



THE

# Gill Newsletter

August 2006 Issue

## CONTENTS

Town Hall News . . . . . 1

Friends of Gill . . . . . 3

Fire Department . . . . . 4

Hometown Students . . . . . 5

Recreation Comm . . . . . 8

Brick House . . . . . 9

Help Wanted . . . . . 9

Fluorescent Lights . . . . . 9

Omnibus . . . . . 10

Important Dates . . . . . 12

Disclaimer . . . . . 12

News Deadline . . . . . 12

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

- Lynn Nichols  
Starstruck Design
- Dorri Beaubien
- Bev Demars
- Barbara Elliott
- Joe Elliott
- Peter Jenkins
- Don Krüger
- Ronnie LaChance
- Dan Sachs
- Pam Shoemaker
- Dot Underwood
- Barbara Watson

## Town Hall News

### Mark Your Calendars

for Monday, August 7th - 7 PM. In response to a recent letter from the Moderator regarding a desperate need for volunteers on many boards/committees in Town, the Selectboard has come up with sort of a unique idea, but they need your help to make it a success. The idea is to host a job fair of sorts, with boards and committee members available to answer residents' questions, as well as provide information relative to what it is their boards and committees do, i.e. the responsibilities of the position! We hope to have ALL boards and committees represented.

Here is a list of the invitees: Board of Assessors, Selectboard, Cemetery Commission, Conservation Commission, Constables, Council on Aging, Cultural Council, Emergency Management, Finance Committee, Fire Department, Health Board, Historical Commission, Library Trustees, Moderator, Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Personnel and Recreation Committees and School Committee too. We hope to have representatives from the IT committee, the Building Committee and our newly created AG Commission! We have also invited the Friends of Gill, Friends of the Library, and Gill Newsletter Staff too!

Our success truly depends on you! We are hoping, if we build it, you will come. Gill's democracy truly depends on it!

## Thank You and Staff Notes

Many Thanks to Bruce Yukl of Yukl's Greenhouse, Route 2, Gill for donating his time, talent and treasures, planting the barrels at the Town Hall this year. They are absolutely stunning. Please stop by and thank Bruce for his community spirit!

Ronnie LaChance, Treasurer/Collector will be out of the office from August 15 through 18, to attend a MA Collectors Treasurers Association training, returning to the office on the 21st.

Assessors' Office and Town Clerk will not be holding daytime office hours the week of August 7 - 18. Lynda will be attending training at the University of Massachusetts to gain certification in Assessing before taking a well-deserved vacation. The Board of Assessors will plan to hold their Wednesday meeting both weeks.

## Smart Growth Update

By the time this writing reaches your gaze, several more gatherings on the proposed zoning amendments will have transpired. We thank the Gill Country



Check in with the  
Gill Website  
**www.gillmass.org**  
for up to date news,  
announcements and  
contact information!



Store for allowing a recent meeting to move its venue to the deli tables in the backroom, when no one in attendance had a key to Town Hall! Peggy Sloan and Tracy Zafian, Planners from the Regional Council on Governments didn't miss a beat and continued to guide interested citizens in designing zoning that reflects what it is folks love about Gill and want to preserve for future generations. This doesn't just happen, you must plan for it! It's called Smart Growth and is made possible by a grant from the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. Times and dates of Smart Growth Zoning Initiatives are posted at the Town Hall, on the website and as news notes in the local papers (within our control). A public informational meeting will be coming up soon ~ watch for announcements and participate in the process!

### Town Meeting Update

Since the close of Town Meeting, the Gill-Montague School Committee has voted to further reduce their assessment to the Towns, dropping Gill's assessment by approximately \$23,000 from what town meeting approved on June 26th. However, the Committee has requested additional funds be allocated to update curriculum and instruction for all students in preK-12, supporting two new programs in Mathematics for grades K-6 and 7-8, texts and materials in Reading for K-6, and technology support and maintenance for the data center/master servers and HVAC management

system at the middle/high school. The total request is for \$165,000, with Gill's percentage at \$23,100 (14%). Since it is a request and not an assessment, we cannot simply use the excess voted at Annual Town Meeting. The reduction of the number voted at Annual Town Meeting to reflect the new assessment will occur as part of the tax rate setting process by the Assessors (a recap of appropriations/assessments approved offset by anticipated revenues), and does not require further action by Town Meeting. We cannot pay more than we are assessed. However, the request for additional funds would have to be voted by Town Meeting at a special town meeting, tentatively planned for August 21, 2006.

Thank you to the 130+ voters that showed up for Annual Town Meeting continuation June 26th! A brief synopsis follows.

