



John Salomone  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

### MEMORANDUM

To: Newington Town Council  
From: John Salomone, Town Manager  
Date: May 20, 2010  
Re: Monthly Report – April 2010

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- The second Public Hearing on the budget was held on April 13 with the Town Council approving the final budget and Capital Improvement Plan on April 15.
- The Town Manager attended the Mid-State Collaborative meeting, meetings with CRRA and CRCOG, and presided over meetings of the CTCMA.
- The Town Manager and staff continued with the AFSCME and IBPO union contract negotiation process
- The Town Manager attended several project meetings, met with staff regarding various personnel issues and met with residents to address various issues and concerns as needed.
- The Town Manager attended Volunteer Recognition Dinner for the Human Services Department.
- Interviews were held with several possible candidates for an intern position in the Town Manager's office through a program offered by UConn.

Paid overtime during the month of April 2010 was as follows: Note that overtime costs include all instances and may be charged to non-operating budgets (i.e. road projects). These costs will not agree to 2009-10 overtime expended amounts in the following chart.

<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>Overtime Hours</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Vehicles and Equipment	82.8	\$ 3539.38
Weekend Standby and Call-In	16.0	619.16
Road Maintenance	65.1	2,313.46
Traffic Division	7.4	282.97
Crack Seal	2.5	94.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>173.8</b>	<b>\$ 6,849.88</b>
<b>PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION</b>	<b>Overtime Hours</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Cemetery	8.25	\$ 318.00
Ball Field Prep	71	2,766.20
Mowing	144	5,532.44
Tennis Courts	88	3,367.49
Weekend Duty	17	666.94
Earth Day	5	209.70
Center Cemetery Fence	6	251.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>339.25</b>	<b>\$ 13,112.41</b>

<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>2009-10 Budget Overtime Appr.</b>	<b>Overtime Expended 09-10 YTD</b>	<b>2008-09 Budget Overtime Appr.</b>	<b>Overtime Expended 08-09 YTD</b>
Administration	\$ 3,976.00	\$ 5,041.98	\$ 4,311.00	\$ 1,173.43
Patrol	580,294.00	422,576.04	600,000.00	440,882.33
Investigation	76,691.00	52,301.76	76,637.00	60,631.83
Communication	112,132.00	90,603.88	108,429.00	83,254.27
Education/Training	103,603.00	54,257.44	88,337.00	62,023.97
Support Services	39,071.00	26,550.98	38,137.00	26,904.16
Animal Control	12,144.00	6,767.61	12,070.00	6,323.45
Total	\$ 927,911.00	\$ 658,099.69	\$ 927,921.00	\$ 681,193.44
<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>				
Highway Operations	\$ 28,109.00	\$ 15,308.90	\$ 28,109.00	\$ 18,410.26
Snow and Ice Control	132,349.00	91,490.44	132,349.00	148,263.79
Traffic	8,345.00	2,570.93	8,345.00	3,080.23
Vehicles and Equipment	28,185.00	13,944.89	*31,685.00	27,323.39
Leaf Collection	54,997.00	42,356.34	*51,500.00	44,712.81
Total	\$ 251,985.00	165,591.50	\$ 251,988.00	241,790.48
<b>PARKS AND GROUNDS</b>				
Parks and Grounds	\$ 130,547.00	\$ 91,509.58	\$ 130,547.00	\$ 93,901.74
Cemeteries	14,893.00	5,924.19	14,893.00	10,994.45
Total	\$ 145,440.00	\$ 97,433.77	\$ 145,440.00	\$ 104,896.19

\*Reflects intradepartment transfer.

#### Police Department Overtime

- Comparison - April to March 2010
  - OT March \$ 43,635 (28 days of overtime)
  - OT April \$ 80,714 (2 holidays \$30,000 and 28 days overtime)
  - Total increase \$ 37,079
- With the increase in better weather comes the increase in crime and police presence, training increases and time off increases. All these factors have a direct impact on the total overtime for the department.
- Patrol Overtime reflects an increase of \$32,467 over March. Costs include two holidays resulting in \$22,000 in overtime. With the increase (more than double) of time-off from 14 days to 32 days overtime costs were \$13,000. Shift vacancies were \$3,000. Holdovers to cover situations that run into the next shift resulted in \$6,000 in overtime costs. These holdovers included responses to a liquor store robbery, bank robbery, prisoner detail, subpoenas, K9 tracking, serving of warrants, traffic court, domestics, bad checks, and a pedestrian accident.
- Detective Division Overtime of \$6,664 is an increase of \$3,033. This overtime includes one holiday for \$2,600 and investigations that include a suicide, robbery, fraud, surveillance, and bad checks. The department also received reimbursement for DEA expenses for overtime in the amount of \$3,310.
- Communications Overtime of \$8,332 is an increase of \$2,337. This overtime includes two holidays at \$3,200, and 14 days leave filled at overtime \$5,132.
- Education/Training Overtime of \$8,061 is a decrease of \$5,382, for various training classes, including ERT training, sniper training, Everbridge training for dispatchers, and State Attorney legal training.
- Support Services Overtime of \$5,330 is an increase of \$4,283. This overtime includes one holiday at \$1,100; and overtime for a Youth Council meeting, Teen Academy, Motor vehicle enforcement post; Wal-Mart event; child ID booth at the Newington High School, and ERT raid planning.
- Canine Overtime of \$832 is an increase of \$351. This overtime includes one holiday and three call outs.

#### PERSONNEL

- Peg Counihan, Library Technician, announced her retirement effective May, 2010. The job was posted internally with a closing date of April 30, 2010. No internal applications were received.
- Community Service Officer Mike Webster retired effective in April 30, 2010. The public job posting for a Certified Police Officer closed on April 9, 2010. Fifteen applications were received.

