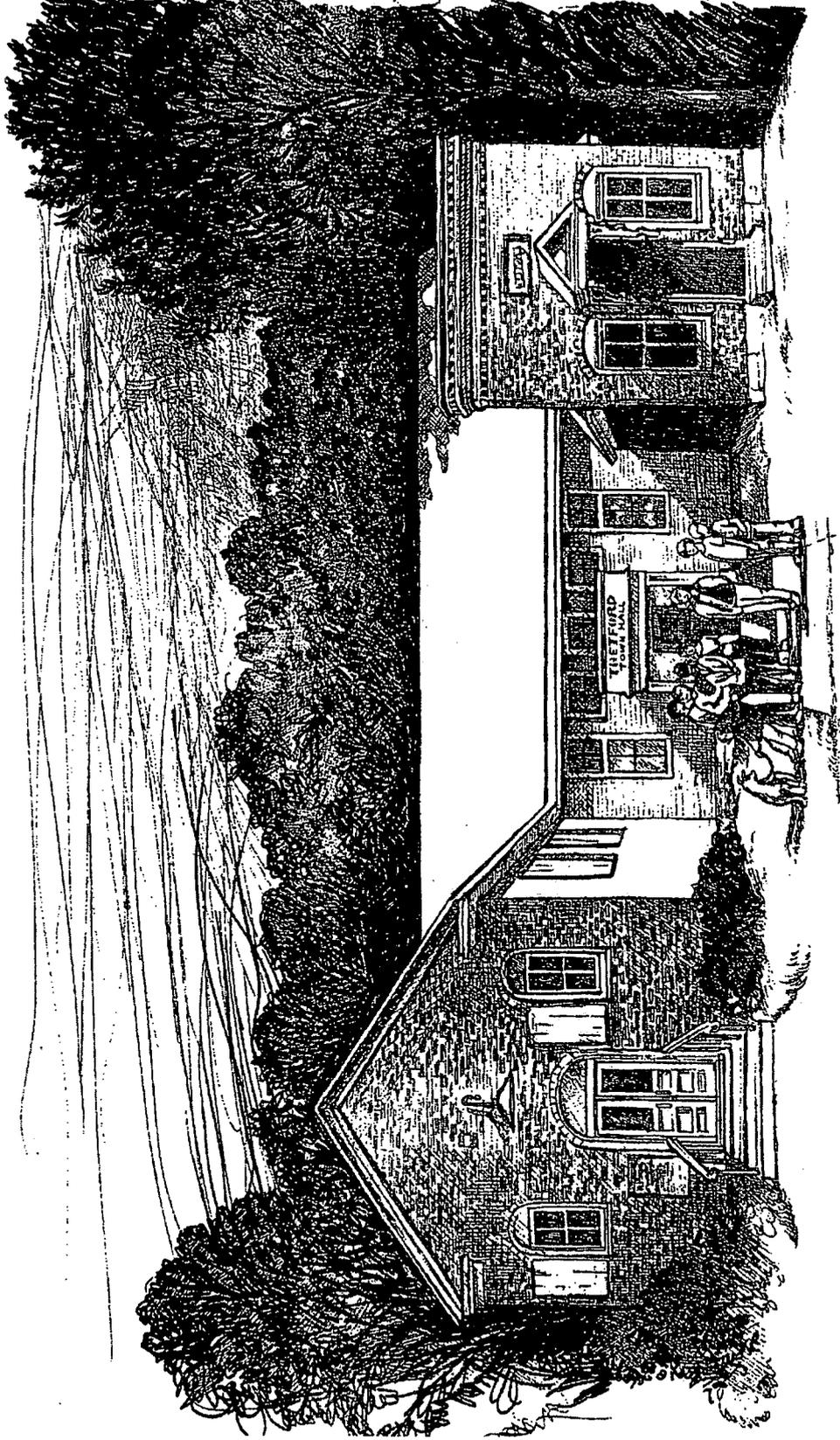


ANNUAL REPORTS
TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT



YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003

THETFORD TOWN OFFICES

(802) 785-2922

FAX (802) 785-2031

E-mail: Thetford.Clerk@valley.net

Office Hours:

Monday: 6:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 AM-3:30 PM

POLICE, FIRE OR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES, dial 911

THETFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business Line (non-emergency) 785-2200

LISTERS 785-2922

Office Hours:

Tues. & Wed.: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

COUNTY AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT

Vermont State Police, Bradford – 333-9414

Fish and Wildlife Warden – 802-234-9933

Orange County Sheriff – 685-4875

SELECTBOARD

Board Meets:

Mondays at 6:30 PM

Town Hall

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Brendon Austin – Pager 290-5521

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Town Garage – 785-4679

HEALTH OFFICER

By Appointment

785-4503

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Business Line (non-emergency) 785-2412

Fire Wardens (Burning Permits):

Ellis Paige – 785-4477

Jeff Sirjane – 785-4405

Don Fifield Jr. – 785-2604

PLANNING AND ZONING

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 8:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Thursday: 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

Board Meets: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays,

7:15 PM, Town Hall

TREASURE ISLAND

333-3507

Cover illustration by Sara Ferguson; Layout by Sue Ricker; Illustrations from Field Book of American Trees and Shrubs published 1915, courtesy of Sally Duston.

ANNUAL REPORTS



TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT



***YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2003***

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Remembrance----- *page 10*
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THETFORD TOWN OFFICERS

Moderator – Town

Joseph Tofel ('04) 2459 Academy Rd, Thetford Ctr. Joseph.Tofel@valley.net 649-1434

Moderator – School

Mary McNelly Denison ('04) 982 Quinibeck Road, Fairlee 333-9527

Selectboard

Rick Barrows ('05) PO Box 245, Thetford Ctr. rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu 785-4607
 Mike Brown-Appointed ('04) 437 Burnham Rd, E. Thetford Michael.J.Brown@valley.net 785-4536
 Mary Spata ('06) 272 Route 244, Post Mills spataturk@valley.net 333-9383
 Sara Ferguson (Res. 12/03) PO Box 97, Thetford Sara.Ferguson@valley.net 785-2022
 Mark McMahan ('04) 2166 Godfrey Rd, E. Thetford MoMMc5@aol.com 785-4687
 Paul Raymond ('05) PO Box 223, Thetford Ctr. 785-4953

Town Clerk

Tracy Borst ('04) PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. Thetford.Clerk@valley.net 785-2922

Town Treasurer, Delinquent Tax Collector

Martha Howard ('04) PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. Thetford.Treasurer@valley.net 785-2922

Grand Juror

Vacant

Agent to Prosecute/Defend Suits

Vacant

Agent to Convey Real Property

Vacant

Listers

Denise Adams ('06) PO Box 178, Post Mills 785-4331
 Roxy Maxfield ('05) 895 Five Corners Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-4215
 Janet Stowell ('04) 462 Stowell Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-4387

School Directors

Charlie Buttrey, Chr ('05) 347 Cranberry Hill Rd, E. Thetford c.t.buttrey@valley.net 785-4005
 David Celone ('05) 1535 Route 132, Thetford Ctr. Dave.celone@valley.net 785-2034
 Denise Froehlich, Clk ('04) 725 Pero Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr. Denise.froehlich@valley.net 785-2097
 Marty Jacobs ('04) 360 Cadwell Rd, E. Thet. martha.jacobs.82@alum.dartmouth.org 785-2606
 Joe Malpino ('06) 3779 Route 113, Thetford Ctr. Joe.malpino@kingarthurfLOUR.com 785-4456

Trustees of Trust Funds

Frederick Howard ('06) PO Box 57, N. Thetford 333-9291
 Ruel G. Barrett ('04) PO Box 89, Thetford 785-2867
 Elmer Brown ('05) PO Box 237, Thetford Ctr. 785-2167

Cemetery Commissioners

Andrew Martin ('06) 619 Quail John Rd., E. Thetford 785-2024
 John Wilmot ('05) PO Box 6, E. Thetford 785-4090

Budget Committee

Lynn Miller ('05)	759 Stevens Rd., E. Thetford		785-4410
Mike Brown ('04)	437 Burnham Rd, E. Thetford	Michael.J.Brown@valley.net	785-4536
3 vacant			

Trustees of Latham Library

Kathryn Bonyai ('06)	93 Cream Street, Thetford Ctr.	Kbonyai@aol.com	785-4403
Janice S. Cook ('06)	316 Cream Street, Thetford Ctr.		785-2587
Sally Duston ('05)	545 Tucker Hill Rd, Thet. Ctr.	Sally.Duston@valley.net	785-2012
Gwendolen Gensler ('07)	PO Box 141, E. Thetford		785-4038
Darla LaRoche('07)	4396 Route 132, Thetford Ctr.		785-2734
Lucy Young ('05)	PO Box 175, Thetford	lucyjy@valley.net	785-4530

Trustee of Peabody Library

Brad Gellerstedt('04)	W. Fairlee Rd, Fairlee		333-3644
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Justices of the Peace

Gladys Boyd	805 Godfrey Rd, E. Thetford		785-2029
Murray Burk	272 Route 244, Post Mills	spataburk@valley.net	333-9383
Wendy Cole	146 Jackson Brook Rd, T. Ctr.	Wendy.S.Cole@valley.net	785-2698
Laurie Ingalls	346 Whippoorwill Rd, T. Ctr.		785-3190
Brenda Magoon	PO Box 25, N. Thetford		785-4054
Roxy Maxfield	895 Five Corners Rd, Thetford Ctr.		785-4215
Paul Raymond	PO Box 223, Thetford Ctr.		785-4953
Cy Severance	PO Box 21, E. Thetford		333-4436
Ann Swanson	414 Cream St, Thetford Ctr.	Ann.Swanson@valley.net	785-9855
Jean Wolstenholme	PO Box 6, Thetford	Jean.Wolstenholme@valley.net	785-4567

Representative for Orange-Windsor

James Masland	714 Pero Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr.	Jim.Masland@valley.net	785-4146
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Senator-Orange County

Mark McDonald			433-5897
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APPOINTED OFFICERS

Police Chief

Philip Call	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.	Pcall@dps.state.vt.us	785-2200
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Special Officers – Police

Jim Lanctot	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-2200
Charles Stephens	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-2200

Road Foreman

Tim Gibbs	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-4679
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Zoning Administrator