The 2005 Annual Town Report was accepted with the following changes:

- 1) Page 26 – to include the addition of grants acquired by the Fire Department;
- 2) Page 72 – calculation of subtotals omitted on the Trust Funds Accounts for North Cemetery;
- 3) Page 20 –Assessors report the word Exemptions should replace the word Abatements under Real Estate; and
- 4) Page 12 – Personnel Committee date of resignation for Sandy

Brown should reflect June, not January.

The usual election of Fence Viewers; Measurers of Wood, Bark and Surveyors of Lumber and field drivers - all for one year occurred along with annual acceptance of Federal and State funds for road-work. Town meeting voted to Passover the article for a full-time firefighter and two additional articles that were included as contingency in the event another was not.

Affixing the salaries of town officers brought forth lots of discussion, with an amendment from the finance committee to reduce the salaries of town officials by reducing the proposed annual cost of living increase 1% from 3 1/2% to 2 1/2% for town officials, which passed.

Town Meeting supported an article for recollection of data for property town wide, which will include an upgrade of collection software, training and related services from funds previously appropriated by Town Meeting: \$25,000 from monies approved last year for replacement of the Gill Elementary boiler (which only needed repair, not replacement), funds accruing from prior year's appropriation for revaluation in the amount of (\$11,009.67) and \$24,617.05 from funds appropriated for prior years to provide for abatements and non-payment that was no longer needed for a total of Sixty Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and Seventy-Two Cents (\$60,626.72).



Town meeting also supported purchase in two installments of \$2,200 a used voting machine and maintenance contract for the Town Clerk to replace an antiquated machine that was no-longer serviceable.

The omnibus budget supporting the operation of town services in Gill passed as presented except for two changes, suffering the same reduction in COLA (1%) for Town employees as did town officials salaries and returning the Recreation Commission to \$3,600 for a total appropriation of \$2,335,785.69 after available funds were applied. **See pages 10 and 11 for the approved Omnibus.**

Town Meeting supported three new bylaws regarding the regulation of dogs and noise, in addition to establishing an Agricultural Commission of five members to represent the Gill commercial farming and agricultural community that go into effect upon approval by the State Attorney General's office.

Town meeting approved acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 32B, §18 requiring that all town employees that retire while in the Town's employ, and their spouses and dependents, at retirement age be required to enroll in a Medicare health benefits supplement plan. Acceptance merely removes the option of the retiree and eligible dependents staying on the Town's full-health care plan, which will provide a savings to both the town and the employees.

\$190,000.00 from free cash was

## FRIENDS OF GILL

### Come to the Common

On **Friday, August 4th, at 7:00 PM**, the Friends of Gill will sponsor a concert by the **Montague Community Band** on the Gill Common. Several years ago this band played at the picnic on the Common and was a very popular attraction. The program will be funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Be sure to come to enjoy this old fashioned community band concert and bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. The Friends of Gill will offer bottled water, soda, brownies, cookies, and cupcakes at a reasonable cost. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the Town Hall.

On **Sunday, August 27th**, the **Picnic on the Common**, which had been rescheduled because of threatened rain on June 25th, will be held from 12 to 3:00 PM. The Gill Firemen will again be selling food from Noon to 3:00 PM including their famous "made from scratch" French fries. The Friends of Gill will be selling strawberry shortcake, ice cream, and beverages. From 1 to 3 PM there will be the popular hayride with a horse drawn wagon and music by the Fall Town String Band from our neighboring town of Bernardston. The sawdust coin hunt, a favorite with children, will be held at 2:00 PM. This festive mid-summer occasion offers Gill residents the opportunity to meet each other in a casual setting.

### Bernice Keach Memorial Scholarships

The high school graduates who this year were awarded \$500 Bernice Keach Memorial Scholarships by the Friends of Gill were Paul Marguet and Nathan Underwood. Mrs. Keach was a founding member of the Friends and a driving force in the early years of the organization.

### Farm and Garden Tour

The Farm and Garden Tour was a great success in this its first year. Our many thanks to those who were willing to share their farms and gardens: Ann Banash, John Barry, Doug Flagg and Robin Gibson of Crescent Moon Gardens, Tim Vielmetti of Cross Road Farm, Ed and Deb Golembeski, Richard Odman of the NMH Farm, DeeDee Mares of the Songline Emu Farm, Cliff Hatch of Uppingil, and Bruce Yukl of Yukl's Greenhouse.

### Fall Arts and Crafts Festival

The Friends of Gill is presently working on plans for the Fall Arts and Crafts Festival in October. A new attraction being considered for inclusion this year is a type of farmers' market that would include fall produce from our local farms. The Fall Festival is a large undertaking in need of many volunteers to help out in all aspects of its operation. If you have ideas or suggestions for making it more attractive, or are interested in volunteering some of your time, call 863-9708 for further information.