## **PURCHASING**

- 4/20/2010 - RFP No. 4, 2009-10, Professional Auditing Services was posted with a closing date of May 10.
- 4/26/2010 - RFP No. 5, 2009-10, Streetscape Improvements Phase IV Professional Services was posted with a closing date of May 13.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

### 2009-10 Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan Year

The ninth month of the 2009-10 plan year produced a combined paid claim total that was lower than those estimates that were developed at renewal. The monthly claims for the 2009-10 plan year were estimated at \$818,851. The total paid claims for March 2010 were \$678,931. The breakdown for the Town and Board of Education is as follows:

#### **Cumulative Claims through March 2010**

	<u>Town</u>	<u>Board of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Estimated Claims	1,671,543	5,698,116	7,369,659
Actual Claims	1,317,690	5,385,825	6,703,515

## **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

- The department completed the seasonal change of the HVAC systems for all Town buildings from winter to summer operating mode. All filter changes were completed and the Town Hall boiler was drained and flushed for the summer.
- The facilities group completed 38 formal work orders during the month of April at the various Town Buildings.
- The Library HVAC System upgrades project was awarded and the engineering firm has begun designs to replace one of the main air handlers for the Library, along with associated controls.
- Ongoing roof repairs over the Town Hall gymnasium continue on a monthly basis due to the failure of the roofing system. (No Change, leaks continue to occur in this area but are under control and considered minor since we have had no leaks during the recent heavy storms.)
- Several new overhead replacement doors were ordered for installation at the Town Garage during April and will be completed in the next weeks.
- New entrance doors were installed at the Ambulance building during March and major roof repairs were completed during April to eliminate the leaks into the day room area of the building.
- Work has begun on new cleaning contracts to be ready for bid at the beginning of June. These contracts will provide janitorial services for the Police Building, Library and Senior Center during the next several years.
- Both locker rooms at the Town Hall Parks and Recreation center were renovated during April and new lockers will be installed upon delivery in May to complete this project.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY**

- Logged 39 requests for service via the Internet, blocked 19,7000 unsolicited SPAM email messages from being delivered, blocked 967 virus/ Trojans from infecting the Town's network infrastructure and completed 118 formal work orders.
- The Town's website had approximately 32,842 visits during the month, 79,225 page views with an average of 2.49 pages viewed per visit. The Town Homepage, Library Homepage, Assessor's Homepage and Parks and Recreation Homepage were the most frequently visited pages.
- Provided various GIS mapping products to Town Planner and Town Engineer, and assisted with edits to the Town Plan of Conservation and Development.
- Mr. Thad Dymkowski, GIS Technician, made final modifications for mobile GIS/GPS application for road sign collection project for Highway Garage.
- Relocated computers at Fire Department Headquarters.
- Completed QA/QC of the 2009 CRCOG Aerial photograph GIS data set.

- Mr. Dymkowski attended an educational seminar hosted by ESRI on web GIS tools and deployment and Mr. Scott Hoagland, Application/ Network Specialist, attended a two day training session for the Building Department's new online permitting system.
- Installed memory upgrades and installed a test version of the new software application to be used on Building Department workstations.
- Mr. Hoagland and Mr. Dymkowski configured/ deployed new computers for the Engineering Department and Town Planner's Office.
- Mr. Hoagland and Mr. Neil David, Network Administrator/ Project Leader, worked with technicians from My Senior Center to resolve an issue with the My Senior Center application which is used at the Senior and Disabled Center.
- Continued efforts with trouble shooting issues with the phase one deployment of the new pay-for-print and user timed access system installed at the Library.
- Worked with the Town Clerk's vendor, Cott Systems, to update the property record application to the vendor's latest version.
- Worked with the Police Department's Computer Aided Dispatch system vendor to upgrade their application to the latest release.
- Updated the pool pass database for the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Additional WYSE thin client terminals were added to support remote desktop communications in the Facilities Department.
- Researched and ordered appropriate server hardware/ software to support a new video security system being installed within the Police Department that will integrate with a similar system installed at the Board of Education. Expansion of the system to include the Town Hall is expected to take place another a later time.
- Reconfigured redundant fiber optic links between Town Hall Telecommunications Rooms, Senior Disabled Center and Library.
- Installed and configured new "Draft N" Wireless network controller and access points in Town Hall.
- Installed and configured Desktop Management solution to inventory and update firmware on town workstations.

## **FINANCE**

### Accounting and Administration

- 2010-11 budget meetings were completed during the month.
- On April 15th, the Town's 2010-11 budget of \$97.1 million was adopted with a mill rate of 29.18.
- Changes to the 2010-11 annual budget and Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan documents got underway during the month.
- Proposals were received for the lease purchase financing of the single stream recycling containers at \$525,000. Of the seven responses, Chase Equipment Finance Inc. submitted the lowest rate of 2.58% for a five year term. Preparation of the documents commenced with May 21st set as a closing.
- The three year term for Town auditor has expired. As a result, an RFP for audit services was drafted and distributed on April 16th and are due on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Town's audit committee comprised of Chris Banach, Scott McBride and Dave Nagel will conduct interviews which are scheduled later in the month.

During the month the Town received the final payment of the ECS grant in the amount of \$5,430,956 and the Federal State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) for \$180,222. The Town received the following interest rates on investments. This list includes outstanding investments that are under the control of the Finance Department and includes the General Fund and other Town Funds.

### INVESTMENTS, BY ACCOUNTING TYPE

(Unaudited)  
4/30/2010

	<u>Interest Earnings</u>		<u>\$ Invested</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
	<u>FY2009-10</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
General Fund	\$375,000	\$151,536	\$42,189,274
Special Revenue Funds	34,630	5,738	1,605,459
Capital Projects Funds	635	1,294	445,199
Internal Service Fund	100,000	9,617	4,669,126
Trust and Agency Funds	16,000	3,979	1,615,372

TOTAL, ESTIMATED BY FUND

\$50,524,430

INVESTMENTS, BY INSTITUTION TYPE

(Unaudited)  
4/30/2010

	<u>Interest %</u>		<u>Interest \$</u>		<u>\$ Invested</u>
	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	
STIF	0.26	0.24	3,623	3,936	\$24,120,704
CLASS PLUS	0.20	0.18	630	577	4,157,873
Bank North	0.35	0.56	6,367	10,576	22,138,443
Sovereign Bank	0.20	0.22	18	19	107,410
Total Outstanding Investments					\$50,524,430

*Rates reflect avg. monthly yield, annualized*

Assessor

- Real estate deeds were read and entered in the computer assisted mass appraisal system through the end of April.
- Contracts were signed with Vision Appraisal to provide the Assessor with new CAMA software for use with the 2011 revaluation of all real estate.
- Required reports (M13 & M13A) were prepared and delivered to the State of Connecticut stating the final grand list for October 1, 2009 after changes from the Board of Assessment Appeals.
- Elderly applications were accepted for 80% of the eligible elderly homeowners.
- Income and Expense reports were received from approximately 50 property owners.

