

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

Town of GROTON, VERMONT



**Report of the Town Officers
For the Year Ending
December 31, 2004**

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On the front cover is a photograph of "Mary", a moose that took up residence in Groton village this past Summer and Fall and befriended a pony named "Little Bit".

Acknowledgments:

Front cover photograph courtesy of Emile Bedard

Annual Report compiled by Dale Brown, Linda Nunn, Roberta Dana and Dick Kreis

**WARNING: NOTICE OF GROTON, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2005**

The Citizens of the Town of Groton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Groton Community Building in Groton Village on Tuesday, March 1, 2005, at 10 o'clock in the morning, to act on the following articles, to wit:

- ARTICLE 1** To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 2** To act on the Town Report of the Town Officers as printed for the year ending December 31, 2004.
- ARTICLE 3** To see if, as provided in 17 V.S.A. Section 2646 (16), the Town will vote to elect a Road Commissioner or authorize the Selectmen to appoint a Road Commissioner.
- ARTICLE 4** To elect the following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont, and citizens to serve on the other committees as herein specified, and to fix their compensations:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Road Commissioner | One year |
| Town Clerk | Three years |
| Selectman | Three years |
| Lister | Three years |
| Auditor | Three years |
| Library Trustee | Three years |
| Library Trustee | Three years |
| Cemetery Commissioner | Three years |
| Collector of Current Taxes | One year |
| Collector of Delinquent Taxes | Three years |
| First Constable | Two years |
| Second Constable | Two years |
| Town Grand Juror | One year |
| Town Agent | One year |
| Town Agent to Convey Real Estate | One year |
- ARTICLE 5** To elect by ballot, one School Director to serve on the Board of Unified Union School District #21, for a three (3) year term.
- ARTICLE 6** Shall the Town of Groton set the due date of Friday, October 7, 2005, by 5:00 PM as the deadline for the payment of taxes?
- ARTICLE 7** Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund for the Groton Food Shelf with the Food Shelf funds?
- ARTICLE 8** Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Community Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$ 10,000? (24 V.S.A § 2804)
- ARTICLE 9** Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$ 10,000? (24 V.S.A § 2804)
- ARTICLE 10** Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Fire Truck Fund in the amount of \$ 10,000? (24 V.S.A § 2804)
- ARTICLE 11** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the support of Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Learning Services, Inc.?

**WARNING: NOTICE OF GROTON, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2005 - cont'd**

- ARTICLE 12** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the support of Northeast Kingdom Youth Services, Inc.?
- ARTICLE 13** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) to Umbrella, Inc to be used in providing services to women, children and men?
- ARTICLE 14** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450.00) to assist the Northeastern Vermont Area Agency on Aging in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?
- ARTICLE 15** Shall the town of Groton vote to raise, appropriate and expend nine hundred dollars (\$900.00) to assist with the basic operating costs of River's Reach, a regional resource center run under the auspices of the Wells River Action Program (WRAP)?
- ARTICLE 16** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of nine hundred and twenty dollars (\$920.00) to the Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. to assist in maintaining 24-hour mental health emergency services that are available to all residents of the Northeast Kingdom, regardless of ability to pay?
- ARTICLE 17** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of one thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100.00) to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?
- ARTICLE 18** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate the sum of four hundred thirty-three dollars and thirteen cents (\$433.13) for the Rural Community Transportation ("RCT") services.
- ARTICLE 19** What sum of money shall the voters approve to raise by taxation, to be reduced by receipts, state aid and other income, to meet the current expenses and liabilities of the Town General Fund and Highway budget, including any other warned articles so voted at this town meeting, and authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
- ARTICLE 20** Shall the voters of Groton approve the following proposal: " Whereas our present Social Security System has provided millions of older Americans with guaranteed income when retired or disabled and whereas the Congressional Budget Office has stated that the present Social Security fund is solvent until the year 2052, shall the town of Groton request the Vermont General Assembly to direct our U. S. Congressional delegation to vote against any plan to privatize Social Security because of the negative effect such action would have on present and future reserves, in terms of increased risk and reduction of benefits."
- ARTICLE 21** To transact any other business proper to come before this meeting, this does not include the expenditure of town funds or other business acted upon in the preceding articles.

Berne Bouley, Selectman

Kevin B. Ricker, Selectman

Leonard Doscinski, Selectman

Recorded before posting this 30th day of January 2005, at 8:30 a.m.
Linda Nunn, Town Clerk

**WARNING: NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE
MARCH 1, 2005**

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by your municipality on Tuesday, March 1, 2005 to act on the following article:

ARTICLE 1 Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$452,650.00?

Dustin Sanville - Irasburg	Murray Hogdon - Guildhall	Arthur Sanborn - Lyndon
Phillip Sorell - Concord	Larry Phipps - Westmore	Stephen R. Brochu - Derby
Pauleete Routhier - Bloomsfield	Edward J. Bates - Waterford	James W. Ashley - Danville
Walter W. Kruger - Maidstone	Stuart Jackson - Stannard	Joel Cope - Brighton
Preston Smith - Wheelock	Gene A Perkins - Ryegate	Ralph Vincent - Sutton
David Snedeker - Unorganized Towns & Gores		

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPORT **for the Town of Groton - 2004**

The Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District provides many services for the town of Groton. The NEKWMD assisted with two bulky waste days at the Groton-Ryegate recycling center. The NEKWMD also helped to establish a per-bag waste collection at the Groton/Ryegate Recycling center during 2004.

The 2004 recycling rate for the Towns of Groton and Ryegate was 15%. Every ton of trash costs approximately \$100 to dispose of, while recycling costs the towns \$37.00 per ton in hauling fees. Therefore, as residents recycle more the town can lower its overall waste management costs.

The NEKWMD runs a household hazardous waste collection through the summer months at the Lyndonville recycling center as well as collection events throughout the area. These are open to residents and conditionally exempt generator businesses from all NEKWMD towns. Eighteen Groton residents used these services during 2004. Other Groton residents dropped off used motor oil, lead acid batteries and fluorescent light bulbs at the Lyndonville Depot and at the Groton/Ryegate Bulky Days.

The money for the NEKWMD budget comes from the sale of recyclables (21 %), State grants (4%), hauling fees (8%), miscellaneous fees and income (6%), and a surcharge on every ton of trash disposed off from NEKWMD towns (61%). This surcharge is dropping from \$21.00 to \$20.00 for 2005 - this is the fifth year in a row that the surcharge has dropped. Residents of the Towns of Groton and Ryegate paid 4% of the District budget in 2004, based on hauling fees and surcharge.

We are looking forward to a full slate of events during 2005. There will be a household hazardous waste collection at the Groton/Ryegate recycling center on Saturday, June 25 from 8 am to 11 am. The hazardous waste depot in Lyndonville will be open from June 1 to September 30 Monday through Friday by appointment, and collection events on Saturday, July 16 and Saturday August 13 when no appointment is needed. Watch for our annual bicycle reuse event this spring - come and pick up a new to you bike at no cost! Clothing drop and swaps are scheduled for spring and fall at the Fenton Chester arena in Lyndonville - these events have grown in popularity over the last three years, and we now regularly send 2/3 of the clothing collected back into the community for reuse!

Please give us a call at 626-3532 or 800-734-4602 with any questions, comments, or waste management issues that you have. We can also be reached by e-mail at progmgr@nekwmd.org or on the web at www.nekwmd.org.

Thank you and happy recycling!

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FOR 2004 TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 1 Wayne Dyer was elected as Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2 The Town Report for 2003 was accepted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 3 It was voted to elect a Road Commissioner.

ARTICLE 4 The following Town Officers were elected:

Brent Smith	Road Commissioner	1 year
Linda Nunn	Town Clerk	1 year
Leonard Doscinski	Selectman	3 years
Victoria Beamis	Lister	3 years
Martha Crown	Auditor	3 years
Susan Gordon	Library Trustee	1 year
Emilie Knisley	Library Trustee	3 years
Nancy Spencer	Library Trustee	3 years
Berne Bouley	Cemetery Commissioner	3 years
Roberta Dana	Coll. Of Current Taxes	1 year
Milton Lamberton	First Constable	2 years
James Downing Jr.	Second Constable	2 years
Milton Lamberton	Town Grand Juror	1 year
None	Town Agent	moved to appoint
None	Agent to Convey Real Estate	moved to appoint

It was so voted that the various Town Officers' compensation be set by the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 5 Tom Page was elected to the school board for a three-year term.

State Representative Harvey (Bud) Otterman was introduced at this time. Representative Otterman spoke on Act 68 and what the changes will mean to the Town of Groton.

ARTICLE 6 The date of Friday, October 8th 2004 by 5:00 p.m. was set for the deadline to pay property taxes.

ARTICLE 7 Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) was voted for Northeast Kingdom Adult Basic Education Services, Inc.

ARTICLE 8 Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) was voted for Northeast Kingdom Youth Services, Inc.

ARTICLE 9 Three hundred dollars (\$300.00) was voted for Umbrella, Inc.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FOR 2004 TOWN MEETING - cont'd

- ARTICLE 10 Four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450.00) was voted for Northeastern Vermont Area Agency on Aging.
- ARTICLE 11 Five hundred and eighty dollars (\$580.00) was voted to assist River's Reach, a Regional Resource Center.
- ARTICLE 12 Nine hundred twenty dollars (\$920.00) was voted for Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.
- ARTICLE 13 One thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100.00) was voted for Caledonia Home Health.
- ARTICLE 14 Two hundred seventeen dollars and twenty cents (\$217.20) was voted for Rural Community Transportation ("RCT").
- ARTICLE 15 Five hundred sixteen thousand eight hundred twelve dollars and sixty two cents (\$516,812.62) was so voted to cover the current expenses and liabilities of the Town General Fund and Highway budget including the other warned articles so voted at Town Meeting.
- ARTICLE 16 Closing statements

Meeting adjournment took place at 12:43 P.M.

Linda L. Nunn, Town Clerk

TOWN OFFICERS ELECTED

Moderator	
Wayne Dyer	2005
Road Commissioner	
Brent Smith	2005
Town Clerk	
Linda Nunn	2005
Town Treasurer	
Roberta Dana	2006
Selectmen	
Kevin B. Ricker	2005
Berne Bouley	2006
Leonard Doscinski	2007
Lister	
Lisa Hill	2005
Linda Nunn	2006
Victoria Beamis	2007
Auditors	
N. Dale Brown	2005
Mary Grant	2006
Martha Crown	2007
Union School District #21 Directors	
Gary Lamberton	2005
Brenda Powers	2006
Thomas Page	2007
Library Trustees	
Deborah Orelup	2005
Susan Gordon	2005
Diane Kreis	2006
Patrick Shattuck	2006
Virginia Jennings	2006
Richard Montague	2007
Emilie Knisley	2007
Barbarann Bean	2008
Cemetery Commission	
Thomas Gandin	2005
Deborah Jurist	2006
Berne Bouley	2007
Collector of Current Taxes	
Roberta Dana	2005
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	
Patricia Bouley	2005
First Constable	
Milton Lamberton	2006
Second Constable	
James Downing Jr.	2006
Town Grand Juror	
Milton Lamberton	2005

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED BY SELECTBOARD - 2004

Agent to Convey Real Estate	
Leonard Doscinski	2005
Health Officer	
Beatrice Faus	2005
Deputy Health Officer	
Sharon Proctor	2006
Fire Warden	
James Downing Jr.	2005
Emergency Management Coordinator	
Brent Smith	2005
Fence Viewers	
Terry Dana	2005
E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2005
Kenneth Murray	2005
Inspectors Wood, Lumber, Shingles	
Fred Braman	2005
Don Crum	2005
Kenneth Ricker	2005
Town Service Officer	
Linda Nunn	2005
Energy Coordinator	
Richard Montague	2005
NVDA Representative	
Wade Johnson (resigned)	2005
NVDA Alternate	
Dave Sanville	2004
Zoning Administrator	
Daniel Robinson	2005
911 Coordinator	
Brent Smith	2005
Board of Adjustment	
Wayne Dyer	2005
E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2005
Mark Gleicher	2005
Selectboard Secretary	
Linda Nunn	2005
Animal Control Officer	
Josephine Guertin	2005
Pound Keeper	
Josephine Guertin	2005
Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste Supervisor	
Meredith Puffer	2005
Planning Commission	
Daniel Webster	2005
Kenneth Murray	2006
Robert Abraham	2007
Martha Crown, chair	2008
Roland Irwin	2008
Wade Johnson	2008

APPOINTED BY TOWN CLERK

Assistant Town Clerk

Roberta Dana

2005

Patricia Bouley

2005

APPOINTED BY TOWN TREASURER

Assistant Treasurers

Shirley Beamis

2005

Patricia Bouley

2005

APPOINTED BY COLLECTOR OF CURRENT TAXES

Assistant Collector of Current Taxes

Shirley Beamis

2005

Patricia Bouley

2005

Linda Nunn

2005

TOWN AGENT

Otterman and Allen

2005

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

Selectmen

Kevin B. Ricker

Berne Bouley

Leonard Doscinski

Justices of the Peace

Signa Braman

Don Crum

Tirone Dyer

Allen Gandin

Laura (Bing) Page

Town Clerk

Linda Nunn

AUDITORS' REPORT FOR 2004

This Town Report is presented by your Auditors to record the Town's General Funds, Receipts and Disbursements. All funds supported by your contributions are audited several times during the fiscal year. These include the General Fund, Payroll and Delinquent Tax Account. The audit also includes the Cemetery accounts, the Dog and Cat license fees, plus the Library Accounts.

We, the auditors of the Town of Groton, Vermont believe that these accounts and reports, to the best of our knowledge, represents a fair and accurate Report for the Town of Groton for the year 2004.

N. Dale Brown

Mary Grant

Martha Crown

SELECTBOARD REPORT FOR 2004

Another year has slipped by us and has quickly come and gone. We are thankful for the many accomplishments that we have been able to complete and those that have been started but were not able to complete this past year. Some were anticipated projects and some were not.

We received extra money for paving projects and we were able to pave Minard Hill, Railroad Street, Mill Street, Park Street and a portion of the Depot Flats.

Our Tax Mapping and reappraisal work is in progress. The Community Building area and Fire Station area were surveyed. We were able to purchase another Town Truck to assist us in our Road Maintenance projects.

Our Insurance needs changed and we acquired insurance from the "Vermont League of Cities and Towns" to facilitate those needs. This gives us inspection of our properties for safety purposes and assessed values. There are many other areas that we benefit from in acquiring this insurance that include but are not limited to: Drivers training for Fire Dept., drug screening, boiler inspection, etc. which is included at no extra cost to our premiums.

We would like to express our sincere thanks for all of those individuals that work in and for the Town of Groton and in the Town Office and for all of those individuals that volunteer their time for the betterment of the Town.

The Selectboard meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of every month; the Selectboard members sign orders every week.