William Thrane	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.	Thetford.Zoning@valley.net	785-2922
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Assistant Town Clerk

Jane Cramer PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. 785-2922

Assistant Treasurer

Laurie Ingalls PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. 785-2922

Town Service Officer

Roberta Howard PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. 333-4607

Health Officer

Alford Stone PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr. 785-4503

Animal Control Officer

Brendon Austin Pager 290-5521

Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee RPC

Vacant

Pound Keeper

Ruth Dwyer 2604 Sawnee Bean Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-2817

Fire Wardens (Burning Permits)

Ellis Paige 41 Whippoorwill Rd., Thetford Ctr. 785-4477

Jeff Sirjane 1854 Sawnee Bean Rd, Thet Ctr. Jsirjane@worldcupsupply.com 785-4405

Don Fifield, Jr. PO Box 161, Thetford Ctr. 785-2604

Planning Commission

Sean Mullen, Chair 1562 Poor Farm Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-4373

Robert Pulaski, V.C. 1006 Barker Rd, Post Mills 333-4267

Dennis Donahue 416 Pero Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-3177

Richard Haugen 515 Burnham Rd, E. Thetford 785-4494

Dennis Marquise 339 Burnham Rd, E. Thetford 785-2175

Ken Robinson 329 Turnpike Rd, N. Fairlee 333-9310

Tim Taylor 811 West Fairlee Rd, Fairlee 333-4455

Historic Preservation Committee

Stephen Branchflower PO Box 38, Thetford Ctr. 785-2667

James Fowle PO Box 604, Thetford 785-2630

John Hall PO Box 148, Post Mills John.Hall@valley.net 333-4077

Roney Hoffman 68 Cobble Hill Rd, E. Thetford 785-2438

Tod Moses PO Box 164, Thetford Ctr. 785-3060

Conservation Commission

Jennifer Davey PO Box 166, Post Mills 333-9607

Richard Haugen 515 Burnham Rd, E. Thetford 785-4494

Ted Levin PO Box 117, Thetford Ted.Levin@valley.net 333-4443

Robert Pulaski, Chair 1006 Barker Rd, Thetford Ctr. 333-4627

William Shepard 2360 Academy Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-2855

Scott Stokoe 518 Ulman Rd, Thetford Ctr. Scott.Stokoe@valley.net 785-2083

Fred Thomas 1221 Gove Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr. 785-2596

Energy Committee

Ellen Blumberg	mjblumberg@valley.net	785-9883
Bill Halsey	whalsey@alum.dartmouth.org	785-4020
Chris Hebb	chris.hebb@valley.net	333-4159
Paul Gerke	Paulgerke@aol.com	649-2587
Mike Pepe	mike.pepe@progression-systems.com	649-1566
Heinz Trebitz	Heinz.H.Trebitz@valley.net	785-2129
Bob Walker, Chair	bobwalker@valley.net	785-4126

Greater UV Solid Waste District Representative

Ben Bradley	168 Tucker Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr.	785-4245
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Recreation Committee

Scott & Ann O'Hearn	Treasure Island, Route 244, Fairlee	333-3507
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Emergency Management

David Goodrich	1015 Whippoorwill Rd, Thetford Ctr.	785-4635
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Upper Valley Ambulance

Wendy Cole	146 Jackson Brook Rd, T. Ctr.	Wendy.S.Cole@valley.net	785-2698
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Agency on Aging – White River Council

Ruel Barrett	PO Box 184, Thetford	785-2867
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Tree Warden

Elmer Brown	PO Box 237, Thetford Ctr.	785-2167
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Surveyor of Wood & Lumber

Gary Ulman	359 Ulman Rd, Thetford Ctr.	785-4037
2 vacant		

Fence Viewers

Robert Evans	100 Evans Rd, E. Thetford	785-2673
Robert Vaughan	PO Box 54, E. Thetford	785-2968
Royce Bond	155 Turnpike Rd South, Thetford Ctr.	333-4640

Historian

Marian Fifield	PO Box 255, Thetford Ctr.	785-2430
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Notaries Public

Ruel G. Barrett	PO Box 89, Thetford	785-2867	
Karin Bonnett	761 Route 113, E. Thetford	kgbonnett@valley.net	785-2543
Bud Bushway	East Thetford	785-4843	
Charlie Buttrey	347 Cranberry Hill Rd, E. Thet	c.t.buttrey@valley.net	785-4005
Kate Cone	3836 Route 5, Thetford Ctr.	785-2964	
Sherry Crossley	PO Box 257, Thetford Ctr.	333-9579	
Lynn J. Daley	358 Picknell Rd, Thetford Ctr.	785-4336	
Emily S. Davis	185 Norford Lake Rd, Thetford Ctr.	649-2729	
Herbert C. Gray	PO Box 87, E. Thetford	785-4348	
Loretta Gray	PO Box 35, E. Thetford	lgray4189@aol.com	785-4189
Rebecca Gray	PO Box 87, E. Thetford	785-4348	
Dana C. Grossman	PO Box 106, E. Thetford	Dana.C.Grossman@hitchcock.org	785-4074
Daniel F. Grossman	PO Box 106, E. Thetford	785-4074	

Mary M. Hathorn	541 Ely Rd, Fairlee	Scooter.Hathorn@valley.net	333-9176
Martha Howard	PO Box 34, N. Thetford	mhoward@sover.net	333-9171
Roberta Howard	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		333-4607
Laurie Ingalls	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-2922
Lynn Irwin	665 Godfrey Rd, E. Thetford	Lynn.Irwin@valley.net	785-4581
Brenda Magoon	PO Box 25, N. Thetford		785-4054
Donna McMahan	2166 Godfrey Rd, E. Thetford		785-4687
Kathy McQueen	Gove Hill Rd, Thetford Ctr.		785-4493
Jeanne Phipps	PO Box 76, N. Thetford		333-9130
Charles Stephens	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-2200
Gloria Thurston Taylor	Thetford Academy		785-4805
Paul Raymond	PO Box 126, Thetford Ctr.		785-4953

TOWN MEETING INFORMATION

The annual Town and School Meeting will be held on
 Saturday, February 28, 2004
 at Anderson Hall, Thetford Academy,
 beginning at
 9:00 am.

A snack bar will be open throughout the day.

Child Care, sponsored by Thetford Girl Scouts and Scout Leaders and the National Honor Society (noon to 3 pm) will be available free of charge from 9 am until 3 pm except during the lunch break.

A luncheon will be served in the Family and Consumer Science Room at TA.
 Proceeds will benefit the TA Spring Trip to Spain.

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICES	
Town Moderator, 1 year	Joseph Tofel
Town Clerk, 1 year	Tracy Borst
Town Treasurer, 1 year	Jill D. Graff Martha J. Howard
Delinquent Tax Collector, 1 year	Jill D. Graff Martha J. Howard
Select Board, 3 year term	Mark McMahan
Select Board, 2 year term	Michael J. Brown
Grand Juror, 1 year	
Agt to Prosecute/Defend Suits, 1 year	
Agt to Convey Real Property, 1 year	
Lister, 3 year	Janet Stowell
Budget Committee, (1 year of 3 year)	
Budget Committee, 3 year (2 vacancies)	
Budget Committee, 2 year (2 vacancies)	
Trustee of Trust Funds, 3 year	Ruel G. Barrett
Latham Library Trustee, 4 year	Anne Scotford
Latham Library Trustee, 4 year	Maureen C. Morse
Peabody Library Trustee, 3 year	Suzanne Houston
School Moderator, 1 year	Deecie McNelly Denison
School Director, 3 year	Marty Jacobs
School Director, 2 year	Denise Froehlich

VOTER INFORMATION NOTICE TO VOTERS BEFORE ELECTION DAY

CHECKLIST POSTED JANUARY 28, 2004:

At the Town Hall - check it for your name! If your name is not on the checklist, you may register no later than Monday, February 23, 2004 at the Town Clerk's Office.

Clerk's Office hours are 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Tuesday-Friday, and Monday 6-8 pm as well as February 23 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

You must be on the checklist to vote February 28 and March 2.

ABSENTEE BALLOT:

May be requested by phone, in writing, or in person by the voter's family member (a voter's spouse, children, brothers, sisters, parents, spouse's parents, grandparents and spouse's grandparents). Requests by other persons (on behalf of a voter) must be in person or in writing.

Deadline to request absentee Australian ballots on behalf of another voter:

March 1, 2004 – BY NOON. Town offices open from 8:30 am–5:00 pm.

Deadline to request absentee Australian ballots for yourself:

March 1, 2004 – by 5 pm. Town offices open from 8:30 am–5:00 pm.

Absentee Ballots may be voted in three ways:

- 1) In person at the Town Clerk's Office.
- 2) Mailed to you and mailed or delivered back to the Town Clerk's office by 7 pm on Election Day (March 2, 2004).
- 3) Brought to you (in the case of illness or physical disability) by two Justices of the Peace on the day of or day before election.

SAMPLE BALLOTS POSTED: By February 12, 2004

Pre-Town Meeting – February 23, 2004, 7:30 pm at Thetford Town Hall.

Town Meeting – February 28, 2004, Anderson Hall, Thetford Academy at 9:00 am.

VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT:

For Town and School Officers, the School District Budget and Presidential Primary:

Tuesday, March 2, 2004

Thetford Community Center Association Building

Polls open 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

**WARNING
TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT**

The legal voters of the Town of Thetford in the County of Orange and the State of Vermont are hereby warned to meet in Anderson Hall, Thetford Academy, in the town of Thetford, on Saturday, February 28th, 2004 at 9:00 am, to transact the following business:

- ARTICLE 1 To hear and act on the reports of the Town
- ARTICLE 2 Shall the Town have all taxes raised in the Treasurer's Office on or before Friday, October 15th, 2004 by 5:00 pm. After this deadline, interest of 1% per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter 1.5% per month or fraction and 8% penalty will be due the Town.
- ARTICLE 3 Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to borrow money for current expenses in anticipation of taxes.
- ARTICLE 4 Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to pay off any outstanding debts ahead of schedule if funds are available.
- ARTICLE 5 Shall the Town raise the sum of \$627,495.20 for the budgeted expenditures of the Town General Fund.
- ARTICLE 6 Shall the Town raise the sum of \$399,517.43 for the budgeted expenditure of the Highway Department.
- ARTICLE 7 Shall the Town raise the sum of \$70,000.00 to be added to the Highway Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.
- ARTICLE 8 Shall the Town spend the sum of \$7,000 from our Reappraisal Fund for the Listers to hire a consultant to develop an equitable assessment of land values and neighborhoods in the Town.
- ARTICLE 9 Shall the Town vote in 2005 by Australian Ballot to hold town meeting on the Monday evening preceding Tuesday Town Meeting Day.
- ARTICLE 10 To transact any other business.