Revenue Collector

- Revenue Collections in April for Real Estate, Personal Property & Motor Vehicles amounted to \$265,368. The Supplemental Motor Vehicles collected were \$10,934 with additional \$61,030 collected for back taxes.
- April's collection rate equaled 98.7% which is comparable to the same time period last year.
- A total of 226 liens on real estate properties were filed on the land records with the Town Clerk.
- Corinne Aldinger, Revenue Collector contacted 55 real estate delinquent taxpayers directly regarding their overdue taxes.
- Office personnel assisted taxpayers by retrieving information for federal income tax filing purposes.

TOWN CLERK

- There were 535 documents processed during the month of April.
- 64 property sales totaling \$7,969,290 were conveyed.
- Four residential properties each sold for over \$300,000.
- Property at 44 Pane Road sold for \$330,000 from R & M Realty, LLC to 54 Pane Road, LLC.
- \$42,286.46 was collected in State conveyance tax and \$19,923 was collected in Town conveyance tax.
- 168 mortgages, 57 liens and 170 releases were processed.
- The office certified 142 copies of vital records. Eight burial permits and five cremation permits were issued.
- Six liquor permits and 8 Trade Name certificates were catalogued.
- As a result of many conversations between the Town Clerk and supervisory personnel at Cott Systems, Inc. during the past six months, our vendor for this land record indexing system agreed to send a representative to the Town Clerk's office (at no cost to the Town) on April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. During the visit, an upgrade was installed and hands-on training was provided to the staff. Employees were able to ask questions and receive clarification on many of the nuances within the system. This was a very productive endeavor providing much needed information and instruction.

	April-10	April-09	FY 09/10 to Date	FY 08/09 to Date
Land Record Documents	535	554	4311	3824
Dog Licenses Sold	17	16	474	509
Game Licenses Sold	205	150	1177	1215
Vital Statistics				
Marriages	9	8	155	162
Death Certificates	29	39	242	264
Birth Certificates	20	19	191	170
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 36,566.22	\$ 38,653.38	\$377,607.60	\$424,245.86
Town Document Preservation	\$ 934.00	\$ 1,012.00	\$ 9,118.00	\$ 9,297.00
State Document Preservation	\$ 934.00	\$ 1,018.00	\$ 9,066.00	\$ 9,319.00
State Treasurer (\$26 fee)	\$ 16,812.00	\$ 13,078.00	\$162,942.00	\$107,978.00
Locip	\$ 1,401.00	\$ 1,509.00	\$ 13,581.00	\$ 13,599.00
State Game Licenses	\$ 3,437.00	\$ 2,632.00	\$ 12,152.50	\$ 21,023.50
State Dog Licenses	\$ 171.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 2,929.00	\$ 21,529.50
Dog Licenses Surcharge	\$ 48.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 1,062.00	\$ 1,145.00
Marriage Surcharge	\$ 152.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 2,933.00	\$ 1,977.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 60,455.22</b>	<b>\$ 58,349.38</b>	<b>\$591,391.10</b>	<b>\$610,113.86</b>

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Police Officer Michael Webster's last day with the Police Department after 20 years of dedicated service was April 30<sup>th</sup>. A farewell reception was held for him at the department on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The Certified Police Officer process is underway with a written exam scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup>. Sixteen applicants will be testing. At the present time, the department has one opening due to the retirement of Officer Michael Webster.
- A request was made for the reimbursement of \$11,830 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for the DUI Enforcement Grant. Patrolling and Sobriety check points were set up on the Berlin Turnpike from January thru March. A total of 5 DUI arrests were made, 2 arrests for seatbelts, 72 other motor vehicle arrests and 2 drug arrests.
- A request was made with the Department of Justice for the reimbursement of 50% of the costs associated with replacement bulletproof vests for the amount of \$1,235.
- A request was made for the reimbursement of dispatcher training from the State of Connecticut, Public Safety Department for \$668 for a course on Emergency Medical Dispatching.
- Reimbursement was received for \$22,107 for the purchase of a new Ford Crown Victoria cruiser under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This vehicle is in the set up stages and will be street ready in May.
- Patrol Calls for April were as follows:

<b>Patrol Calls April, 2010</b>					
Alarm Burglary	98	F/Hazmat	1	MVA Evading	15
Alarm Hold-up	4	Fire/COnoSymptoms	0	MVA Fatal	0
Animal Complaint	21	Fire/COSymptoms	0	MVA Injury	11
Arson	0	Fire/Other	14	MVA Property	90
Assault IP	2	Fire/Structure	8	Neighbor Dispute	7
Assault Report	5	Fire/Vehicle	1	Noise Complaint	17
Assist	35	Fire/Water	0	Notification	5
Bad Check NSF	0	Fingerprints	28	Open Door/Window	6

Bike Found	0	Fireworks Complaint	1	Parking Violation	19
Bike Lost	0	Follow-up Invest	71	Property Found	2
BOLO	2	Gun Call	0	Property Lost	1
Breach of Peace IP	12	Harassment	21	Recovered MV	0
Breach Of Peace Rpt	3	Hazardous Condition	31	Robbery IP	0
Burglary IP	1	Homicide	0	Robbery Report	1
Burglary Report	6	Illegal Dumping	6	Serve Subpoena	0
Car Seat Install	7	Indecent Exposure	3	Serve Warrant	30
Check the Welfare	63	Intoxicated Person	9	Sexual Assault Report	1
Clear Lot	11	Juvenile Complaint	31	Shots Fired	0
Court Detail	21	K9	10	Special Detail	72
Criminal Mischief Graffiti	9	Landlord/Tenant	3	Stolen MV	9
Criminal Mischief IP	2	Larceny from MV	16	Sudden Death	3
Criminal Mischief Rpt	15	Larceny IP	18	Suicide	1
CSO Detail	14	Larceny Report	47	Suicide Attempt	1
Customer Dispute IP	10	Liquor	1	Suspicious Person	87
Customer Dispute Rpt	3	Location/Directed Ptl	100	Suspicious MV Occ	25
Dog Complaint	42	Lockout MV	1	Suspicious MV Unocc	8
Domestic Dispute	39	Lockout Residence	1	Threatening IP	1
Drug Investigation	3	Medical	185	Threatening Report	2
DUI	8	Missing Person	8	Town Ordinance Vio	1
Emotionally Disturbed Person	17	MV Assist	53	Traffic Stop	763
Escort	25	MV Complaint	51	Trespass IP	2
F/Alarm	20	MV Abandoned	2	Trespass Report	2
				TOTAL	2,311