Respectfully,
Groton Selectboard

Berne Bouley, Chairman

Kevin B. Ricker

Leonard Doscinski

TREASURER AND COLLECTOR OF CURRENT TAXES REPORT

First and foremost I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Linda Nunn, Pat Bouley, Vickie and Shirley Beamis for their help and cooperation. We accomplished several unexpected tasks this past year that entailed many extra hours of work. We finished the new 911 addressing and sent notices to all property owners. We had to spend many hours discharging old delinquent taxes and making cards for the card file for these taxes. On the property tax situation we spent months updating and trying to resolve homestead errors with Property Valuation and Review.

Please keep in mind that the State of Vermont form titled "Declaration of Vermont Homestead" number HS-131 needs to be filed EVERY year or you will be taxed at a non-residential rate. If you are a Vermont resident and you own and occupy a Vermont property as your principal residence as of April 1, 2005 you must file this form with the Vermont Department of Taxes by April 15, 2005. Even if you do not have to file a Vermont income tax return you must file this form if you meet the above requirements. If you have not received a form please contact the Tax Department at 1-866-828-2865 (toll free in VT) or stop by the Town Office. The form will also be included in the Vermont Income Tax booklet.

At the time this report was going to press I had been informed that the 2004 Groton Properties Enrolled in the Vermont Current Use Program might not be included. The amount of tax revenue lost by this program was over \$35,000.00 for land and over \$3,000.00 for farm buildings. The State of Vermont reimbursed the Town \$12,036.00 for this program. The reports on the State owned buildings and land in Groton might also be eliminated from this report. In 2004 the State sent us PILOT funds for their buildings in the amount of \$4,279.00 where if the buildings were privately owned the town would have collected \$44,517.53 in taxes. That is a difference of \$40,238.53. Also in 2004 the land owned by the State would have brought in tax revenues of \$99,116.70 for which the State sent the town PILOT funds in the amount of \$54,511.86 (the same amount since 1969) for a difference of \$44,604.84. This means that all total, between the Current Use program and the State owned buildings and land, the town received at least \$123,000.00 less than we would have if the State would really fully fund the Current Use program and if they paid their fair share amount of taxes on the buildings and land they own in our town. Unfortunately the gaps in these amounts have to be paid through our property taxes. Copies of these reports may be obtained at the Town Office or at Town Meeting if they are eliminated.

Regarding the 2005 Town and Highway Budget Proposal:

Please try to take some time to look over the budget. There are some changes on some of the items in comparison to last year and an overall increase in the budget. Remember, this is a line item budget. That means that any budget amount may be discussed and the amount may be raised or lowered by the taxpayers before the final budget amount is voted. So please do not hesitate to ask questions after the budget article on the Town Warning is brought up for discussion and before the final amount is voted.

Regarding Property Taxes: Our property tax rate did decrease last year for both homestead and non-residential properties.

Please keep the following important facts in mind regarding collection of Current Taxes:

Postmarks are **NOT** accepted as timely payment. We must receive the payment in the office by the due date and time. To be fair to all taxpayers we do not make **ANY** exceptions. It doesn't matter if your payment is 10 minutes late or two days late. It is still late and will be considered delinquent. Please understand that we have to draw a line somewhere to be fair.

Your check must be valid and payable no later than the due date and time. If there is anything written in the memo field of your check that is contrary to Town Policy the check will be returned to you and if a new check is not received by the due date your taxes will be considered delinquent.

You may request a copy of your tax bill by stopping in the office and requesting one. Also keep your tax bills as most of you will need them to prepare your Vermont State Income Tax returns and/or other Department of Taxes forms. If the tax collection hours on the information insert that will be included with your tax bill are not convenient please remember we have a drop mailbox in the front lobby of the town office or you may also contact me to make an appointment with you. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. The office number is 802-584-3276 and my home phone is 802-584-3756.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Dana, Town Treasurer and Collector of Current Taxes

TOWN & HIGHWAY BUDGET - 2005

	2004 Actual Spent	2004 Budget	Over/ Under Budget	2005 Budget
Town, Highway & Cemetery Expenses				
Town Expenses				
· AC Expense	1,496.43	1,700.00	-203.57	1,600.00
· Admin Expense	62,035.30	54,500.00	7,535.30	65,728.00
· Ambulance Contract	12,180.60	12,180.60	0.00	13,089.60
· Auditing Expense	0.00	250.00	-250.00	250.00
· Coll of Del Taxes Expenses	1,340.11	1,800.00	-459.89	1,830.00
· Clock Expense	100.00	200.00	-100.00	200.00
· Community Building				
· Comm Bldg Expense	7,217.69	7,400.00	-182.31	7,400.00
· Comm Bldg Repair	1,583.36	6,000.00	-4,416.64	5,000.00
Total Community Building	8,801.05	13,400.00	-4,598.95	12,400.00
· Computer Expense	364.83	1,000.00	-635.17	1,000.00
· Constable Expense				
· First Constable	1,884.61	2,500.00	-615.39	3,000.00
· Second Constable	1,568.65	1,000.00	568.65	8,278.00
Total Constable Expense	3,453.26	3,500.00	-46.74	11,278.00
· County Tax Expense	7,073.99	7,800.00	-726.01	9,229.00
· Dues				
· Dues NVDA	367.92	300.00	67.92	367.92
· Dues VLCT	922.00	900.00	22.00	1,190.00
Total Dues	1,289.92	1,200.00	89.92	1,557.92
· Election Expense	1,275.70	1,000.00	275.70	1,000.00
· Emergency Svc Bldg Utilities	5,353.32	3,000.00	2,353.32	5,200.00
· FAST Expense	9,716.81	9,800.00	-83.19	9,800.00
· Field & Park Expense	1,067.93	1,000.00	67.93	1,000.00
· Fire Dept Expense	20,293.72	19,500.00	793.72	21,600.00
· Fire Truck Loan Payment	33,025.28	33,025.28	0.00	33,025.28
· Forest Fire Expense	211.12	1,000.00	-788.88	1,000.00
· Gilman Housing Expense	662.08	600.00	62.08	700.00
· Insurance Expense	19,849.95	21,000.00	-1,150.05	19,000.00
· Interest Expense	446.31	800.00	-353.69	3,000.00
· Library Expense	12,546.80	12,595.00	-48.20	13,500.00
· Lister Expense	7,036.05	13,775.00	-6,738.95	14,000.00
· Office Expense	6,029.08	6,000.00	29.08	6,000.00
· Planning Expense	232.50	1,000.00	-767.50	500.00
· Professional Fees	547.00	1,000.00	-453.00	1,000.00
· Reappraisal Expense	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
Additional Reappraisal Expenses	14,000.00			
Paid from Reappr. Reserve Acct	-14,000.00			
· Sidewalk Maint Expense	12,160.89	12,500.00	-339.11	2,300.00
· Solid Waste				
· Joint Recycling	1,855.04	1,100.00	755.04	4,000.00
· NEKWMD Management Fee	3,908.42	3,600.00	308.42	1,000.00
Total Solid Waste	5,763.46	4,700.00	1,063.46	5,000.00

TOWN & HIGHWAY BUDGET - 2005 - cont'd

	2004 Actual Spent	2004 Budget	Over/ Under Budget	2005 Budget
· Streetlights				
· Streetlights MH	237.23	250.00	-12.77	250.00
· Streetlights Village	5,676.78	5,825.00	-148.22	5,800.00
Total Streetlights	5,914.01	6,075.00	-160.99	6,050.00
· Swim Program Expense	1,625.00	1,800.00	-175.00	1,800.00
· Town Report Expense	1,877.27	1,800.00	77.27	1,800.00
· Zoning Expense	206.90	500.00	-293.10	300.00
Total Town Expenses	268,976.67	275,000.88	-6,024.21	275,737.80
Highway Expenses				
· Highway-Chloride	8,633.50	11,000.00	-2,366.50	11,000.00
· Highway-Equipment Restricted {truck}	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	41,200.00
· Highway-Equip [bal. of Truck Payment]	48,258.00			
· Paid with 2003 Hwy surplus	-16,055.46	-16,055.46		
· Paid from Hwy Equip Fund	-47,658.00			
· Paid from sale of sheet roof	-600.00			
· Highway-Garage	3,859.12	6,000.00	-2,140.88	6,000.00
· Highway-Gravel	27,609.10	20,000.00	7,609.10	20,000.00
· Highway-Paving	46,280.60	46,000.00	280.60	46,000.00
· Highway-Projects				
· Hwy - Bridge Restricted	86.01		86.01	0.00
· Paid from Bridge acct	-86.01		-86.01	0.00
Total · Highway-Projects	0.00		0.00	0.00
Highway-Drainage upgrades				1,500.00
Highway-Flood Work*				25,273.20
· Highway-Summer Roads	56,493.12	57,000.00	-506.88	60,150.00
· Highway-Winter Roads	64,429.51	66,500.00	-2,070.49	78,000.00
Total Highway Expenses	231,249.49	230,444.54	804.95	289,123.20
Cemetery Expenses				
· Cemetery Maintenance Expense	7,116.54	7,400.00	-283.46	7,400.00
· Cemetery Reimbursed Expense	-94.00		-94.00	
Total Cemetery Expenses	7,022.54	7,400.00	-377.46	7,400.00
Total Town, Highway & Cemetery Expenses	507,248.70	512,845.42	-5,596.72	572,261.00
· Articles				
· Northeast Kingdom ABE Services	200.00	200.00	0.00	
· Northeast Kingdom Youth Service	200.00	200.00	0.00	
· Umbrella	300.00	300.00	0.00	
· Northeastern VT AAA	450.00	450.00	0.00	
· River's Reach (WRAP)	580.00	580.00	0.00	
· Northeast Kingdom Human Services	920.00	920.00	0.00	
· Caledonia Home Health Care & Ho	1,100.00	1,100.00	0.00	
· Rural Community Transportation	217.20	217.20	0.00	
Total Articles	3,967.20	3,967.20	0.00	
Total Expenses	511,215.90	516,812.62	-5,596.72	

*Received FEMA funds of \$36,951.57 in January 2005 which will pay for this budget item and of that amount \$804.95 will be used for 2004 floodwork already paid for.

ANTICIPATED GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS – 2005

Budget Account	Amount
Administration Income	7,500.00
Animal Control Income	2,600.00
Cemetery Interest	1,800.00
Civil & Highway Fines	350.00
Comm Building Income	100.00
Current Use Income	12,000.00
Delinquent Taxes-2004	28,687.44
FAST Squad Income	5,000.00
Highway Summer Income	32,000.00
Highway Winter Income	32,000.00
Highway FEMA Income	36,951.56
Interest Income Property Taxes	4,000.00
Lister Income	700.00
Lister Reappraisal Income	4,700.00
Office Income	3,000.00
PILOT Income	58,512.00
Swim Program Income	800.00
Taxes 2005	339,210.00
Union Bank stock dividends	2,000.00
Zoning Income	350.00
TOTAL ANTICIPATED INCOME	572,261.00

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT – 2004

Ending Balance 12/31/03		(16,946.20)
Receipts	1,050,070.29	
Disbursements (Selectmens orders)	1,009,991.91	
Difference between Receipts and Disbursements		40,078.38
Non-sufficient funds checks (bad checks)		(1,014.82)
Bank charges		
Voided check		
Ending Balance 12/31/04		22,117.36

Summary of Selectmen's Orders

Town Orders*	624,903.65	
Highway Orders	295,600.10	
School Orders	89,488.16	
Gross Orders		1,009,991.91

* Includes all transfers to other town bank accounts

School Expense

* Wells River Savings Bank School Account	765,278.94	
* Union Bank School Account	115,356.90	
Plus School Orders included above	89,488.16	
Total School Expense		970,124.00

*These payments were made directly to BMU from the account and did not go through the Selectmen's Orders.

VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS - 2004

		(No employee wages included)	
Admiral Fire & Safety, Inc	-35.96	EMS Conference	-305.00
AGC VT	-120.00	Everett J. Prescott, Inc.	-1,078.23
All States Asphalt, Inc.	-8,633.50	Fairpoint New England	-2,597.22
Alley's Market	-41.00	Farm Plan	-33.25
American Red Cross	-1,500.00	Farquharson Brothers Construction	-150.00
Arnold's Automotive, Inc.	-1,254.53	Farquharson, Robert S.	-13,015.00
Austin-Short, Jonathan	-145.37	Finger Lakes System Cleaning	-176.50
Barrett's Vinyl Graphics	-150.00	Fisher Auto Parts, Inc.	-50.11
Beattie, Donald	-6,305.45	Foggs Hardware	-60.98
Bigelow Paving Co., Inc.	-86,750.03	Freightliner of New Hampshire, Inc.	-346.72
BJ's Wholesale Club	-40.00	Galls Inc.	-497.33
BK's Computing	-750.00	Gandin Bros., Inc.	-70.00
Blackmount Equipment, Inc.	-9,950.00	Gandin, Thomas G.	-700.00
Blaktop, Inc.	-448.80	Gary's Fuels, Inc.	-15,901.69
Bliss, Donald	-2,100.00	GCR Truck Tire Centers Inc	-1,333.85
Blue Mountain Union School	-89,488.16	Green Mountain Monogram	-888.00
Bond Auto Parts, Inc.	-202.94	Green Mountain Power Corp.	-8,849.14
Bouley, Berne	-700.00	Groton Free Public Library	-5,377.44
Bouley, Patricia	-900.34	Groton Garage	-4,698.66
Boyce, David A.	-720.00	Groton United Methodist Church	-100.00
Brown's Market Bistro	-95.42	Groton, Town of	-662.08
Buswell, John	-29.00	Guertin, Josephine	-519.50
Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice	-1,100.00	Hatch Manufacturing Co	-169.15
Caledonian Record, The	-698.40	Hatch, Brent R.	-4,950.00
Capital Fire Mutual Aid	-100.00	Hicks Sales & Service	-963.22
Cargill Incorporated	-2,107.55	Hill-Martin Corporation	-172.39
Cartographic Associates, Inc.	-11,000.00	Jan's Bloom Room	-40.00
CED-Twin State Electric	-18.59	Johns, Brian & April	-1170.00
CenTec Cast Metal Products	-316.54	Joseph J. Marotti Co., Inc.	-353.06
Central Supply, Inc.	-424.44	K & T Environmental Equip, Inc	-6,617.00
Cherry, Martin W.	-28,000.00	Kenco, Inc.	-38.44
Chief Logging & Construction, Inc.	-500.00	Kingdom Connection	-150.00
Clark's Truck Center	-61,540.00	Knott, Wayne	-221.45
Community National Bank	-3,500.00	Kustom Signals, Inc.	-72.00
Companion Animal Care	-135.00	L. Brown & Sons Printing, Inc.	-1,023.20
Copiers, Etc.	-3,415.00	Lamberton, Milton	-1,114.61
Dana, Roberta	-1,223.06	Law Enforcement Systems, Inc.	-31.00
Daniels, Larry G. Jr.	-385.00	Maine Lubrication Service	-446.98
Darling's Auto Repair, Inc.	-2,066.94	MBA Rescue Equipment LLC	-13,295.70
Darling, Jeremy	-385.39	McCullough Crushing, Inc.	-11,338.60
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center	-75.00	MCI	-288.19
Denis, Ricker & Brown Inc	-14,172.95	Merchants Bank	-17.80
Doscinski, Leonard	-152.17	Merriam Graves Corp.	-174.22
Downing, James Jr.	-310.45	MHQ Municipal Vehicles	-135.00
E. F. Senecal, County Treasurer	-7,073.99	Microsolve Corporation	-150.00
Economy 2 Way Distributors, Inc.	-2,526.00	Mobile Testing Services, Inc.	-15.00
Ed Eaton	-1,599.93	Monroe FAST Squad	-100.00
Emerson, George	-768.00	Munce's Motor Oil	-509.71