The following article shall be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday March 2nd, 2004. Please take note that Australian Balloting will take place from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, at the Thetford Center Community Association Building, located next to the Town Highway Garage.

- ARTICLE 11 To elect Town and School Officers.

Dated: January 27, 2004

Tracy Borst
Town Clerk

Mary Spata
Mike Brown
Paul Raymond
Rick Barrows
Mark McMahon, Chair

REMEMBRANCE

Virginia Anderson died at her home at in Thetford, she was 102. Mrs. Anderson taught English, Latin and Biology at Thetford Academy where her husband was headmaster and they served as house parents to many dormitory students. For many years, she played violin in the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra and was active in community organizations.

Nellie Cadwell died at age 95, having moved to Thetford in 1928, when she married Harvey Cadwell and reared eleven children in Thetford.

Mary Ann Churchill was born in Thetford in 1935 and a graduate of Thetford Academy in 1954. She worked at H.W. Carter & Sons in Lebanon for 32 years until its closing.

Betty Jean Godfrey Cross, 69 was born in Fairlee and attended school in Fairlee and Bradford. She was married for 39 years to Gordon Cross.

Gordon Cross was born in Hanover, N.H. in 1925 and attended school in Thetford. He married Betty Jean Godfrey in Norwich and lived until his death in Post Mills near the Echo Valley Dance Hall he ran from the early 1960's-70's.

George Davenport, born in Cabot, was a B-17 tail gunner in the 772nd Squadron based near Foggia, Italy in World War II. He was a dairy farmer in Thetford for 17 years and died at 80.

Richard Gaudette died at age 55. He was born in Springfield, MA, graduated from Hartford High School in 1967 and played in two Vermont/New Hampshire Shriner Sugar Bowl Games. He served for 18 years in the Army National Guard and owned and operated Baker's and Village Stores and the B&B Market in West Fairlee.

William Gault born in 1938 in Concord, MA and moved to Thetford in 1991 to pursue his interests in antiques and golf.

Barbara Lutjen died at 82 after recently moving to Thetford to be near her daughter Ann Lutjen Kearney. She was an artist as a painter and woodcarver who had a strong connection to Vermont.

Gerald Manning died at his home in Thetford. Born in Lebanon, N.H., he enjoyed fishing, hunting, racing and the outdoors.

Samuel Meyer, 88, a WWII Veteran, born in NYC and retired to VT, lived on the side of Tugg Mountain in Post Mills and was active in town affairs.

Ralph Munn, Jr. of East Thetford died at 76. His family moved to Fairlee where he attended Orford High School graduating in 1945. In 1950, he received a Bachelor's Degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New Hampshire. He moved to Thetford in 1985 and was a 55 year member of the Mount Cube Masonic Lodge No. 10.

Tiuu O'Brien moved to Thetford in 1987 when she retired and died this year at age 70.

Alvin Paige, born in Thetford in 1926, returned to live in Thetford in 1970. He spent his lifetime working with farm machinery and for 19 years with the U.S. Postal Service. He was also a member of the National Guard.

Chet Palmer, 81, was born in Thetford to Ralph and Ruth Cadwell Palmer. A graduate of Hanover High in 1939 and Dartmouth College in 1949, he was a public accountant in Lebanon, N.H. for 35 years. He was active in civic activities and a founding member of the Hanover chapter of the Barbershop Chorus.

Frederick Prevost, born in Thetford and died at age 97. He attended school in Thetford and worked caring for others in town throughout his life.

Evelyn Smith of Rice's Mills was born in Bellows Falls in 1919. She graduated from Windsor High School and, with her husband, owned and operated the Pine Ridge Farm and Smith Lumber Company in North Hartland.

Linda Shearer Strohmeier, formerly of Thetford, died at 57. She was born in Brazil, IN, attended Indiana University and taught at Thetford Academy along with her husband. She and her husband David were instrumental in starting Parish Players community theater where she served as artistic director. She later moved to New York City where she attended Theological Seminary and became an Episcopal priest.

Drew Tallman, resident of Thetford Center since 1971 and owner of the Paint N Paper Barn's Home Decorating Store in West Lebanon, N.H. for 25 years. He was a football coach at Dartmouth College, Thetford Selectman and Thetford Academy Trustee.

Edward Thorburn died in North Thetford where he came to live 44 years ago.

Frank Thurston, Thetford Road Commissioner and former Road Commissioner in Vershire was a Viet Nam Veteran and racecar enthusiast, died at 62.

Austin Tift died at 83, a chemical engineering graduate of Yale University. After serving in the Navy, he married Elizabeth Cobb in 1946 and worked as an explosives and petroleum engineer, later moving to Red Wing Meadow on Lake Fairlee which had belonged to his wife's parents. He was a member of Thetford Chamber Singers and trustee of the Lake Fairlee Association and Peabody Library. He also served as a Lister for the town of Fairlee.

Margaret "Terry" Viens died at 69 at her home in North Thetford. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire and Dartmouth College, she taught language arts at Laura Barnes Elementary School in Lyme, N.H., at Woodstock Elementary and at Adult Learning Center in Nashua, N.H. She served on a committee that helped acquire Treasure Island for the Town of Thetford.

Virginia Ware born in Lebanon, N.H. worked as a seamstress for the former Carter Clothing Company in Lebanon and was active in running the East Thetford Plaza. She died at 81.

Fumio Yoshimura, author of "Harvest of A Quiet Eye" and sculptor whose work has been exhibited at the Hood Museum of Art in Hanover, N.H. died at age 76.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

This year offered many challenges. We would like to extend our thanks to the many who have provided their services and commitment in accomplishing the day-to-day duties set before us. Without this tireless group of individuals, many things would be left undone.

We are happy to announce the completion of our Town Hall renovation. Many thanks to the Town Hall Renovation Committees who have devoted many hours to the successful completion of this project. With the cooperation (and patience) of our employees and the public, the transition from old to new and refurbished was accomplished in a timely fashion with few problems or setbacks. As you can see the results speak for themselves.

This year's Town budget with warned articles shows a 7 % increase while the Highway budget shows an 8% decrease. Overall, the Town estimated tax rate will be the same as last year based on a grand list which increased 2%. We have offered modest wage increases of 2 % to offset major increases in our healthcare costs. We have reduced expenses where possible and have continued to invest more in technology in an effort to computerize files and provide easier access to these files at Town Hall. We feel these changes reflect a fair assessment of what is needed to perform the necessary functions of our town government.

After years of research and discussion, the Selectboard has decided to purchase a 3-acre parcel where the current recycling center is located. We are pursuing permanently locating the recycling center at the current location with some modifications to meet the Town of Thetford's recycling needs. We will make every effort to address the concerns not only of the neighboring residents but also of our community in general. Although this has been a lengthy and at times a volatile issue, we are confident with the active assistance of the Recycling Committee that this site will serve the Town of Thetford well.

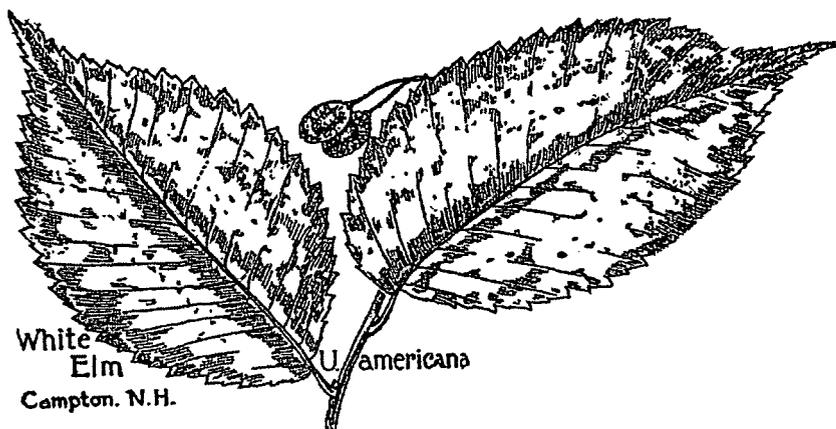
We are saddened by the loss of our Road Commissioner, Frank Thurston. His term and service to our community were short but his wealth of experience and the plans he implemented will help define the way our Highway Department completes projects and maintains our road system in the future. Our sincere condolences go out to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

In August our town received extensive road and property damages due to significant flooding from a summer rainstorm. Unfortunately, several other towns received similar damage. As a result, our town, as well as the others was declared a Federal disaster area. This entitled us to flood damage repair funds from the State of Vermont and the Federal Government. The majority of the work was completed by October 2003, the remainder will be completed in May of 2004.

The remarkable part of the flood disaster was the untold story. Each year we strive to serve the community in hope that we may help our town become a better place than the year before. To be part of this disaster as it unfolded really epitomized the true sense of community and the resilience of the human spirit. Within seconds of road washouts, the Fast Squad, Fire Department, Police, Highway Department, VTRANS, local contractors, affected residents and countless volunteers responded and worked around the clock to assure support and assistance wherever needed. The results were nothing short of miraculous.

At times, our jobs have been referred to as "thankless". Not true. There is no greater thanks than to see how people respond to serve their community. Towns like ours flourish because of the input of community members. The Selectboard meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall and welcomes all to attend. Thank you for your support.