# Renaissance Builders

Stephen Greenwald  
President

P.O. Box 272  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
413/863-8316 Fax 413/863-9712  
www.renbuild.net

stephen@renbuild.net

authorized for use to stabilize the tax levy for fiscal year 2007, with the remaining free cash of \$30,000 be transferred to the stabilization fund.

Tributes were given to Patricia Hawkin for her service to Gill while on the Cemetery Commission, almost single-handedly transcribing information from every gravestone in North Cemetery for our records and to Oleathia Prevett and Joseph Girard, long-time members of Gill's Council on Aging who both passed away this year.

## Gill Fire Department

### Gill Job Fair

The Town of Gill will host a "Job Fair" on Monday, August 7, at the Town Hall. Members of the Fire Department will be available, beginning at 7:00 PM, to answer questions and share information about our important service. The Fire Department is always seeking new members, especially able-bodied men and women who are available to answer alarms between the hours of 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. The Fire Department answers approximately two hundred alarms each year and provides training in basic emergency medical care and firefighting techniques. Most training sessions occur on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30, though there are a few weekend classes as well as optional training sessions designed to improve skills. If you are interested in joining us, you may call 863-8955 to make arrangements to attend one of our weekly drills. There is no better way to decide if you want to become a member of the Fire Department than to see it for yourself.

### Fireworks Reminder

According to Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System data, there were 577 major fires involving illegal fireworks between 1996 and 2005. These fires caused 17 civilian injuries, 9 fire service injuries, and 2 civilian fatalities. The use of fireworks by anyone in Massachusetts, except licensed professionals, is illegal.



**Geri Johnson**  
ABR, CBB, CRS, GRI  
Senior Real Estate Specialist

66 French King Highway  
Gill, MA 01376  
(413) 863-9736  
Fax (413) 863-9739





## Cardiac Concerns

Most people expect a heart attack to occur like those portrayed in television shows and movies where the victim experiences sudden chest pain and falls to the floor. The truth is that heart attacks occur differently in different people and the symptoms vary greatly. The onset of a heart attack may last only seconds, several hours, or even days. Chest discomfort, like pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain in the center of the chest, may be the sign of a heart attack. Many victims feel discomfort in one or both arms, back, neck, jaw, or stomach. Shortness of breath may come before or with chest discomfort.

Victims may also feel nauseous, light-headed, or break out into a cold sweat. A few victims never even know they have had a heart attack. Heart attacks are serious. Anyone who suspects a heart attack should call 911 immediately. The Fire Department and responding ambulances carry life-saving equipment that can improve a victim's chances of survival.

## Outdoor Cooking Fires and Fireplaces

Each summer, the Fire Department receives inquiries regarding the regulation of outdoor cooking fires and fireplaces. A number of these inquiries result in the Fire Department responding to the scene of small residential cooking fires and returning to the station without taking any further action. State Fire Marshall Stephen Coan of the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services advises citizens that open-air fires are generally regulated pursuant to M.G.L. c.48 s.13, which states in pertinent part that, "No person shall set, maintain or increase a fire in the open air...except by permission... granted by the Forest Warden or Chief of the Fire Department, or Fire Commissioner." There is, however, a statutory exception for outdoor cooking. This exception is limited to persons eighteen years of age or older who may, without a permit, set, maintain, or increase a reasonable fire for the purpose of cooking as long as the fire is enclosed within rocks, metal, or other non-flammable material and safely away from residences and vegetation. The Fire Marshall also advises that if a local fire chief believes the conditions of an outdoor fire are likely to cause a risk of greater fire, the chief may issue orders to immediately remedy the dangerous condition, including extinguishing the fire. The Gill

Fire Department appreciates the statutory right of citizens to conduct reasonable and safe outdoor cooking fires and asks that residents take into consideration the potential effects of smoke or other fire-related nuisances upon their neighbors.

## Gas BBQ Grills

Each summer the Fire Department responds to incidents of LP gas expansion in overfilled cylinders. Most gas cylinders leak from a safety valve that is activated as the gas expands due to hot daytime temperatures. LP gas is heavier than air and sinks into low areas making a leaking gas cylinder a significant hazard around even the most unlikely ignition sources. Smoking materials, air conditioners, pilot lights, air compressors, and vehicle engines have all been known to cause LP gas explosions. If you are planning to use an LP gas grill this summer, keep the grill at least ten feet away from your house and other structures when in use. Keep the grill away from building openings, like doors, windows, dryer vents, and air intake vents. Make sure all connections are tight and secure before you light the grill. Of course, supervise children when a gas grill is in use. When grilling is done, store the cylinder in a well-ventilated place and keep it away from the living spaces and possible ignition sources. Enjoy your summer barbecues and grill safely.