Vendor Disbursements 2004 - cont'd

National Survey, Inc. The	-34.00	Tuck Press	-196.10
NEMRC	-1,170.00	Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Association	-605.31
Newman Lumber Co., Inc.	-1,000.00	UI Insurance Services, Inc.	-1,073.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	-920.00	Umbrella, Inc.	-300.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.	-200.00	Union Bank, Citizens Bank Division	-263,516.59
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services, Inc.	-200.00	Upper Valley Grill & General Store	-295.03
Northeastern Vt Area Agency on Aging	-450.00	UVM Extension	-160.00
Northland Specialties, Inc.	-4,870.00	VCA	-24.00
Nortrax	-1,918.07	Vermont Correctional Industries	-396.70
Nunn, Linda	-257.02	Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council	-40.75
NVDA	-367.92	Vermont Dept of Taxes, PVR	-135.00
Optical Expressions	-339.00	Vermont Fire Extinguisher	-338.30
Otterman & Allen, P.C.	-547.00	Vermont Institute for Government	-320.00
Palmer Brothers, Inc.	-1,007.37	Vermont State Treasurer	-565.00
Parro's Gun Shop & Police Supplies, Inc	-122.86	Viking Office Products	-265.44
Perry's Oil Service, Inc.	-785.32	VLCT	-1,162.00
Pete's Rubbish Removal	-4,133.67	VLCT Municipal Assistance Center	-175.00
Petty Cash-Treasurer	-99.52	VLCT PACIF	-150.00
Pioneer Products, Inc.	-250.95	VLCT Property & Casualty Intermun	-4,200.00
Postmaster-Groton, VT	-1,654.64	VLCT Unemployment Insurance Trust Inc.	-549.00
Powers Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	-1,442.59	VMCTA	-70.00
Print Shack, The	-135.00	VT Agency of Transportation	-926.93
Progressive Medical International	-653.01	VT Association of Chiefs of Police	-28.00
Public Safety Center, Inc.	-444.89	VT Dept of Health	-8.00
Puffer Excavating	-4,227.50	VT Dept of Motor Vehicles	-30.00
Quill Corporation	-412.38	VT, State of	-125.00
Reynolds & Son Inc	-853.70	Washington Electric Co-op, Inc.	-1,860.53
Ricker, Lawrence	-7,297.00	Way We Were Outlet, The	-20.94
Rinkers Communications	-497.75	Wells River Savings Bank	-4,913.99
River's Reach	-580.00	Whelen Engineering Co., Inc.	-732.78
Robinson, Daniel	-70.14	Williams, Kenneth C.	-3,000.00
Ross Business Center	-67.94	Winget, James	-6,100.00
Rowden Bros. Co., Inc.	-275.00	Woodsville Ambulance Service	-12,180.60
Ruppert, Jonathan T.	-1,230.00	Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank	-13,722.00
Rural Community Transportation	-217.20	Yankee Electric Supply Corp.	-30.97
Ryegate, Town of	-1,855.04		
Safeguard Business Systems Inc	-206.46	SUBTOTAL	-848,886.73
Sanders Radio	-4,471.53		
Shaw's Supermarket	-160.00	Liability Checks	Town's Amount of
Smith, Pamela	-60.33	Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT	Share Check
Southworth Milton, Inc.	-63.35	Northeast Delta Dental	-29,315.98 -32,216.67
St. Michael's College	-50.00	VT Dept. of Taxes	-551.88 -1,319.16
Staples	-362.86	Merchants Bank	0.00 -3,433.00
Tac-2 Communications	-210.75	AFLAC, Inc.	-8,909.71 -28,264.42
Taylor, Jeffrey	-186.23	VMERS DB	0.00 -338.34
Taylor, Jeffrey L. Esq.	-1,619.53	SUBTOTAL OF LIABILITIES	-3,825.88 -6,217.18
Tenco New England, Inc	-27,194.93		-42,603.45 -71,788.77
Truline Land Surveyors	-575.00	Net Payroll Total	-89,316.41
		Additional Payments to School	-880,635.84
		TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-1,890,627.75

WAGE REPORT FOR 2004

Employee	Position	Annual Wage	Wage per Hour	Mandatory SS & Medicare	Health & Dental Insurance	Retirement	TOTAL EMPLOYEE COST
Beamis, Shirley	Asst Treas	217.14	10.20	16.60			233.74
Bouley, Patricia	Asst Clerk, Treas, Tax	4,710.07	9.23	360.32			5,070.39
Dana, Roberta	Treas, Curr Tax, Asst Clerk	18,448.11	10.20	1,382.87	10,092.71	737.93	30,661.62
Doscinski, Leonard	Selectman	500.00	n/a	38.25			538.25
Nunn, Linda	Clerk, Select Sec, Asst Tax	19,816.35	8.85-10.35	1,502.02	3,759.18	792.69	25,870.24
Ricker, Kevin	Selectman	700.00	n/a	53.55			753.55
	Admin. Total	44,391.67		3,353.61	13,851.89	1,530.62	63,127.79
Lamberton, Milton	Animal Control Total	275.00	n/a	21.04			296.04
Nunn, Linda	Comm Bldg: Janitor	209.43	7.30	16.01		8.38	233.82
Downing, James Jr.	Constable: Second	580.35	7.30	44.39			624.74
Lamberton, Milton	Constable: First	825.00	n/a	63.11			888.11
	Constable Total	1,405.35		107.50			1,512.85
Bouley, Patricia	Del Tax Penalty*	3,926.76	n/a	300.41			4,227.17
Beamis, Victoria	Elections: Ballot Clerk	224.48	7.30	17.17			241.65
Bouley, Patricia	Elections: Ballot Clerk	237.25	7.30	18.15			255.40
Darling, Debra	Elections: Ballot Clerk	37.13	6.75	2.84			39.97
Page, Laura	Elections: Ballot Clerk	73.00	7.30	5.58			78.58
Ricker, Evelyn	Elections: Ballot Clerk	253.68	7.30	19.39			273.07
	Elections Total	825.54		63.13			888.67
Darling, Jeremy	Fire Chief/Forest Fire Fighter	274.10	n/a	20.97			295.07
Doscinski, Leonard	Forest Fire Fighter	24.10	12.05	1.84			25.94
Downing, James Jr.	Forest Fire Warden	26.40	13.20	2.02			28.42
Johnson, Matthew	Forest Fire Fighter	24.10	12.05	1.84			25.94
Johnson, Wade	Forest Fire Fighter	24.10	12.05	1.84			25.94
Knott, Wayne	Forest Fire Fighter	24.10	12.05	1.84			25.94
	Fire Dept. Total	396.90	n/a	30.35			427.25
Austin-Shortt, Jonathan	Hwy: Temporary Help	38.50	7.00	2.95			41.45
Johnson, Matthew	Hwy: Temporary Help	38.50	7.00	2.95			41.45
Palmer, Phillip	Hwy: Equipment Operator	26,879.64	12.05	2,032.12	7,942.76	1,075.15	37,929.67
Smith, Brent	Hwy: Road Commissioner	28,986.83	13.20	2,196.36	7,907.22	1,159.49	40,249.90
	Highway Total	55,943.47		4,234.38	15,849.98	2,234.64	78,262.47
Jobin, Kathryn	Asst. Librarian	38.81	6.75	2.96			41.77
O'Donnell-Leach, Karen	Librarian	6,552.00	9.00	501.25			7,053.25
	Library Total	6,590.81		504.21			7,095.02
Beamis, Victoria	Lister	1,878.59	7.30	143.70			2,022.29
Hill, Lisa	Lister	394.84	7.10	30.21			425.05
Nunn, Linda	Lister	744.65	8.05	56.96		29.79	831.40
	Lister Total	3,018.08		230.87		29.79	3,278.74
Robinson, Daniel	Zoning Total**	504.00	12.00/permit	38.54			542.54
Total Wages Paid in 2004		117,487.01		8,900.05	29,701.87	3,803.43	159,892.36

* Delinquent Tax Penalty wages are completely paid for from delinquent tax penalties assessed on delinquent tax payers.

** Zoning administrator wages are completely paid for from permit fees.

INTEREST FROM NON-TAX SOURCES - 2004**Interest earned in 2004**

Reappraisal*:	
WRSB CD - Reappraisal #712151	1,105.66
WRSB CD - Reappraisal #712283	29.84
WGSB - Reappraisal Acct #27402466	117.80
MB Grant Funds	8.90
MB Highway Equipment Fund	14.97
WRSB Bridge Fund	9.00
MB Planning II Funds	3.66
Union Bank Acct#77411	18.83
Short Term Investment of Tax Money:	
Union Bank 90 day CD	338.07
WRSB School Acct	777.69
TOTAL	<u>2,424.42</u>

Interest Paid in 2004

Interest Paid - For borrowing on Lines of Credit	446.31
Interest Paid - Comm. Nat'l Bank (for Firetruck)	1,809.16
Interest Paid - Union Bank (for Firetruck)	1,125.65
(this interest included in line item for fire truck loan)	
TOTAL INTEREST PAID	<u>3,381.12</u>

GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET - 2004

ASSETS

	<u>General</u>	<u>Grant</u>	
<u>Cash and Bank Accounts</u>			
General Fund Checking	22,117.36		
WGSB Reappraisal Acct	16,415.35		
Union Bank Money Market Acct	50.00		
Grant Funds		3,024.03	
Highway Equipment Fund	458.96		
Powder Spring Road Bridge (WRSB Money Market)	6,117.68		
Planning II Funds	1,215.16		
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	46,374.51	3,024.03	49,398.54
<u>Other Assets</u>			
Town Property [2004 Town Report]	1,436,517.00		
UnionBank Stock Shares (12/31/04)	58,191.00		
Delinquent Taxes as of 12/31/2004	28,687.44		
Grant Fund Accounts Receivable		1,830.00	
TOTAL Other Assets	1,523,395.44	1,830.00	1,525,225.44
TOTAL ASSETS			<u><u>1,574,623.98</u></u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY**LIABILITIES**

Fire truck loan	52,137.56		
Payroll federal tax liability	2,599.44		
Payroll Vermont tax liability	694.00		
Payroll liability for Collector of Delinquent Taxes	0.00		
Retirement liability	1,524.82		
Total Liabilities			56,955.82

EQUITY

Restricted & Unrestricted Fund Balances	75,061.95	4,854.03	
General Equity	1,437,752.18		
Total Equity	1,512,814.13	4,854.03	1,517,668.16

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY1,574,623.98

* All reappraisal funds came from the State of Vermont and are restricted for future reappraisal.

COMBINED STATEMENT of ASSETS, LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCES

(Arising from Cash Transactions)

Cash Basis - All Funds

December 31, 2004

	Governmental Fund Type		Fiduciary Fund	Account Group	
	General	Special Revenue [like grants]	Trust Fund [like cemetery]	General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum only)
Assets					
Cash	46,374.51	3,024.03	20,648.63		70,047.17
Certificates of Deposit			74,874.75		74,874.75
Stock	58,191.00				58,191.00
AR: Due from Del. Tax Col.	28,687.44				28,687.44
AR: Long Term Grant Loan		1,830.00			1,830.00
Fixed Assets	1,436,517.00				1,436,517.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,569,769.95	4,854.03	95,523.38	0.00	1,670,147.36
Liabilities and Fund Balances					
Liabilities:					
Fire truck loan	52,137.56				52,137.56
Payroll liabilities	4,818.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,818.26
Total Liabilities	56,955.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	56,955.82
Fund Balances:					
Restricted	24,207.15	3,024.03	95,523.38	0.00	122,754.56
Unrestricted					0.00
Designated	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Undesignated	22,167.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,167.36
Total Fund Balance	46,374.51	3,024.03	95,523.38	0.00	144,921.92
Equity	1,466,439.62	1,830.00	0.00	0.00	1,468,269.62
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	1,569,769.95	4,854.03	95,523.38	0.00	1,670,147.36

ACTUAL GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS - 2004

Budget Account	Amount	Comments/Notes
Administration Income	8,441.20	Recording fees, vault fees, marriage fees, etc.
Animal Control Income	2,703.00	Dog & cat licenses & fines
Civil & Highway fines	581.50	From State of Vermont
Cemetery Interest	4,304.06	
Comm Building Income	100.00	Rental use of community building & can redemption
Current Use Income	12,036.00	From State of Vermont
Delinquent Taxes 2002	432.15	
Delinquent Taxes 2003	38,732.22	
Delinquent Taxes 2004	55,397.33	
Dividend Income	2,200.50	Union Bank Stocks
Donation to stump dump	10.00	
FAST Squad Income	5,350.00	Donations-350, Town of Ryegate-5000
Fire Dept Income	3,500.00	Sale of old fire truck-sent to bank to apply to truck loan
Forest Fire Income	1,551.56	State & Peacham reimbursement towards cost of forest fire
Grant-Homeland Security	17,223.78	Homeland Security Grants, etc.
Grant-Paving	49,346.41	Paving Grants
Highway Summer Income	32,271.08	Hwy Aid
Highway Winter Income	37,619.68	Hwy Aid
Insurance Refunds	3,309.00	
Interest Income from Non-Tax Sources	368.69	
Interest Income Delinquent Taxes 2002	142.56	
Interest Income Delinquent Taxes 2003	4,192.11	
Interest Income Delinquent Taxes 2004	709.24	
Lister Income	787.00	
Lister Re-Appraisal Income	4,722.00	From State of Vermont to reserve for reappraisal
Line of Credit Union Bank	115,000.00	
Miscellaneous Income	489.18	
Office Income	3,455.66	Copies, faxes, motor vehicle renewals, etc.
PILOT * Leaseland Income	58,791.86	From State of Vermont
Swim Program Income	979.00	\$600 from Community Club; balance from participants
Taxes 2004 (Current)	385,204.65	
Taxes 2005 (collected in 2004)	104.76	
Transfers from other town accounts	190,958.00	
Zoning Income	390.00	Permit fees
Subtotal	1,041,404.18	

Deposits Credited to Expense Accounts

CDT expenses	2,232.58	Tax sale expenses paid by del taxpayers
CDT penalty wages reimbursed	3,926.76	Paid by delinquent taxpayers
Constable expenses reimbursed	81.23	Constable paid for jacket & pins
Election postage refund	13.65	
FAST Squad reimbursed income	249.40	
Insurance expense reimbursement	145.00	
Interest expense credit	10.00	
Highway-drug program refund	150.00	
Highway-sale of metal roofing	600.00	
Highway-sign reimbursements	61.54	Signs paid for by residents
Lister Expense	110.00	Rebates on software
Office Expense	10.95	Refund of bank charges
Zoning Income	468.00	Permit fees
Subtotal	8,059.11	

