined the league. The new look will see some sports entering the same league as all other sports: sailing, swimming, and girls' hockey will now be Cape \& Islands members. It's very exciting to see some of our old rivals return. Our travel will be cut almost in half for our league games. This means less time traveling and earlier boats back at night.

This spring, we saw the girls' tennis team win its 5th straight State title. The girls' lacrosse team won the Cape and Islands, as well as the boys' and girls' tennis and track teams. This fall, the boys' cross country team won the league title, the Eastern Mass D5 championship, and then went on to win the D2 State championship - a first for the program. They were welcomed in Vineyard Haven with the


usual champions' welcome as fire trucks and cruisers from each town greeted them.

We're excited with this new beginning in the Cape \& Islands, and look forward to more successes on the field and developing young men and women into well-rounded individuals.

## Career and Technical Education

This past year has been a busy one and we've had some staffing changes. In Healthcare Assisting, we said goodbye to Susan McHugh and hello to Darcy Neago. Darcy is returning to the position she had several years ago. We welcome her back and look forward to the energy and skills she brings to the program. In Automotive, Mr. Ward and his classes are preparing for Nataf certification. This important certification will allow students to receive hours towards their own individual credentials. In Carpentry, Mr. Seabourne and crew are busy building sheds and friendship benches using locally-sourced wood from the state forest. In Culinary, Chefs Crowell and O'Malley have the students working different local intonates reducing food waste, while supporting local agriculture and school lunch programs. Kyle Crossland, the Horticulture teacher, reports that his team is looking forward to using their new greenhouse to propagate plants for their annual plant sale. In Business, Mr. Jakusik and company are preparing to compete in DECA, a national competition that affords our students the opportunity to compete in regional, state, and, possibly, on a national stage. We look forward to seeing how far this talented group can go.

## English

The English department hosted several highly-anticipated annual events this year, including Poetry Out Loud and Writer's Week. Over 150 students participated in Poetry Out Loud, and 15 made it to the school-wide competition where three winners were named by a panel of Island poets and teachers. The Fifth Annual Writers Week featured visits from over 25 Island writers and poets. The culminating event, the Writers Week Coffeehouse, celebrated both visiting and student
writers who shared their work with over 100 attendees. Seabreezes, the school's literary magazine, sponsored a coffee house during last spring's Writer's Week in which a gathering of student and community poets performed their work. The 2019 edition of Seabreezes has made the first (state) cut in the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Awards and is in consideration for national honors.

Additionally, The High School View received the "Highest Achievement Award' in its class last May at the annual New England Scholastic Press Association conference. This award honors the outstanding efforts of the newspaper's staff, led by editors-in-chief Henry Hitchings, Mackenzie Condon, and Alexis Condon, all seniors.

As for travels and field trips, the Humanities 11 class visited the MV Museum dressed in Gatsbyesque finery; the AP English 11 class toured Boston and visited the MFA; and English 10 students enjoyed a production of Macbeth at the Trinity Rep in Providence.

## ESL

Numbers of new ESL students continues to climb. The school community welcomed between 25-30 newcomers to our ranks during the 2018-2019 school year. Consequently, we welcomed new teacher, David Foley, to the department. David comes to us from the Nantucket school system. He has over 10 years of experience teaching ESL in both the U.S. and Japan. Another addition to the support network for ESL students and their families is a full-time Brazilian Portuguese/English interpreter, Matheus Dos Santos. Again this past year, students were able to connect with an adult mentor in the community, as well as visit Lasell University to meet with both faculty and students in the education department, tour the campus, and learn about all Lasell has to offer diverse students. Other news in the department is that Dianne Norton was re-appointed Department Chair. Finally, members of the department participated in numerous professional development programs focused around keeping students engaged in the classroom, teaching students with interrupted learning, and race identity and implicit bias.

## Guidance

The culmination of our four-year developmental guidance program helped 143 graduates develop transitional plans during their post-secondary planning process. As a result, the Class of 2019 had $65 \%$ of the students attend a four-year college/university; $8 \%$ attended a two-year college; 5\% attended trade/technical schools/ programs; $4 \%$ took a gap year; and $18 \%$ entered the workforce. This year's generous donors provided scholarships, grants, and additional items such as computers and book stipends that totaled a remarkable $\$ 2,587,966.108$ students in the 2019 graduating class received 502 awards totaling $\$ 1,074,096$. Post-graduates and other Island students received $\$ 1,513,870$.

The guidance department continued to work with students to help them be trained as leaders in the school and Island community. Peer Outreach, Race Culture Retreat, SWEAR (Stand With Everyone Against Rape) are examples of the work done to help students be effective leaders.

The guidance department also continued to work with all the Island sending schools to implement a comprehensive transition program for incoming ninth graders. The guidance counselors work with all students to develop an individual post-secondary plan. Students work with their counselors, in groups and individually, to explore personality profiles, career opportunities, and college options.

## History

The history department worked on developing a common set of skills for students, building each year upon the skills introduced in the prior year. The department reinforces critical skills of reading, writing, listening, and active engagement. Student progress is assessed using common rubrics across all history classes. Teacherpeer class observations are a central part of the department's vision to ensuring good teaching practice and a cohesive approach across students' history exposure at MVRHS.

The history department strives to make history relevant to stu-
dents today. The freshmen, studying early American History, attended the new Harriet Tubman movie at the Martha's Vineyard Film Society. The AP Modern European history went to Boston, visiting the Museum of Fine Arts, followed by dinner at an Ethiopian restaurant. The Women's Studies class went to Salem to bring life to the struggle of women in the 1600s. The Sophomore Humanities and US II classes participate in mock trials to build speaking skills and analyze social issues of today. Give Back Day, a day when students volunteer across the Island, continued to be extremely popular and we're looking forward to this third annual event in the spring.

This year welcomed Bill Brown to the department, who joined us from Haverhill High School. Bill is dual-certified in social studies and special education. He is currently teaching three sections of Global I and co-teaching two sections of U.S. II. Bill brings a positive energy to the department and the students respect and appreciate him as a teacher.

## Library

The library continues to be one of the busiest spaces in the school. So far this year, students have signed into the library over 13,000 times. In addition, classes regularly visit the library for research, to find books, and to work on projects - 246 classes in all since January. Our librarian, Kevin McGrath, regularly visits with classes to teach research skills, including using the library databases, citing sources, and media literacy. He co-teaches the Capstone course, which graduated 10 seniors in June and has 13 enrolled this year.

Students are borrowing books at a higher rate than last year already over 1,000 books have been checked out. The library has increased support for our growing ELL population through book talks for emerging English speakers and a growing collection of high-interest, low-reading level books. The library hosted several speakers and special events, including student coffeehouses and speakers on diversity and inclusion. The library is home to the Best Buddies club, which meets weekly during Flex as well as after-school events, and was home to an American Sign Language independent study course
created by students and advised by the librarian. The library is a haven for students both during and after school until 5:00 pm.

