

---

## TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

---

DSL Internet service was finally made available to some Westford residents and businesses, including the Town Office. How nice it is to be able to download large files quickly, update the Statewide Voter Checklist efficiently, send or receive faxes without tying up a phone line, and have more than one person online at the same time!

The Town has its first website, thanks to a committee spearheaded by John Quinn and Ted Horton. A training seminar was held to educate town employees, as well as various town boards and committees, on how to update information on the website. As town employees and board members become more familiar with posting documents and notices, the information on the website will grow. In addition to the Town Newsletter, the website is a great resource for community events and other town information. Please visit our website at [www.westfordvt.us](http://www.westfordvt.us).

The Town Newsletter is mailed monthly and contains announcements for community events, recreational programs and social gatherings, as well as information from the school, election information and reminders for property taxes and dog licenses. If you do not currently receive a newsletter but would like to, please contact the Town Office.

The Town Office received a "face lift" this fall. A drainage and air quality system was installed in the basement to address water and humidity problems; the office located in the basement has a new window, carpet and paint; and the main floor received a fresh coat of paint as well.

The Vermont Department of Health continues to keep towns informed as to the status of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, also known as the Intelligence Reform Law. This law is an attempt to help address problems with identity theft. The release date for draft regulations keeps changing; the most recent date announced was November 2007. This law, once implemented, will affect how vital records will be stored and determine who will have access, and is the reason why names for births, deaths, marriages and civil unions are no longer printed in the Town Report. In lieu of names, the following statistics are being provided: between January 1 and December 31, 2007, there were 19 births, 10 deaths, 9 marriages and no civil unions in the Town of Westford.

In FY'07, 782 documents were recorded in the Land Records. This number translates to 6 volumes or 3,153 pages, which is slightly more than last year.

In 2007, 460 dog licenses were issued which is a decrease of 23 licenses from 2006. Dog licenses are due by April 1st each year; a current rabies

---

certificate and fee are required to license your pet. The fee is \$11.00 unless your pet has been spayed or neutered in which case the fee is \$9.00. I would like to give special thanks to Janine Vrba for holding the rabies clinic and those who assisted her. I would also like to thank Jim Brown for his assistance throughout the year with dog related issues.

The Town was able to donate holiday baskets to 17 Westford families. These baskets were made possible through generous donations, as well as people volunteering to assemble and deliver the baskets. Thank you so much for coming together as a community to help your neighbors during the holiday season!

I would like to thank my colleagues Arlitha Racine, Charlotte Vincent, Melissa Manka, Caroline Brown, Lois Reynolds and Maurice Rathbun for all the work they do as a united team to provide municipal services to residents; the Road Crew – Gary, Dick and Ron – for doing a great job in maintaining our roads; the Selectboard – Dave Tilton, Cherie Dunkley and John Quinn – for their efforts in overseeing the town; all other town officials and volunteers who spend countless hours working on town projects; and lastly, the residents of Westford for making our town a great place to live!

Respectfully submitted,  
Nanette Rogers

---

### **BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY**

---

The Board of Civil Authority (BCA) is comprised of the Selectboard members, Town Clerk and the Justices of the Peace. The BCA's primary responsibilities involve reviewing the voter checklist, serving as election officials, and hearing assessment grievance appeals.

The Board of Abatement consists of the Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, Selectboard members, Listers and the Justices of the Peace. The Board of Abatement hears property tax abatement requests.

During FY'07, the BCA met 3 times to revise the voter checklist, and worked the polls for the 2006 Primary and General Elections, and the 2007 Annual Town and School Meeting. The meetings resulted in approving 95 Voter Registration Applications, removing 117 voters and sending notices to 62 voters to confirm residency. There were no grievance appeals or tax abatements in FY'07.

Residents interested in serving on the Board of Civil Authority should contact the Town Office for more information.

---