ACTUAL GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS - 2004 - cont'd**Expenses Charged to Income Accounts**

Animal Control	230.00
Admin Income	142.00
Reimbursed Income	135.00
Office Income	90.00
Zoning Income	10.00
	<u>607.00</u>

TOTAL ACTUAL GEN FUND RECEIPTS**1,050,070.29****PLANNING and GRANT ACCOUNTS****2004 PLANNING ACCOUNT**

BALANCE 12/31/03	1,211.50
Deposits: Interest Earned	3.66
TOTAL 1/1/04 - 12/31/04	<u>3.66</u>
BALANCE 12/31/04	1,215.16

2004 GRANT ACCOUNT

OPENING BALANCE 12/31/03	2,865.13
DEPOSITS: Interest Income Non-Tax Source	8.90
DEPOSITS: Hatch Manufacturing payments	150.00
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/03	3,024.03

NOTES on Grand Fund Accounts Receivable**Hatch Manufacturing Loan**

Amount Loaned	4,500.00
1993 loan re-payment	100.00
No 1994 loan re-payment	0.00
No 1995 loan re-payment	0.00
1996 loan re-payment	545.00
1997 loan re-payment	500.00
No 1998 loan re-payment	0.00
1999 loan re-payment	125.00
2000 loan re-payment	175.00
2001 loan re-payment	400.00
2002 loan re-payment	75.00
2003 loan re-payment	600.00
2004 loan re-payment	150.00
	<u>2,670.00</u>

Loan Balance as of 12/31/04**1,830.00**

TOWN PROPERTY LIST

AS OF 12/31/04

Date	Acct	Note	Amount	Total
	Bldg--Boy Scout Camp & Forest			
07/03/96	Bldg--Boy Scout	Camp	5,400.00	
01/25/97	Bldg--Boy Scout	Town Forest per Selectmen	44,600.00	
	TOTAL Bldg--Boy Scout & Forest			50,000.00
	Bldg--Cemetery			
	TOTAL Bldg--Cemetery			2,500.00
	Bldg--Comm Bldg/vault			
	TOTAL Bldg--Comm Bldg			260,000.00
	Bldg--Fire Station			
	TOTAL Bldg--Fire Station			100,500.00
	Bldg--GarageNew			
	TOTAL Bldg--GarageNew			150,000.00
	Bldg--GarageOld			
	TOTAL Bldg--GarageOld			11,000.00
	Bldg--Gazebo	Band stand		8,250.00
	Bldg--New Cemetery			2,500.00
	Bldg--Puffer Field (former bus shelter)			1,000.00
07/03/96	Bldg--Pump House			2,000.00
	Bldg--Warm Hut			2,000.00
	Contents--Community Building			
12/14/98	Contents--CB	CB - chairs, tables, etc. upstairs	1,000.00	
12/14/98	Contents--CB	CB - furnace	8,500.00	
12/14/98	Contents--CB	CB - kitchen contents	5,000.00	
12/13/01	Contents--CB	Listers - digital camera Fuji	75.00	
12/13/01	Contents--CB	Listers - Printer - HP Photosmart 1215	50.00	
07/13/04	Contents--CB	Listers - Printer - HP Color Laser 2550L	450.00	
09/15/04	Contents--CB	Listers - Computer	650.00	
12/14/98	Contents--CB	Office - misc office equipment	3,000.00	
09/14/01	Contents--CB	Office - PC - Clerk's Dell	200.00	
12/14/98	Contents--CB	Office - PC - Public HP Pavilion 6330	100.00	
10/17/03	Contents--CB	Office - PC - Treas	500.00	
03/14/01	Contents--CB	Office - Printer - Clerk's HP 895 CSE	25.00	
11/14/03	Contents--CB	Office - Printer - HP Laser Jet	200.00	
12/03/00	Contents--CB	Office - Printer - Treas HP 970 Cxi	50.00	
09/14/01	Contents--CB	Office - Scanner - Clerk's Canon	25.00	
04/14/99	Contents--CB	Office- Sharp copier	100.00	
07/23/04	Contents--CB	Office - Sharp copier	2,800.00	
12/14/98	Contents--CB	Planning - PC - Gateway	25.00	
	TOTAL Contents--CB			22,750.00
12/31/95	Contents--Community Building - Library			64,000.00

TOWN PROPERTY LIST - cont'd

12/31/04	Union Bank stock/2445 shares (23.80/share) - formerly CSBT Stock/250 shares		
	TOTAL Union Bank Shares' Market Value		58,191.00
06/01/95	Equip--Cemetery		9,200.00
12/31/02	Equip--Constable		2,500.00
	Equip--FAST		
06/01/90	Equip--FAST	Vehicles	10,000.00
06/01/90	Equip--FAST	Equipment	9,000.00
07/01/02	Equip--FAST	Defibrillator	6,000.00
	TOTAL Equip--FAST		25,000.00
	Equip--Fire Department		
11/03/90	Equip--FD	Equipment	50,000.00
	Equip--FD	1956 Chevy Pump Truck	10,000.00
12/31/03	Equip--FD	1991 Ford Pumper/Tanker (refurbished)	85,000.00
12/31/02	Equip--FD	2001 Freightliner Fire Truck	149,000.00
	TOTAL Equip--FD		294,000.00
	Equip--Hwy		
5/9/2003	Equip--Hwy	Chainsaw	200.00
01/15/69	Equip--Hwy	Loader	5,000.00
01/15/72	Equip--Hwy	10-l beams	2,200.00
01/15/87	Equip--Hwy	Backhoe	14,000.00
01/15/90	Equip--Hwy	Brush mower	500.00
01/15/90	Equip--Hwy	Culvert thawer	500.00
01/15/90	Equip--Hwy	Grader	47,000.00
01/15/94	Equip--Hwy	Storage trailer	1,000.00
01/15/95	Equip--Hwy	2 Sanders	300.00
12/31/01	Equip--Hwy	Small equipment & tools	27,318.00
01/15/95	Equip--Hwy	Snow plow	2,500.00
01/15/95	Equip--Hwy	Stone rake	1,000.00
08/22/01	Equip--Hwy	TRK5: '01 Truck, Plow, Sander, Wing	49,600.00
11/01/02	Equip--Hwy	TRK6: '97 Ford 1-ton, plow, sander	18,000.00
08/24/04	Equip--Hwy	TRK7: '05 Int'l Truck, plow, sander, wing	88,258.00
06/15/99	Equip--Hwy	Lowboy trailer	500.00
	TOTAL Equip--Hwy		257,876.00
12/14/97	Equip--Radios		1,500.00
11/03/90	Equip--Recreation		500.00
01/25/97	Land--Cemetery, Road & 0.8 Acres		800.00
01/25/97	Land--Dam & Right Of Way		1,000.00
12/14/97	Land--Flood Land	Near Senior Center	1,000.00
01/25/97	Land--Frost Field		8,000.00
01/25/97	Land--Gravel Pit	Old pit	15,000.00
09/01/99	Land--Gravel Pit	New pit - 100 acres	64,000.00
01/25/97	Land--Lakeside (0.11 Acres)		1,000.00
01/25/97	Land--Landfill	Old dump	9,000.00
01/25/97	Land--Park		51,350.00
01/25/97	Land--Puffer Field		12,291.00
07/03/03	Land--Park Street Cemetery (6 acres)		6,000.00
	OVERALL TOTAL		1,494,708.00

TEN-YEAR GRAND LIST & TAX RATE COMPARISON

Year	Grand List	School	Hwy	Town/ Gen Fund	Total	Taxes on \$100,000 Home
1994	56,629,977.00	\$0.7600	\$0.1100	\$0.1900	\$1.0600	\$1,060.00
1995	57,368,226.00	\$1.2413	\$0.1500	\$0.1300	\$1.5213	\$1,521.30
1996	54,443,698.00	\$1.5600	\$0.1600	\$0.2500	\$1.9700	\$1,970.00
1997	54,803,563.00	\$1.3200	\$0.1300	\$0.2800	\$1.7300	\$1,730.00
1998	55,568,664.00	\$1.2600	\$0.3043	\$0.2327	\$1.7900	\$1,790.00
1999	56,000,972.00	\$1.3000	\$0.2300	\$0.3700	\$1.9000	\$1,900.00
2000	56,736,566.00	\$1.7800	\$0.1300	\$0.2900	\$2.2000	\$2,200.00
2001	57,236,778.00	\$1.7200	\$0.2200	\$0.2600	\$2.2000	\$2,200.00
2002	58,215,266.00	\$1.7000	\$0.2400	\$0.2100	\$2.1500	\$2,150.00
2003	58,828,499.00	\$1.8600	\$0.2200	\$0.3400	\$2.4200	\$2,420.00
2004*	59,325,956.00	\$1.5950	\$0.2119	\$0.3786	\$2.1855	\$2,185.50
2004**	59,325,956.00	\$1.6728	\$0.2119	\$0.3786	\$2.2633	\$2,263.30

Tax rate is applied to each \$100 of assessed value.

* Tax rate for homestead property

**Tax rate for non-residential property

ANALYSIS of 2004 GRAND LIST

Category	Number of Parcels	Municipal LV (taxable)	Education LV Homesteads taxable (Excl. CUSE)	Education LV Non-Residential taxable (Excl. CUSE)	Total Education LV (taxable)
Residential I	193	16,238,800.00	12,548,800	3,690,000	16,238,800
Residential II	120	12,464,389.00	10,837,401	1,626,988	12,464,389
Mobile Homes-U	14	265,800.00	162,400	103,400	265,800
Mobile Homes-L	41	1,934,423.00	1,590,600	343,823	1,934,423
Vacation I	142	13,800,000.00	198,500	13,601,500	13,800,000
Vacation II	58	4,666,386.00	50,752	4,615,634	4,666,386
Commercial	21	1,745,800.00	487,362	1,258,438	1,745,800
Commercial Apts	2	625,500.00	0	562,950	562,950
Industrial	1	179,000.00	0	179,000	179,000
Utilities-E	3	1,950,554.00	0	1,950,554	1,950,554
Utilities-O	1	5,500.00	0	5,500	5,500
Farm	7	1,183,548.00	789,148	394,400	1,183,548
Other	4	59,400.00	0	59,400	59,400
Woodland	38	1,299,430.00	0	1,299,430	1,299,430
Miscellaneous	116	2,907,426.00	213,400	2,694,026	2,907,426
Totals	761	59,325,956.00	26,878,363	32,385,043	59,263,406
Cable		0	0	31,077	31,077
Machinery & Equip		0			
Inventory		0			
Total Taxable Property		59,325,956	26,878,363	32,416,120	59,294,483
Total Grand List		593,259.56	268,783.63	324,161.20	

CURRENT TAX RECONCILIATION

	State			
	Town	Highway	Education Tax	Total
Percentage of Tax Rate	17.0%	9.5%	73.5%	100%
2004 Tax Rate	0.3786	0.2119	1.5950 -1.6728	2.1855-2.2633
2004 Taxes Assessed & Billed	224,608.24	125,711.72	970,967.51	1,321,287.47
Penalties assessed Late Homesteads	87.73			
Total tax to be collected	224,695.97	125,711.72	970,967.51	1,321,375.20
Taxes Collected				
2004 Current Taxes				
Collected through 10/8/04	210,740.03	117,949.78	911,016.09	1,239,705.90
Overpmts not to be refunded	0.08	0.05	0.36	0.49
Overpmts to be applied to 2005	111.34	62.32	481.31	654.97
Total taxes collected	210,628.61	117,887.41	910,534.42	1,239,050.44
2004 Delinquent Taxes				
2004 Delinquent Tax Warrant I *	13,822.04	7,736.10	59,751.80	81,309.94
2004 Delinquent Tax Warrant II *	172.51	96.55	745.76	1,014.82
Total of 2004 Delinquent Taxes	13,994.55	7,832.65	60,497.56	82,324.76
2004 Delinquent Taxes Paid to Treasurer through 12/31/04	9,417.10	5,270.69	40,709.54	55,397.33
2004 Delinquent Taxes Left to Be Collected	4,577.45	2,561.97	19,788.02	26,927.43

* Warrant given to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes

COLLECTOR OF DELINQUENT TAXES

Report for 2004

This has been a very rewarding and challenging year. The ending balance for this year is the smallest amount left to collect that I can ever recall. Thank you each and every taxpayer.

Four properties were sold at Tax Sale. One has been redeemed.

It is encouraged that you take a few moments to read the Town of Groton Delinquent Tax Collection Policy and Tax Sale Proceedings. The Policy was revised and changes were made for the year 2004 on a number of items.

Reminders:

It is important to remember that Post-Marks **are not** accepted.

To insure that you are sending the proper amount please check your date on the statement and the valid to date. At times I receive payment with a bill that is 2 or 3 months old.

Payment is credited when received in hand. Mail your payment in plenty of time to insure that it reaches my office by the valid day, otherwise you will have another month's interest added to your balance. **Please remember that we are not responsible for an error made by the US Postal Service because your letter did not arrive in a timely manner. In order to be fair to all taxpayers we do not make any exceptions.** For Example: In 2004 a taxpayer from MA sent a check out on the 28th of September and the letter did not arrive at the Town Office until October 12, 2004. The taxes became delinquent, subject to interest and penalty. They were upset and I do not blame them. If it had been my letter, I would have been very upset as well. The US Postal Service acknowledges that it was their error and that they were responsible for this added expense to the taxpayer. The Postmaster in that area wrote to me and said that the sorting machines at the Central MA Facility affixed an incorrect bar-code to the envelope sending it to a different zip code area. However, the US Postal Service would not take the responsibility and pay the added charges, like banks that fail to get the tax payment here on time. The taxpayer had to pay the added charges, which were costly. Be encouraged to come to my home with payments. Please call to insure that your payment has arrived or send it by Fed-Ex to insure delivery if you are out of the area. Partial Payments of any amount are encouraged on you're account up until the day before it is turned over to the Attorney for Tax Sale. Once the accounts are turned over to the Attorney for Tax Sale, **full payment is required.**

These are a few areas that present problems from time to time. Please take time to review the entirety of the Tax Policy to have a complete understanding of its content.