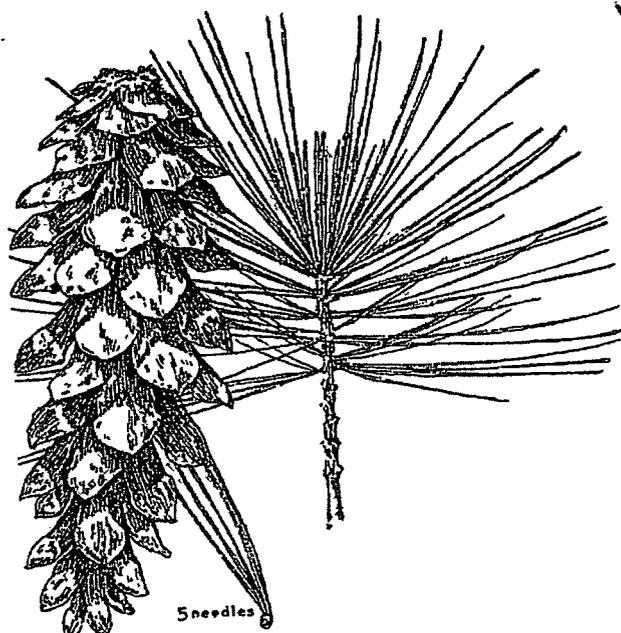
Rick Barrows
Mike Brown
Paul Raymond
Mary Spata
Mark McMahon, Chair



White Elm
U. americana
Campton, N.H.



Hemlock
Tsuga canadensis



White Pine
Pinus Strobus



Beech
Fagus grandifolia

PROPERTY TAXES: CHANGES IN ASSESSED VALUE AND ABATEMENTS

What does it mean when the Town's Listers send you a notice that the value of your property has changed? It depends on the circumstances, but one thing is clear. **It is the property owner's responsibility to confirm the accuracy of the assessed value set by the Listers.** Each property owner should be familiar with the information recorded about their own property, and the methods used by the Listers to determine the property's value.

Each year, the Listers establish the Town's Grand List, which specifies the value of taxable property in the Town as of April 1. The value of your land and buildings is calculated using a number of factors with the goal being to approximate the Fair Market Value of the property.

Any time the value of your property changes from the previous Grand List, the Listers will notify you in writing. Values can increase or decrease for various reasons. Property owners who disagree with the new value have fourteen days after notification to state their reasons in writing and file a Grievance with the Listers. If still not satisfied after reviewing the information with the Listers, you can file a written appeal of the Lister's decision to the Town's Board of Civil Authority (BCA), composed of the Selectboard, Justices of the Peace, and the Town Clerk. Further appeals are possible to the State Board of Appraisers.

Following our most recent reassessment, the Listers reviewed many properties in Town. The Listers made a number of corrections to assessed value, many of them based on changes in the calculations used to set value, rather than any physical changes to the property.

If the assessed value increases due to a Listers' correction, the Town has no recourse concerning the prior year. More taxes should have been charged, but that did not happen. If the value of your property decreases, and if that change is based on a mistake or manifest error of the Listers, then the taxpayer may have recourse by requesting an abatement of taxes paid in a prior year. You may request an abatement at any time, but a timely request is advised.

The Town's Board of Abatement (the BCA plus the Listers and Town Treasurer) may abate taxes only for specific circumstances specified by statute. The Board of Abatement decides each case on its own merits, and is not bound by the precedent of any earlier decisions.

If you have any questions at all regarding your property and the value that has been assessed by the Listers, you should contact them and review the information on your property.

Thetford Selectboard

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Changes have been plentiful at Town Hall in 2003. The retirement of Roberta Howard, who served as Clerk, Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector for 12 years, created changes in staffing as her positions were filled with two people; Martha Howard, as Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector, and myself, Tracy Borst, as Town Clerk. Added to that were 3 School Budget Votes and town hall renovations.

Renovations that created parking shortages, unexpected office closings and usual construction frustrations are behind us. Our new office is clean, has lots of daylight and ample storage space. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped move the contents of the town offices during the two moves due to construction and renovations; many hands made for a quick and smooth transition.

I encourage everyone to vote and participate in town government. Please note the following dates:

***Register** for the voter checklist for this election up to February 23 on which the Clerk's office is open 10:00-12:00 noon.

***Voting for Municipal Articles and Officers and Presidential Primary** will be March 2, at the Thetford Center Community Building, 8:00 am to 7:00 pm.

***Absentee Ballots** may be requested through March 1, 5 pm from the Town Clerk's office.

***Dog licensing is required by April 1.** Even one day late creates a \$25 fine and increased license fee. The Rabies Clinic will be offered March 13, from 10:00-12:00 noon at the Town Garage. License renewals will be available, too.

I would like to offer my thanks to the many people who helped me through my first year as town clerk. My family and friends for their support, town hall staff who answered questions, and neighboring clerks who also answered many questions or pointed me in the right direction for answers.

2004 offers to be a busy one as well. Presidential elections will require a fair amount of work for the Town Clerk's Office and for the many volunteers who serve as Justice of the Peace and on the Board of Civil Authority. There is also much to be done settling into our new space. I strive to provide an atmosphere of professionalism and efficiency at Thetford Town Hall, and hope to continue to serve you in the upcoming year.

Tracy Borst
Town Clerk

STATE REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Once again, it has been an honor and a pleasure to represent you in Montpelier during the past year. We balanced our state budget while retaining the most critical social services. And, as most of you know, we finally managed to make changes to Act 60, the education funding statute. For the most part, the education funding debate will be contentious that in previous years; although, some difficult questions have yet to settle out. I look forward to you comments on this and other issues.

Controversial issues that we will deal with this session include the following: environmental permit reform, school funding cost containment, stormwater permits, containing healthcare costs, jobs and economic development, the proposed State Energy Plan, and purchasing the dams along the Connecticut River.

Please remember that the Vermont State House and all committee rooms are accessible to all of you, regardless of weather, or via the web. You can keep in touch with legislative issues by calling me at home or in Montpelier or via the web at one of the contacts listed below.

I look forward to hearing from you about any issue, large or small.

Representative Jim Masland

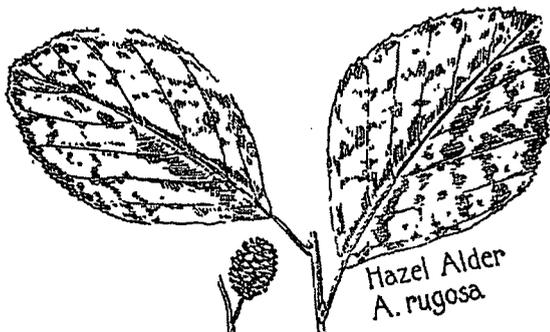
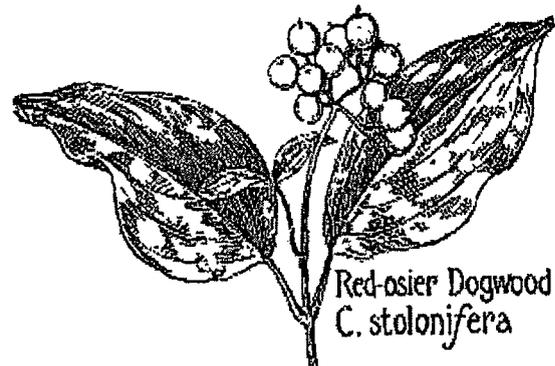
Home phone – 785-4146

State House (Sergeant at Arms Office) – 800-322-5616

Fax – 802-828-2424

Email – jmasland@leg.state.vt.us

www.leg.state.vt.us



PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT

Thetford's Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment consist of seven members who serve in both of these areas. The Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month and the Zoning Board on the fourth Tuesday.

Currently, planning activities are concentrated on the revision and publication of a new Town Plan which must be renewed every five years. This is being done with a contract with the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission and subsidized by a previous grant of \$9,500.00.

The Zoning Board is primarily devoted to the review and approval of Zoning Permit applications. A summary of the permits issued for the past four years are listed below.

The major difference for 2003 was the increase in the number of subdivisions and the resultant lots created ranging from two to nine per subdivision. Following completion of the Town Plan, the board will begin the revision of the *Town of Thetford Zoning Ordinance* and the *Subdivision Regulations for the Town of Thetford, VT*. This also will be assisted by The Two Rivers Commission and is part of a recent grant of \$8,350.00 from the Vermont Municipal Planning Grant Program.

The following table gives summaries of the permit activity over the past four years.

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Subdivision Plats Approved	7	6	6	11
Number of Lots Created	3	10	14	31
Annexations	4	4	1	3
Boundary Adjustments	-	-	1	1
Residences	13	19	13	13
Additions	20	15	10	16
Decks & Porches	9	9	12	9
Accessory Buildings	20	23	29	28
Businesses	2	3	2	4
Mobile Homes	2	3	4	2
Home Occupation	4	1	1	1
Miscellaneous & Conversations	-	3	2	1

Zoning office hours are Tuesdays, 8:00 am to noon, and Thursdays, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Your call or personal inquiries are invited.

William Thrane
 Zoning Administrator
 E-mail: Thetford.Zoning@valley.net

LISTER'S REPORT

During the 2003 legislative session, Act 68 was made into law. This Act changes everything you thought you knew about homesteads and grand lists. Please read the following report since it contains important information. Also, carefully read any notices you receive from our office or the State of Vermont since they may contain information that could affect the amount of property tax you will pay.

Changes in the property tax structure under Act 68: All properties on the education grand list will be classified as either homestead or nonresidential. A statewide education tax is imposed on these properties. 32V.S.A 5402(a). However, the tax is imposed at different rates on those two classes of property. The basis for this classification is the "Homestead Declaration." Any property that is not a homestead is nonresidential property.

Homestead Declarations: In order for a property to be classified as a homestead for any tax year, the Department of Taxes must receive a Homestead Declaration on or before April 15. On this form, a resident is required to declare his or her homestead as of April 1. 32 V.S.A 5410. In the absence of a declaration, the education tax will be billed at the nonresidential rate. If a Homestead Declaration is filed late, but before October 1, the property tax bill will be adjusted but the filer will be subject to a penalty. Declaring a nonresidential property as a homestead will also be subject to a penalty.

New definition of Homestead: Starting with the 2004 tax year, homestead will no longer be associated with the State's income sensitivity program. Homestead will now be used for classifying properties for school tax purposes. All properties that are not declared as homesteads will automatically be classified as nonresidential.

What is a Homestead? A Homestead is the principal dwelling owned and occupied by a resident individual as the individual's domicile. It includes the entire parcel of land surrounding the dwelling, determined without regard to any road that intersects the land. A homestead does not include buildings or an improvement detached from the home and used for business purposes; and does not include that portion of the principal dwelling used for business purposes if the portion used for business purposes includes more than 25 percent of the floor space of the building. The value of the other outbuildings and improvements not used for business purposes are included in the value of the homestead, e.g. swimming pools, tennis courts, landscaping.