#### Patrol Investigations

- An evening shift arrest of an individual for a strong arm robbery that occurred outside a Dunkin Donuts Shop on the Berlin Turnpike. The individual confronted a customer that was about to enter the shop, pushed the customer against the building and stole money out of his hand. The individual fled on foot and was apprehended a short while later.

#### Detective Division

- Handled 112 investigations, 64 remain ongoing and 48 were closed by investigative methods.
- Arrested a suspect on charges of Larceny in the First Degree and forty counts of Forgery in the Second Degree. The arrest was the result of an investigation conducted by Detectives which alleges that the suspect embezzled funds in excess of \$100,000.00 from the Newington Volunteer Ambulance Corps where he served as the Treasurer of the Board of Directors. The suspect was released on a \$25,000.00 surety bond and is scheduled to appear in New Britain Superior Court.
- Arrested a suspect in connection with an Armed Robbery of the Dunkin Donuts that occurred in November, 2009. The arrest was the result of an ongoing investigation by Detectives resulting in an arrest warrant. The suspect was charged with Robbery First Degree, Criminal Use of a Firearm and Larceny in the Sixth Degree. The suspect was processed and turned over to State Marshals pending arraignment.
- Assisted Federal Agents of the Social Security Administration and US Immigration & Customs in executing a Federal arrest warrant on an identity theft suspect. The arrest was the result of an identity theft investigation conducted by Newington Detectives that developed the suspect. The suspect is currently being held at York Correctional Center in Niantic and faces deportation.
- Received another CODIS "DNA" hit on an item of evidence that Detectives collected at the scene of a home invasion. The DNA match was used as evidence against the suspect who is currently in custody. This evidence will be used in court and the suspect faces a long prison term as a violent repeat sexual offender. This incident is currently under investigation.
- Arrested a suspect for Failing to Register as a Sex Offender. The suspect was previously convicted of Sexual Assault 1st Degree against a Minor and was required to register as a convicted sex offender. After an investigation into the facts, it was determined that the suspect was not in compliance with the sexual offender registration requirements. The suspect was charged with Failure to Register as a Sexual Offender and held on a \$20,000.00 court set bond. He is scheduled to appear in New Britain Superior Court.

- The Juvenile Officer continues to investigate 3 juvenile sexual assault cases among other ongoing investigations.
- Processed 7 crime scenes, in some cases collecting DNA, fingerprints and other items of evidence.
- Served 31 arrest warrants, 18 by Patrol Officers and 13 by Detective Division personnel.

Community Service Officers (CSO)

- Taught the “Step Up” program to 5<sup>th</sup> graders at St. Mary’s School. The “Step Up” Program encompasses internet safety, bullying, tobacco use, alcohol and drug abuse plus the core values of Respect, Responsibility and Accountability. The CSO’s also taught the “Play By The Rules” program which focuses on law and citizenship education to St. Mary’s 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Conducted a “Teen Police Academy” for members of the Newington chapter of the Venture Crew program for teen boys. The classes of 10-12 participants were held at the police station and encompassed lecture, demonstrations and hands-on experience. The type of topics covered were: crime scene processing, criminal law, police authority, Taser, motor vehicle stop procedures, use of laser and radar for speed detection and vehicle pursuits.
- Spoke with and gave a tour of the police station to Newington Daisy Troop a group of about 17 members of the Newington Daisy Troop as part of their respect authority badge.
- Conducted an “Officer Friendly” program at Anna Reynolds School for four kindergarten classes. Also conducted a bicycle safety class at Anna Reynolds School for the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Conducted motor vehicle enforcement at various locations throughout town using both marked and unmarked vehicles. As always speed enforcement was a main focus.

**R/NIBRS Selected Crimes**

**March 2010**

**March 2009**

Type of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime
Murder	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Forcible Rape	1	-0-	2	-0-
Robbery	2	5,263	1	40
Assault	11	-0-	16	-0-
Burglary	11	34,165	9	6,039
Larceny Theft	62	28,084	52	16,790
Auto Theft	4	12,000	-0-	-0-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>79,512</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>22,869</b>

- In March 2010 the police department arrested 78 adults: 2 for robbery, 13 for assaults, 2 for burglary, 3 for vandalism, 8 for narcotic violations, 7 for offenses against family & children, 13 for DUI, 17 for larcenies, and 18 for other miscellaneous offenses. The department also arrested or referred 11 persons under the age of 18: 3 for assaults, 5 for larcenies, 1 for DUI, and 2 for all other offenses.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

During this period fire department members responded to 63 alarms or emergencies. A summary of these alarms and a manpower response breakdown is detailed below:

	<b>April 2010</b>	<b>10 Month Total</b>
Residential	22	171
Commercial, Industrial, Office	4	42
Hospital, School	0	7
Vehicle	2	16
Rescue, Police Assistance	5	18
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass, Brush, Leaves	4	27
Hazardous Materials/Clean up	1	18
Investigative Alarm	24	210
False Alarm	0	0
Mutual Aid/Standby	1	5
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	0	7
Water Related Incidents/Pump-Outs	0	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>540</b>



### Training Summary

		Members	Hours
Multi-Company Training	Live Fire Training – Tower	82	287
Officer Training	Review: Red Plan, Task Force Plan, Task Force 51 Plan, Basement Fires	27	81
Company Training	Maze Drill	40	120
On-Line Training	Blood Borne Pathogens, Driver Safety, Fire Streams, Fire Behavior, PPE	n/a	n/a
Total			488

#### Cadets Activities & Training

- Three new cadets: Alex Sierra and Salvatore Garofalo (Co.#2) and Mike Petruzzulo (Co.#1)
- SCBA Training & Searching: Use of the Cascade System and Bottle Fill, Air Pack training and 45 second drill, Searching while wearing SCBA
- Tower Training: All cadets went through the Fire Tower Burn Room while wearing SCBA, controlled burn under the supervision of two State Certified Instructors, development of smoke stages and thermal barriers
- Hydrants: learned about Hydrant Hook-ups using 5" LDH and the New Britain Hydrant system. Trouble shooting problem hydrants: Broken and frozen ones
- Monthly meetings & clean-ups both at Co.#5 and at their respective houses, participation in department training sessions.