We won a $\$ 9,250$ grant from Mass Humanities, which funded the installation of a Portal in the library over 5 separate weeks in April, October, and November. Portals are live, full-body audiovisual environments hosted by communities around the world that enable face-to-face dialogues between people who will likely not otherwise meet. On average, per visit, students talked for 25 minutes in groups of 6 . Since April, students visited over 850 times, either individually or as part of lessons developed by a team of 8 MVRHS teachers. We connected with people in places as diverse as Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, Qatar, Gaza, Germany, Mexico, and Milwaukee. The Portal project has led to the development of The Parlour in the Library Lab. The Parlour is a collaborative video-conferencing project facilitated through iEARN (a global network of schools) to connect schools around the world with MVRHS students. The Library Lab continues to function as a recording studio, project development hub, and small- group meeting space. More info about these ongoing projects is available at mvrhs.org/library.

## Math

This past year in the Mathematics department has been quite productive. We have spent numerous hours during the school year and the summer months aligning and realigning curricula to the common core with the goal of providing clarity for our students and staff. We now offer 3 different courses for our incoming and current ESL students, and have written the scope and sequence for these courses to better serve this growing population.

We said goodbye and good luck to Margaret D'Angelo as she moves forward into retirement. Her positive attitude and dedication to the subject and her students will be missed. With Margaret leaving, this meant a new member would be joining our department. We are so lucky to welcome Kelly Magnuson, a young, energetic, and skilled teacher of mathematics. She has proved to be a great addition to our team.

Department member MaryLee Carlomagno continues to en-
hance our robotics course and extra-curricular activities related to it. She took our robotics team to participate in competition this past spring and reports the students performed well, and, more importantly, learned a lot through this experience.

As a department we are immersing ourselves in the new next generation MCAS Test that is being administered to our 10th graders. This computer-based test is new to our students and we are committed to preparing them and providing them with the necessary technology training and skills to meet with success.

Many of our math department members are also engaged in a Math CoP focusing on the smooth transition for, and proper placement of, our incoming freshmen. Some Faculty from the elementary schools are involved with this process making this experience a positive and collaborative initiative. We are excited about our work going forward.

## Performing Arts

In addition to our curricular classes offered to both performing and non-performing students, the Performing Arts Department offered opportunities to students outside the school day. Singers and string players participated in the Southeast District Music Festival (Christian Schmidt, Tripp Hopkins, Josephine Orr, Victoria Scott) last January and the All-Cape and Island Festival in February. Two students, Christian Schmidt and Josephine Orr, went on to audition for, and be accepted to, the All-State Music Festival chorus. Students in the Musical Theatre Production Class presented their annual Cabaret at the PAC.

In February, the entire department was part of the production of the musical, As You Like It. Community instrumentalists, English classes, art classes, and faculty joined the student cast for four performances. Choral students had the opportunity to sing with the elementary school students at the annual All Island Choral Festival. We look at this festival as an opportunity to bring together Island musicians from all the Island towns and celebrate our love of singing.

The Minnesingers travelled to Scotland for a 10-day performing tour. We sang at St. Giles Cathedral, Stirling and Edinburgh Castles, as well as workshopped with the Glasgow Children's Chorus. Our performance at Iona Abbey was unfortunately cancelled due to the boats not running (something we understand all too well). These 26 students represented the Island and the country in fine form. We are planning the next competition in April 2020.

In May, the Pops Concert featured all the performing groups as well as solo and small group numbers. Several singers and instrumentalists performed in the Coffee House and in the hallways at Evening of the Arts. Chorus, Vocal Ensemble, Minnesingers, Concert Band, and Jazz Band participated in the graduation ceremonies at the Tabernacle, celebrating another successful group of seniors leaving the High School. October auditions were held for the upcoming school musical, Big Fish the Musical. Community members and local musicians join the students in rehearsals. Big Fish will run performances in February 2020. 32 singers and string players who auditioned for the All Cape Music Festival this fall were chosen to perform at the festival, and Spencer Pogue, Linus Munn, Jack Crawford, Skylar Hall, Lily Jones, Caitlin McHugh, and Maddy Tully will represent MVRHS at the Southeast District Festival. Spencer, Linus, and Skylar were selected to audition for the All-State Music Festival in January. The Winter Concert featured the String Orchestra, combined instrumental groups, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Chorus, and Vocal Ensemble. The Minnesingers presented their annual Winter Concerts at the Whaling Church on Dec. 13 and 14. Instrumentalists continue to entertain at the Senior Citizen lunches and the Minnesingers performed for the community several times during the holiday season.

## Physical Education

The past year in Physical Education was transformative with new directions in both health education and physical education. On the MVPS district end, health education was given new life for all students Island-wide thanks to the MedStar Report conducted to examine our overall health and wellness in all Island schools.

At the High School this brought the Michigan Model Curriculum to our 9-12 students, which will be instructed in all PE sections by splitting our scheduled time between health and physical education. Additionally, we have divided the block schedule by grade so that there are eight blocks of freshman and sophomores together and eight blocks of juniors and seniors. In January, we added the Catch My Breath curriculum directed at the E-Cigarette - vaping crisis in our school community. Our student body also created and produced a high-quality public service announcement that involved many departments at the High School. A highlight of community building was our basketball, floor hockey, and volleyball student and staff flex tourneys. Together with the Restorative Justice Office (RJO) we collaborated with organizing, officiating, and playing in these tremendously exciting active sports.

## Project Vine

Project Vine is proud of the accomplishments of our program members and of the positive growth our program has seen this year. In January, Project Vine welcomed a new class of 12 freshman students and for the first time began a waitlist for those interested in being part of our alternative model. Continuing with our mission to provide regular, intentional academic and non-academic experiences for our students, which build engagement through relationships, Project Vine hosted its annual Chopped For Charity event, raising hundreds of dollars, food donations, and awareness for the Island Food Pantry.

We ran a fourth annual Corn-Hole Tournament and Silent Auction to raise money for both our awesome multi-disciplinary trip to New York City in early May and to build the Jake Sequoia Baird Memorial Outdoor Classroom, now open for use. The outdoor classroom space was dedicated at our end of the year banquet, where we also announced the winners of the first Jake Sequoia Baird Memorial scholarships, given to two of our graduating seniors in June. The award will be given annually in Jake's memory.

In September, students and staff attended a two-night, technol-
ogy-free retreat at Penikese Island for the second year in a row. In October, our Island Lore Open-Mic Event held at the MV Museum made the front page of the MV Times. As a testament to the positive reputation of our program, three different Cape and Islands Schools have shown interest in the embedded alternative model used here at MVRHS, and have met with our staff or shadowed our program in the hopes of creating similar programs at their respective schools.