New term ~ House site: House site values are not used in the tax classification system. Its purpose is to replace the homestead for the State's income sensitivity programs. A house site is that portion of the homestead that includes the principal dwelling and as much land surrounding the dwelling as is reasonably necessary for the use of the dwelling as a home, but in no event more than two acres per dwelling unit.

New form: HS-131 Homestead Declaration Form: The Homestead Declaration Form will ask the taxpayer to provide some information from their property tax bill, including the property location and the SPAN (school property account number). Instructions are on the opposite side of the form. If you have not received a form or you have misplaced your copy, you can pick up a duplicate at the town hall. Remember Homestead Declaration Forms MUST be sent to the State by April 15 to avoid a penalty.

If you have any questions or concerns contact your Listers. We are here to assist you with your property assessment questions. Our office is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 8:30 am. to 4 pm. We can be reached by phone at 785-4744.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet E Stowell
Denise C Adams
Roxy R Maxfield

**TAXABLE LISTED VALUES
TOWN OF THETFORD
GRAND LIST AS OF APRIL 1, 2003**

REAL ESTATE	NO.	CORPORATIONS	TOWN RESIDENTS	STATE RESIDENTS	NON-STATE	TOTALS
Residential I	624	0	81,404,565	3,412,800	5,207,500	90,024,865
Residential II	366	0	68,876,939	1,708,500	8,159,128	78,744,567
Mobile Homes-U	32	0	547,000	0	11,700	558,700
Mobile Homes-L	56	0	3,598,203	189,500	188,000	3,975,703
Vacation I	39	0	1,131,400	1,631,800	1,501,600	4,264,800
Vacation II	22	0	602,065	702,327	1,639,151	2,943,543
Commercial	49	38,600	9,328,864	2,438,100	1,548,400	13,353,964
Commercial Apts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities-E	3	2,222,400	0	14,700	255,000	2,492,100
Utilities-O	0	0	0	0	0	0
Farm	10	296,599	1,353,929	16,044	0	1,666,572
Woodland	141	0	2,264,392	1,284,001	2,045,165	5,593,558
Other	2	0	0	0	19,300	19,300
Miscellaneous	85	0	2,481,306	383,832	322,432	3,187,570
TOTALS	1,429	2,557,599	171,588,663	11,781,604	20,897,376	206,825,242



HEALTH OFFICER REPORT - 2003

New Systems	21
Repair Systems	12
Additions	<u>3</u>
Total Septic Permits Issued	36
Animal Bites Reported	0

Alford Stone, Health Officer

2003 PET LICENSING REPORT

	FEMALE	MALE	SPAYED	NEUTERED	TOTALS
Dogs	62	61	287	238	648
Ferrets	0	0	2	1	3

RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, March 13, 2004

10:00 – 12:00 Noon

Town Garage

Thetford Center

Rabies and other vaccinations available for cats and dogs

by Dr. David Webster of the Oxbow Veterinary Clinic

TOWN LICENSING AVAILABLE TOO

DEADLINE FOR TOWN LICENSING IS **APRIL 1, 2004** – After that date, penalty is \$25 per dog and licensing fee increases by half. ALL DOGS OVER 6 MONTHS, FERRETS AND WOLF-HYBIRDS MUST BE LICENSED.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT

In early 2003, a new Recycling committee was formed to look at other options after the Nichols property was determined unfeasible to develop as a recycling center due to the higher than expected cost of site development.

Curbside recycling was investigated but was determined not to be a realistic option because of the rural nature of Thetford. Some of the major concerns were higher costs of collection, damage to dirt roads during mud season, inaccessible roads and bins being pushed around by plow trucks during the winter months, and animal nuisance problems causing unsightly messes and potential health issues. A number of potential properties were visited this year, but none has proven to meet the needs of the Town for recycling. The Selectboard has entered into a purchase agreement with the owners of the current recycling center site.

Owning the current site the Town can address the concerns of the neighbors. The goal is to make the site operate in a more efficient manner as well as addressing safety and aesthetics. We will suggest to the Selectboard and Town that we swap the entrance and exit of the Center on a trial basis. We hope this action will alleviate one of the primary concerns of the neighbors by eliminating cars from blocking their driveway(s). In 2004, the Committee will evaluate costs for conversion to a co-mingled 1 or 2 sort stream system, cement slabs for the containers, safer platforms to the bins, screening, and fencing the property.

While searching for alternative site options, it was discovered that property on Stowell Road, formerly owned by the Army Corps of Engineers during the construction of the Union Village Dam, had been deeded back to the Town. The Committee considered the land as a potential site for a recycling center but feels it may be too far away from the center of town to be convenient for many

residents. Further research into the property boundaries is necessary before the Town decides how it might best use this site.

A member of the Recycling Committee raised the question of whether Thetford might reduce taxes by closing its recycling center and using the Hartford Recycling Center. The Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District (GUVSWD) indicated that this option would meet the Town's legal recycling requirements. This Committee opposed the closure option, but does want Thetford residents to know that there is another recycling option available. Those wishing to recycle in Hartford must pick up a recycling sticker at the GUVSWD office in N. Hartland 296-3688 or the Thetford Town Clerk – a \$15 annual fee for the first vehicle.

Thetford Recycling Center hours of operation
Saturday 9-12 in Winter 8-12 in Summer

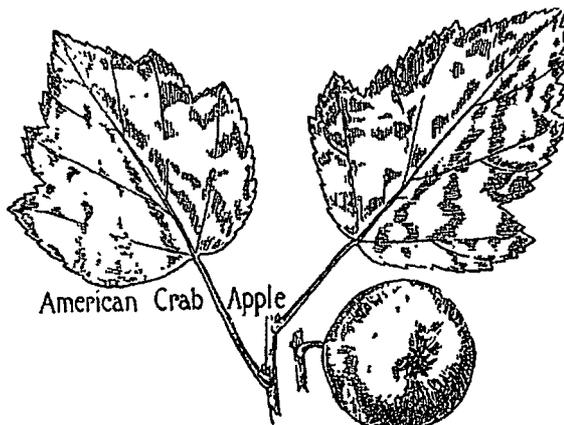
Hartford Recycling Center hours of operation
Monday thru Saturday 8 am-4 pm year round
Phone: 295-5740 or 295-2673
Located about 2 miles south of the VA Hospital in WRJ on Route 5

In 2003, Thetford residents recycled 59.0 tons of glass; 16.5 tons of metal containers; 8.2 tons of mixed plastic; 23.5 tons of cardboard; 39.0 tons of magazines; 77.5 tons of mixed paper; and 54.75 tons of newspaper.

Many thanks go to Marilyn Fava, Tracy Borst, Beverly Carpenter, and Gary Ulman for their contributions to the Recycling Committee this year and to Frank Bonnett and Sandra Miller for their steadfast service at the site.

If anyone wishes to participate in the recycling committee, please contact one of the following committee members:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Jean Lariviere, Chair | 333-7025 | jpl@dartmouth.edu |
| Paul Raymond, Selectboard | 785-4953 | |
| Roy Fava | 785-3117 | roy.a.fava@dartmouth.edu |
| Sara Ferguson | 785-2022 | |
| Nancy Stanley | 785-2791 | nancy@lyme.com |
| Bob Walker | 785-4126 | bob.walker@valley.net |



THETFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The major activities conducted by the Conservation Commission during 2003 included the following:

Commission members and an adjunct resident wildlife/natural systems advisory group have been assisting the Planning Board in revisions to the current five year Town Plan.

During November, the Commission and Planning Board conducted a public informational meeting at the Thetford Center Community Association building. Featured at this meeting was guest speaker and author Professor Elizabeth Thompson, an ecologist from the University of Vermont. Professor Thompson addressed the issue of biological diversity in Thetford and the importance of providing for protective measures in town planning for ecologically sensitive areas.

Other accomplishments for the year included continuing support to energy conservation initiatives, representation at the Elizabeth Mine EPA project meetings and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Union Village Dam revised draft land management plan public hearing, and a site review of a North Thetford riverside parcel for a possible town historical site. Also, through contract with the Two Rivers-Ottawa Regional Planning Commission, the Commission received a series of data base maps of Thetford detailing geographic features and public/private conserved lands.

During 2004, emphasis will be directed to trail development on town owned conservation lands, wildlife species inventorying and participating in statewide watershed planning for the Ompompanoosuc River watershed.

We encourage town residents who have a specific interest in natural resource issues, or who would consider serving as a Commission member, to contact any Commission member (see listing under Appointed Officers in the Town Report).

Robert J. Pulaski, Chair,
Thetford Conservation Commission



TREASURE ISLAND REPORT

SEASON: June 14 – Labor Day

PASSES SOLD:

Total – 262

Residents – 128

Non-Resident – 34

Tennis – 10

PARK HOURS: 10 AM – 8 PM Daily

Treasure Island is a Town of Thetford recreational facility located on Lake Fairlee, offering beachfront swimming, picnicking, tennis and other outdoor activities. In 2003, Treasure Island hosted a Community Work Day (May), Swim Lesson Sign-up, and the Thetford Academy Senior Class Picnic to begin the season. In early June, elementary school groups enjoyed end-of-the-year picnics at the beach, and reservations came in from Thetford Elementary as well as neighboring school districts. Opening day was Saturday, June 14, and on this day children and parents from neighboring towns came to register for swimming lessons. The American Red Cross Swim Lesson program began the following Monday, June 23, and continued throughout the summer in four two-week sessions. Lessons ran daily in the morning for one half-hour periods and were led by Red Cross-certified staff. A total of 145 children received lessons this year, ranging in skills from the very beginner to Junior Lifesaving (a pre-lifeguard training course).