#### **FIRE MARSHAL**

- The Fire Marshal's Office completed the following activities during the month of April:

Inspections	22
Inspection Follow-Ups	35
Plan Review	05
Job Site Inspections	06
Underground Tank Removal	02
Fire Investigations	03
Fire Alarm Trouble	02
Complaints	02
Haz/Mat	00
Bomb Threats	00
Blasting	00

The Fire Marshal's Office completed the following activities during the month of April 2010.

#### Incidents:

- There were no significant fire incidents or injuries reported during the month.

#### Meetings/Training:

- Fire Marshal Schroeder attended the monthly meeting of the Newington Code Enforcement Team at town hall.
- Fire Marshal Schroeder and Deputies Muisener, Pelletier and Rusbarsky attended the Annual Connecticut Fire Marshals Association Educational Conference in Cromwell. Topic included: Cell Phone Use as an Investigation Tool. Warehouse Fire investigations and Maintain Your Professional Image.
- Fire Marshal Schroeder attended the monthly meeting of the Newington Board of Fire Commissioners.
- Fire Marshal attended the monthly town hall staff meeting at police headquarters.

#### Fire Prevention/Public Education:

- Personnel provided fire extinguisher training to the first and second shift employees at the MTU Corporation on Richard Street.
- Personnel conducted a fire prevention program for the children of the V.A. Medical Center employees on "Take your child to work day".

### Emergency Management:

- Fire Marshal Schroeder attended a Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security training session to review plans to develop a Continuation of Operations Plan (COOP) for town government. Representatives from the Engineering, Finance and the Police Departments also attended.
- Fire Marshal Schroeder conducted the quarterly meeting of the Newington Local Emergency Planning Committee at police headquarters.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

### Administration

- Attended Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting
- Attended Environmental Quality Control Commission meeting

### Roadway Maintenance

- Crews completed annual street sweeping of all town roads and schools, patching of potholes and curb pick up.
- Highway crews began the reconstruction of Mountainview Drive including assisting in tree removal along with the installation of roadway under drain and catch basin improvements.
- Continue with landfill organization and material maintenance
- Assisted Traffic Division replacing/repairing signs
- Continued with Town wide roadside tree trimming
- Crews continued with the repair of designated catch basins and completed patching and catch basin repair at all Town schools
- Crews completed major patching projects utilizing paving box on Miami Ave, Groveland Terr., Griswoldville Ave. and Kitts Ln.

### Traffic Division

- Assisted Police Department with speed box relocation
- Continued with the replacement of damaged regulatory signs along with street signs with the assistance of highway personnel
- Continued with the preparation and maintenance of painting equipment for line striping, painted crosswalks and handicapped markings at various locations
- Assist contracted vendor with traffic control for crack sealing various locations.

### Fleet Maintenance

- Continued with spring services of Fire Department apparatus
- Continued with seasonal maintenance of Parks and Grounds equipment
- Mechanics continued with new vehicle and equipment setups for Police, Fire and Highway departments.
- Began spring services of highway equipment and continued with all preventative maintenance schedules for Town fleet
- Performed fleet emergency and unscheduled repairs as needed

### Sanitation/Recycling/Landfill

- Scheduled 982 residential bulk items for collection, 148 condominium bulk items for collection and 34 condo/residential scrap metal items for collection
- 6,770 tons of cumulative Residential Municipal Solid Waste was collected from July 1 — March 31, 2010
- 1,644 tons of cumulative recyclables was collected from July 1 - February 28, 2010
- Issued 94 permanent landfill permits and 32 temporary permits

## **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

- During the month of April, the Engineering Department issued forty excavation permits as follows:
  - 20 Driveway/curb cut excavations
  - 18 Gas lateral services
  - 1 Sanitary lateral
  - 1 Telephone lateral
- Monitored progress of contractor working on the Kelsey/Church Street Project. During the month the contractor completed all drainage improvements.

- Procured existing grades and developed new grades and alignment adjustments for the reconstruction of Mountain View Road.
- Field inspected Waverly Drive and developed new site bond for uncompleted work to be accomplished by the developer.
- Finalized a request for proposal to procure engineering design services needed for the Market Square streetscape project.
- Monitored progress of contractor working on the Municipal Parking lot and prepared several schematics for resolving drainage issues on the easterly side.

## **TOWN PLANNER**

### **Municipal Parking Lot Improvement Project**

The Downtown Revitalization Committee met April 19<sup>th</sup> to review the progress of Phase I (west side) construction and Phase II (east side) budget and schedule. On the west side all concrete sidewalks and curbing work is complete and landscape plantings were installed in the center green and islands. The Committee voted to eliminate the decorative stamped asphalt at the center green crosswalk for a net cost savings of \$59,356. Also eliminated was an area of brick pavers saving \$5,100. The Committee directed Town Staff to work with the project engineer to design a landscape bed around the large dumpster enclosed on the west side lot. For the east side staff is recommending value engineering items that will save approximately \$19,000. The project engineer, BL Companies will prepare a change order for the east side Phase II improvements. This construction will begin once the final pavement course and all traffic control signage are completed. The change order for Phase II will have a September 1, 2010 substantial completion date.

### **Draft 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)**

The TPZ continued its public hearings on draft three of the 2020 POCD. Commission Chairman Dave Pruett and Town Planner Ed Meehan made a power point presentation to the Town Council on April 27<sup>th</sup> and answered questions on the procedural requirements for Town Council's review and comment on the draft plan. A similar power point presentation was made on April 28<sup>th</sup> as part of the Commission's public hearing; approximately forty-five residents attended this hearing.