## Hometown Students

### Honor Roll — 4th Quarter

#### Turners Falls High School

##### *Grade 12*

First honors: Anna Perry, Liya Samokhina, and Nathan Underwood

Third honors: Michael Tombs

##### *Grade 11*

First honors: Benjamin Garber, Elizabeth Giknis, Chelsea Islea, and Haley Trenholm

Second honors: Ashleigh St. Peter



*Grade 10*

First honors: Abbey Daniel-Green, Amanda Golembeski, Molly Perry, and Alexander Tufano  
Second honors: Zachary Little

*Grade 9*

First honors: Jodi Hallett  
Second honors: Angela Marguet and Olga Samokhina

**Great Falls Middle School**

*Grade 8:*

First honors: Matthew Garber and Kathleen Rinaldi  
Second honors: Danielle Dolhenty  
Third honors: Sarah Underwood

*Grade 7:*

First honors: Brooke Hastings, Julie Howard-Thompson, Jack Hubert, Joseph Lafleur, Andrew Turban, Natasha Vaughn, and Savannah Yates  
Second honors: Makayla Dolhenty

**Pioneer Valley Regional**

*Grade 11* High Honor: Johanna Johnson  
*Grade 8* High Honor: Jared Towne  
*Grade 7* Highest Honor: Patrick Arena

**Turners Falls High School  
Underclassmen Awards**

**Business**

Excellence in marketing: Haley Trenholm  
GCC articulation certificates: Angela Marguet

**English**

Academic excellence in English 10: Amanda Golembeski and Molly Perry  
Outstanding achievement in English 11: Haley Trenholm

**Health & Physical Education**

Excellence in physical education: Jacob Field and Thomas Field

**History**

Academic excellence in honors U.S. History 1:  
Molly Perry  
Academic excellence in advanced placement,  
U.S. History: Benjamin Garber

Academic excellence in honors modern world history:  
Amber Henry

**Mathematics**

Excellence in Algebra 2: Molly Perry  
Excellence in AP Calculus: Elizabeth Giknis

**Science**

Excellence in chemistry: Benjamin Garber

**Technology Education**

Excellence in Video Production Editing:  
Veronica Santucci

**World Language**

Academic excellence in Spanish 3: Benjamin Garber

**Great Falls Middle School Awards**

**Eighth Grade:**

Social Studies Improvement: Scott Brown  
Social Studies Excellence: Matthew Garber  
Science Excellence: Kathleen Rinaldi  
Reading Award: Kathleen Rinaldi  
Community Council Service Awards: Scott Brown

**Seventh Grade:**

Social Studies Improvement: Makayla Dolhenty  
Social Studies Achievement: Julie Thompson  
Family Consumer: Andrew Turban  
Reading award: Natasha Vaughn,  
Citizenship: Natasha Vaughn  
Leadership: Brooke Hastings  
Academic Achievement: Joseph Lafleur

**Grades 7 & 8:**

Band Awards: Sarah Underwood and Jack Hubert  
Perfect Attendance: Kathleen Rinaldi and Julie Thompson



## Northfield Mount Hermon Underclassman Awards

Grace Booth received two awards this year, the Proctor Prize for Excellence in Writing Award which honors a junior whose writing style is “characterized by grace, flexibility and a unique personal voice that marks commitment to the written word.” Grace also received the Wellesley award that honors a junior who has made an “outstanding contribution to her school in terms of leadership, citizenship and scholastic achievement.”

Ashley Storrow received the Smith College Book prize which honors a junior whose “intellectual curiosity, leadership, and concern for others reflect the standards of excellence shared by graduates of Smith.”

## College Graduates

Susan E. Palumbo graduated cum laude from Assumption College, Worcester.

Sarah L. Hatch graduated cum laude from Cornell University in May with a bachelor of science degree in entomology. Sarah will return to assist in management of her family’s farm, Upinngil.

Amanda M. Mullens graduated from Bates College, Lewiston, Maine with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. She graduated from Northfield Mount Hermon School in 2002.

Amanda M. Hastings graduated summa cum laude from Paier College of Art, Hamden, CT, with a bachelor of arts degree in interior design. Amanda received an award for excellence in interior design, won first prize in a Paier College art show and second prize in a regional kitchen design competition.

Alissa Marie Van-Zee Phillips graduated from Guilford College, Greensboro, NC, with a degree in criminal justice.

## College Dean’s List

Students from Gill named to the Greenfield Community

**B.P. Jacobsen**  
**413-863-5054** 24hr Emergency Service

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Roofing        | Siding   |
| Windows        | Decks    |
| Chimney Repair | Painting |

Gill, Ma  
Licensed and Insured  
Free Estimates



College's spring 2006 dean's list are Gregory R. Augustine, Kelly L. Augustine, Lydia R. Fish, Grace Harris, Jason R. James, and Sarah E. Little.

Stephanie M. Brown was named to the dean's list for the spring 2006 semester at Keene State College.