At Treasure Island this summer a variety of drop-in children's activities took place. Peabody Library children's librarian Tammy Patten led outdoor Story-Hour every Wednesday at 10 am, and many local children participated. In addition, a "Feast of Summer Reading" wicker basket of children's books was put outside daily at the beach for children to pick from and enjoy reading while spending time at the beach. Each Tuesday, an Arts and Crafts period took place in the covered picnic area near the beach. These activities were fun, and also well attended by children. This Arts and Crafts period was led by a variety of local parent volunteers – thank you parents for your help, skills and enthusiasm. On Fridays, "Friday Field Sports" took place in various locations throughout Treasure Island, and these activities included adult-led games of croquet, bocce ball and badminton. Once again, free tennis lessons for children and a clinic for adults took place for one week in mid-July on Treasure Island's clay tennis courts. Thank you to Mrs. Diane Ferriter for leading the clinics. The Tennis Clinics were fun and well-attended. At Treasure Island children's tennis racquets remained available for a free sign-out throughout the summer. A discounted rate was offered for clay court rental for children and families (\$5 for 90 minutes).

The Treasure Island park and beach were highly utilized by individuals and families this summer. In addition, pre-school and day-care groups, neighboring camper groups and community organizations enjoyed the park on a regular basis throughout the summer. The paddleboat, canoe and fishing boat rentals continued to be popular with visitors. There were many out-of-town visitors coming to Treasure Island again this year, some returning for annual visits, and some newly discovering the park through their vacation travels. Individuals and organizations used the outdoor facility for children's birthday parties, family reunions, and special group picnics. On Saturday, August 2, Treasure Island hosted a Eurasian milfoil education and clean-up day – thank you to all who participated. It was a fun and informative day. To celebrate the end of the swim lesson season, a Treasure Island Beach Party was held on Friday, August 15 from 12–5 pm. Activities included a potluck picnic on the island, children's games and a D.J.-led dance party. It was a lot of fun – thank you to everyone who contributed.

We are grateful for the support and assistance received this summer from the Town of Thetford administrative staff, the Thetford Highway Department, and the Thetford Selectboard.

Thank you also to all community parents, children, and individuals who enjoyed the park and otherwise contributed time and interest at Treasure Island this summer. We look forward to seeing everyone, old and new, "at the beach!" next year.

Scott and Ann O'Hearn
Managers, Treasure Island

THETFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE

The Thetford Energy Committee (TEC) is working with the town, its residents and businesses to help them reduce energy use, save money and protect the environment. If you are interested in becoming involved with the committee or if you have ideas for energy saving projects in town, please let us know. If you have not yet filled out a residential energy survey, please do so. Energy survey forms, energy efficient bulbs and more information about the TEC are available at town meeting or by contacting the committee chair at 785-4126 or bobwalker@valley.net.

Here are some of the projects on which the Thetford Energy Committee has been working:

- **Efficient Light Bulb Sale** – The TEC is organizing a sale of compact fluorescent bulbs at this year's town meeting with Sustainable Energy Resource Group and students from Thetford Elementary School and Thetford Academy. Compared with a regular incandescent, these bulbs use between 1/3 and 1/4 the electricity and save you \$50 or more a year on your energy bills. Proceeds from the sale benefit town schools and SERG. Please visit our display at the back of the hall.
- **Town Energy Plan** – The TEC spent much of this year revising the Town's Energy Plan, a chapter in the town's master plan, which is currently under its 5-year revision. The energy plan spells out the overall direction the town should take in terms of energy decisions and those projects on which the committee intends to focus. Promoting conservation, efficiency and the cost-effective, sustainable use of renewable energy is at the core of the plan. Some of the ways we hope to do this are through: conducting energy surveys on buildings; providing information and references; and promoting energy efficient products. The finalized plan will be posted on a Thet.net hosted Thetford Energy Committee web site this spring.
- **Town Hall** – The TEC worked with the Town Hall Building Committee and Smith & Vasant Architects to promote energy efficiency measures in the newly renovated town hall. As part of our effort to insure an efficient building shell, the TEC contributed \$500 to an upgrade in insulation and air tightening on the existing part of the town hall. Our contribution was used to replace fiberglass in the wall cavities with spray applied cellulose. Insulation on the crawlspace walls was also upgraded with sprayed on foam rather than foam board. Efficiency Vermont predicts that these improvements will save the town 146 gallons of propane and \$145 in energy costs.
- **Energy Club** – The TEC has been working with the Sustainable Energy Resource Group to create and promote the SERG Energy Club. Forty-seven families in Thetford are participating in the club – buying their fuel oil and propane through the club at reduced rates, completing an energy survey and consulting with SERG on how to reduce their energy consumption. If you are interested in joining the energy club next year, contact the TEC.
- **Treasure Island** – The Treasure Island caretakers report that work done with the TEC last year on their town-owned residence has cut their electric consumption by more than half, saving them \$520 annually. There are still more energy saving opportunities at Treasure Island, but this is a great start!

Bob Walker, Chair, Thetford Energy Committee

TOWN HALL RENOVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

As a result of several years of work by three sequential Town Hall Renovation Committees and Smith & Vansant Architects, under the oversight of the project management firm of Neagley & Chase, construction finally began on June 9, 2003.

The renovation and expansion of Town Hall provides a new handicap accessible entry, new offices, storage spaces and meeting rooms. Shepard Butler Landscape Associates paid the town \$750 for the historic privy at the rear of the Wallace Vault and arranged its transfer to a flatbed truck for relocation on Tucker Hill Road. Subsequently, ground was broken and concrete poured for the addition joining the 1830 Town Hall building and the 1910 Wallace Vault. With deft design and engineering by Smith and Vansant and many months of evaluating the most cost effective methods and materials, erection of the new building and renovation of the two existing buildings proceeded smoothly. Though relocation of vault contents and other town records continued on subsequent days, with the help of twenty-five volunteers coordinated by the Thetford Trust, Thetford Town Offices were moved to facilities in the new building on September 29, 2003.

Once the skeleton of the brick buildings was revealed, with minor adjustments, renovation proceeded quickly. Several items required extra attention to preserve the historic character of the buildings. Restoration of the shutters, windows and storm panels took special care, as did repair work on the hardwood floors. Interior photographs (c.1940) of the old hall resulted in the current meeting room with its high ceiling, wainscot walls with chair and picture rails and views from the tall windows toward the adjacent cemetery and church. Since the original double-leaf exterior doors and granite steps would not meet present building codes, the old entry was retrofit with a replica single door and new granite steps. A \$500 grant from the Thetford Energy Committee and prudent use of contingency money allowed for improvement of insulation beyond that initially budgeted for the original 1830 building. Blown-in cellulose insulation in the attic and foam insulation for the under-floor crawl space replaced the planned fiberglass batts and rigid Styrofoam sheets respectively.

By late fall, the project was essentially complete and on November 22, 2003, thirty volunteer residents moved furnishings to their final locations, re-hung old paintings, plaques and photographs and completed clean-up touches in the new complex. Although there are some remaining items to be completed in the spring, such as exterior brick and masonry repair, interior plastering and painting of the Wallace Vault, and driveway and parking lot re-grading, the basic construction work was completed within the allotted time frame and budget. An ad-hoc "Friends of Town Hall" group donated \$1200 for the purchase of a teak bench to be placed outside the new entry and bronze plaques to commemorate the Thetford Town Hall and Richard Wallace Vault placement on the National Register of Historic Places. In conjunction with the Thetford Historical Society, Charles Latham has pledged to furnish the Wallace Vault and install historic displays representing each of the villages of Thetford.

Our thanks to the Thetford Historic Preservation Committee, Historical Society, Town Historian Marian Fifield, Energy Committee, Town Road Crew for the many projects they completed, Town Office Staff, Thetford Trust, Vermont Preservation Trust for their \$25,000 grant, Pompanoosuc Mills and Copeland Furniture for the beautiful tables they donated, and to the many residents who contributed their time and enthusiasm to this project. The committee especially thanks Pi Smith, John Vansant and Sue Reed for their vision, design and dogged attention to the details that have made our Town Hall a functional, energy efficient and historic-preservation treasure for the residents of Thetford to enjoy for many years to come. Special thanks also to a very dedicated Renovation Committee of Cy Severance, Chris Levey, Susan Thrane and Paul Raymond.

Mary Spata, Committee Chair

RICHARD WALLACE AND THE RICHARD WALLACE VAULT

The Richard Wallace vault has been incorporated into the new Town Hall building allowing for a new entrance, heat, lights and access to plumbing. The little building next to the simple Romanesque Town Hall provides a lively contrast of 1909-1910 gingerbread. It was originally used to store town documents, bills, and orders now carefully accessioned at the Thetford Historical Society. The plan to use the building as a small meeting room will let the public see the fine decorative carpentry work of the vaulted ceiling. Photographs and local artifacts provided by the Thetford Historical Society will show some of Thetford's history.

Of late years, the vault was used for general storage as seen through the large glass windows on either side of the heavy steel vault door. The difference in security between the heavily secured door and the unprotected glass windows has been a town curiosity for years.

The Town voted to build a vault in 1909 and the expenses were itemized in the 1910 Town Report. The heavy door and rods cost \$99 with freight for \$3.63 paid to C.A. Adams. There is no record of windows or glass.

C.W. Sayre did the carpentry for the elaborate ceiling and boards came from the Sayre Brothers Mill below the Thetford Center covered bridge. W.A. Fellows carved the granite marker for \$21.90.

The granite marker on the Wallace Vault reads "In Memory of RICHARD WALLACE" the Revolutionary War hero who swam Lake Champlain from West to East to carry an important message from Ft. Ticonderoga to General Lincoln at Chimney Point. Wallace volunteered as did Ephraim Webster from Newbury whom Wallace had to rescue. The water was cold and it was growing dark. Wallace encountered pickets after he landed, and also luckily Americans who took him to report. The account of his brave deed is recorded in the National Archives as is his letter requesting a pension.

Richard Wallace and his wife Bathsheba were also pioneers of Rice's Mills. Their land is now the cleared hillside between the last brick house on Tucker Hill Road and the Rice's Mills schoolhouse (Community Center), although at the time it was heavily forested. While Richard was with the troops, Bathsheba walked six miles to cut trees, clear stumps and plant a crop to "prove" their claim. Later Richard built a cabin and slowly enlarged it. His house stood until it was destroyed by fire in the 1930s.

Richard crafted simple furniture and cared a great deal for children's education. He gave the land for the first Rice's Mills Schoolhouse not far from the present building. He often visited the children and prayed with them, a custom of the times. When Bathsheba was dying, the children stood around her deathbed.