### **Open Space Committee**

The Open Space Committee met on April 1<sup>st</sup> and continued to discuss options for protecting Cedar Mountain, particularly the 28 acre Marcap LLC parcel. On April 6<sup>th</sup> Committee Chairman Bowen participated in a meeting with the Town Manager and Marcap LLC property owners to discuss the Committee's proposal to apply for a DEP Land and Water Conservation grant for open space acquisition of the Marcap LLC property. The owners were not receptive to the Town's proposal and the appraisals necessary to apply for this state funding were not undertaken. The Committee held a special meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss alternate options for securing public open space on Cedar Mountain and on April 13<sup>th</sup>, in executive session, met with Town Council to express its recommendations.

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

- There was one permit issued for a new residential single family home to be built at 144 Main Street.
- A building permit was issued for work to be done at the Newington High School to renovate the chemistry lab #107.
- Seminars attended by our Inspectors for their continuing education credit were:
  - D. Jourdan: Two day training for the new Permit Tracking System – April 6–7, 2010
  - A. Cerniglia: Two day training for the new Permit Tracking System – April 20-21, 2010
  - R. Smith: Electrical Code Requirements for Commercial and Residential Buildings – April 15, 2010
  - Hanke: Electrical Code Requirements for Commercial and Residential Buildings – April 15, 2010, Swimming Pool Code – April 28, 2010
- There were three Certificates of Occupancy issued in April, all for commercial. They were for the Holy Spirit Church renovations, 183 Church Street, 192R Market Square – Patz Driving School and 262 Brockett Street Unit E – Sculptures Salon.
- Building Department Inspectors completed a total of 236 inspections as follows: alarm (3), co (20), code (4), complaint (1), decks (2), electrical (74), fire block (1), fire dampers (1), fire wall (1), footings (5), foundation (2), framing (15), gas fireplace (1), gas line (9), gypsum (5), hot water heaters (4), insulation (7), mechanical (25), piers (1), plumbing (20), pools (3), roofing (5), rough (17), sheetrock (1), site visit (5), sprinkler (2), tank (1), wood / pellet stove (1).
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- The total number of Building/Renovation Permits issued for the month of April was 150 producing a total permit value of **\$2,219,573.00**. They are categorized as follows:

<u>TYPE OF PERMIT</u>	<u># OF PERMITS</u>	<u>VALUE OF PERMITS</u>
ADDITIONS /ALTERATIONS	21	840,999.00
DECK	6	23,435.00
DEMOLITION	2	7,200 .00
ELECTRICAL	32	104,322.00
FENCE	0	0.00
FIRE SUPPRESSION / SPRINKLER	1	1,800.00
FOOTING / FOUNDATION	0	0.00
FUEL TANK	2	1,860.00
GARAGE / SHED	3	14,060.00
MECHANICAL	19	414,679.00
NEW COMMERCIAL	0	0.00
NEW RESIDENTIAL	1	469,000.00
PLUMBING	14	24,165.00
POOL	4	11,049.00
ROOFING / SIDING	42	294,404.00
SIGN	2	5,000.00
TENT	1	7,600.00
TRAILER	0	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>\$ 2,219,573.00</b>

- The total Building income fees received in the month of April was **\$24,988.00**
- The total fees for other income were as follows: Town Planning and Zoning (Applications/Publications) \$1330.00, Environmental \$240.00, Conservation \$0.00, Zoning Board of Appeals \$75.00, Copies, Books and Maps \$145.50, Driveway / Excavation \$3325.00, Engineering copies \$394.50. The other total income is \$5510.00
- Below is a comparison of the Permit Values for April 2010 and April 2009:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Value of Permits issued for April:	\$2,219,573.00	\$748,276.00
Fees for Permits issued for April	\$24,988.00	\$10,160.00
Other income Fees for April	\$5510.00	\$3129.00
Building Permits Issued for April:	150	105

- Total Value of Permits and Permit Fees for the Fiscal Year:

<u>2009-2010</u>		<u>2008-2009</u>	
<u>Value</u>	<u>Permit Fee</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Permit Fee</u>
\$22,681,527.00	\$200,275.00	\$40,019,883.00	\$442,304.00

### **HUMAN SERVICES**

- Human Services held its annual Volunteer Recognition program with 80 attendees. Over 125 residents and numerous local organizations volunteer for Department programs including Food Bank, Holiday Food, Toy and Gift, Clothing Closet, Youth Mentoring, ICAN, Boards and Commissions and Community Service Projects.
- ICAN (Interfaith Community Action of Newington) supported Earth Day activities by washing and cleaning the Playscape at Mill Pond Park on April 24. In addition, the Rotary Club provided yard work to three homeowners with disabilities as part of their community service day.
- The Youth-Adult Council awarded three scholarships to graduating high school students and is exploring a mentoring program for at risk and special need children and youth.