### Turners Falls High School Valedictorian

Valedictorian of the TFHS class of 2006 was our own Anna Perry. Anna will be attending the College of the Atlantic in Maine this fall.

### Sports

Junior Ashleigh St. Peter and sophomore Chelseigh St. Peter were named to the Republican All-Scholastic team recognizing their outstanding achievement in athletics. Both were named to the First Team in Division III Softball. Ashleigh and Chelseigh played for Turners Falls High School who took their third consecutive state title this year. This is the second year Ashleigh has received this award.

Jake Galipault went to the Bay State games again this year playing on the West Boy's Scholastic basketball team.

Erika Loomer played for the West Girls Scholastic volleyball team and took home the "Gold."

### Recreation Committee

Our extended baseball season has come to an end. Congratulations to the Gill youth boys for their Championship season and Gill Pee-Wee boys for their Co-West Divisional Championship season.



We had a record number of players this year totaling 75 in all. On July 8th we held our annual end of the season potluck gathering at the Gill

School. We had beautiful weather, lots of yummy food and a competitive game of ball where the kids versed the parents. In the end the children were awarded certificates & medallions and the Youth team received their Championship plaques. A wonderful end to another fantastic season.

I would like to extend a huge Thank You to all of the coaches for dedicating their time & energy to teaching these kids. Thank You to Roger Parenteau, Nathan Duda, and Jeff Gibson from the Youth team, Greg Leeds, Charlie Tierney, Liz Gardner and many other parents from the Pee Wee team, Rolie Weld and David Kozma from the Girls softball team, Charlie Malcolm, Mark Almeida, Brian Kucenski, Paul & Kristi Nicolson, Alan Vaughn and so many other parent volunteers from both of the farm teams and Nathan Duda & Gary Parzych from the Tee Ball team, Tom Bergeron for his umpiring skills behind the plate, Brandon Rawson for umpiring the bases. Also a very special Thank you to Jeff & Marie Suprenant for all of the time they spent running the concession stand at all of our home games. They have gone above & beyond in their efforts to run this stand, not only providing a great service but also by donating all of the profits to the Recreation Department for their programs. This year they raised \$506.00. I apologize to those of you whose names I don't have and want you all to know how much your time and efforts have been appreciated. These programs would not be possible without all of you.

The summer recreation camp started on June 26th and will continue to run through August 11th. This year the program is being run by Phil Snow & Kelly Brown with help from local teenagers Jodi Hallett, Brandon Rawson, Eric Dumas, Joey Rinaldi, Angela Marguet, and Melissa Gordon. The program offers half day AM or PM or full day. If you are interested in learning more about this program please call Nathan Duda at 522-3209. We will hold our summer fun day on Saturday, August 12th. The summer fun day is an event that is open to all Gill residents and their guests. It is held at the school and we have a bounce house, huge slip-n-slide (with help from the Gill fire dept.), volleyball, hot dogs, soda, water, snow cones, and cotton candy.



We are still working on a date for Gill Appreciation Day to be held at Oak Ridge Golf Course. This is an event where you and your family can come out and enjoy a reduced rate greens fee, free cart rental, and free hot dogs, hamburgers, and soda. Look for flyers or call Rick & Janice at Oak Ridge Golf Course for more information.

As always call Nathan Duda with any questions or comments at 522-3209. And Thank you again to all of you who have helped to support the Recreation Department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Duda, Gill Recreation Committee Chairman

## Brick House

### Healthy Start for the New School Year

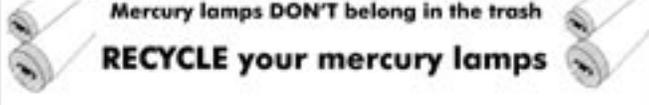
Saturday, August 12th, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
The Brick House Community Resource Center  
24 Third Street, Turners Falls

This program will offer to the children of Montague and Gill the opportunity for free dental screenings and free haircuts PLUS:

- \* Create a Child ID Packet with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department
- \* Learn about Fire Prevention with Captain Escott from the Turners Falls Fire Department
- \* Eat delicious healthy snacks and learn about healthy food
- \* Receive free school supplies and balloons
- \* Make a mini Washtub Bass instrument
- \* Learn about the Community Health Center of Franklin County, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Montague Parks and Recreation, Gill Montague PTO, the Community Partnership for Children, Montague Catholic Social Ministries, and the Brick House.

For more information, call The Brick House at 863-9576.

**Fluorescent lights save energy, but contain MERCURY**  
**Mercury lamps DON'T belong in the trash**  
**RECYCLE your mercury lamps**



**Regulations**

- State (310 CMR 30) and Federal regulations ban the disposal of lighting that contains mercury in the trash.
- These lamps include straight fluorescents (including green tipped lamps), U-tubes, High Intensity Discharge, Sodium Vapor, tanning lamps, and other lamps commonly used by businesses and institutions.