If you should have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. My phone number is 584-3792 or come to my home at 158 Railroad Street. Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Bouley, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

TOWN OF GROTON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION POLICY & TAX SALE PROCEEDINGS FOR TAX YEAR 2004

- All taxes became delinquent after 5 p.m. on October 08, 2004. As soon as the Tax Collection Warrant has been received, and each month thereafter, the Collector of Delinquent Taxes will send a notice to each delinquent taxpayer.
- Interest is assessed at 1% per month (or a fraction of a month) for the first three months and at 1.5% per month (or a fraction of a month) thereafter on any unpaid principal tax amount. Interest will be recalculated on the 1st of each month. A one time 8% Penalty is assessed on the unpaid delinquent principal tax amount at the time the account goes delinquent. 32 VSA § 4873, 5142
- Partial payments will be applied first to the interest portion of the amount due, and the remainder will be divided proportionately between the amount of the tax, and the 8% penalty. Payments with statements or directives issued on them or by communication included with payments that are not consistent with the Groton Town Policy will be returned to the taxpayer. The Town of Groton **will not accept payments** of delinquent taxes that are made in contravention of this policy. The Collector of Delinquent Taxes will return any payments made that are not consistent with this policy to the delinquent taxpayer.
- **PAYMENT IS CREDITED WHEN RECEIVED IN HAND.** (Postmarks have been discontinued since 1993)
- Over-payments of \$1.00 or less will not be refunded unless specifically requested by the taxpayer.
- There will be a \$25.00 charge for any returned check; non-sufficient funds or closed accounts; or returned instrument of non-payment in lieu of delinquent taxes.
- Post-dated checks are not acceptable.
- To insure quality service telephone calls may be recorded for accuracy, clarity and content.
- Mortgage holders or lien holders **may be notified** of the delinquent taxes prior to sending out final notices. Final Notices will be sent out on May 1, 2005. Payment in full is required on all accounts AFTER May 31, 2005. On June 1, 2005 all unpaid delinquent tax accounts will be processed for Tax Sale and or other means of Collection. [Exceptions are those that are under a Period of Redemption, Bankruptcy, and Litigation or etc.] Once the account has been submitted to the Attorney in preparation for Tax Sale, payment must be by cash, money order, bank, treasurers or certified checks. Personal checks **will not** be accepted. Call **before** sending final payment to insure the correct amount.
- All delinquent taxes that are not paid by 12-31-04 will be published in the Annual Town Report.
- Tax Sales shall be conducted according to the requirements for notice set forth in 32 VSA § 5252 and pursuant to the provisions of 32 VSA § 5251 through 5263 inclusive.
- [Re: 32 VSA § 5258] Costs of preparing and conducting the sale, including legal fees up to a maximum of 15% of the amount of delinquent tax, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer.
- The Journal Opinion or the Caledonian Record, newspapers of general circulation in the Town of Groton shall be used for publication of all notices required under VSA § 5252.

Delinquent taxpayers may by **written request petition** the Board of Civil Authority, Listers, and Town Treasurer pursuant to the provisions of 24 VSA Sections 1533 et seq. to Abate Delinquent Taxes. **Written request should be addressed to: Groton Board of Abatement C/O Groton Town Office 1476 Scott Highway Groton VT 05046.**
(Please turn to other side where copies of Statutes T. 24 §1535 & T. 24 §1536 are copied for your review.)

TOWN OF GROTON DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION POLICY & TAX SALE PROCEEDINGS FOR TAX YEAR 2004 - cont'd

- **32 VSA Section 5254: Sale of Realty.** When the tax with costs is not paid before the day of sale the real property on which the taxes are due shall be sold to pay such taxes. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the owner of the property being sold for taxes may request in writing, not less than twenty-four hours prior to the tax sale, that a portion of the property be sold. Such request must clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and must be accompanied by a certification from the District Environmental Commission and the Town Zoning Administrative office that the portion identified may be subdivided and meets minimum lot size requirements. In the event that the portion identified by the taxpayer cannot be sold for the taxes and costs, then the entire property may be sold to pay such tax and costs.
- **To insure proper credit all checks should be made payable to the Town of Groton, CDT, and sent to the address below.**

Patricia Bouley, Collector of Delinquent Taxes
158 Railroad Street
Groton VT 05046
Telephone or Fax 802-584-3792

Berne Bouley, Selectman
Revised 9-2003/Revised 9-2004

Leonard Doscinski, Selectman

Kevin Ricker, Selectman

COLLECTOR of DELINQUENT TAXES SUMMARY - 2004

YEAR & WARRANT	TAXES OWED	BALANCE TO BE COLLECTED
2002 Warrant 1	\$ 432.15	\$ -
2003 Warrant 1	\$ 36,409.69	\$ 1,760.01
2003 Warrant 2	\$ 4,082.54	\$ -
2004 Warrant 1	\$ 81,309.94	\$ 26,834.84
2004 Warrant 2	\$ 1,014.82	\$ 92.59
	\$ 123,249.14	\$ 28,687.44

PAID TO TREASURER

SUMMARY

Warrant	Tax Paid	Bad Check Charge	Interest Paid
2002 Warrant 1	\$ 432.15		\$ 142.56
2003 Warrant 1	\$ 34,649.68		\$ 3,702.18
Warrant 2	\$ 4,082.54	\$ 25.00	\$ 489.93
2004 Warrant 1	\$ 54,475.10		\$ 699.09
Warrant 2	\$ 922.23	\$ 25.00	\$ 10.15
Totals	\$ 94,561.70	\$ 50.00	\$ 5,043.91

If you should have any questions please contact me. Patricia Bouley, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

DELINQUENT TAX LISTS

2003WARRANT 1

Darling, Henry & Sarah	\$ 7.93
Fiorentino, John E	\$ 1,752.08

Total	\$ 1,760.01
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2004Warrant 1

Barbour, Stephen R & Young, Judy E	\$ 1,267.45
Bedard, Michael J & Bedard, Bradley J	\$ 335.78
Berry Stephen G & Brenda K	\$ 305.83
Boyce, David & Boyce, Douglas P	\$ 3,245.58
Cilley, Ernest (Deceased)	\$ 1,758.59
Correira, David	\$ 321.39
Currier, James R	\$ 828.31
Darling, Henry & Sarah	\$ 534.14
Fiorentino, John E	\$ 1,582.30
Fox, Paul	\$ 19.45
Goodrich, Robert F	\$ 808.79
Goslant, Elmer L Jr. (Deceased)	\$ 238.22
Goudey, Mark	\$ 688.44
Hatch, Roger & Patricia	\$ 468.44
Herbert, William & Anna	\$ 583.53
Household Finance Corporation	\$ 1,342.14
Houston, Gale	\$ 799.89
Jungblut, Brett & Robert	\$ 672.20
Kennedy, Michael A	\$ 740.89
Lakin, Charles & Blenda	\$ 1,226.07
LaVallee, Richard & Marion	\$ 1,455.10
Lord, John P	\$ 1,812.90
Oliver, Troy A & Julie L	\$ 1,204.22
Patneaude, Joseph S /Steven A Patneaude	\$ 334.96
Pitts, David & Katherine	\$ 437.10
Shepard, Michael D & Janette	\$ 439.29
Wakefield, Tia Lisa L Tucker/Tucker, Robert	\$ 1,901.39
Welch, Randy/Lefebvre, Morgan	\$ 1,482.46

Total	\$26,834.84
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2004Warrant 2

Robinson, Charles M & Kathleen B	\$ 92.59
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Summary:

2003Warrant 1	\$ 1,760.01
2004Warrant 1	\$26,834.84
2004Warrant 2	\$ 92.59

Grand Total	\$28,687.44
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HIGHWAY REPORT

This year in the late summer we were greeted with a small flood that kept us busy. The FEMA and Vermont AOT provided funds that helped offset costs related to this incident. Next summer we will have a lot of work to complete on Mt. Ara Rd. and Great Rd. This will include stone-lining ditches along with the replacement of two undersized culverts.

Paving for 2004 was on the last section of Minard Hill Road. Shoulder work, ditching and guardrails were also done. The Town of Groton was given a paving grant from Vermont AOT to help fund this project. Park St., Mill St. and Railroad St. had a topcoat of pavement along with a base coat on Little Italy Rd.

We replaced our Truck # 4. It was a 1987 International. The new truck is a 2005 International. We were able to tag onto the state bid for a savings to the Town.

The plans for 2004 were to work on the backhoe - replace pins and bushings, sand blast and paint. The repairs are much needed. This will improve not only the workings of the machine but also the looks. This will be finished this year.

Work has been completed at the new gravel bank that allows us better access and opens up more space to work for many years to come.

An opportunity to get grindings off of I-91 made it possible to resurface six-tenths of a mile on Boulder Beach Rd. We were restricted to use this free material on class two roads

This coming year the upper end of Goodfellow Road will see more topcoat mix as time and weather permits.

Safety and ongoing training are part of life in this day and age. In 2004 we were invited to sit in on monthly safety at a local contractor at no charge to the town. I attended a flagger trainer two day class that allows me to train flaggers and as part of the deal the town was given a \$1500 set of work signs. To date I have trained around 20 flaggers. Managing Local Roads was a class I also attended. Phillip and I both went to Air Brakes, Winter Equipment class and the annual Work Zone Safety Summit this year.

Work was completed on 911 mapping and renumbering along with a culvert inventory with help from NVDA at no cost to town for their work. All of which are compatible and can be overlaid with other digital mapping being done by the town.

In 2002 the Select Board implemented the process to file for access onto Town of Groton roads. Please pickup and fill out an application before starting any work. Over-weight permits are also available. Both are without a fee.

Phillip and I try our best to control cost while maintaining a level of service that keeps up with needed maintenance of roads. Thanks to each of you who gave us input this past year. If you have any ideas or concerns please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Smith

Town garage phone 584-3209
Brent Smith home 584-3765
Pager 479-6615 (not a toll call in Groton)
Or stop by the garage.

HIGHWAY ACTIVITY REPORT

for the year ending 12/31/04

ACTIVITY	LABOR	EQUIPMENT	MATERIALS	TOTAL
Class 2	10661.97	11034.50	79034.02	100730.49
Class 3	37636.93	35419.00	58554.26	131610.19
Class 4	3801.32	3773.00	2291.32	9865.64
Administrative	10118.79	144.00	0.00	10262.79
Brush Dump	308.51	368.00	0.00	676.51
Comunity Building	648.22	146.50	8.30	803.02
Fire Dept.	126.90	0.00	0.00	126.90
Garage	3743.10	244.50	0.00	3987.60
Maint.	11297.75	90.00	0.00	11387.75
Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Park and Feilds	22.13	16.00	72.00	110.13
Seyon Maint. Billable	659.72	550.00	408.77	1618.49
Training	1773.17	128.00	0.00	1901.17
Repair	2787.36	0.00	0.00	2787.36
Side Walk	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Totals	83,585.87	51,913.50	140,368.67	275,868.04

WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN

1. TH #1 (Powder Spring Rd.) and TH #2 (Minard Hill Rd.) have priority followed by school bus routes, then major traffic routes and then we will plow the roads which we feel cause the most problems for the public (traffic volume, steepness) and other roads in the most cost efficient manner.
2. The town of Groton has only two employees to do this winter maintenance. It takes about six hours to complete plowing after the snow stops. We may vary from above priorities for emergency situations. (fires, ambulance, etc.)
3. Town office and fire station lot should be plowed enough to let vehicles in and out during office hours. (parking lot needs to be empty of vehicles to plow completely.)
4. The town will enforce no parking rules at all places where the plow trucks turn around.
5. Vehicles parked or abandoned in right-of-way or on town-owned property may be moved at owners expense. The Town of Groton will not be responsible for damage to personal property left in right-of-way.
6. No person shall plow or otherwise deposit snow onto the traveled way, shoulder or sidewalk of a class 2 or 3 town highway. (23 VSA § 1126A)
7. The town does not plow class 4 roads or private roads.
8. After 16 hours on the job we are required to stop operations and get a minimum of 6 hours off.
9. Salt will be applied to class 2 paved roads and paved end of Goodfellow Rd. (5-1) with sand added as necessary. (salt is not effective when road temperature is below 20 degrees)
10. Sand will be applied to the gravel roads. (at temperatures below 0° sand, will not stay on the road)
11. On nights and weekends there will be a lower level of maintenance to help control costs. in most cases there will be no maintenance between 10pm and 4am.
12. Side walks are cleaned in the early morning, then again when state and town highway departments are done plowing. This takes about 3-1/2 hours

LISTERS REPORT 2004

The Listers purchased a new printer along with having the Lister's computer repaired and upgraded so that it would handle the many changes that are required because of ACT 68 and 76 along with the HS-131 requirements. The legislature is presently in session still making changes as we speak. So we will have much more to learn at the spring workshops when the Listers meet again.

Martin Cherry, a reappraisal firm from St. Johnsbury, Vermont, was hired for the Town-wide Reappraisal. The appraisal work will be completed in time for the 2005 assessed grand list tax values.

We were busy trying to give our hands and some of our memories to Martin Cherry as he works on the reappraisal. Martin is working on appraising all properties and improvements.

Cartographics Associates, Inc. have been collecting data for the Tax Mapping. We should have the tax maps by the time this is printed.

If you have any concerns about your property assessment or other issues please contact us at 584-3276 or 584-3131.

Linda Nunn, Chairperson

Victoria Beamis

Lisa Hill

GROTON PLANNING COMMISSION

The members of the Groton Planning Commission after 3 ½ years of revising our Zoning Regulations our new By-laws were voted on and passed at Town Meeting, March 2, 2004.

This year again, we are having to revise our Town Plan and parts of our Zoning Regulations to incorporate Chapter 117. This has all got to be completed and in place by September 1, 2005. The Planning Commission is presently working with the Selectboard and a representative from NVDA to get this accomplished.

Respectfully Submitted,

Planning Commission Members

Martha Crown – Chair

Daniel Webster

Wade Johnson

Roland "Skip" Irwin

Robert Abraham

Kenneth Murray

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL #21 REPORT

Dear Groton Community Members:

I am pleased to be asked to write this report for you and to continue to serve as Superintendent of the Blue Mountain School District. This is my sixth and final year as your superintendent. The past five and one-half years have been the highlight of a long career in public education that began in 1965. Your belief in and support of the young people of Groton; a dedicated and effective staff, faculty, administration and school board; and a vitalizing Pre K – 12 student body help to make BMU a very special place.

As I write this report, the FY 2006 BMU Budget is in the developmental stage. The Budget Committee (school board and community members) will be recommending a budget at the February 16, 2005, school board meeting. I am pleased that Berne Bouley, Linda Stokes, Deane Page, Patricia Grant, Olin Gay, and Todd Powers are working with the school board and administration on the budget. We are going to meet with the Groton Selectmen on February 3, 2005, at 7:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to gather community input before the budget is finalized. In the proposed FY 2006 Budget, we are not asking for additional staff; we are attempting to maintain present programs in spite of dwindling federal grants. At this point in time, I am projecting a 4% overall increase in the budget due to contractual obligations for staff and faculty salaries and health care costs, an increasingly diverse student body with a corresponding reduction in federal fiscal support, and rising property values. Under a process called the common level of appraisal, the State of Vermont studies town property assessments to determine if they are updated to fair market values. At present, Groton is under assessed and consequently has been required to increase the school tax rate. Hopefully, the reappraisal of Groton's property values will be completed as soon as possible.

The actual educational tax rates for Groton for the last five fiscal years are as follows:

FY 2001 = \$1.79
FY 2002 = \$1.72
FY 2003 = \$1.70
FY 2004 = \$1.91
FY 2005 = \$1.60
FY 2006 = TBD

As a taxpayer of Groton, you need to be assured that BMU is moving forward and that funds are being used to further the education of the young people of your community. It is important to remember that BMU must always strive to improve and never backslide. I hope you will read the Annual BMU School Report when it is published as it contains important student data that validate our efforts.