- The Human Rights Commission met and discussed several programs for next year including booths at the Extravaganza and Waterfall Festival, teaming with the Library to offer a Storyteller and preliminary planning for next year's Newington's Got Talent.
- The Department received 551 information and referral calls or walk-ins this month. Energy Assistance questions and concerns topped the list of requested information and assistance. Other issues included day care, elder care, housing, financial and medical assistance, youth programs among others.
- Staff processed 11 applications for energy assistance funded by Operation Fuel.
- The Food Bank assisted 130 households with 76 residents over age 55 and 209 under age 55. The Outdoor Market for food bank recipients served 154 households on two days this month. The Special Needs Fund assisted 13 households and the Clothing Closet served 24.
- The Social Casework Program handled a caseload of 101 with 24 new referrals. Staff continues to handle a variety of referrals with presenting issues from residents of all ages including energy, financial, medical, mental health, substance abuse, housing and domestic conflict. Routine and crisis referrals were also received from Police.
- The Youth and Family Counseling Program had an active caseload of 58 with 10 new referrals, 10 inactive and 10 closed. Staff and contractors provided 143 clinical therapy sessions and made 111 contacts with families and other agencies.
- Clinical Coordinator Christina Salvio is working closely with school administrators, counselors, psychologists, social workers, police and court probation officers. She regularly provides clinical consultation regarding at-risk children and sees several youth for counseling at the schools.
- Positive youth development programs and activities provided by staff and contractors involved 414 youth this month.
- The SCORE after-school program completed its winter/spring cycle with outdoor and indoor rock climbing, canoeing, horseback riding, and several days on the outdoor adventure challenge ropes course. Additional programs included Bowling, Lunch and a Movie; Mini-Golf and Go-Karts; and Empower Leadership Sports & Adventure Center.
- A special community building program was held at Martin Kellogg Middle School on April 30 with the entire 5<sup>th</sup> grade class participating. Youth Workers Rik Huggard and Michelle Pestillo along with CCSU Student Intern Abigail Perez facilitated three sessions of challenge activities on the theme of creating a positive learning and social environment at the school.
- On April 19, the Newington High School Adventure Club went rock climbing at Wolf Rock in Mansfield CT.
- The High School Self-Awareness group climbed Talcott Mountain in Simsbury and Cedar Ridge Look-Out in Penwood Forest. They also spent a day on the outdoor challenge ropes course. The group will complete their adventure series with a canoe trip to Bigelow Hollow in May.
- The Summer Youth Adventure brochure was distributed to the schools and is available at Human Services, Library, Parks and Recreation and on the website.

#### April 2010 Statistics

Selected Programs	FY 09-10 Undp. Total This Month	FY 09-10 Undp. Total Last Month	FY 09-10 Cum. Undp. Total YTD	FY 08-09 Cum. Undp. Total YTD
<b>Youth and Family Counseling</b>	58	53	134	153
<b>Positive Youth Development</b>	414	196	2216	2866
<b>Youth Works (Job Bank)</b>	7	4	37	45
<b>Information and Referral</b>	551	528	4499	3565
<b>Social Casework Cases</b>				
<b>Under 55 = 60</b>	101	109	59	257
<b>Over 55 = 41</b>				
<b>Food Bank Households</b>	130	141	1098	1123
<b>Special Needs</b>	13	7	24	181

#### **SENIOR AND DISABLED CENTER**

- April 16<sup>th</sup> was National Health Care Decisions Day and the Center celebrated with a presentation by Attorney Paul Czepiga of Czepiga Daly Dillman. The day was established to promote the use of advance directives.

- Also on April 16<sup>th</sup>, National Honor Society students from the Hartford Magnet Middle School transformed the Center's auditorium as they presented the first Senior Prom. The event was very well received by both the students and the older adults who attended and will hopefully become an annual event.
- Both the House and Senate passed a bill to exempt the records of participants of Senior Centers from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. The Governor is expected to sign Public Act 10-17 before the legislative session ends. Center Director Dianne Stone testified in support of this legislation at the Capitol.
- Twenty five people vied for prizes on April 23<sup>rd</sup> as contestants on The Price is Right. Using the very true to T.V. Wii Edition, this has become a popular event at the Center.
- Tina Bradbury from Newington Health Care Center led a free Grapevine Wreath workshop on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The annual AARP Tax Aide program wrapped up this month with 241 returns completed and filed by the tax deadline. This volunteer led program has transitioned completely to electronic returns and, through the work of the IT Department, all preparers were able to e-file.
- After failing two inspections, the Center replaced a large refrigerator that likely came with the building in the kitchen with a new 49 cu. ft. unit.
- The Center is gearing up for its annual membership renewal drive.
- The Center currently has 1844 paid members, an increase of 9 from last month. An additional 450 people are registered for services (i.e. Dial-A-Ride, social work). Almost 50% of the people registered are 75 years of age or under.
- A total of 966 hours of volunteer service was recorded by 74 volunteers in the month. Due to a system error, not all hours were recorded.
- There were 53 programs offered by the Center in the month with some one time programs and others ongoing with a total recorded attendance of 2668. Actual attendance is higher as many participants still do not sign in.
- Dial-A-Ride provided 1,331 trips in the month covering 3,891 miles. This includes a special trip to The Christmas Tree Shop.
- Through a grant from the Department of Transportation, the Injury Prevention Center of CCMC's Trauma Institute began offering Safe Driving Screenings for older adults using a tool developed by the AAA. Center Director Dianne Stone served on a steering committee for the pilot project that also includes the Central Connecticut Health District and other area Senior Centers.
- The demand for information and referral and social services remains high. Programs that are actively enrolling clients include ConnPACE, Energy Assistance, the Medicare Savings Program and, through the Assessor's Office, the Circuit Breaker Program.
- Nurse Practitioner Stacie Zibel had 109 patient visits in the Monday Wellness Clinics this month. In addition Ms. Zibel saw 12 patients in senior housing sites

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

### **Administrative**

- Bruce Till, Superintendent, conducted interviews for seasonal and part-time positions to work in the Parks & Grounds Department.
- Mr. Till worked with two Eagle Scout candidates involving community projects and worked with members of the Rotary Club on two projects
- Mr. Till met with school business manager to discuss Board of Education summer projects.
- Mr. Till met with representatives of Newington Midget Football to discuss issues with their upcoming fall program.
- Met with Parks & Grounds Foreman, Recreation Supervisors & Special Events Coordinator on a weekly basis.

### **Recreation Division**

- Most spring programs began the week of April 5. Many new bus trips were offered this Spring and have been very popular. New classes included "On the Ball" (adult fitness program), "Zumba Gold" (Zumba for older adults) and "Preschool & Parent" swim lessons for 3-5 year olds and their parents. Both of the latter programs were huge successes, with completed full rosters.
- For the second year, Parks and Recreation is offering spring swim lessons on Monday and Wednesday nights to accommodate those looking for lessons before the Summer begins.
- Interviews were completed for summer Aquatics staff positions.
- Registration for the 2010-2011 school year at our Creative Playtime Preschool Program is ongoing.