**Storage and Handling**

- Change spent lamps carefully.
- Place lamps in their original box or specialized fiber containers provided by your recycler.
- Store spent lamps in a safe place where they will not get wet or knocked over.
- Lamps can be stored for up to one year.
- Boxes containing spent lamps should be marked with the following: "Universal Waste-Lamps" and the date accumulation began.

**Breakage**

- While accidental breakage is unavoidable, it is illegal and dangerous to intentionally break lamps.
- If a lamp is broken, carefully sweep up the debris and double bag it in plastic bags.
- The broken lamp should be stored separately in its own container for your recycler.
- Avoid vacuuming broken lamps. Vacuuming has been proven to spread spilled mercury.
- If a large number of lamps break, there is a high potential for exposure to airborne mercury. Immediately close off the area with the broken lamps and call a local hazardous materials response agency, usually the local fire department.

**Start Recycling**

For information on collection sites and fees, contact the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at 413-772-2438 or at [info@franklincountywasteditdistrict.org](mailto:info@franklincountywasteditdistrict.org).

Produced by CET with funding from the US EPA and USDA Rural Development.

## **HELP WANTED!**

Gill Planning Board and Board of Appeals needs clerical help to begin immediately! Tasks would include typing, filing, preparing mailings etc. Zoning experience a plus! Call the Town Hall at 413-863-9347 for info or send a letter of interest to:

Town of Gill  
325 Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354

*The Town is an Equal Opportunity Employer*



**FY2007 FINAL OMNIBUS**

FINAL 6/26/2006

reflects change to 2 1/2%

|                                      | <b>FY2006<br/>APPROPRIATED</b> | <b>FY2007<br/>REQUESTED</b> | <b>AVAIL<br/>FUNDS</b> | <b>Dollar<br/>Increase<br/>&gt; FY06</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Increase<br/>&gt; FY06</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|---|
| <b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>            |                                |                             |                        |  |   |
| Moderator                            | 156.71                         | 160.63                      |                        | \$ 4                                     | 2.50%                                     |
| Selectboard Salary                   | 6,066.40                       | 6,217.62                    |                        | \$ 151                                   | 2.49%                                     |
| Selectboard Expense                  | 3,505.00                       | 3,505.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Legal Expenses                       | 4,000.00                       | 4,000.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Admin Salary                         | 38,251.20                      | 40,531.58                   |                        | \$ 2,280                                 | 5.96%                                     |
| Admin Expenses                       | 800.00                         | 800.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Finance Committee                    | 125.00                         | 125.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Reserve Fund                         | 2,500.00                       | 2,500.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Accountant Salary                    | 19,837.00                      | 20,655.00                   |                        | \$ 818                                   | 4.12%                                     |
| Accountant Expense                   | 1,535.00                       | 1,200.00                    |                        | \$ (335)                                 | -21.82%                                   |
| Assessors' Salary                    | 7,366.50                       | 7,550.13                    |                        | \$ 184                                   | 2.49%                                     |
| Assessors Clerk Salary               | 13,140.00                      | 10,393.50                   |                        | \$ (2,747)                               | -20.90%                                   |
| Assessors Legal Counsel              | 200.00                         | 200.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Assessors Expense                    | 4,194.00                       | 2,340.00                    |                        | \$ (1,854)                               | -44.21%                                   |
| Treasurer Salary                     | 8,790.41                       | 10,895.00                   |                        | \$ 2,105                                 | 23.94%                                    |
| Treas/Coll Banking Serv.             | 150.00                         | 150.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Treas/Tax Title Forecl.              | 750.00                         | 750.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Treasurer Expenses                   | 1,800.00                       | 4,220.00                    |                        | \$ 2,420                                 | 134.44%                                   |
| Tax Collector Salary                 | 13,114.53                      | 14,344.25                   | 569.25                 | \$ 1,230                                 | 9.38%                                     |
| Tax Collector Expense                | 6,060.00                       | 6,022.00                    |                        | \$ (38)                                  | -0.63%                                    |
| Town Clerk Salary                    | 10,165.55                      | 10,419.68                   |                        | \$ 254                                   | 2.50%                                     |
| Town Clerk Expense                   | 2,459.85                       | 2,375.00                    |                        | \$ (85)                                  | -3.45%                                    |
| Sal.Elect/Listers/Reg.               | 1,000.00                       | 3,300.00                    |                        | \$ 2,300                                 | 230.00%                                   |
| Conservation Commission              | 500.00                         | 375.00                      |                        | \$ (125)                                 | -25.00%                                   |
| Planning Board                       | 745.00                         | 745.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Board of Appeals                     | 500.00                         | 500.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| IT Committee Expense                 | 3,000.00                       | 3,000.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Town Hall                            | 15,611.00                      | 16,300.00                   |                        | \$ 689                                   | 4.41%                                     |
| Riverside Municipal Bldg.            | 7,922.00                       | 8,675.00                    |                        | \$ 753                                   | 9.51%                                     |
| Garage/Public Safety Bldg.           | 11,235.00                      | 14,990.00                   |                        | \$ 3,755                                 | 33.42%                                    |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVT.</b>           | <b>185,480.15</b>              | <b>197,239.39</b>           | <b>569.25</b>          | <b>\$ 11,759</b>                         | <b>6.34%</b>                              |
| <b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>                 |                                |                             |                        |  |   |
| Police Department                    | 160,000.00                     | 172,250.00                  |                        | \$ 12,250                                | 7.66%                                     |
| Animal Control Officer               | 800.00                         | 800.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Dog Fund                             | 800.00                         | 800.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Fire Department                      | 62,000.00                      | 66,100.00                   |                        | \$ 4,100                                 | 6.61%                                     |
| Civil Defense                        | 400.00                         | 400.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| <b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>           | <b>224,000.00</b>              | <b>240,350.00</b>           | <b>-</b>               | <b>\$ 16,350</b>                         | <b>7.30%</b>                              |
| <b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>                  |                                |                             |                        |  |   |
| Highway Dept.(part FY05 special art) | <b>266,366.00</b>              | <b>256,949.21</b>           |                        | \$ (9,417)                               | -3.54%                                    |
| Bridges & Street Lights              | 6,000.00                       | 8,000.00                    |                        | \$ 2,000                                 | 33.33%                                    |
| Tree & Forestry                      | 4,000.00                       | 4,000.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Sewer Department                     | <b>52,525.40</b>               | <b>55,577.00</b>            | 55,577.00              | \$ 3,052                                 | 5.81%                                     |
| Solid Waste District                 | 2,524.00                       | 2,634.00                    |                        | \$ 110                                   | 4.36%                                     |
| Haz. Waste Collection                | 850.00                         | 850.00                      |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| Solid Waste Disposal/Recycling       | 44,000.00                      | 66,200.00                   |                        | \$ 22,200                                | 50.45%                                    |
| Recycling                            | 22,200.00                      | -                           |                        | \$ (22,200)                              | -100.00%                                  |
| Cemetery Commission                  | 2,500.00                       | 2,500.00                    |                        | \$ -                                     | 0.00%                                     |
| <b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>            | <b>400,965.40</b>              | <b>396,710.21</b>           | <b>55,577.00</b>       | <b>\$ (4,255)</b>                        | <b>-1.06%</b>                             |