We continue to be elated and stimulated by our New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation. It has provided the school with a concrete long-range plan that we must continually address.

We remain committed to academic excellence for all of our students. We have much to do and continue to need you as partners in the process. Again, I thank you for five and one-half years of encouragement and support.

Sincerely,

Noel W. Ford, Superintendent

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL #21 REPORT - cont'd

Blue Mountain Union School District has become a better place to learn and to work through the efforts of Superintendent Noel Ford. His vision and dedication over the past six years have guided everyone in a united quest to continually improve the educational process. When he retires this June, his physical presence may leave but his expectations will still be with us.

Raising Student Academic Achievement This has been the overall guiding expectation that Superintendent Ford has given to all of us. Students, especially those at the high school level, are well aware of Mr. Ford's expectations that BMU raise the academic bar. The Advanced Placement courses that he oversaw have provided students with the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school. He focused the PreK-4 teachers on a comprehensive literacy model and helped to shape a quality middle school. To raise standards, he has done whatever it takes. For example, he rewarded the winners of a middle school speech contest with a restaurant lunch and insisted that they each deliver a speech to those present. Mr. Ford offered the fourth graders a unique hiking experience and then spent weeks ensuring that it was also an academic experience.

Technology Connected to Academics BMU is becoming known for its quality technology use. Our staff is tech-capable and our students are demonstrating their knowledge through the use of technology in ways that allows them to shine after graduation. It has been through Mr. Ford's continual support and his personal modeling of technology use in the classroom that we have reached this level. Electronic mail and grades... emailing assignments to students ... web quests ... digital photos and maps ... Mr. Ford uses technology to increase student learning and to streamline staff paperwork. He has set the standard, and we all took the challenge.

Differentiated Instruction For many BMU teachers DI (Differentiated Instruction) is what sets Mr. Ford apart from all other superintendents we have worked for in the past. His deep and driving belief that it is our responsibility to use a variety of instructional methods to reach students has left its permanent mark on BMU. It is woven into School Board policy, our mission statement, and our evaluation system. Many teachers continue their professional training in this area and share methods and experiences. He has ensured that we will not forget that we must continue to find ways to help our students become lifelong learners. Because Mr. Ford teaches a high school course, we know he can "walk the talk".

Board Support and District Organization Behind the scenes, Superintendent Ford has made a lasting difference through his efforts in the area of budget, policy, and Central Office organization. He has enabled the School Board to focus on how to improve BMU. The School Board and Superintendent Ford guided our school through the rigorous national process of accreditation. In 2001 BMU became the first PreK-12 school to gain NEASC accreditation. This district has excellent policies and procedures that are debated, revised, and approved in a timely manner. Board members work together to ensure that both students and taxpayers are treated fairly.

Superintendent Ford has left his mark on BMU. He has touched us all and made a difference.

Carol A Curtis, Principal

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

2004 was another challenging year in maintaining the grounds in the cemeteries. Much rain and consequently growing grass, found Jim Winget mowing and mowing and mowing. The cemeteries were beautifully maintained in spite of this and we thank Jim once again for his expert work.

The progress of monument cleaning in the old cemetery was steady, thanks to Tom Gandin. The line of cleaned stones has advanced towards the northeastern fountain. It is easy to tell the difference if you walk in there. It won't be long before the whole cemetery will be done!

Poor weather and difficulty in arranging for the use of heavy equipment kept progress on the development of the Park Street Cemetery to a minimum. Hopefully the 2005 season will prove more successful in our plans to layout and level the grounds.

We hope to begin a new project this year that will address the needs of the many people who hope to find buried relatives in the old cemetery. With the help of Debra Tinkham's knowledge of digital cartography and with the use of her global positioning device we are hoping to make a start on identifying the monuments in this new and exciting way. Anyone interested in participating in this task should contact Deborah Jurist at 584-3049.

Submitted by the Cemetery Commissioners: Berne Bouley
 Deborah Jurist
 Tom Gandin

CEMETERY FUND ACTIVITY - 2004**Income**

Interest

Savings accounts	87.56	
Certificates of deposit	2,804.93	
Repurchase of cemetery lot	-720.00	
Lot Sales	420.00	
Total Income/Revenue		2,592.49

Expenses

Maintenance	7,116.54	
Reimbursed expenses	94.00	
Total expenses		7,210.54

Difference		-4,618.05
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CEMETERY ACCOUNT BALANCES - 2004

as of 12/31/04

Bank Account	Balance
HB Carter Trust-01-0093598-1 Carter	6,101.22
WGSB CD New Cem-707154 New Cem CD	Closed
WGSB CD Old Cem-707175 Old Cem CD	Closed
Union Bank CD New Cem	40,624.22
Union Bank CD Old Cem	34,250.53
WGSB H. Hosmer-26147 Hosmer	3,207.44
WRSB Cem. Land-53179-9 Future Purchase	1,420.21
WRSB Int & Lot-19373-9 Interest-Lot	3,570.03
WRSB MJR Hall-52870-9 MJR Hall	4,918.80
WRSB Combined Accounts	1,430.93
TOTAL	95,523.38

GROTON CEMETERY REGULATIONS**TRAFFIC REGULATION:**

In order to protect the roadways and monuments, the Groton cemeteries will be closed to vehicular traffic from Nov. 1 to May 1, unless otherwise noted or by special permission of the Cemetery Commissioners.

FLOWERS AND FLAGS:

All flowers, natural and artificial, must be removed from the cemeteries by October 1. The flags will remain on the graves until Veterans Day in November. Flowers, plants, and flags will be removed by the maintenance workers.

FOOTINGS:

In order to facilitate mowing, all the monuments will be set on a cement foundation with footings which extend four inches outward from the monument.

PLANTINGS:

Plantings must be set according to the requirements of the Commissioners. Plants should be of the low maintenance type that will not grow to a size which will impinge on the lots surrounding the planting. They must be clearly marked in order to protect them from mowers. They must be planted between the monuments and not in front or behind the headstones. It is extremely difficult to be aware of all the plantings in a cemetery as large as the Groton cemetery. Be advised that the Town cannot be held responsible for plantings set in front or behind monuments as these areas are routinely mowed. However spaces between the monuments are often trimmed and these spaces can be observed more readily.

BURIALS:

The cemetery will be closed for burials from the first snowfall until the ground is fully thawed in spring, unless specifically authorized by the Cemetery Commission. Burial vaults will be of concrete

CEMETERY RATES

Size of Lot	Groton Residents and Property Owners			Non-Property Owners/ Non Resident	
	# of Lots	Perpetual Care	Fees	Total	
12'x8	2	\$120.00	\$89.00	\$209.00	\$809.00
12x12	3	180.00	89.00	269.00	1169.00
12x16	4	240.00	89.00	329.00	1529.00
12x20	5	300.00	89.00	389.00	1889.00
12x24	6	360.00	89.00	449.00	2249.00
12x28	7	420.00	89.00	509.00	2609.00
12x32	8	480.00	89.00	569.00	2969.00
12x36	9	540.00	89.00	629.00	3329.00
12x40	10	600.00	89.00	689.00	3689.00
12x44	11	660.00	89.00	749.00	4049.00
24x24	12	720.00	89.00	809.00	4409.00

FEE DESCRIPTION: \$14.00 for recording of deed
 \$75.00 for corner posts and installation

Any lot purchased requires a 50% deposit at the time of purchase, the balance must be paid for within a six month period or remaining plots will be forfeited.

CREMATION LOTS

Rules for the special area set aside for cremation burials in the Groton New Extension of the Village Cemetery, are as follows:

1. Lots shall be of the following sizes and cost for Groton Residents:

Size of Lot	# of Plots	Perpetual Care	Fee	Total	Non-Property Owners/ Non Resident
8'x12'	8 canisters	\$150.00	\$89.00	\$ 239.00	\$ 429.00
4'x6'	4 canisters	75.00	89.00	164.00	259.00
2'x3'	2 canisters	37.50	89.00	126.50	174.00

2. Residents/Non-Residents cost includes perpetual care, corner post and recording fee.
3. Each lot shall be marked with a stone marker no larger than 2'x1', which shall be set on a foundation to prevent the marker from sinking and shifting. There shall also be an area around the marker, which is left open approximately one foot, to allow for the care of the grounds without damage to the stone.
4. Burial hole must be at least 3 feet deep.
5. Digging of the burial hole shall be arranged for at the time of purchase.
6. Contact the Town Clerks Office with inquiries

FEE DESCRIPTION: \$14.00 for recording of deed
 \$75.00 for corner posts and installation

Any lot purchased requires a 50% deposit at the time of purchase. The balance must be paid within a six month period or remaining plots will be forfeited.

CONSTABLE & ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT - 2004

Crime is at an all time low. Our major problem is ATVs riding illegal around town and on Class 2 or 3 roads.

Although there were 120 incidents reported to me throughout the past year, it was a decrease from the last two years.

Through a Federal Grant, the 1st and 2nd Constable were able to obtain 2-way radios that we can call the State Police on when needed.

Vt. Transportation – St. Johnsbury Division has put the Town of Groton on their availability list to use the radar trailer to help control speed in Groton ten days at a time.

Josephine Guertin is doing a great job picking up animals and transporting them to her kennel in Danville. I sometimes assist her in picking up the dogs. This year a total of 254 dogs and 185 cats were licensed by the Town Clerk.

Halloween night for the past three years has been great. Very little damage around town. Credit goes to all the kids that live in town. Thank you to these young people.

Incidents reported to the Constables and Animal Control:

Vehicle Serial Numbers	31
ATV Complaints	20
Dog & Cat Complaints	20
Illegal Parking	10
Stump Dump Complaints	8
Snowmobile Complaints	5
Moose Complaints	3
Traffic Accidents	3
911 Numbers Assigned	2
Abandoned Vehicles	2
Snowplowing Complaints	2
Illegal Trash	2
Fish & Game Complaints	2
Vandalism	2
Medical Emergency	2
Bad Checks	2
Speeding Complaints	2
State Police Assistance	2
Total	120

Respectfully submitted,
Milton F. Lamberton, 1st Constable

GROTON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT - 2004

The library continues to thrive and develop under the guidance of the Library Board of Trustees: Virginia Jennings, chair; Barbarann Bean, corresponding secretary; Diane Kreis, recording secretary; Emilie Knisley, treasurer; Richard Montague, Patrick Shattuck, Deborah Orelup, Nancy Spencer, and Susan Gordon. Librarian Karen O'Donnell-Leach oversees day-to-day operation of the library.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) continued to grow in number this year, and they had a number of successful book sales over the summer and on Fall Foliage Day. Nancy Spencer is head of the Groton FOL.

Summer programs began on July 6th. Richard Montague, who gave several fascinating, hands-on programs about the construction of wooden folk toys, and Deborah Orelup, who led several successful workshops on Origami, organized programs this year.

Our summer programs ended on Sunday July 25th when we held our second annual library barbeque. Many town residents brought chairs and sat on benches surrounding the gazebo in the town center. While we enjoyed the delicious barbeque prepared by Patrick Shattuck, we were greatly entertained by None The Wiser, a group of musicians playing Irish music. After the concert, the musicians led the way to the Goodine House, where the future library will be housed. There local author Ruth Putnam read from her works to the delight of all. The theme of the day and of the library campaign for fundraising for the new library is "The Big Idea"... Believing in Groton. The Trustees have been busy planning this move over the past years and at long last actual work has begun on the buildings involved. We wish to thank Trustee Patrick Shattuck, Housing Vermont and Gilman Housing Trust for great assistance throughout the year.

Our second Annual Halloween Party was held on October 31st with over 100 people in attendance. All partygoers had a good time.

Thank you to the Groton Community Club for their financial help which allows us to sponsor programs throughout the year.

The library has again met the State Standards for Public Libraries, which allows us to borrow books and other material from libraries across the region. Throughout the year, the Librarian, and members of the Trustees and Friends attend workshops throughout the state.

This report closes with a big "thank you" to everyone who has sponsored and/or volunteered to work on various activities. We do love our volunteers!

Barbarann Bean, Secretary
Karen O'Donnell-Leach, Librarian

GROTON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT - 2004 - cont'd

	2004	2004	2005
Receipts:	Budget	Actual	Budget
Town of Groton	12,595.00	12,595.00	13,500.00
Investment Dividend	1,250.00	1,480.14	0.00
Community Club Donation	650.00	500.00	500.00
Book sales	75.00	150.00	75.00
Interest Income	30.00	20.03	30.00
Transfer from Savings	772.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	21.00	0.00
Bldg. Fund Donations	0.00	1,100.00	
Total Receipts	15,372.00	15,866.17	14,105.00

Expenditures:

Library Staff	6,678.00	7,133.58	7,053.23
Books/Periodicals	4,200.00	4,175.03	4,200.00
Equipment	450.00	0.00	0.00
Volunteer Recognition	50.00	0.00	50.00
Postage	415.00	637.09	500.00
Program Expenses	500.00	334.74	500.00
Supplies	250.00	358.39	250.00
Phone/Internet	1,600.00	997.74	1,236.77
Staff Training	150.00	168.00	150.00
Trash removal	0.00	47.50	90.00
Travel	75.00	0.00	75.00
Bank Charges	0.00	0.90	0.00
Total Expenditures	14,368.00	13,852.97	14,105.00

Checking Balance	1/1/2004	2,566.26
Checking Balance	12/31/2004	3,176.81
Savings Balance	1/1/2004	3,416.11
Savings Balance		3,433.20
Building Fund Balance	1/1/2004	1,676.51
Building Fund Balance	12/31/2004	2,784.82
Investment Account Balance	1/1/2004	31,399.97
Investment Account Balance	12/23/2004	34,110.45

GROTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Your fire department responded to 27 emergency calls this past year. We logged approximately 499 hours working these calls.

We had over 60 hours of scheduled training and drills in areas including fire ground safety, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, pump operations, Hazards Material Awareness, hose teams, and fire behavior. The training included one "live burn" hosted by the Peacham Fire Department. Highlights of the training were three sessions on "ice and cold water rescue" and two on "vehicle extrication", that is, rescuing personnel trapped in motor vehicle accidents.

This year we again applied for Homeland Security Grants and were awarded \$54,380. These funds are used to purchase equipment that we would most likely not be able to afford out of our annual budget. In part it has been used to purchase additional radios, a Thermal Imaging Camera, ice rescue equipment including a Ice Rescue Sled, and hydraulic equipment used in vehicle extrication (the Jaws of Life), tools, and light sets.

Our largest shortfall is the lack of personnel willing and able to volunteer their time to train, maintain equipment, attend to administrative matters, and respond to emergencies. Although there are twenty-three members on the roster, twelve can be depended on to do the bulk of the work.

We would like to thank all of the citizens of Groton for their support and especially: Craig and Cindy Darling of Darling Automotive for supporting our Vehicle Extraction training; Bill Kane of Upper Valley Grill for the coffee, snacks & lunches and Patrick & Tamara Shattuck of Brown's Bistro for lunches

2004 calls:	Brush fires	2	Chimney Fires	5
	Motor Vehicles Accidents	7	Structure Fires	8
	Medical Assist	5		

GROTON - RYEGATE F.A.S.T. SQUAD REPORT

The 2004 year was a huge success for the Groton-Ryegate FAST Squad. We added five more trained Fast Responders to our roster, as well gained the interest and support from three of our past Ryegate members that made several calls throughout this past year.