- Recreation Supervisor Sharon Glasson continued to have a presence at the Senior Center on Thursday mornings throughout the month.
- The Summer Program Guide was completed and is scheduled to be distributed to Newington residents in May.
- Jodi Lee organized and attended the Family Fishing Derby which was held on Saturday, April 24, with about 100 children in attendance. This event was a great success due to help from organizations including Trout Unlimited and the MDC.
- An additional 16 garden plots were made available to residents at the Community Gardens located at Young Farm—all 86 available garden plots have been filled with new or existing gardeners.
- J. Lee attended an Extravaganza meeting on Tuesday, April 20, and also with M. Udice and K. Leggo regarding the entertainment for the Extravaganza and B. Tofeldt regarding the publicity for the Extravaganza.
- J. Lee has been planning and organizing the players and sponsors for the 12th Annual P&R Golf Tournament.
- J. Lee secured bands for the 2010 summer concert series.
- Residents may now borrow sports equipment from the Department for weekend picnics or events for a nominal \$20 (refundable) fee.
- A dance for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students was held on Friday, April 9th with over 200 students from Martin Kellogg and John Wallace in attendance.
- Recreation Supervisor Gallicchio met with umpires and team captains on April 15 to finalize details for Men's and Women's softball leagues.

#### Parks & Grounds

- The Midget Football field was repaired from last year's test pits that were dug and had settled over the winter. The field was then over seeded and fertilized.
- Preparation of ballfields and field painting were our primary focus for this month with about 40 fields put online.
- Volunteer Field (Little League) had 1,500 square feet of sod installed in preparation for opening day.
- Scholastic sports, baseball, lacrosse, softball and track started early in the month, and the town sports leagues, baseball, lacrosse and soccer started the third Saturday in April.
- Irrigation startups and repairs as well as the opening of town restrooms and bath houses occupied Lester Daigle, Park Mechanic II, for most of the month.
- The mowing season started a couple of weeks early this year with the mowers out the first week in April.
- Wethersfield and Town forces took down several large trees in Town (Mountain View Drive) and staff had to pick-up and haul many of the larger pieces to the landfill.
- Mulching of the flower beds in town was started as well as West Meadow Cemetery and the Town Hall.
- Parks Mechanic II, Lester Daigle aided in the power washing of the Mill Pond Playscape with Social Services and also helped the Boy Scouts with the pressure washing of the Center Cemetery Fence. This was done in preparation for a few more work days that will include priming and painting the fence.
- Work has begun on the eight soft surface tennis courts at Mill Pond.
- There were 10 interments in town cemeteries during April.
- Division personnel were offline a total of 20.75 days.

#### LIBRARY

- Elizabeth Berman, a designer at Kaestle Boos Associates made another presentation to the Library Board at their April meeting. After further input from them and others, another revision was made. Pre-design estimates are being worked up now. The project remains on track to be complete and ready for presentation to the Town Council in June.
- Circulation of library materials was 34,119. 20,869 people entered the building during the month. 36,850 reference books were accessed remotely, and 6,824 online searches were completed in the Library. The children's book sites *Tumblebooks*, *BookFlix* and *PebbleGo* were used 350 times. 127 books were downloaded from the Library's website for a total of 71,446 items borrowed or used by library patrons. 1,230 items were added to the collection, and 327 items were mended by volunteers who logged in 141 hours doing this task as well as many other behind the scenes processing tasks.
- April services for children included 65 programs to a combined audience of 1,616. The *Parent/Child Workshop* met four times during April. Resource professionals in attendance were a dental hygienist, speech and language pathologist, and a behavior analyst. Many questions were fielded and advice and

referrals given at this series for parents and their pre-school children. Many field trips from Newington elementary school classes were conducted. Even Kindergarten visits have a virtual component to them now, as students and teachers are taught how to use ebooks and other resources offered on the Library's website. Library staff presents a blend of print formats as well as electronic formats as they instruct and entertain on the use of the public library and its resources.

- April school vacation activities include a visit by author Eric Wight, an Earth Day program, *Circus Arts*, and a program on healthy cooking entitled *Good Eats*. Usage of the 30 free or reduced price admission passes for museums, purchased by the Friends, was heavy during April; passes were borrowed 100 times.
- The Library's Facebook page now has 227 fans, a slight increase from last month. 5,752 reference questions were answered at both the Children's and Adult Information desks.
- Ten programs were held for adults to a combined audience of 252. A full bus travelled to NYC on a Saturday, courtesy of the Friends. Greek cooking and a screening of Hal Holbrook's one man show *Mark Twain Tonight!* were some of the many highlights. Jay Bergman, of CCSU offered an informative and entertaining glimpse into the life of Russian scientist and dissident Andre Sakharov. The history professor and Newington resident recently completed a book about the man.
- Teens met for their monthly Anime Club. The Teen Volunteer Network continues to be put to good use, as teens helped out during school vacation for children's programs. Teen librarians are preparing to speak to ninth and tenth grade language arts classes about summertime reading and events, a new venture.
- Two excellent programs for job seekers were held in April as part of that ongoing series. *Coping With Job Loss* and *Portfolio Power* had good attendance, and the accompanying support groups met as well. Arrangements have been made for the continuation of the Excel and Word classes for job seekers during the months of July and August. A volunteer teaches these classes.
- A new reference service was rolled out in April- *Text A Librarian*. Patrons now have the option of texting a reference question to the Library from their phones. Tutorials and publicity were produced, and a lengthy article in the Newington Town Crier helped to get the word out about this handy service.
- Topics of interest that were researched this month included:
  - Biography of Shaka Zulu for children.
  - Slavery in 1850's Canada for children.
  - Number of troops and number of deaths at the Battle of the Alamo.
  - The effects of sleep deprivation on the human body.
  - Organic housekeeping products.
- After being informed that technology grants are being made available through the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, work began on the application process. An upgrade of the network infrastructure, the addition of laptop computers, as well as training funding is the hoped for result of this endeavor.
- The Friends' booksale began on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and will continue through the weekend. This major fundraiser which will take place at the Senior and Disabled Center. The Newington Library 5K Challenge will take place on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning and ending at the Mill Pond Waterfall.
- In personnel issues, long-time Library Technician Peg Counihan announced her retirement as of May 17, 2010. The position that she is vacating has been posted to AFSCME Local 2930 staff.
- The annual Volunteer Breakfast was held during April. Staff members prepared delicious food and honored the many behind-the-scenes volunteers who give countless hours of work and dedication to help the Library achieve its mission.