FINAL 6/26/2006

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

|                            |                 |                 |    |            |              |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----|------------|--------------|
| Bd. of Health Salaries     | 6,715.93        | 6,883.83        | \$ | 168        | 2.50%        |
| Bd. of Health Expense      | 500.00          | 500.00          | \$ | -          | 0.00%        |
| <b>Total Bd. of Health</b> | <b>7,215.93</b> | <b>7,383.83</b> | \$ | <b>168</b> | <b>2.33%</b> |
| Council on Aging           | 5,720.11        | 6,022.00        | \$ | 302        | 5.28%        |
| Veteran's District         | 2,709.00        | 3,245.00        | \$ | 536        | 19.79%       |
| Veteran's Benefits         | 4,000.00        | 4,000.00        | \$ | -          | 0.00%        |

**TOTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERV. CULTURE AND RECREATION**

|                                       |                  |                  |    |            |              |       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----|------------|--------------|-------|
| <b>TOTAL HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERV.</b> | <b>19,645.04</b> | <b>20,650.83</b> | -  | \$         | <b>1,006</b> | 5.12% |
| <b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>         |                  |                  |    |            |              |       |
| Library Salary                        | 9,703.77         | 9,946.36         | \$ | 243        | 2.50%        |       |
| Library Expense                       | 6,000.00         | 6,300.00         | \$ | 300        | 5.00%        |       |
| <b>Total Library</b>                  | <b>15,703.77</b> | <b>16,246.36</b> | \$ | <b>543</b> | <b>3.46%</b> |       |
| Recreation Committee                  | 3,600.00         | 3,600.00         | \$ | -          | 0.00%        |       |
| Historical Commission                 | 450.00           | 860.00           | \$ | 410        | 91.11%       |       |
| <b>TOTAL CULTURE/REC.</b>             | <b>19,753.77</b> | <b>20,706.36</b> | -  | \$         | <b>953</b>   | 4.82% |