2005 will be much better than 2004, we are adding to our budget for specialty training (some options are ice rescue, scuba, rope rescue etc.) in an effort to grow in numbers by offering training to individuals that feel becoming an EMT-Basic may be a little to much to start off with. individuals may join and take advantage of the specialty training but prior to obtaining the specialty training must become certified First Responders (one level below EMT-Basic), maintain their certification and the departments' requirements on meetings and training attendance

For the 2005 year the Groton- Ryegate FAST Squad will be conducting free Blood Pressure clinics out of the Groton Emergency Services Building, starting January 2005. We will be advertising through the Show Case and Caledonian Record or Journal Opinion, so keep an eye out for that. We also will be offering free CPR and First Aid to the communities of Groton and Ryegate.

Groton/Ryegate provides medical care at the Paramedic level for 5+ years now.

Our current active members are at the following levels:	First Responder -	5
	EMT-Basic -	1
	EMT-Paramedic -	5

We also have three associate members at the EMT-Paramedic level.

COMMUNITY CLUB REPORT

The Groton Community Club only meets twice a year, on the first Tuesday of May and the fourth Tuesday of October at 7:30 pm at the Community Center. Current officers are President Deane Page, Vice President Milt Lamberton, Treasurer Joan Haskell and Secretary Diane Kreis

It was a great year for our Fall Foliage Festival with hundreds of people enjoying our day. The Chicken Pie Supper was a big success thanks to all the townspeople who volunteered their services. There was a headline in a paper that read "It Takes A Village to Serve 1000 Chicken Pie Dinners". Those words were so true. This year 10 senior scholarships were granted in addition to donations to the summer swim program and the summer reading program. Once again we had enough money left over to plant flowers to help beautify the Village.

Checkbook balance as of Jan 1, 2004	\$431.14
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Transferred from money market	\$2,800.00	
Supper tickets	6489.00	
Perry's oil - over payment	27.60	
Scholarship refund	200.00	

Expenses:		\$9,516.60
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Transferred to money market	\$1,200.00	
11 Scholarships @ \$200.	2200.00	
Swim program	600.00	
Library	500.00	
Postal expense	73.34	
J.M. Landscaping	182.70	
McLures Band	300.00	
Parade prizes	140.00	
Calkins	255.00	
Fall Festival (2005)	90.00	
Truck damage incurred getting town Christmas Tree	250.00	
Chicken Pie Supper expenses	2585.04	
Total expenses	\$8,126.08	

Balance in checkbook		\$1,571.66
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Balance in money market		\$2,023.78
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CHICKEN PIE SUPPER - October 2, 2004

Supper tickets sold		\$6,489.00
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Expenses: BMU Hot Lunch	\$138.40	
Mccauleys Meats	1360.08	
Four Corners Farm	235.50	
Supplies	167.09	
Upper Valley Grill	549.97	
Table paper	55.00	
Pete's Rubbish	79.00	
Total Expenses	\$2,585.04	

Profit:		\$3,903.96
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GROTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Groton Historical Society meets March thru November on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am at the Peter Paul Historical House. The meetings are open to everyone and the dues are \$5.00 a year. During the months of July and August we continue to have open houses every Sunday from 2 to 4 pm. Current officers are President Richard Brooks, Vice President Deane Page, Treasurer Joan Haskell and Secretary Diane Kreis.

During the past year, some wonderful historic items were generously donated to the society and will be on display this summer. The society's historical house has a new coat of paint and the members got together and painted the town gazebo last summer for all to enjoy. The census back to 1870 has been completed and we are still working on researching all of the Groton cemeteries. To close out the year, we had our annual Christmas Hymn Sing.

WENDELL LORD VFW POST 5125 REPORT

"Honor the dead, by helping the living"

The Wendell Lord VFW did about 500 hours of community service in the community of Groton and Ryegate working with the Fire Department, working in the churches and keeping the cemetery looking good in respect for the Veterans and their families. The Post lost 3 of its long standing members, Royce Emerson, Robert Keith and Chester Crocker. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

We have one state officer, Leonard Doscinski in the VFW State Service Officer, his telephone number is (802) 296- 5186. You can call the VA in White River Jct. At 1-866-687-8387 toll free.

The VFW Post still honors the holidays with the displaying of flags on Main Street in Groton. This will be our 12th year representing the Veterans and helping them.

The following members are officers in the Groton Ryegate Wendall Lord Post 5125.

Richard Partington, Post Commander
Charles Bennet Jr., Sr. Vice Commander
Allsworth Frost, Jr. Vice Commander
Kenneth Darling, Quartermaster
Fred Braman, Surgeon

Leonard Doscinski, Judge Advocate
Robert Eastman, Trustee
Karl Kepler, Trustee
Ross McLeod, Trustee
Deane Page, Chaplain

If any one wants to get information on benefits or has any Veterans questions, call 802-296~5168 or the total free number at the VA 1-800-687-8387. Contact Richard Partington for more information on joining the VFW Post at (802) 584-3074

VERMONT STATE POLICE REPORT

The Vermont State Police at Bradford have undergone a series of significant changes during the last year.

In December 2003, our dispatching shifted from the Bradford Barracks to the Derby Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). The Derby PSAP is a brand new state of the art modern facility, utilizing the latest available dispatching technologies. This final phase of a multi year project will enable our department to better meet the communications challenges that lie ahead.

At the Bradford station, we've had three new Vermont State Troopers assigned during the last eighteen months. Troopers Hugh O'Donnell, Mark Potter, and Robert Giolito have become members of our community and are now on patrol in your town.

Our mission and efforts continue to be focused on reducing highway fatalities by aggressively apprehending impaired drivers (DUIs) while on patrol. We also continue to prioritize the detection, investigation, and apprehension of those individuals who have chosen to violate Vermont criminal laws.

By working together, we can keep our families and neighbors safe, and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Please visit with us at one of the many community events that we participate in each year, or at our web site: www.vtsp.org/bradford.html.

The 2004 Crime Statistics for the Town of Groton are posted below.

On behalf of the entire staff at the Bradford State Police barracks. I want to thank you for your continued support.

LT Walter Goodell
Station Commander
Troop B - Bradford

Part I Crime:

Robbery	1
Burglary	8
Larceny	10
Arson	1

Total Part I 20

Part II Crime:

Vandalism	5
Sex Offense	2
Drugs	1
Family/Child	3
Liquor Violations	1
Simple Assault	5
DUI	2
Other	4

Total Part II 23

Crime Rate/Thousand:

Part I:	22.0
Part II:	25.3

NEKWMD SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

A big news item from the district is that we are debt free. With the addition of new member towns, the volume and steady market of recyclables we saw another year of receivables far exceeding our expenditures. Rather than return the surplus to the towns directly, the supervisors voted to expend a portion of it on education to promote the district and it's programs.

The Groton/Ryegate Recycling has made some changes this year to better serve the public and to make those working there, their job easier. In the past we spent two days cleaning up the area under the scrap metal pile to remove the items from the mud so we could allow traffic to drive over it. To improve this situation we got cement blocks from the district to form an enclosed area that the Ryegate road crew then laid down stay mat for a hard surface. We have added a trash hauler to our operations to better serve our customers. The first three months was slow for him but has since become a worth while two hours. There has been an increase in the collection of recyclables as it seems we see new faces every week and the volume of materials taken has increased to where we are shipping as much in three weeks as we used to in four. We added two Bulky Days to our operation this year which filled three roll-offs at each event at a cost of about \$2500.00 each time. We intend to continue this but we are going to be charging a fee to recover some of the cost. All recycling is done at a minimal cost except for the following.

Tires up to 17 inch: \$2.00 with rims add .50 cents
over 17 inch: \$4.00 with rims add .50 cents

Electronics:

Whole computer system \$10.00

Components \$5.00 each

TVs up to 19 inch: \$ 7.00
over 19 Inch: \$12.00

We also accept used oil, oil filters, florescent bulbs, wet cell and mercury batteries along with our regular items as follows. Glass (no bulbs) - Aluminum cans - Boxboard/Brown Bags - Newspaper Magazines - Tin cans - Office paper - Plastic's # 1 + 2 only and Cardboard. Also there are some more changes and another product that may be added this spring. You will like them.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene A. Perkins

NORTHEASTERN VERMONT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

In 2004 Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) continued to serve as both the regional planning commission and economic development corporation of the Northeast Kingdom. For 54 years, we've been carrying out our mission of putting planning into practice, while creating economic opportunities that complement the quality of life in Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties.

NVDA provides planning assistance to each of our member communities. In 2004, NVDA conducted traffic counts and facilitated compilation of bridge and culvert inventories for the Town of Groton. We also worked closely with the Department of Environment Conservation to organize watershed councils in the Stevens and Wells River watersheds. Assistance to other communities included in transportation planning, GIS mapping interpretation of planning and zoning issues and state laws. NVDA also has highly capable grant writers and administrators on staff, giving each community greater access to funds for infrastructural and facility improvements.

FEMA recently announced that all communities would have to have a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan in place in order to remain eligible for funding. In response, NVDA sent representatives to 55 Northeast Kingdom towns to work with local first responders to ensure that each community would remain eligible for FEMA relief funds in the face of a natural or man-made disaster. That work included producing data collection maps for the Town of Groton.

In 2004, NVDA saw several significant economic developments. The first was the opening of Dirigo Paper Company, which opened in Gilman – the location of the now-defunct American Paper Mills of Vermont. NVDA helped put together a multi-million-dollar financing package that would allow the specialty paper producer to open and put more than 90 individuals back to work. Another highlight was the completion of the Charles E. Carter Business Resource Center in the St. Johnsbury-Lyndon Industrial Park. This facility now has a number of tenants, pushing the employee count in the industrial park to nearly 600.

There are several pieces of land pending sale in St. Johnsbury-Lyndon Industrial Park. These sales will mean the establishment of new businesses in the area, with employees coming throughout the Northeast Kingdom. There is also activity in the Hardwick Industrial Park, with one business planning an expansion and a new business that is scheduled to start up next spring.

NVDA has become more aggressive in recruiting Canadian companies to the area. Ongoing negotiations have yielded some very strong prospects from some Quebec-based companies. Our staff has also worked with a number of local businesses, either by providing capital from our revolving loan fund or coordinating specialized, confidential technical assistance. In 2004 NVDA made available a technical grant for a Groton-based small business. Our dynamic partnership with Small Business Development Center allows us to provide continuous service to entrepreneurs. We've made more than 150 referrals to the SBDC in 2004.

We look forward to working with your community in 2005 and appreciate your much-needed support.

Sincerely,
Steve Patterson, Executive Director

NORTHEAST KINGDOM YOUTH SERVICES REPORT

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services has offered vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975. Our staff is available to Groton residents 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

In 2004: Youth Services served over 3,091 people in Caledonia and Essex counties.

Youth Services served 26 in Groton.

NEKYS has provided essential support to 429 youth and families through the **Family Connections and Parent Education Programs**. Through mediation, counseling, and parent and youth support groups, the Shelter Program gives families the tools they need to cultivate safe, nurturing homes. Families learn problem-solving skills and develop plans designed to keep future conflicts from reaching a crisis. The primary goal of the Parent Education Program is to improve family parenting, home management, and problem-solving skills in order to prevent children from being placed in custody. When one youth is diverted from entering state custody, the state of Vermont saves more than \$25, 000. Staff is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The **Caledonia and Essex Court Diversion Programs** worked with 325 clients. The State's Attorney refers first time criminal offenders, plus 48% of the juvenile delinquents in Caledonia County Family Court to Youth Services' Diversion Programs. The completion success rate of our clients is among the highest in the state: 88% overall: 93% for ages 10-17 and 83% for those 18+. Diversion clients worked, 1,145 hours of community service at senior housing sites, libraries, churches, etc. and donated \$200 to area charitable organizations. Offenders paid \$6,125.33 in restitution to crime victims, for a 100% victim compensation rate. Since it costs thousands of dollars to process one person through the court system, it is easy to see that the \$248 spent on one Diversion client is well worth the cost.

The **Transitional Living Programs** served over 313 youth and family members. Homeless and foster care youth, 15 to 21 years old, were given information, support and life-skills education to help them live productively on their own. Youth Services also strives to foster positive connections between these youth and their families.

The **Living Room**, a day shelter, served 125 youth in 2004, an average of 10 youth a day. The Living Room is open 12:30-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. It is a safe, comfortable learning environment for 15 to 20 year olds who are homeless, at risk of being homeless, or just lonely and isolated. The Living Room offers youth a place to eat, rest, shower, do laundry, socialize in a substance-free environment, and use of a computer for homework and resume writing. They can talk to caring, non judgmental adults, access resources to help stabilize their lives and learn critical life skills necessary to become productive citizens.

The **JUMP Youth Mentoring Program** is successfully matching at-risk 6, 7' and 8' grade students with adult mentors once a week in the students' school. Activities support students with homework, career and college preparation and provide them with an opportunity to learn and experience new cultural and social activities.

Youth Services also offers weekly dinners, outreach to schools and communities, as well as alternative opportunities for youth to be successful.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community-based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve for our survival. Thank you again for supporting families in your community. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at 748-8732.

YOUTH SERVICES WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT!

NEKYS supports youth, their families and communities through quality programs that strengthen positive life skills and encourage stability.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES, INC.

We are the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy Program (formerly Adult Basic Education). We provide on-demand home and learning center educational services to Groton residents as well as to almost anyone in Caledonia, Essex or Orleans counties over the age of sixteen who wants to improve basic education skills. The program has full service learning centers in Newport and St. Johnsbury, part-time centers in North Troy, Island Pond, Hardwick, Canaan and Lyndonville and home tutors who travel everywhere in the three counties. As always, demand for adult basic education services remains very high. In 2004, we provided over 16,952 hours of direct instruction to 768 students. We are currently serving 388 adults who are working on a GED or high school diploma. Some of our other students are studying for the Commercial Driver's License or working to improve job readiness or job skills. Our Drop-Out Recovery program which allows adults to earn a competency based high school diploma at no additional cost to the high school continues to grow in popularity. We now have 15 people in the program and last year 3 earned their diploma. We also have seen an increase in G.E.D. testing. 39 students have completed their G.E.D. during the current year.

Your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy program will be helpful to us during the coming year. Our town monies are vital. Town funds are used for many program purposes. They have helped us pay the rent for our learning centers and offer our students higher quality and more comprehensive instructional resources. Over the years, town funds have helped us purchase workbooks, instructional supplies, computers, reference materials and instructional software. We hope you will continue your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy program.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICES, INC.

The Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. is a private not-for-profit organization serving Essex, Caledonia and Orleans Counties. It is organized and directed by local citizens who believe that human services should be cost effective and responsive to the needs of our local communities.