## Science

In the past 12 months, the teachers in the Science Department actively engaged in education, community outreach, and collaboration. Our science teachers took classes in educating diverse populations and in curriculum design, including general curriculum design, physics curriculum design, and computer-based STEM design. Teachers attended the National Science Teachers Association Conference and an Engineering Design Conference that focused on engaging students in STEAM-based projects. The department has worked with several local groups (on-Island and off-Island), including Biodiversity Works, Felix Neck, the Shellfish Hatchery, Island Grown Schools, and Cape Light Compact to provide project opportunities for students.

Dr. Fyler has continued working on the growing issue of ticktransmitted Lyme disease on Martha's Vineyard. Dr. Fyler and a number of students have been collecting and extracting tick DNA to better understand the transmission of the disease and its spread on the Island.

The department has set goals to improve student work around formal lab writing and organizing data. We continue to try to identify best practice standards and implement common skills, assessments, and overacting ideas that can be incorporated throughout the science curriculum.

MVRHS students continue to do well on the biology MCAS with the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced well above the state average.

The science department also saw the retirement of long-time science teacher Jackie Hermann last June. Jackie's devotion to her students and hard work on the science fair will be greatly missed. Anna Cotton has moved into the science department full time in Jackie's place. Jason Neago took over the science fair reins last year, and he did a great job organizing the fair and science day. The science department held its science fair and science day in March of last year and received a great deal of positive feedback concerning the student work displayed and projects completed by the students. In response to feedback from students, the science fair is moving back to its February 7th date to allow our students to compete in the regional and state science fair.

Louis Hall and the Protect Your Environment Club have been leading the cause of climate change education and helping to raise awareness of the climate crisis. Students under Mr. Hall's guidance participated in climate strikes locally every Friday and at the state house.

## Special Education

The focus of the department is to build a positive, collaborative environment and to be an integral part of the school community at large. The role of the Special Education Department is to identify eligible students and provide them with specialized instruction to help them fulfill their potential towards college and/or career readiness. Specialized instruction and supports are provided on a continuum from academic and transitional support, in-class support, co-teaching, small-group instruction, to our substantially separate programs. These services/programs are designed with the belief that all students can learn together in the same school to prepare for adult living after graduating/transitioning from high school.

We continued Unified Sports this past year and became one of sixteen schools in Massachusetts that earned the status of a banner school after exceeding the minimum qualification of 10 national standards. It was noted that MVRHS exceeded the standards in an inclusive culture, youth leadership, and whole-school engagement. The

Unified Program consists of basketball, track and field, and bocce.
The Voyager program is a new development and is a program that supports the transitional needs of our young adults with more significant needs who are working on accessing the community and building independence.

The Department meets on a monthly basis to review special education regulations, practices, monitoring of compliance, and to ensure appropriate supports and services are in place to meet the needs of our students with disabilities receiving specialized instruction. We look forward to 2020 as a year to strengthen initiatives already started and to make progress toward meeting the needs of ALL our children!

## Wellness Program

This past year, the peer-to-peer programs continued to grow by including more students. Students now have the opportunity to apply to attend workshops, retreats, and trainings in Dialogue Circles, SWEAR (Stand With Everyone Against Rape) and the Race Culture Diversity Retreat. The 14 -year-old Peer Outreach Program is now a weekly club co-created with NAMI of MV. NAMI also sponsored a school-wide assembly on Suicide Prevention in May 2019. In Collaboration with CONNECT and the YTF, a DDT (Drunk Driving Task Force) grant was awarded, and together our organizations sponsored 3 school-wide assemblies about substance use/mental health. The grant also paid for an anti-vaping PSA developed by students. Embedded mental health and substance abuse counseling continued this past year and included individual and group therapy, Al-a-Teen meetings, Recovery Coaching, and counseling for our ELL population. MVRHS and IWYC continued their collaboration by offering case management services to families in need.

## World Language

The World Language Department continues to honor and celebrate language and culture with a wide variety of events and opportunities for students including a Festa Junina celebration in collaboration with the Family Center, a forró dance group and Student

Immigrant Leadership Club during flex, and a new Spanish for Portuguese speakers' course. Students in the department demonstrated their advanced language skills and seven graduates earned the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy, which was awarded for the first time this year. Also, all students who took the AP Spanish exam passed with flying colors. Teachers in the department had the honor of meeting with Laurie Olsen, one of the people responsible for starting the original Seal of Biliteracy in California. As we move forward with the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy and the soon-to-be-updated state standards for language learning, the department embarked on a shared goal of exploring more proficiency-based strategies. A large portion of the department is also participating in a district-wide Community of Practice where they continue to collaborate with the elementary language teachers and share best practices in order to improve students' proficiency in the languages they are learning and discuss proficiency targets for each level.

Thank you for letting me share this information with you and for your continued support of MVRHS. Our faculty and staff are committed to engaging students with challenging academics and providing additional support and resources to better prepare them for their journey after high school. It is through the dedication and support of our teachers, our administrators, school committee, community partnerships, parents, and our students that all of this is made possible. Without these groups working together as a team we would not have been able to accomplish all that we have on a daily basis.

Respectfully submitted,
SARA DINGLEDY
Principal

# Report of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Office of the Treasurer 

4 Pine Street<br>Vineyard Haven, MA 02568<br>(508) 693-2007 Fax (508) 693-3190

January 27, 2020
To the Citizens of Aquinnah:
In compliance with Section VIII of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Agreement under which the District was formed and according to the recommendations of the Office of the Directors of Accounts, we submit the following financial reports of the District for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

FY2019 Assessment<br>Balance Sheet<br>Expenditures - Budget vs Actual

Respectfully submitted,
MARYLEE SCHROEDER
Treasurer
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District - FY19 Assessment

| DESCRIPTION | FY19 AMOUNT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Operating \& Capital Budget | \$ | 21,009,788.50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Charter School/School Choice Tuition |  | 831,933.00 | 21,841,721.50 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 70 State Aid |  | 2,835,120.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter 71 Regional Transportation Aid |  | 285,259.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other Revenues |  | 286,135.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| E\&D Offset |  | 43,377.21 | 3,449,891.21 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FY18 Net Amount for Assessments | \$ |  | 18,391,830.29 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Town Apportionments |  | Aquinnah | Chilmark | Edgartown | Oak Bluffs | Tisbury | West Tisbury | Total |
| (i) Required Minimum Local Contribution |  | 103,424.00 | 298,082.00 | 1,888,137.00 | 1,944,163.00 | 1,797,530.00 | 1,136,584.00 | 7,167,920.00 |
| (ii) Excess of NSS over Required Minimum |  | 177,044.39 | 450,667.85 | 2,720,089.83 | 2,848,855.03 | 2,575,241.92 | 1,577,337.48 | 10,349,236.50 |
| (iii) Transportation |  | 6,515.22 | 16,584.54 | 100,099.07 | 104,837.62 | 94,768.68 | 58,045.88 | 380,851.00 |
| (iii) Capital |  | 9,147.11 | 23,284.05 | 140,535.20 | 147,187.94 | 133,051.54 | 81,494.16 | 534,700.00 |
| (iii) Other Costs |  | 42.77 | 108.87 | 657.08 | 688.18 | 622.09 | 381.03 | 2,500.0C |
| Gross Assessments |  | 296,173.49 | 788,727.30 | 4,849,518.17 | 5,045,731.76 | 4,601,214.22 | 2,853,842.56 | 18,435,207.50 |
| Less E\&D Offset |  | 742.05 | 1,888.90 | 11,400.83 | 11,940.53 | 10,793.72 | 6,611.16 | 43,377.21 |
| FY19 Assessments Per Statutory Assmt Method | \$ | 295,431.44 | 786,838.40 | 4,838,117.34 | 5,033,791.23 | 4,590,420.49 | 2,847,231.39 | 18,391,830.29 |
| This schedule presents the town apportionments consistent with DESE's Statutory Assessment Methodology format. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Numbers may be off due to rounding. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Member Town \% Based on Statutory Assessment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Method (voted by School Committee) |  | 1.64\% | 5.22\% | 25.04\% | 28.32\% | 25.78\% | 14.01\% | 100.00\% |
| School Population based on Town Census (10/1/19) |  | 11 | 35 | 168 | 190 | 173 | 94 | 671 |