**FIXED COSTS**

|  |                   |                   |    |        |               |        |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|----|--------|---------------|--------|
| Garage Const. Loan - 2 yrs remaining   | 19,592.00         | 18,644.00         | \$ | (948)  | -4.84%        |        |
| Temporary Loan Interest                | 7,500.00          | 20,000.00         | \$ | 12,500 | 166.67%       |        |
| Property/Liability/Work Comp Insurance | 43,000.00         | 48,500.00         | \$ | 5,500  | 12.79%        |        |
| Group Health & Life Ins                | 75,000.00         | 82,000.00         | \$ | 7,000  | 9.33%         |        |
| Unemployment Comp                      | 2,550.00          | 2,550.00          | \$ | -      | 0.00%         |        |
| Franklin County Retirement             | 46,680.00         | 57,965.00         | \$ | 11,285 | 24.18%        |        |
| <b>TOTAL FIXED COSTS</b>               | <b>194,322.00</b> | <b>229,659.00</b> | -  | \$     | <b>35,337</b> | 18.18% |

**FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

|  |                  |                  |    |         |               |        |
|--|------------------|------------------|----|---------|---------------|--------|
| Statutory Assessment                   | 2,039.64         | 2,431.09         | \$ | 391     | 19.19%        |        |
| Core Services Assessment               | 5,762.38         | 6,057.06         | \$ | 295     | 5.11%         |        |
| Fee for Service Programs (Engineering) | 5,500.00         | 1,300.00         | \$ | (4,200) | -76.36%       |        |
| Regional Radio Assessment Fire/Police  | -                | 1,624.00         |    |         |               |        |
| Regional Health Program                | 4,200.00         | 7,096.00         | \$ | 2,896   | 68.95%        |        |
| Inspection Program                     | 23,088.82        | 35,841.00        | \$ | 12,752  | 55.23%        |        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSESSMENT</b>                | <b>40,590.84</b> | <b>54,349.15</b> | -  | \$      | <b>13,758</b> | 33.90% |

**EDUCATION**

|                             |                     |                     |                   |    |                |          |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----|----------------|----------|
| Gill/Montague School        | [DR] 1,095,041.00   | 1,165,805.00        | <b>154,782.45</b> | \$ | <b>70,764</b>  | 6.46%    |
| TFHS/GFMS Bldg. Loan        | [BP] 107,980.43     | 191,285.00          | <b>36,502.55</b>  | \$ | <b>83,305</b>  | 77.15%   |
| Total Assessment            | <b>1,203,021.43</b> | <b>1,357,090.00</b> |                   | \$ | <b>154,069</b> | 12.81%   |
| Tech School District        | 74,149.00           | 96,462.00           |                   | \$ | <b>22,313</b>  | 30.09%   |
| Tech School Capital Program | 2,050.69            | -                   |                   | \$ | <b>(2,051)</b> | -100.00% |
| <b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>      | <b>1,279,221.12</b> | <b>1,453,552.00</b> | <b>191,285.00</b> | \$ | <b>174,331</b> | 13.63%   |

|                                 |                     |                     |                   |    |                |        |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----|----------------|--------|
| <b>OMNIBUS SUBTOTAL</b>         | <b>2,363,978.32</b> | <b>2,613,216.94</b> |                   | \$ | <b>249,239</b> | 10.54% |
| <b>AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>          | 223,490.82          | 247,431.25          | <b>247,431.25</b> | \$ | <b>23,940</b>  | 10.71% |
| LESS PROPOSED TRANSFER OF FUNDS | 16,090.94           | 30,000.00           |                   |    |                |        |
| <b>OMNILESS TOTAL</b>           | <b>2,124,396.56</b> | <b>2,335,785.69</b> |                   | \$ | <b>211,389</b> | 9.95%  |

**AVAIL**                      **SR:** Sewer Receipts                      **BP:** GM Bond Premium Receipt  
**FUNDS:**                    **DR:** Debt Reserve                                      **TSR:** Trash Sticker Receipts

*Percentage Increase computed by dividing the dollar increase by the FY2006 appropriated, then multiplying the resulting fraction by 100.*



## Put it on your Calendar!

### Montague Community Band Concert on the Common

Friday, August 4th, 7:00 PM

### Gill Job Fair

Monday, August 7th, 7:00 PM  
at the Town Hall

### Annual Picnic on the Common:

Sunday, August 27,  
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

### Gill Recreation Summer Fun Day

Saturday, August 12th



## Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors, the organizing committee or town officials and should not be construed as such. Although we work to produce accurate and typographically correct copy, we and our advertisers cannot be responsible for errors or the accuracy of materials submitted to us.

## Next Newsletter Deadline

September 15th for the October Issue

Gill Fire Dept.  
196A Main Road  
Gill, MA 01354

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TURNERS FALLS, MA  
PERMIT NO. 173  
ZIP CODE 01376

RR CUSTOMER

RURAL ROUTE

GILL, MA 01354