

This year there were 23 burials (including cremations). A trailer is close to being complete that will house all the materials to prepare for a burial. This will eliminate the need to load and offload the truck with these materials each time there is a burial.

We are grateful to the Community Preservation Committee for subsidizing the restoration of markers at the older cemeteries. Lower Village Cemetery is almost complete, and then the restoration will continue at Hillside Cemetery.

We are still working on finalizing a land purchase that was voted on at Town Meeting.

The Committee would like to thank Superintendent Robb (GH) Gledhill for the outstanding work he does in maintaining all three cemeteries. We would also like to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and all the townspeople who supported us during this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

William E. Clayton  
Fred Dodge, Chair  
Roy A. Dudley

Stephen A. Gray, Associate

Robb (GH) Gledhill, Superintendent

### **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 was the tenth year of collections and state matching grants. In October 2011 Stow was awarded \$172,219 – a 39.64 percent match – greatly increasing our community's ability to take action in the three specified areas. State matching funds have been awarded each year in which Stow has participated (over \$2.6 million in state matching funds awarded to date). Community Preservation funds are deposited in a locally controlled, interest-bearing account. Additionally, Stow has earned over \$600,000 in interest on Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds since adoption in 2001.

Pursuant to the adoption of the CPA in May 2001, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) was formed to develop a Community Preservation Plan and to oversee implementation of the CPA in Stow. The CPC's role is to study the existing resources of the town, identify critical needs, evaluate various options for addressing those needs, and recommend specific projects for Town Meeting consideration. All projects recommended by the CPC also must be approved by a majority vote at Town Meeting before expenditures can be made from Stow's Community Preservation Fund.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2011, Town Meeting voters approved Community Preservation warrant articles for appropriating funds for administrative purposes (\$30,000) and for making the annual reserves and adjustments required under the Community Preservation Act: Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes (\$61,450), Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land (\$61,450), and Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing (\$61,450).

The CPC looks forward to working with others to implement additional Community Preservation projects selected by Town Meeting voters. The prospect of receiving significant state matching funds appears promising for 2012. Stow voters are to be commended for deciding ten years ago to be one of first of the 148 communities in Massachusetts (representing more than one third of the Commonwealth) that are accruing the many and varied benefits of local adoption of the Community Preservation Act.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), MGL c.44B, was enacted into legislation on September 14, 2000. The goal of the Community Preservation Act is to provide communities with the means to expand their ability to pursue and implement projects that preserve or enhance their quality of life. Under this legislation, municipalities may opt to participate by adopting a property tax surcharge to create a locally-controlled Community Preservation Fund. The state provides a match, up to a maximum of 100 percent, depending on what percentage surcharge is adopted and the number of communities participating statewide. The Community Preservation Fund can be used to fund projects related to the acquisition and preservation of open space, the creation and support of affordable housing, and the acquisition and preservation of historic buildings, landscapes and documents.

Stow voters accepted the provisions of the CPA at the Town Meeting in May of 2001. At the subsequent Annual Town Election, Stow voters opted to enact a property tax surcharge of 3 percent to create the Stow Community Preservation Fund. Stow voters also opted to adopt all of the possible exemptions to the surcharge. As a result, Stow is participating in a manner that maximizes the state matching funds with the least possible financial impact to the community. The Committee thanks the residents who served as CPC members in 2011 in addition to their positions on their respective boards/committees/commissions/etc.

Respectfully submitted,

**Member**

Mike Busch  
Bill Byron  
Wayne Fletcher (Jan-July)  
Karen Gray (Aug-Dec)  
Bob Larkin  
Peter McManus  
Dominick Pugliese  
Kathy Sferra  
Bob Wilber, Chairman  
Kathleen Willis

**Committee Represented**

Recreation Commission  
Council on Aging  
Historical Commission  
Historical Commission  
Housing Authority  
Finance Committee  
Board of Assessors  
Conservation Commission  
Open Space Committee  
Planning Board

Deb Seith

Administrative Assistant

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

	<b>Orig Project Cost</b>	<b>Final Project Cost</b>
	<b>\$ 4,730,019.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,678,262.25</b>
<b>Totals for Open Space/Recreation</b>	<b>\$ 2,211,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,167,899.89</b>
Conservation Comm Acquisition of Open Space	\$ 50,000.00	
Acq Open Space Tyler APR \$21,500		
Hale Woodlands	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Lake Boon Preservation Project	\$ 77,000.00	\$ 33,299.89
Assabet Rail Trail Easement	\$ 227,000.00	\$ 135,949.50
Moseley APR	\$ 23,600.00	\$ 23,600.00
Maple Street CR for SCT	\$ 80,000.00	
Snow Property Acquisition	\$ 673,000.00	\$ 658,899.46
Stow Community Park Construction	\$ 1,000,000.00	
Design Plan for Track Road Rail Trail	\$ 46,000.00	
<b>Totals for Historical</b>	<b>\$ 168,419.00</b>	<b>\$ 160,362.36</b>
Exp-West School Parking/Access	\$ 20,000.00	
Secure Blacksmith School	\$ 929.00	\$ 745.00
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration 1	\$ 9,990.00	\$ 9,918.28
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration 2	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 14,199.08
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration 3	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,500.00
Rehab Monuments & Headstones	\$ 48,000.00	
Townwide Inventory of Historic Properties	\$ 50,000.00	
<b>Totals for Affordable Housing</b>	<b>\$ 2,350,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,350,000.00</b>
Pilot Grove Perpetual Deed Restrictions	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
Exp-Purchase Perp Deed Restriction	\$ 250,000.00	
Pilot Grove and Plantation Expansions	\$ 1,750,000.00	

**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Transportation remains the number one service. This vital service continues to grow each year. The COA transported approximately 840 riders totaling over 7,100 trips covering 32,280 miles. The van fare income received was approximately \$4,900. COA billed MART for transportation services totaling over \$35,637, which was turned back to the Town's General Fund Account.

The COA acts as the social services agency for the town, providing a variety of services and assistance to all ages in need. Our Outreach Coordinator and Outreach Worker provided