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District - Balance Sheet, June 30, 2019
General
Long-Term
Obligations

| $08^{\prime}$ LOL'9SI'L |
| :---: |
| $00^{\circ} 000^{\prime} 006$ |
| - |
| - |
| $08^{\prime} \angle 0 L^{\prime} 9$ 9̌'9 |

1ełol

| $433,667.61$ | - | $939,239.10$ | $900,000.00$ | $7,156,707.80$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 723,884.71 | 70,457.36 | 96,267.99 | - | 267,988.42 | - | \$ | 1,158,598.48 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | \$ | - |
| 1,513,898.64 | 111,010.80 | - | - | 407,946.40 | - | \$ | 2,032,855.84 |
| 56,254.90 | 86.47 | - | - | - | - | \$ | 56,341.37 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 900,000.00 | \$ | 900,000.00 |
| 2,294,038.25 | 181,554.63 | 96,267.99 | - | 675,934.82 | 900,000.00 |  | 4,147,795.69 |
| 490,926.48 | - | - | - | - | - | \$ | 490,926.48 |
| 350,000.00 | - | - | - | - | - | \$ | 350,000.00 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | \$ | - |
| 1,063,147.93 | 504,133.80 | 337,399.62 |  | 263,304.28 | - | \$ | 2,167,985.63 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | \$ | - |
| 1,904,074.41 | 504,133.80 | 337,399.62 | - | 263,304.28 | - | \$ | 3,008,912.11 |


| $\$$ | $4,198,112.66$ | $\$$ | $685,688.43$ | $\$$ | $433,667.61$ | $\$$ | - | $\$$ | $939,239.10$ | $\$$ | $900,000.00$ | $\$$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


|  | General | Special <br> Revenue |  |  | Capital <br> Projects | Enterprise |  | Trust \& Agency |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$ | 4,198,112.66 | \$ | 685,688.43 | \$ | 433,667.61 | \$ | - | \$ | 939,239.10 | \$ |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  |
|  | 4,198,112.66 |  | 685,688.43 |  | 433,667.61 |  | - |  | 939,239.10 |  |

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District — Budget and Actual Expenditures, June 30, 2019

| Supt/Shared Services: Administration |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Adminstration: Salaries | \$ | 155,294.71 | \$ | 151,807.79 | \$ | 3,486.92 |
| Administration: Expenses |  | 11,535.00 |  | 14,689.71 |  | $(3,154.71)$ |
| Administration Subtotal |  | 166,829.71 |  | 166,497.50 |  | 332.21 |
| Supt/Shared Services: Instruction |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Instruction: Salaries |  | 282,503.63 |  | 276,291.97 |  | 6,211.66 |
| Instruction: Expenses |  | 38,700.00 |  | 34,949.08 |  | 3,750.92 |
| Instruction Subtotal |  | 321,203.63 |  | 311,241.05 |  | 9,962.58 |
| Supt/Shared Services: Operation and Maintenance of Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operation and Maint. Of Plant: Salaries |  | - |  | 1,891.53 |  | $(1,891.53)$ |
| Operation and Maint. Of Plant: Expenses |  | 24,570.20 |  | 20,505.06 |  | 4,065.14 |
| Operation and Maint of Plant Subtotal |  | 24,570.20 |  | 22,396.59 |  | 2,173.61 |
| Supt/Shared Services: Fixed Costs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Costs: Salaries |  | 39,261.00 |  | 39,261.02 |  | (0.02) |
| Fixed Costs: Expenses |  | 39,738.74 |  | 40,669.54 |  | (930.80) |
| Fixed Costs Subtotal |  | 78,999.74 |  | 79,930.56 |  | (930.80) |
| TOTAL Supt/Shared Services |  | 591,603.28 |  | 580,065.70 |  | 11,537.60 |

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District — Budget and Actual Expenditures, June 30, 2019

| $141,185.00$ | $145,492.00$ | $(4,307.00)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $113,657.28$ | $115,863.02$ | $(2,205.74)$ |
| $254,842.28$ | $261,355.02$ | $(6,512.74)$ | Administration Subtotal

## High School Programs: Administration

Administration: Salaries
Administration: Expenses High School Programs: Instruction

## Instruction: Salaries

Instruction: Expenses
High School Programs: Other School \& Community

## Services

Other School \& Community Services: Salaries
Other School \& Community Services: Expenses
Elementary Transportation Reimbursement

| $1,474,129.63$ | $1,375,091.07$ | $99,038.56$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |

632,705.70 655,277.77 (22,572.07)

| $1,957,408.96$ | $2,084,988.70$ | $(127,579.74)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Operation and Maint of Plant Subtotal
High School Programs: Fixed Costs

## Employee Retirement

Retired Municipal Teachers
Other Post Employment Benefits Employee Separation Costs Insurance - Employee Related Insurance - School Related Miscellaneous Fixed Charges Bus/Vehicle Capital Purchase Roof Project Principal Roof Project Interest Residental Care Tuitions
TOTAL Operating Expenses

# Report of the Superintendent of Schools 

Skip Manter, Chairperson<br>Martha's Vineyard Superintendency<br>All-Island School Committee

## Dear Mr. Manter:

In accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, I am pleased to submit my 2019 annual report as Superintendent of Schools to the members of the six school committees of the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools. The schools on the Island continue to strive to provide our students with a quality education that prepares them with the skills necessary to compete in today's world.

There have been minimal personnel changes at the central office. After twenty years of committed service to the district, Janet Sylvia, our Financial Analyst, has retired. We are very fortunate to welcome Bernadette Cormie as Janet's replacement. Bernadette has worked at the high school for several years and has a background in finance. Sheryl Taylor has been hired as our Health Education Coordinator. Sheryl brings extensive experience in health care to the position. We have taken steps to fully implement our Health and Wellness initiative in grades K through 12. This work, along with our partnership with Martha's Vineyard Community Services, has greatly improved the services that we are providing our students and their families. These changes have proven to be very positive for our district.

