

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## Ashburnham

The year brought voters to the ballot box many times.

Ashburnham voters supported Selectman Jonathan Dennehy as he ran against Bob Rice to replace Brian Knuuttila as the state representative, but the local Republican lost the election district wide. ...

Voters then went back to the ballot box — twice — during the spring to reject extra money for the proposed public safety building. Voters told town officials that they didn't want a building that cost an additional \$2.6 million. ...

A new building committee took on the charge of redesigning the proposal and try to get the project cost under \$6.5 million. As the year ends, the committee is preparing to bid out the new smaller building design. They have also paved the parts of the site after the soil kept washing out during rainstorms. ...

The new committee is chaired by Christopher Gagnon, who left the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Committee in April, when he was elected to the Board of Selectmen. Gagnon ran against Marie Zbikowski for the seat vacated by long-time Selectman Ronald Reed. ...

Reed was not the only official to retire from

service this year. The town also said goodbye to Wesley Landry as he retired from his more than 30 years of service as town clerk. Landry, who took over the position from his father, retired in September but not before sharing many memories at a farewell party. ...

Residents along Fitchburg Road/Route 12 saw the completion of a project many never thought would come to fruition — the installation of a public water line to take the homes off water filters after groundwater contamination was discovered in the 1990s. Most of the money was committed by the state 21J Board and a federal Environmental Protection Agency grant. ...

Water lines were also installed in the Page Beach area with the help of a state Community Development Block Grant. The new lines will ensure that pipes will not freeze during the winter guaranteeing residents have access to town water all year round. ...

The schools also made news this year. October brought the installation of James Tracy as the eleventh headmaster of Cushing Academy. Tracy, who officially took the post in the summer, replaced Willard "Wink" Lampe as the headmaster. ...

Brenda Houle took the reigns of Overlook Middle School after the retirement of Michael Sunderland in June.



Lina Perna, Ashby's oldest resident, spent her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Jan. 20 in a town-wide celebration just for her, including her first limousine ride. The Ashby Elementary School students showed their support, donning "100" masks to help Perna celebrate her day.



## Ashby

Ashby saw its share of controversy this year as budget debates raged along with challenges to elected officials. ...

The year started with a race to fill the seat left open by former state Rep. Brian Knuuttila (D-Gardner) including a Democratic primary election that included Selectman Michael McCallum. Robert Rice of Gardner took the primary and the general election. ...

In the annual election this April, McCallum, a long-time selectman lost his seat to newcomer Geoff Woollacott. ...

Adults weren't the only ones making news this year. Girl Scout Junior Troop 652 collected money to send cookies to Iraq. The group of fourth to sixth graders sent about 3,500 boxes overseas.

Paul Ludin of White Cross, N.Y. was sworn-in as police chief in October after a four-month search. Ludin replaces Steven McLatchy, of Ashby, who resigned in June after serving the

town for more than two years. ...

The Murray family expressed outrage and began a recall on the three cemetery commissioners in the spring after their father's grave was left uncovered. All three commissioners — Steve Beauregard, George Beauregard and Ray Wilkinson — resigned before the recall petitions were certified. ...

The attempted recall in April was just a foreshadowing of another recall attempt in December of the library trustees. Residents were upset by the design of the library and the termination of library director Marja LePoer. But the recall failed in a special election on Dec. 19, when Lisa Gordon, Mathew Alford and Paul McGrail retained their seats on the board. ...

Ashby Free Public Library also marked another milestone this year as it reopened after the expansion was completed. The grand opening of the much larger library was opened on Oct. 22 with a ceremony on the Town Common and a reception in the completed building.




The Oakmont football team celebrates after capturing the title of champions at Central/Western Mass. Superbowl on Dec. 2 with a 28-0 win against Frontier Regional High School.

