

Marcia Hastbacka

165 Highland Street, Holden, MA 01520

June 20, 2016

**Jacquelyn M. Kelly, Town Manager
Town of Holden
Main Street, Starbard Building
Holden, MA 01520**

Dear Ms. Kelly,

This is a letter of appreciation for the excellent handling of the live burning at 175 Highland Street on June 11th. As a long time resident and living adjacent to the Creamer property, I watched with great interest and a little sadness as the process of taking down the house proceeded.

Several weeks before the training sessions began, town employees came in and cut down some branches & tree limbs near the house for safety purposes and came back early on to clean up all the debris.

The Fire Dept. during the 2 training sessions and the day of the actual burn were very professional and very much in control. During the burn, there were many families and children watching and they got to see the Holden Fire Dept. in action. Afterwards, large pieces of equipment were brought in to knock down any smoldering debris and by early evening, there was no smoke odor and nothing smoldering.

By Monday, a dumpster was on site and all the house debris was placed in it. By Wednesday, there was fill and dirt where the old house stood and it looks like there never was a house on that site. What an amazing job!

I know that it took a lot of coordination of all the various town department heads, staff and employees and they should be commended for a job well done.

Again, with great appreciation,



Marcia Hastbacka

CC: John Chandler, Fire Chief ✓

John E. Woodsmall, Director of Public Works