A large part of our health and wellness initiative is to improve the athletic facilities at our high school. Safe and durable athletic facilities are crucial not only for our high school students but for all the youth organizations that utilize these facilities. This project will provide us with a new track and a reliable playing surface for our lacrosse, field hockey, football, and soccer teams. Huntress Associates,
our landscape designer, along with our Owner's Project Manager, are developing the construction documents. We hope to begin construction as early as this spring.

The lead remediation work at the Tisbury School has been completed and the students will be reunited in the building on January 6. Thanks to the help from the Tisbury Fire Department and the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School we were able to complete the work while still educating our students. The Tisbury Building Committee is continuing to work on a renovation and addition project for the school building that will provide students with a state-of-theart facility while preserving the historical significance of the current building.

Last year, we completed negotiations with each of our five bargaining units - Teachers, Educational Support Professionals, Administrative Support Personnel, Food Service Workers, and Custodians. Each contract was ratified by the All-Island School Committee and is in effect for the next three years. Final drafts of each contract are available on the Superintendent's website under the Employment tab.

During the fall of 2019, we had an evaluation completed of our English Language Learner program. Our ELL population has continued to grow across the Island schools and the evaluation will provide us with strategies to meet the needs of this growing school population. We will receive the final report in January and our ELL Action Team will use the recommendations to develop an action plan to make the necessary changes to our program. Additionally, the final part of our special education evaluation was completed this fall. Jim Shillinglaw completed an assessment of our building based special education programs. Each school will receive recommendations on how to make improvements and will develop plans for implementation.

The focus of our professional development over the past year has been the social and emotional well-being of our students, and teaching and learning strategies. In October, we will be providing training for all of our staff on Think-Kids, a program that will provide both our teachers and students with valuable conflict resolution skills.

Additionally, we have continued our focus on improving writing instruction and will be offering additional training in the Lucy Calkins writing program for our K-8 teachers. Our high school continues its implementation of restorative justice, and its expansion of a coteaching model to the benefit of our special education students.

MCAS results show that our students are performing well in English/Language Arts, math, and science. We use the results of these assessments to evaluate our instruction and make changes to both instructional strategies and to the curriculum. Our schools strive to continually improve in these areas so our students are equipped with the skills they need to succeed in school, career, and their personal lives.

Several staff members will be retiring this year and I would like to recognize them for their dedication to our students. At the high school, English teachers Bill McCarthy and Cindy Cowen will be retiring. Also, math teacher Jamie Norton will be leaving us at the end of the year. At the Edgartown School, Special Education Teacher Diane Smadbeck will be missed. West Tisbury Social Studies teacher Robyn Maciel-Wingate has retired. Collectively these staff members have dozens of years of service to the Island's students. Congratulations to you all.

I am truly privileged and honored to be serving as the Island Schools' Superintendent. Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,
MATTHEW D'ANDREA, LP.D. Superintendent of Schools

# Report of the <br> Up-Island Regional School District of Martha's Vineyard 

4 Pine Street<br>Vineyard Haven, MA 02568<br>(508) 693-2007 Fax (508) 693-3190

January 27, 2020
To the Citizens of Aquinnah:
In compliance with Section VIII of the Up-Island Regional School District Agreement under which the District was formed and according to the recommendations of the Office of the Directors of Accounts, we submit the following financial reports of the District for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

FY2019 Assessment<br>Balance Sheet<br>Expenditures - Budget vs Actual

Respectfully submitted,
MARYLEE SCHROEDER
Treasurer
Up-Island Regional School District - FY2019 Assessment


| School Choice Receiving Tuition Total Reimbursements |  |  | - | 404,296.00 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 79,791.00 | 404,296.00 | 120,350.00 | 10,600.00 |  |
| ANTICIPATED REVENUES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| E\&D Offset |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |
| Interest Income |  |  | 9,500.00 |  |  |  |  |
| Misc. Revenue |  |  | 4,000.00 |  |  |  |  |
| Total Anticipated Revenues |  |  | 13,500.00 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE |  | \$ | 93,291.00 | 11,036.33 | 19,870.98 | 62,383.69 | 93,291.00 |
| TOTAL ASSESSMENTS |  | \$ | 11,680,522.02 | 1,422,612.93 | 2,633,640.07 | 7,624,269.02 | 11,680,522.02 |
| UIRSD FY 2019 FORMULAS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| School Attended |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Town of Residence | Chilmark |  | West Tisbury | Total | Does Not Include Studen | Tuitioned Out-of-District |  |
| Aquinnah |  | 13 | 27 | 40 |  | Charter School | 43 |
| Chilmark |  | 18 | 54 | 72 |  | School Choice | 10 |
| West Tisbury |  | 9 | 217 | 226 |  | Shared Services | 5 |
| District Enrollment |  | 40 | 298 | 338 |  | Residential | 1 |
| School Choice |  | 11 | 44 | 55 |  |  |  |
| Total Enrollment |  | 51 | 342 | 393 |  | FY18 Foundation Enrollme | nt $=397$ |
| Cost Share For Part "A" \& "B" Based on the total enrollment per town divided by the total district enrollment. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Supt \& Sch. Comm.: | Aquinnah | = 11.83\% |  | Chilmark $=$ | 21.30\% | W. Tisbury = | 66.87\% |
| Cost Share For Part "C" Sites |  | Based | on the enrollment per to | town in each school divided by | by the district enrollment of | each school. |  |
| Chilmark School: | Aquinnah | = $32.50 \%$ |  | Chilmark = | 45.00\% | W. Tisbury = | 22.50\% |
| W. Tisbury School: | Aquinnah | =9.06\% |  | Chilmark $=$ | 18.12\% | W. Tisbury = | 72.82\% |
| Cost Share For Part "D" Debt |  | Owning | g Town pays at least 80 | 0\%; non-owning Towns pay re | emaining 20\% based on en | rollment per Town. |  |
| Chilmark School: | Aquinnah | = $11.82 \%$ |  | Chilmark = | 80.00\% | W. Tisbury = | 8.18\% |
| W. Tisbury School: | Aquinnah | =6.67\% |  | Chilmark = | 13.33\% | W. Tisbury = | 80.00\% |


| Up-Island Regional School District - Balance Sheet, June 30, 2019 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | General | Special <br> Revenue |  | Capital |  | Enterprise |  | Trust \& |  | Long-Term |  | Total |  |
| \$ | 1,743,096.84 | \$ | 501,553.39 | \$ | 279,793.85 | \$ | - | \$ | 64,997.39 | \$ | - | \$ | 2,589,441.47 |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | - |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 450,000.00 | \$ | 450,000.00 |
|  | 1,743,096.84 |  | 501,553.39 |  | 279,793.85 |  | - |  | 64,997.39 |  | 450,000.00 | \$ | 3,039,441.47 |
|  | 810,184.36 |  | 11,742.64 |  | - |  | - |  | 5,116.01 |  | - | \$ | 827,043.01 |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | - |
|  | - |  | - |  | 696,500.00 |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | 696,500.00 |
|  | 805,762.87 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | 805,762.87 |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | - |
|  | 19,057.99 |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - | \$ | 19,057.99 |
|  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | - |  | 450,000.00 | \$ | 450,000.00 |
|  | 1,635,005.22 |  | 11,742.64 |  | 696,500.00 |  | - |  | 5,116.01 |  | 450,000.00 | \$ | 2,798,363.87 |


| - | - | $\$$ | $9,312.77$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | $\$$ | - |
| - | - | $\$$ | - |
| $59,881.38$ | - | $\$$ | $231,764.83$ |
| - | - | $\$$ | - |
| $59,881.38$ | - | $\$$ | $241,077.60$ |