## CARS GO FAST AT THESE PRICES!

### HURRY IN FOR SPECTACULAR WINTER SAVINGS!

<b>1994 MAZDA PROTEGE DX</b> #H072918B ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$2,990</b>	<b>2005 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE</b> #U261071 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$11,990</b>	<b>2006 PONTIAC G6 SEDAN</b> #U155497 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,550</b>	<b>2004 NISSAN QUEST SL V6</b> #D55001A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$19,990</b>
<b>1999 CHEVROLET CAVALIER</b> #U546269A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$3,715</b>	<b>2005 NISSAN SENTRA 1.8S</b> #U541218 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$12,425</b>	<b>2005 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5S</b> #U373258 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,575</b>	<b>2004 ACURA TSX</b> #U000595 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$19,990</b>
<b>2000 DODGE STRATUS SE</b> #C175362C ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$4,990</b>	<b>2004 DODGE STRATUS</b> #C746704A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$12,775</b>	<b>2004 HONDA ACCORD LX</b> #U098806 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,775</b>	<b>2003 HONDA PILOT EXL AWD</b> #U545151 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$19,990</b>
<b>1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS</b> #D447506A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$6,990</b>	<b>2001 SUBARU OUTBACK AWD</b> #H446202A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$12,990</b>	<b>2005 TOYOTA MATRIX AWD</b> #D550627A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,990</b>	<b>2003 FORD F150 CREW XLT</b> #U709089B ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$19,990</b>
<b>1999 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT</b> #U239887 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$7,390</b>	<b>2004 TOYOTA CAMRY LE</b> #N449912A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,440</b>	<b>2005 HONDA CIVIC EX</b> #H005877A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,990</b>	<b>2004 FORD EXPLORER BAUER</b> #H001408A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$20,990</b>
<b>2002 FORD TAURUS SE</b> #U192855 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$8,190</b>	<b>2002 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA GLS 1.8T</b> #U063900 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$12,990</b>	<b>2004 HONDA ACCORD</b> #U010126 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$16,990</b>	<b>2006 JEEP WRANGLER</b> #H020246E ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$20,990</b>
<b>2003 CHRYSLER SEBRING LX</b> #U182068 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$8,990</b>	<b>2003 HONDA CIVIC EX</b> #H460762A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,770</b>	<b>2003 DODGE RAM 2500 HD</b> #D172230A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,440</b>	<b>2005 HONDA CRV SE SPC EDTN</b> #H003553A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$21,990</b>
<b>2001 FORD WINDSTAR SE</b> #UB87700 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$8,990</b>	<b>2002 BUICK RENDEZVOUS AWD</b> #U568921 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,770</b>	<b>2006 TOYOTA CAMRY SOLARA SE</b> #U075386 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,775</b>	<b>1999 PORSCHE BOXSTER</b> #U628814 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$21,990</b>
<b>1999 VOLKSWAGEN NEW BEETLE GLS</b> #N380121A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$9,885</b>	<b>2004 HONDA CIVIC LX</b> #H517950B ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,990</b>	<b>2003 HONDA CRV EX AWD</b> #H007612A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2006 NISSAN MAXIMA SE</b> #U810581 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$21,990</b>
<b>2002 DODGE INTREPID SE</b> #N101475A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$9,990</b>	<b>2003 HYUNDAI TIBURON GT V6</b> #U033573 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,990</b>	<b>2004 DODGE DURANGO SLT</b> #N381046A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2005 DODGE DAKOTA LARAMIE</b> #D653510A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$22,990</b>
<b>2005 KIA OPTIMA LX</b> #C627695A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$10,575</b>	<b>2003 FORD EXPLORER XLT</b> #UB53107 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$13,990</b>	<b>2004 NISSAN XTERRA</b> #N448141A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2005 HONDA ODYSSEY EX</b> #H415922A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$22,990</b>
<b>2001 NISSAN MAXIMA SE</b> #H000960A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$10,990</b>	<b>2002 DODGE RAM 1500 SLT</b> #D55678E ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$14,440</b>	<b>2002 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5</b> #N637354A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2004 NISSAN ARMADA SE 4WD</b> #N742767A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$23,990</b>
<b>2005 DODGE NEON SXT</b> #U157488 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$10,990</b>	<b>2006 DODGE CARAVAN SE</b> #U709214 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$14,975</b>	<b>2005 JEEP WRANGLER X V6</b> #U363526 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2006 NISSAN MURANO S AWD</b> #U507493 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$24,975</b>
<b>2004 CHEVROLET IMPALA</b> #U178347 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$10,990</b>	<b>2003 HONDA CIVIC LX</b> #H020575A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$14,990</b>	<b>2003 HONDA ODYSSEY EX</b> #U964000 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$17,990</b>	<b>2006 NISSAN ARMADA SE V8</b> #U719139 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$25,990</b>
<b>2002 FORD WINDSTAR SE</b> #UA57729 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$10,990</b>	<b>2002 FORD EXPLORER LTD</b> #H509730A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$14,990</b>	<b>2004 DODGE DURANGO SLT 4X4</b> #D171383A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$18,975</b>	<b>2006 DODGE RAM 1500 SPORT</b> #D125583A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$27,990</b>
<b>2005 CHEVROLET COBALT</b> #U613776 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$11,225</b>	<b>2002 NISSAN PATHFINDER SE</b> #H015364A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$15,440</b>	<b>2005 HONDA CRV LX AWD</b> #H008967A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$18,990</b>	<b>2006 TOYOTA TUNDRA SR5 4X4</b> #H517950C ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$27,990</b>
<b>2004 DODGE STRATUS SXT</b> #N532408B ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$11,440</b>	<b>2004 KIA SORENTO LX 4X4</b> #M069688A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$15,770</b>	<b>2005 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 SL</b> #H024156A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$18,990</b>	<b>2005 CHEVROLET TAHOE Z71 4WD</b> #C385988A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$29,990</b>
<b>2005 MITSUBISHI LANCER ES</b> #U032706 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$11,775</b>	<b>2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER</b> #H509993A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$15,990</b>	<b>2005 KIA AMANTI</b> #U077448 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$18,990</b>	<b>2006 DODGE RAM 3500 DIESEL</b> #D126141A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$33,990</b>
<b>2005 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE</b> #U247917 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$11,990</b>	<b>2001 AUDI A4 QUATRO 1.8T</b> #U097354 ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$15,990</b>	<b>2006 HONDA CIVIC EX NAVI</b> #N551679A ..... <b>SALE PRICE \$19,445</b>	




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