The State of Vermont contracts with NKHS to provide a broad range of services to individuals with severe and persistent mental illness, children with severe emotional disturbance and their families, and individuals with developmental disabilities including mental retardation and autism. Services are also offered to individuals with alcohol and drug problems by the Tri-County Substance Abuse Program, a division of NKHS.

NKHS provides emergency and out-patient services to individuals with various, less severe social, emotional and psychological problems. To the extent that these services are subsidized by state and local dollars. NKHS provides the services on a sliding fee scale based on the person's ability to pay.

Your appropriation is especially important to the delivery of our programs and services because it demonstrates community support and financial assistance. We greatly appreciate your interest and support. Thank you for your support.

FY 2003 SUMMARY OF SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF GROTON

2000 Census* Count for your town: 876 Persons served: 22

CALEDONIA HOME HEALTHCARE & HOSPICE REPORT

Fiscal Year 2004 was our third full year under the Medicare's Prospective Payment System. We were able to successfully provide our clients with qualified home care services and adjust to a new payment system. We were able to end the year in a financially sound position secondary to the financial support we received from towns, donated memorial contributions and providing fundraising events.

Our mission continues to be to provide necessary services to individuals and their families regardless of an individual's ability to pay. We are very committed to this philosophy. We feel strongly that each resident of our service area is entitled to home care services if they meet the criteria for such services. To assure that this can continue to happen, your support to us is crucial. Town moneys are used to counter losses we experience when we provide free care. It is also used to support program growth and the development of necessary services to assure an individual's ability to remain independent.

Last year we made over 60,000 visits to your neighbors and relatives. In addition to our home care and hospice programs, we offered a variety of screenings and community clinics for flu shots, blood pressure evaluations, foot care and health education. In collaboration with NVRH we conducted a Cancer Support Group. Our Private Duty program grew and our Healthy Baby program experienced growth.

Caledonia Home Health Care (CHHC), as all of the non-profit home health agencies in Vermont, is certified by Medicare and Medicaid to provide home care and hospice services to Caledonia County, seven towns in Essex County and one town in Orleans County. The State of Vermont is dedicated to the non-profit concept of providing home care services in Vermont. As part of this support, it is expected that we will provide services regardless of an individual's ability to pay.

This guideline creates universal access to home health care for all Vermonters. However, it places the responsibility on the home care agency to raise the necessary funds to supply the needed services. The agencies do not receive any direct subsidies or grants from either the state or federal government. Our certification as licensed home health agencies allows us to bill clients, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance companies for services rendered. In some instances the reimbursement amount is less than the actual cost of providing the service. Therefore, the financial support of the communities served by CHHC is essential in maintaining these services.

Vermont's tradition of "caring for its own" is strikingly evident in the generous response we have received from our annual appropriation request, throughout our history. We have always strived to keep this request as reasonable and equitable as possible while seeking to cover a portion of the shortfall encountered in serving all in need. This year is no different. Individual town requests are based on a combination of factors including population, history of CHHC use, the number of visits in the past year, and the free care provided in each community. We have appreciated your support in the past and hope it will continue. Our annual report, including an audited financial statement, is available at our office for public inspection.

All of us at Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice remain committed to helping you, your family and your neighbors to lead healthy and independent lives. All town appropriation money will go directly to preserve the health care you and your neighbors deserve. Thank you for your continued support.

Town OF Groton

VISIT STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

Nursing Visits	649	Social Services	84
Home Health Aid	420	Homemaking	404
Therapy Visits (Physical, Occupational, Speech)	364	Hospice	58
		Total	1979

Other Services Provided: Bereavement Program, Maternal Child Health, Adult Health Screening & Education, Flu Clinic, Long Term Care, Support Groups, Private Duty

UMBRELLA, INC.

Umbrella, Inc. is a private, non-profit progressive resource organization that serves the residents of Caledonia and southern Essex counties. Umbrella offers advocacy, crisis counseling, information and referral, eligibility determinations for child care subsidies, and support groups through our Domestic & Sexual Violence Program and Child Care Support Services. Our main office is in St. Johnsbury, and the organization maintains a satellite office in Guildhall to work with victims of domestic and sexual violence.

In fiscal year 2004, Umbrella's Child Care Support Services Served 18 Groton families with child care referrals or assistance in applying for subsidy, and 3 child care providers took advantage of our professional development programs. Several adult residents and children exposed to battering received domestic/sexual violence support services.

The following services are open to residents of your town:

- 24-hour crisis hotline
- a safe-house network
- assistance in housing issues for adult victims of abuse and their children
- training for child care providers
- assistance to parents in finding child care
- assistance obtaining child care subsidies
- support groups for women and children
- prevention programs in schools
- assistance accessing area resources

Umbrella responds effectively and immediately to families in crisis, children traumatized by violence, parents searching for child care, and women in transition who need a place to go for support and help. We rely on financial support from Groton to help us meet the need for Umbrella services in your community. Thank you for your support of Umbrella, Inc.

RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) is a nonprofit corporation providing transportation to the elderly, handicapped and disabled through a volunteer service. RCT brings members in your community to dialysis. Between all of our programs, RCT provides over 205,000 rides per year. Most of these rides are provided with our volunteer drivers that are reimbursed \$0.375 per mile for the use of their vehicles.

RCT's volunteer drivers transport people of all ages to school, adult-daycare services, senior meal sights and necessary medical treatments such as, dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, physical therapy, special medical skills and regular appointments. We currently have people use our services for transportation to medical appointments throughout the Northeast Kingdom, Burlington, VT, Hanover, NH and other medical facilities. RCT has even helped provide transportation to a local family to be with their son who was in a special care cancer unit in New York City.

RCT has provided 33 residents of Groton with 1,155 trips accumulating approximately 40,115 miles over the past year. With level funding from the state for over six years and the increasing request for our transportation services, RCT is respectfully requesting your help.

NORTHEASTERN VERMONT AREA AGENCY on AGING

On behalf of the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont, I would like to thank you for your town's past financial support; it has been greatly appreciated. Because we are a community-based, private, non-profit organization serving older adults, we depend on the support of local groups. Groton's continued financial assistance remains vital to our future, and we are again asking for an appropriation from the town.

The mission of the Area Agency on Aging is to help any person 60 and over to maintain a healthy, active life and to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. Our professional advocates and case managers work closely with seniors to determine how to best meet their individual needs, which may include; offering assistance with Social Security, Medicaid, Food Stamps, fuel assistance, in-home services and many others. There is no charge for services provided by the Agency.

Kenneth E. Gordon, MSW
Executive Director

RIVER'S REACH

Census Data Says...Local folks are finding what they need:

They came to our office for various reasons — some for help preparing their income tax returns, and others for assistance writing a résumé. Many were searching for jobs, food, or housing. A few were interested in starting a business, or wanted to learn basic computer skills.

During the consecutive 12-month period ending September 30, 2004, River's Reach experienced a total of 697 contacts. **From Groton, the number of total contacts was 91 (generated by 35 households) and the total number of individuals served was 76.** Still, many in our area do not know that a variety of free services are available at the resource center for persons of all ages and income levels.

Counting on AHS (Coming to our area):

When the Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) announced that it would be hiring Field Directors, River's Reach asked to take part in the interviews. Four full days were spent in the preliminary stages of selection, and two very experienced and knowledgeable people were chosen to bring the agency's services to our area. Gregory MacDonald and Sara Kobylenski were chosen from St Johnsbury and Hartford districts respectively. Both understand the importance of making services more available in our under-served area. Their positions are part of the AHS reorganization's effort to be more community-centered and convenient, and we are hoping that the out-posting of social services at our resource center will increase.

Got Time? *Some spend theirs in jail:*

We are especially grateful for the willingness of area residents who spent a few hours in the River's Reach Jail last July. Their good-natured participation in our annual fundraiser brought over \$2,000 in precious revenue to our organization, and we sincerely thank them!

VITA and TCE may be helpful to you:

For several years, the resource center has offered free preparation of income tax returns for persons with low-to-moderate income, especially the elderly. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) are programs supported by the IRS and AARP. The services include free e-filing of returns.

By the time you read this report, River's Reach will be well into another tax season, but might be able to accommodate a few new clients. We are provided excellent software that helps us ensure that taxpayers receive every rebate or credit available to them. In some cases, we have been able to amend returns from previous years, claiming hundreds of dollars in additional refunds. We are please to have Aroline Putnam assisting us again this year.

**River's Reach
51 Main Street, Suite 2, Wells River
(802) 757-3137
Monday-Friday 10 AM to 2 PM
Evenings by Appointment**

2004 VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

DATE	SEX	NAME OF CHILD	PARENTS	PLACE OF BIRTH
May 25, 04	F	Michaela Fahey	Patricia Fahey	Berlin, VT
June 3, 04	F	Riley Ketchum	Bethany Ann Daniels Thomas J. Ketchum	Berlin, VT
Oct. 12, 04	F	Abigail Pettengill	Shannon Lugdon Jesse E. Pettengill	St. Johnsbury, VT
Oct. 29, 04	M	Kody Smith	Mary Keough Dana Smith Sr.	Berlin, VT

DEATHS

DATE	AGE	NAME	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF DEATH
Jan. 11, 04	83	Bernice L. Eastman (Larry)	Groton	Lebanon, NH
June 18, 04	89	Robert Dennis	Groton	Berlin, VT
July 28, 04	51	Elmer L. Goslant Jr.	Groton	Groton, VT
Sept. 9, 04	43	Dale R. Smith	Groton	Groton, VT

MARRIAGES

DATE	NAME OF PARTIES	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE
March 6, 04	Courtney Facey Erika Boyce	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Groton, VT
May 22, 04	Billy Joe Stevens Selina Jeffrey	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Hartland, VT
May 29, 04	Scott Blood Melissa Page	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Ryegate, VT
June 12, 04	Aaron Bair Emily Dyer	Florence, SC Groton, VT	Groton, VT
July 17, 04	Melvin Lyford Debra Russo	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Groton, VT

2004 VITAL STATISTICS – cont'd

MARRIAGES - cont'd

DATE	NAME OF PARTIES	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE
July 31, 04	Charles Byers III Lisa Richards	Unity, ME Unity, ME	Groton, VT
Aug. 21, 04	Justin Carle Amber Ricker	Bath, NH Groton, VT	Groton, VT
Sept. 25, 04	Seneca Fountain Juliana Sidoti	Hyannis, MA Hyannis, MA	Ryegate, VT
Oct. 1, 04	Arnold Sanville Kelley Brunell	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Groton, VT
Oct. 15, 04	Christopher Fetko Amanda Ashton	Dalton, NH Dalton, NH	Groton, VT
Dec. 18, 04	Arthur Fortunati Reinette Sevigney	Groton, VT Groton, VT	Groton, VT
Dec. 18, 04	Robert Marinace Jr. Kiva Costa	Groton, VT Peacham, VT	N. Concord, VT

PUBLIC INFORMATION

NOTARY PUBLICS

Roberta Dana	584-3756
Patricia Bouley	584-3792
Linda Nunn	584-3881
James Dresser	584-3529

MEETING OF TOWN OFFICIALS

The Selectboard meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Clerk's Office for their regular business. They sign orders every Thursday and hold special meetings at this time if needed.

The following meet on posted notice: The Board of Adjustment, The Board of Civil Authority, Auditors and Listers.

The Planning Commission meets on posted notice.

AVAILABLE AT TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Applications for voter registration.

Applications for building permits and copies of zoning ordinances.

Dog and Cat licenses.

Green Mountain Passports for free admissions to State sponsored events for residents 62 years old or older. \$2.00 charge.

Motor vehicle registration forms.

The Clerk does motor vehicle, motor boat & snowmobile registrations renewals.

Safety Zone signs.

Vermont State Income Tax forms.

MISCELLANEOUS

TOWN MEETING: Tuesday March 1, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Building. Solid Waste vote will be by Australian Ballot from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m.

USD #21 SCHOOL ANNUAL MEETING: Wednesday April 6, 2005 at Blue Mountain School, Wells River, VT. Australian Ballot vote will take place the next day, Thursday, April 7, 2005 in each of the Towns of Wells River, Ryegate and Groton.

GROTON FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL: Saturday, October 1st, 2005

PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	911
F.A.S.T. Squad	584-3202 or 911
Fire Department	584-3202 or 911
Constable/Animal Control	584-3818
Vermont State Police	222-4680 or 1-802-748-3111
Groton Town Office	584-3276 Fax/Voice
Groton Town Garage	584-3209
Groton Fire Warden	584-3211
Groton Free Public Library	584-3385
State Rep: Harvey "Bud" Otterman	439-5924
State Senator : Robert Ide	1-800-322-5616
State Senator : Julius Canns	1-800-322-5616
Blue Mountain Union School	757-2711 or 757-2712
Governor's Action Line	1-800-649-6825
Sergeant At Arms	1-800-322-5616
Vermont Social Welfare	1-800-287-0589
U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy	1-800-642-3193
U.S. Senator James Jeffords	1-800-835-5500
U.S. Representative Bernard Sanders	1-800-339-9834
Social Security Administration	1-800-322-9401
Internal Revenue Service	1-800-424-1040
Veteran's Administration	1-800-827-1000

TOWN CLERK OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm & 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

GROTON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY HOURS:

Tuesday 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm; Thursday 11:00 am - 6:00 pm; Saturday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Story Hour every Tuesday 2:00 pm

RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

"RCT" will provide transportation for Senior Citizens to area meal sites, as well as Medicaid recipients to any medical appointment. "RCT" requires 2 working days notice for any transportation. For any information call Rural Community Transportation at **748-8170**

ATTENTION ANIMAL OWNERS!

Animal fees for 2005:

DOGS

Not Neutered----- \$ 12.00

Neutered-----\$ 8.00

CATS

Not Neutered-----\$ 5.00

Neutered-----\$ 4.00

NOTE: The fee increases are due to a new State of Vermont surcharge of \$2.00 per animal.

RABIES CLINIC

Date: March 16, 2005

Time: 6:00-7:30 PM

Place: Groton Town Garage

The Town Clerk will be in her office at the Groton Community Building for licensing of your animals.

April 1, 2005 all dogs must be licensed! **\$10.00 fine per dog if late.**

May 2, 2005 all cats must be licensed! **\$10.00 fine per cat if late.**

Rabies Clinic being done by River Valley Veterinary Hospital

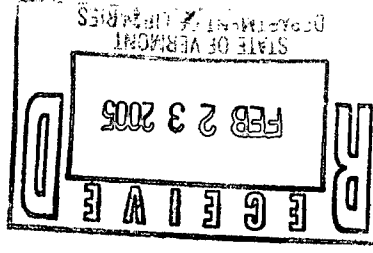
Town of Groton
1476 Scott Highway
Groton, VT 05046

PRSRT STD

U. S. POSTAGE PAID

GROTON, VT

PERMIT NO. 1



Vt Dept of Libraries
109 State St
Montpelier, VT 05609-0601

GROTON TOWN MEETING

10:00 a.m. on TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2005 at the Groton Community Building

School Budget voting will be on Thursday, April 7, 2005 from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
At the Groton Community Center