$\begin{array}{llllllllllll}\$ & 1,743,096.84 & \$ & 501,553.39 & \$ & 279,793.85 & \$ & - & \$ & 64,997.39 & \$ & 450,000.00\end{array}$
Up-Island Regional School District — Budget and Actual Expenditures, June 30, 2019

| SUPT/SHARED SERVICES | \$ | 1,539,312.65 | \$ | 1,503,348.18 | \$ | 35,964.47 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WT PRINCIPALS OFFICE SALARIES \& EXPENSES |  | 419,309.50 |  | 412,823.04 |  | 6,486.46 |
| WT TEACHERS/STAFF SALARIES |  | 2,808,125.57 |  | 3,009,031.77 |  | $(200,906.20)$ |
| WT UNDISTRIBUTED SUPPLIES, TEXTBOOKS, MISC |  | 114,374.00 |  | 117,603.63 |  | $(3,229.63)$ |
| WT FIELD TRIPS/PROGRAMS |  | 10,140.00 |  | 8,753.73 |  | 1,386.27 |
| WT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS |  | 30,950.00 |  | 24,499.94 |  | 6,450.06 |
| WT INSTRUCTIONAL COMPUTERS/COPIERS/AUDIO VISUAL |  | 186,965.34 |  | 178,940.59 |  | 8,024.75 |
| WT FURNITURE EXPENSE |  | 10,000.00 |  | 10,000.00 |  |  |
| WT SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT |  | 945,500.16 |  | 818,653.84 |  | 126,846.32 |
| WT LIBRARY SERVICES |  | 128,576.34 |  | 126,563.40 |  | 2,012.94 |
| WT GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT |  | 215,020.19 |  | 213,073.07 |  | 1,947.12 |
| WT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES |  | 98,251.17 |  | 102,956.06 |  | $(4,704.89)$ |
| WT SCHOOL SECURITY |  | - |  | 3,750.00 |  | $(3,750.00)$ |
| WT CUSTODIAL SERVICES |  | 270,388.00 |  | 272,772.53 |  | $(2,384.53)$ |

Up-Island Regional School District — Budget and Actual Expenditures, June 30, 2019
89,600.00 178,280.00 1,017,555.90

| $89,600.00$ | $83,375.53$ | $6,224.47$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $178,280.00$ | $202,770.09$ | $(24,490.09)$ |
| $1,017,555.90$ | $1,031,092.27$ | $(13,536.37)$ |
| $104,940.00$ | $100,500.46$ | $4,439.54$ |
| $6,627,976.17$ | $\mathbf{6 , 7 1 7 , 1 5 9 . 9 5}$ | $\mathbf{( 8 9 , 1 8 3 . 7 8 )}$ |

> 2,726.55 $7,699.38$
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$00^{\circ} 00 \varepsilon$ + $\stackrel{\bar{j}}{\substack{0}}$
 $157,705.13$
$456,553.58$
$26,165.60$
$13,005.93$
$2,087.70$
$56,596.14$
-
$69,015.79$
$1,492.96$
$41,436.40$
$9,921.36$ $160,431.68$
$464,252.96$
$31,850.00$
$13,314.00$
$3,200.00$
$52,577.00$
300.00
$57,423.00$
$2,000.00$
$41,436.00$
$17,691.00$ WT UTILITIES
WT GENERAL MAINTENANCE
WT EMPLOYEE INSURANCE
WT INSURANCE
TOTAL WEST TISBURY SCHOOL CH PRINCIPALS OFFICE SALARIES \& EXPENSES
CH TEACHERS/STAFF SALARIES
CH UNDISTRIBUTED SUPPLIES, TEXTBOOKS, MISC CH ENRICHMENT/FIELD TRIPS/PROGRAMS CH CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS
CH INSTRUCTIONAL COMPUTERS/COPIERS CH FURNITURE
CH SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CH LIBRARY SERVICES CH GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT
CH HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CH SECURITY
CH CUSTODIAL SERVICES
CH UTLIITIES
CH GENERAL MAINTENANCE
CH EMPLOYEE INSURANCE
CH INSURANCE
TOTAL CHILMARK SCHOOL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE/DISTRICT DEBT TRANSPORTATION
RESIDENTIAL TUITIONS
TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL FUNDS
total school committee
TOTAL EXPENDITURES

# Report of the West Tisbury School Principal 

Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.

Superintendent of Schools
4 Pine Street
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

## Dear Dr. D'Andrea:

I am pleased to present to you this report for calendar 2019 at the West Tisbury School. I have highlighted significant aspects of the year, as well as staffing changes. We continue to build upon the excellence that has been characteristic of the West Tisbury School and for which it is well known and widely admired. "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." These words by John Dewey align with our mission and provide a motto for us to reflect on as we strive for continuous improvement.

Our student enrollment remains steady and currently is 351 . New colleagues joined our staff this year, including Kezia Alvares, Doug Brush, Carl Ericson, Kim Garrison, Sara Hoffmann, Lucy Leopold, Nicole Nicodemus, Alexis MacTaylor, Jelena Poletan, and Elizabeth Santos. We had two staff members retire this year, Christa Fischer and Susan Reidy. We thank them for their many years of service and dedication to the West Tisbury School and its community.

With our focus on student writing, we have made many gains in staff professional development and in implementing Lucy Calkins' Units of Study in Writing. This summer, we had additional teachers attend The Teachers College Writing Institute at Columbia University. Two teachers also attended a Columbia Teachers College Institute on supporting students with special needs in reading and writing workshops. Our local and state assessments continue to show growth in this area.

We are now in our second year of a co-teaching model in our fifth through eighth grade English language arts classes. This promising practice brings together the expertise of general education and special education teachers to plan, instruct, and assess student achievement and growth to create an optimal, inclusive learning environment for all students. In October, we had an expert in this area come to work with our staff and give feedback to support continuous growth on this new initiative. Her feedback was overwhelmingly positive. She commended the model's initial results and the extent to which it has been implemented so well in such a short period of time.