Wallace never knew his family. It was supposed that he was born in Nova Scotia. Later descendents clung to a story that he was a wealthy heir from Scotland and was sent away by a wicked rival. He had a childhood memory of traveling on a ship. There is no record of any of this. He spent his young manhood with a Colonel Johnston's expeditions to the Upper Valley. When he was in his early twenties, like other young men, he spent a term in school and learned to read.

Wallace and his son Major (his name) assisted in building the brick houses in Rice's Mills. Throughout his life he took an interest in town affairs and provided simple, common sense. He was a Selectman in 1806. He is buried near a short replacement shaft in the old Thetford Center Cemetery.

Marian Fifield
Town Historian

THETFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

At the end of 2003 we close out my first full year and about a year and a half of being in Thetford. The Police department has made some good gains this year albeit we still have a couple areas to focus on and or look to improve or expand to provide better service(s) to meet the ever-increasing needs of our communities.

When I arrived in July 2002, Thetford had to rely mostly on outside service providers. In 2003 Thetford Police handled the majority of calls here. However, we still have the need and do rely mostly on the Vermont State Police from Bradford Barracks and occasionally the Orange County Sheriff's Department to assist and provide coverage when we are off. Their help is very much appreciated and I extend our thanks to those agencies.

Since August, Jim Lanctot (Lan-toe) was hired and he has been covering most nights and weekends. His presence and this coverage has made a good impact in many areas and is a major factor in the lessening of the many nuisance complaints that were commonly occurring, i.e., excess speed and other traffic problems, vandalism incidents, etc.

The State Police often have a varied and delayed response time coming to Thetford as well as the burdens of their own departments' calls to handle and short staffing. This makes Thetford having it's own night officer all the more lucrative and necessary for our community. As a result of police services rendered, the Thetford Police department generated additional revenue of approximately \$12,000 to the general fund.

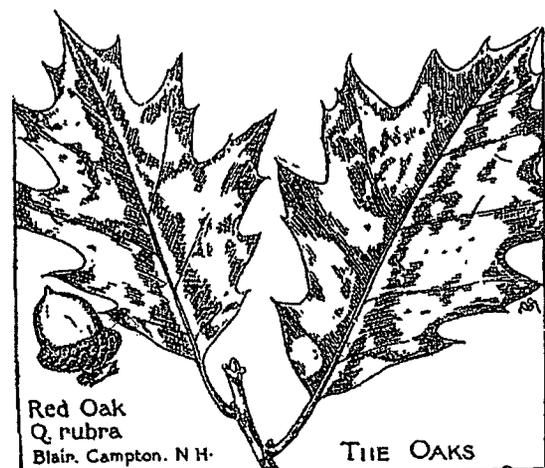
Many citizens have called, came in, sent letters and left notes for every thing from just saying hi to giving us information, praise or asking questions and stating concerns. The Officers and I all appreciate and encourage this. It is a big help in more ways than most may think, and we enjoy meeting with you.

As always, even if we disagree on an issue, we will try to give you a courteous answer, a chance to be heard and/or discuss an issue or point of contention, necessary information or try to reach the most workable solution in all parties best interests to resolve whatever the situation.

At the time of this writing, VT State Police Statistics for 2003 were not yet compiled and are not included in these figures. In closing, the Officers and I would like to express our thanks to you for the overall support you have shown us and say that we are looking forward to continuing to work constructively with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Call
Chief of Police



Red Oak
Q. rubra
Blain, Campton, N.H.

THE OAKS

The wood is hard, coarse-grained, strong, light brown, and is used for many common purposes, but rarely for furniture. It is too coarse-grained to be especially valuable. The weight is 41 lbs. to the cubic foot.

THETFORD POLICE STATISTICS

Nature of Call	#
Abandoned Vehicle	11
Accident with Damage	38
Accident with Injuries	4
Agency Assists	58
Alarms	15
Alcohol Offenses	3
Animal Problems	10
Assaults	5
Assaults Sexual	2
Attempt to Locate	12
ATV Incident	3
Burglary	17
Bad Checks	11
Child Abuse	3
Citizen Assists	105
Citizen Dispute	33
Dead Animal	8
Dead Body	2
Disorderly Conduct	6
Driving License Suspended	15
Drug Violations	9
DWI	14
Domestic Violence	21
Fire	3
Fish & Game Complaint	4
Found/Lost Property	6
Fraud	3
House Checks	5
Information Reports	83
Intoxicated Person	10

Nature of Call	#
Illegal Dumping	14
Juvenile Problem	16
Lockout	5
Medical Emergency	17
Miscellaneous	11
Missing Person	6
Motor Vehicle Complaints	35
Noise Disturbance	17
Phone Harassment/Nuisance	9
Restraining Orders	5
Runaway Juvenile	2
Serve Abuse Prevent Orders	10
Search Warrants	2
Stalking	5
Suspicious	45
Stolen Vehicle	1
Recovered Stolen Property	17
Recovered Stolen Vehicles	1
Theft	19
Threats	5
Trespassing	12
Traffic Hazard	4
Traffic Violations	175
Unlawful Mischief	3
Vandalism	16
VIN Inspection	49
Wanted Person	5
Weapon Offense	3
Welfare/Suicide Check	4
Total Calls	1046

VERMONT STATE POLICE

I invite you to review statistics regarding VT State Police enforcement in your town during 2003 on our website: vtsp.org/Bradford.html (2003 VT Crime Report).

Respectfully,

LT Walter Goodell
Station Commander

TRUSTEES OF TOWN FARM TRUST FUNDS		
DATE	TRANSACTION	AMOUNT
12/04/57	Puritan Fund original investment: 677,000	\$4001.07
'57-'03	Shares added by reinvestment: 24,080.836	
12/31/03	Puritan Fund - Total Shares held: 24,747.836	
12/31/03	Value of Investment @ \$ 18.47/ share	\$457,092.53
CASH ON HAND & CASH INCOME FOR 2003:		
01/01/03	Cash on Hand (Merchants Bank)	\$4,216.63
12/31/03	Income from Dividends 2003	\$18,568.37
12/31/03	Interest Income	\$38.76
	TOTAL:	\$22,823.76
DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENSES FOR 2003:		
04/03/03	Check # 121, Lifeline	2.03
04/10/03	Check # 120, Emergency Food Shelf	2000.00
05/03/03	Check # 122, High Horses Riding Program	345.00
09/05/03	Check # 124, High Horses Riding Program	172.50
09/05/03	Check # 125, Wells River Savings Bank	6,500.00
12/16/03	Check # 126, Emergency Food Shelf	98.31
12/16/03	Check # 127, Emergency Food Shelf	430.00
12/16/03	Check # 128, Emergency Food Shelf	91.00
12/16/03	Check # 129, Emergency Food Shelf	160.66
12/16/03	Check # 130, Emergency Food Shelf	240.00
12/16/03	Check # 131, Emergency Food Shelf	689.04
12/31/03	Service Charge - Merchants Bank	36.00
	TOTAL:	\$10,764.54
	CASH BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/03	\$12,059.22

Trustees of Trust Funds

Ruel G. Barrett
 Elmer C. Brown
 Frederick P. Howard

CEMETERY TRUST FUNDS		
DATE	TRANSACTION	AMOUNT
12/04/57	Puritan Funds original investment 220.000 shares	\$1,300.20
'60 - '02	Shares added by reinvestment: 643.215	
12/31/03	Puritan Fund total shares held 863.215	
12/31/03	Value of reinvestment @ \$18.47/share	\$15,943.58
CASH ON HAND & INCOME - 2003		
01/01/03	Cash on Hand	77.56
01/02/03	Income from Dividends 2003	505.10
12/31/03	2003 Interest	2.32
	TOTAL:	584.98
DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENSES - 2003		
10/24/03	Treasurer, Town of Thetford	457.00
	Hillside Cemetery	35.00
	Post Mills Cemetery	105.00
	Evergreen Rest Cemetery	245.00
12/31/03	Service Charge - Wells River Savings Bank	2.00
12/31/03	CASH BALANCE ON HAND	\$127.98

Trustees of Trust Funds

Ruel G. Barrett
 Elmer C. Brown
 Frederick P. Howard

CONSERVATION TRUST FUNDS		
	Balance – January 1, 2003	\$10,003.34
	Received from Town of Thetford	400.00
Expenditures:	Linney Levin Fund	0.00
	Non-Levin Fund	0.00
	Balance – December 31, 2003	\$10,403.34
	Balance of Non-Levin Fund	2,973.34
	Balance of Linney Levin Fund	7,430.00
	(Restricted for establishment and maintenance of trails in Thetford)	

Ruel G. Barrett, Treasurer

TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

Acquired	Description	Acreage	Amount Paid
Unknown	Sawnee Bean Cemetery	1/2 Acre	
Unknown	Judd Cemetery	1/2 Acre	
Unknown	Land by Trussell's	1/4 Acre	
Unknown	East Thetford Cemetery		
Unknown	Post Mills Cemetery	3/4 Acre	
Unknown	Thetford Center Green	1/8 Acre	
1818	Thetford Hill Common	1/13 Acre	Gift
1831	Town Hall Site	1/2 Acre	\$20
1833	Rice's Mills Cemetery	.4 Acre	\$10
1836	Kinney Cemetery	.2 Acre	Gift
1919	Follett Cemetery		Gift
1935, 1953	Town Garage Site	1 Acre	\$300
1941	Town Forest	195 Acres	\$165
1950	Off Stowell Rd	8 Acres	Gift
1957	Old Dump Site	1 Acre	
1961	Elementary School Site	8.3 Acres	TA Gift
1972	Treasure Island	9.18 Acres	\$155,000
1974	School Leach Field	13 Acres	\$12,400
1997	T & J Taylor Property	36.8 Acres	Gift
1998	C. Hughes Property	3.6 Acres	Gift
2001	V. Uihlein Property	15 Acres	Gift

THETFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The past year was both productive and busy. Our call volume continued to increase and we responded to 133 incidents in 2003. Motor vehicle accidents account for the largest percent of total, and also involve the FAST Squad. Many of our firefighters are certified EMT's and this cross training provides a versatile crew of responders. Our on-going recruitment yielded 11 new members, including 4 new Junior members. Five firefighters completed classes and testing for Vermont Level One Certification, bringing the number of members with career level training to 15. Four more are currently enrolled in the six month course.