Our health and wellness program is fully implemented at all grade levels. This followed a recommended by an Island-wide health and wellness review of the Martha's Vineyard public schools conducted by Medstar, an affiliate of George Washington University Hospital. We are working with a district health curriculum coordinator to integrate and coordinate outside resources available to our students and their families. These include mental health and substance use supports as well as the refining of instruction and lessons.

Our English Language Learner program is thriving. We are providing state-recommended instructional time to students who have little or no English proficiency. Students from multiple grade levels participate in this program to meet their linguistic, social, and cultural needs. We are monitoring their progress through both local assessments and state ACCESS testing.

Monthly Learning Expeditions are happening in the school. These walkthroughs, by teams of educators working together to observe how students are engaged in the educational process at our school, have been well received. Students are also able to showcase individual examples of their thinking and learning. Snapshots of expedition highlights are shared with the whole staff in order to illuminate how well our students are learning.

Continued grant support and donations allowed us to offer a yoga program in every grade, provide various learning opportunities across many grade levels, continue to run a homework support club
for students in the third through eighth grades, and support the aforementioned professional development for staff members. Additionally, our Plastic Free MV student group has received many awards and donations for its efforts to improve the quality of life on our Island by eliminating the sale and use of plastic water and soda bottles from our environment. Its ban was passed in all three Up-Island Regional School District towns last year, and this group is working hard to see it pass in the other three Island towns this coming spring.

We are in our second year of administering the redesigned MCAS in English language arts, mathematics, and science. We have analyzed our students' performance and growth, and identified areas of strength and those for improvement. We continue to be recognized for substantial progress toward targets set by the state, which rise each year.

Our School Advisory Council made substantial progress on our three school improvement goals its members identified for the current school year in the areas of community building, co-teaching, and health and wellness. Thank you to resigning member Jill Napior for her many years of service on the committee. The new committee, including Samuel Hall, Graham Houghton, Elle Lash, Wenonah Madison, and Annemarie Ralph, are continuing work on our two-year plan. We are also currently seeking a community member to join our group. Anyone interested should contact me at the school.

Special thanks to Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) board members Jamie Langley, Erin Lambert, Moira Silva, and Alyssa Dubin for their organization and facilitation of a full year of learning and social opportunities for our school community. They have spearheaded many zero waste opportunities like the costume swap, the coat exchange, and our Zero Waste Week events, along with social events such as the Freezin' for a Reason 5K and Polar Plunge on New Year's Day. I look forward to their continued success in reinvigorating the PTO in the coming year.

As always, the support of community members is paramount to the success of our school. I thank all for their unstinting support of
the West Tisbury School and its mission. I am eager to continue this successful collaboration with educators, parents, volunteers, community members, organizations, and business partners to ensure the advancement of our school and the achievements and success of all our students in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT Principal
Town of Aquinnah Annual Town Meeting
June 23, 2020 - Appropriations FY 2019 \& 2020 - Proposed Budget FY2021

| FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 11,845 |  |  | \$ | 11,845 | \$ | 13,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 7,000 | \$ | 7,000 | \$ | 8,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 2,500 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 3,500 | \$ | 3,500 | \$ | 4,500 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 24,345 | \$ | 24,345 | \$ | 28,000 | \$ | 3,655 | 15.0\% |
| \$ | - | \$ | 180 | \$ | 180 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 15,894 | \$ | 16,708 | \$ | 16,708 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 6,360 | \$ | 6,360 | \$ | 6,360 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 3,150 | \$ | 3,150 | \$ | 3,150 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 180 | \$ | 180 | \$ | 180 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 25,584 | \$ | 26,398 | \$ | 26,398 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

General Town Expenses $\quad$ Moderator
Selectmen - Salaries
Selectmen - Consultant Fees
Selectmen - Expenses
Selectmen - Ceremonial Use
$\quad$ Selectmen Selectmen

| FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 100,830 |  |  | \$ | 106,330 | \$ | 109,098 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 4,200 | \$ | 4,200 | \$ | 4,200 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 105,030 | \$ | 110,530 | \$ | 113,298 | \$ | 2,768 | 2.5\% |
| \$ | 26,100 | \$ | 26,100 | \$ | 26,100 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 13,000 | \$ | 13,000 | \$ | 17,000 | \$ | 4,000 | 30.8\% |
| \$ | 39,234 | \$ | 41,375 | \$ | 42,459 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 13,379 | \$ | 14,110 | \$ | 14,476 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 54,113 | \$ | 56,985 | \$ | 58,435 | \$ | 1,450 | 2.5\% |
| \$ | 66,599 | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 13,332 | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 5,000 | \$ | 40,000 | \$ | 40,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 84,931 | \$ | 40,000 | \$ | 40,000 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |

Administrator - Salary Administrator - Expenses Administrator

## Finance Committee

## Financial Audit

> Town Accountant - Expenses

> Town Accountant
Assessor/Appraiser - Wages Assessor/Appraiser - Longevity Assessor - Expenses
Assessors
Town of Aquinnah Annual Town Meeting - June 23, 2020
Appropriations FY 2019 \& 2020 - Proposed Budget FY2021

| FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 55,483 |  |  | \$ | 58,510 | \$ | 60,025 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 2,450 | \$ | 2,450 | \$ | 2,450 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 57,933 | \$ | $\mathbf{6 0 , 9 6 0}$ | \$ | 62,475 | \$ | 1,515 | 2.5\% |
| \$ | 41,624 | \$ | 43,901 | \$ | 45,049 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 416 | \$ | 439 | \$ | 450 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,000 | \$ | 1,000 | \$ | 1,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 4,960 | \$ | 4,960 | \$ | 4,960 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 48,000 | \$ | 50,300 | \$ | 51,459 | \$ | 1,159 | 2.3\% |
| \$ | 90,000 | \$ | 90,000 | \$ | 90,000 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 52,282 | \$ | 52,282 | \$ | 60,000 | \$ | 7,718 | 14.8\% |
| \$ | 25,393 | \$ | 26,779 | \$ | 36,635 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 26,893 | \$ | 28,279 | \$ | 38,135 | \$ | 9,856 | 34.9\% |

Treasurer Salary Treasurer - Expenses Treasurer

[^0]|  | FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 <br> Appropriations |  |  |  | FY 2021 |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |

Elections

## Insurance <br> Town Report

> Highway - Expense
> Highway - Road Maintenance Contractors Highway - Continuing Ed/Training

> Highway - Vehicle Maintenance
> Highway - Supplies Expense
> Bldgs/Grounds - Expenses Bldgs/Grounds - Supplies

> Bldgs/Grounds - Utilities
> Bldgs/Grounds - Vehicle Maintenance
Town of Aquinnah Annual Town Meeting - June 23, 2020
Appropriations FY 2019 \& 2020 - Proposed Budget FY2021

| FY 2019 Appropriations |  | FY 2020 Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 2,000 |  |  | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 2,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,512 | \$ | 1,512 | \$ | 1,512 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 245,608 | \$ | 259,886 | \$ | 268,849 | \$ | 8,963 | 3.4\% |
| \$ | 125,322 | \$ | 141,128 | \$ | 141,128 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 469,761 | \$ | 486,232 | \$ | 486,232 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 10,365 | \$ | 13,538 | \$ | 13,538 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 42,750 | \$ | 47,325 | \$ | 47,325 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 648,198 | \$ | 688,223 | \$ | 688,223 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 30,000 | \$ | 40,000 | \$ | 40,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 29,000 | \$ | 34,000 | \$ | 34,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 43,600 | \$ | 43,600 | \$ | 43,600 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 102,600 | \$ | 117,600 | \$ | 117,600 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 363,691 | \$ | 371,290 | \$ | 385,519 | \$ | 14,229 | 3.8\% | PUBLIC WORKS/BLDGS \& GROUNDS

PUBLIC SAFETY Police Chief - Salary Police Officers - Wages Police Officers - Longevity Police Department - Expenses
Police Department

## Fire Chief - Salary

 Firefighters - Wages Fire Department - ExpensesFire Department
Ambulance Service

| FY 2019 Appropriations |  | FY 2020 Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 975 |  |  | \$ | 980 | \$ | 1,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,000 | \$ | 1,000 | \$ | 1,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,975 | \$ | 1,980 | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 20 | 1.0\% |
| \$ | 8,961 | \$ | 9,000 | \$ | 6,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,200 | \$ | 1,200 | \$ | 1,200 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 10,161 | \$ | 10,200 | \$ | 7,200 | \$ | $(3,000)$ | -29.4\% |
| \$ | 41,637 | \$ | 43,905 | \$ | 45,059 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,665 | \$ | 1,756 | \$ | 1,802 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 38,000 | \$ | 38,000 | \$ | 38,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 12,875 | \$ | 12,875 | \$ | 12,875 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 95,677 | \$ | 98,036 | \$ | 99,236 | \$ | 1,200 | 1.2\% |
| \$ | 1,222,302 | \$ | 1,287,329 | \$ | 1,299,778 | \$ | 12,449 | 1.0\% |
| \$ | 28,000 | \$ | 28,000 | \$ | 28,000 | \$ | - | 0.0\% | Emergency Mgmt. - Pay

Emergency Mgmt. - Expenses
$\quad$ Emergency Management

Animal Control Officer - Pay
Animal Officer - Expenses
Dog Officer

Shellfish Constable - Wages
Shellfish Constable - Longevity
Temporary/Seasonal Employee
MV Shellfish Group Assessment
Shellfish/Harbormaster - Expenses
Shellfish / Harbormaster
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY
TRAVEL
Town of Aquinnah Annual Town Meeting - June 23, 2020
Appropriations FY 2019 \& 2020 - Proposed Budget FY2021

| PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE | FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| Landfill Drop-off - Wages | \$ | 17,571 |  |  | \$ | 18,690 | \$ | 21,204 |  |  |  |
| Landfill Drop-off - District Assess. | \$ | 22,987 | \$ | 23,586 | \$ | 23,589 |  |  |  |
| Landfill Drop-off - Expenses | \$ | 36,300 | \$ | 36,300 | \$ | 42,000 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health - Landfill | \$ | 76,858 | \$ | 78,576 | \$ | 86,793 | \$ | 8,217 | 10.5\% |
| Board of Health Clerk - Wages | \$ | 23,734 | \$ | 26,423 | \$ | 23,969 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health Inspector - Wages | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 2,660 | \$ | 3,100 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health - Nursing | \$ | 6,700 | \$ | 6,700 | \$ | 6,700 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health - Expenses | \$ | 2,500 | \$ | 5,553 | \$ | 5,803 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health - General | \$ | 34,934 | \$ | 41,336 | \$ | 39,572 | \$ | $(1,764)$ | -4.3\% |
| All-Island COA Services | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| Up-Island COA Services | \$ | 52,171 | \$ | 53,681 | \$ | 51,234 |  |  |  |
| Board of Health - Councils on Aging | \$ | 52,171 | \$ | 53,681 | \$ | 51,234 | \$ | $(2,447)$ | -4.6\% |
| Homesite Clerk - Wages | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 1,000 |  |  |  |
| Homesite Committee - Expenses | \$ | 250 | \$ | 250 | \$ | 250 |  |  |  |
| DC Housing Authority Assess. | \$ | 8,303 | \$ | 9,811 | \$ | 11,083 |  |  |  |
| Affordable Housing | \$ | 10,553 | \$ | 12,061 | \$ | 12,333 | \$ | 272 | 2.3\% |
| TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE | \$ | 174,516 | \$ | 185,654 | \$ | 189,932 | \$ | 4,278 | 2.3\% |


| FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Appropriations | Appropriations | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase | \% Increase |

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Town of Aquinnah Annual Town Meeting - June 23, 2020
Appropriations FY 2019 \& 2020 - Proposed Budget FY2021

| FY 2019 <br> Appropriations |  | FY 2020 Appropriations |  | FY 2021 |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Proposed Budget | \$ Increase |  | \% Increase |
| \$ | 44,892 |  |  | \$ | 47,343 | \$ | 48,572 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 60,396 | \$ | 61,845 | \$ | 63,211 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 47,375 | \$ | 48,925 | \$ | 45,738 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 152,663 | \$ | 158,113 | \$ | 157,521 | \$ | (592) | -0.4\% |
| \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | - | 0.0\% |
| \$ | 55,000 | \$ | 55,000 | \$ | 55,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 8,000 | \$ | 8,000 | \$ | 8,800 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 63,000 | \$ | 63,000 | \$ | 63,800 | \$ | 800 | 1.3\% |
| \$ | 46,349 | \$ | 46,969 | \$ | 12,161 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 15,000 | \$ | 25,000 | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 61,349 | \$ | 71,969 | \$ | 12,161 | \$ | $(59,808)$ | 100.0\% |
| \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 3,000 |  |  |  |
| \$ | 3,650 | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 16,879 | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 10,578 | \$ | - | \$ | - |  |  |  |
| \$ | 32,607 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 3,000 | \$ | 1,500 | 100.0\% |

CULTURE AND RECREATION
Library Director - Salary
Library - Wages
Library - Expenses
Library
Arts / Culture
Parking/Restrooms Wages
Parking/Restrooms Expenses
Recreational Facilities
Lighthouse Wages
Lighthouse Expenses
Recreational Facilities
Community Programs Expenses
ACE
Center For Living
Vineyard Health Care Access
Community Programs



[^0]:    Tax Collector - Wages
    Tax Collector - Longevity Certification Stipend

    Tax Collector - Expenses
    Tax Collector
    Legal
    Data Processing Town Clerk - Expenses Town Clerk