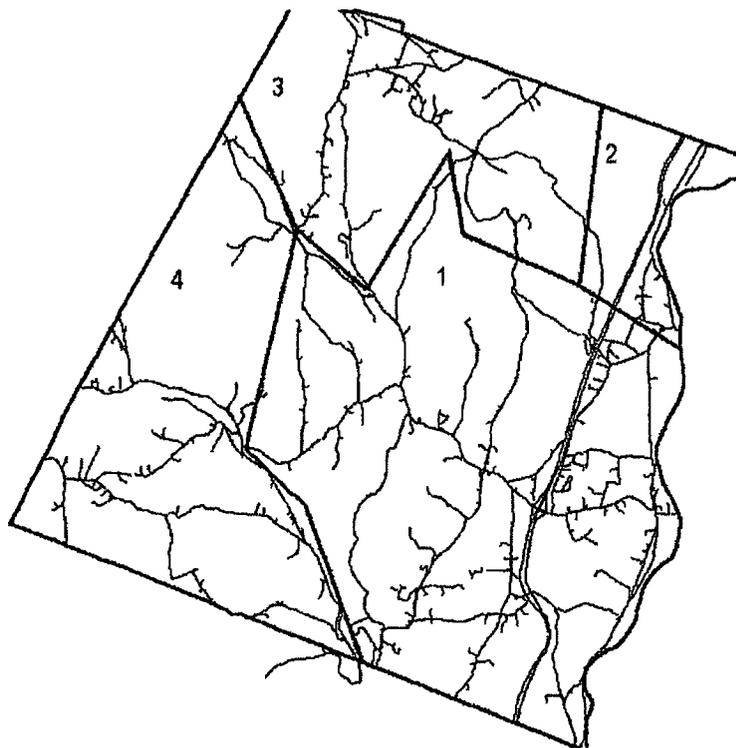
We have to be prepared for a wide range of emergencies and the fire service is now highly technical. Fortunately, our Grant writing efforts were successful last year, and we received over \$100,000 in Grant funding. The Mascoma Foundation provided \$3000 to update our computer system. A FEMA Grant for \$65,000 plus \$33,000 of our fund-raised money allowed us to order a new Rescue vehicle, and \$48,000 from the Vermont Homeland Security Grant will purchase specialty rescue equipment and medical supplies that would help us handle a major, catastrophic incident. We are completing applications for 2004 funding that will provide further training in hazardous materials, including nuclear, chemical, and biological emergencies.

TVFD responds to all fire, rescue, and EMS emergencies in Thetford. We are active in the Upper Valley Mutual Aid system, and respond to most fires in the neighboring communities. Together with West Fairlee, Vershire, and Strafford we own hydraulic, and air rescue tools. This equipment is on our rescue truck and we will respond as needed.

A six wheel drive all terrain vehicle is jointly owned with Vershire, also housed in Thetford, and responds to numerous calls for wilderness rescue and wildfires. The Town is divided into four zones which helps us pre-plan mutual aid response to working fires.

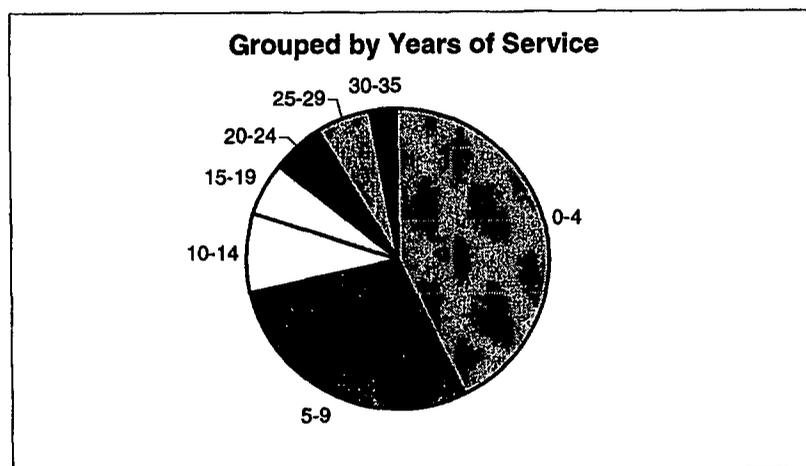
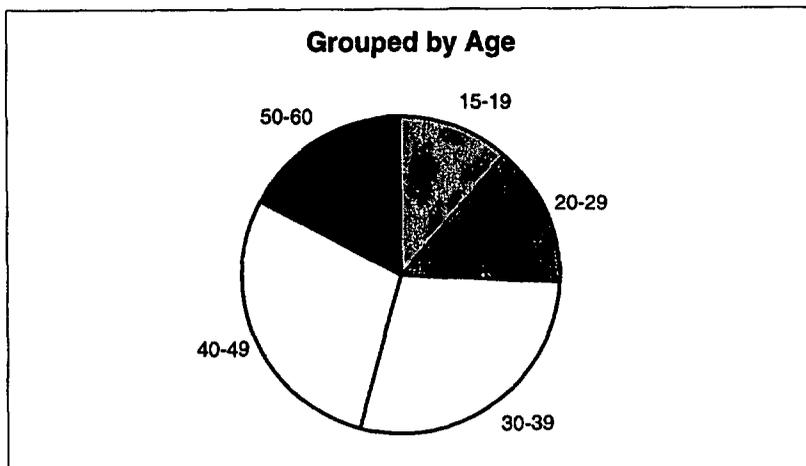
The town of Thetford encompasses 46.6 square miles with a population of 2,614.

Thetford has 20 miles of Interstate highway, numerous lakes and ponds, frontage to the Connecticut River, 9 miles of railroad with several crossings, an airport, and a US Army Corps of Engineers Facility. Our numerous Summer Camps increase the population by over 1000, and the daily traffic flow on I-91 and Route 113 averages over 17,000 vehicles. Many of these are transporting hazardous materials.



Don Fifield, Jr., Chief

DEPARTMENT DETAILS



Chimney Fire	7
Fire Alarm	24
Hazmat	1
Investigation	25
Mutual Aid	21
MVA Crash	29
Power Lines	7
Public Assist	4
Rescue	1
Structure Fire	6
Vehicle Fire	3
Wildland Fire	5
TOTAL	133

<i>Thetford Vol. Fire Department</i>	2003 Budget	2003 Actual	2004 Budget
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Town Appropriation	65,250.00	65,250.00	67,225.00
Interest Earned	75.00	7.28	75.00
Grant Money Received			
TOTAL REVENUES	\$65,325.00	\$65,257.28	\$67,300.00
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
ADMINISTRATION			
Chief's Stipend	1,250.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
Dispatch Service	2,500.00	2,712.52	2,800.00
Fees	50.00	0.00	50.00
Insurance			
Workers Comp	1,300.00	2,150.00	2,650.00
Non-Workers Comp	16,600.00	16,311.00	16,500.00
Office Supplies & Postage	500.00	1,199.19	500.00
Public Relations & Fire Safety	500.00	281.00	350.00
Subscriptions and Dues	500.00	175.00	500.00
Tax Prep / Audit	500.00	400.00	500.00
Telephone	1,400.00	1,353.13	1,400.00
Total Administration	\$25,100.00	\$25,831.84	\$26,500.00
BUILDING & GROUNDS			
Electricity	2,200.00	2,045.07	2,200.00
Fuel Oil / LP Gas	2,500.00	2,924.05	3,000.00
Furniture & Fixtures	500.00	435.04	500.00
Maintenance & Repairs*	8,500.00	4,523.21	8,500.00
Total Buildings & Grounds	\$13,700.00	\$9,927.37	\$14,200.00
FIREFIGHTER HEALTH & SAFETY			
Gear Maintenance	600.00	1,025.83	800.00
Gear & Personal Protective Equip.	4,400.00	5,190.46	
Protective Clothing			4,000.00
Pass Devices			1,000.00
Health & Safety	500.00	0.00	250.00
Re-Hydration & Food	200.00	467.67	300.00
Total Firefighter Health & Safety	\$5,700.00	\$6,683.96	\$6,350.00

~ continued on following page ~

<i>Thetford Vol. Fire Department</i>	2003 Budget	2003 Actual	2004 Budget
TRAINING			
Training Corporation Membership	250.00	0.00	250.00
Training Courses & Expenses	2,500.00	913.47	2,500.00
Total Training	\$2,750.00	\$913.47	\$2,750.00
VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT			
Equipment Maintenance	2,500.00	2,526.74	2,500.00
Equipment Replacement	10,000.00	6,124.18	
SCBA			2,500.00
Radios			2,500.00
Hand Tools			2,500.00
Power Tools			2,000.00
Vehicle Fuel	1,500.00	948.78	1,500.00
Vehicle Maintenance	4,000.00	2,019.13	4,000.00
Total Vehicles & Equipment	\$18,000.00	\$11,618.83	\$17,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$65,250.00	\$54,975.47	\$67,300.00
Payables as of 12/31/03			
Administration \$38.46			
Buildings & Grounds \$1229.68			
Firefighter Health & Safety \$55.67			
Training \$852.01			
* The cost of repaving the driveway was more than anticipated, to be paid over 2 years.			
<i>Prepared by Gail Paige</i>			

ENHANCED 9-1-1

Statewide System Operations - Jan 1 2003 to Nov 30 2003

Total Calls Handled System-wide	Wire-Line	113,763	Wireless	60,374
Total Abandoned Calls System-wide	Wire-Line	15,464	Wireless	3,656
Average Call Answer Time System-wide	5 Seconds			
Average Call Duration System-wide	1 Minute 54 Seconds			

The Vermont E-911 system continues to perform within established benchmarks. The total number of calls received from Thetford was 300.

The Enhanced 911 Board operates ten 911 call answering points, known as Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP). They are located at the Springfield Police Department, the Hartford Police Department, the Montpelier Police Department, the Lamoille County Sheriff's Office, the Saint Albans Police Department, the Shelburne Police Department, and the State Police Barracks at Williston, Rutland, Rockingham and Derby to be operational by Jan 2004.

E 9-1-1 Address Confidentiality

In 1996, the General Assembly passed a law requiring Towns that created new street addresses for enhanced 9-1-1 to provide a confidentiality option to residents.

This option allows residents to prevent their names from being linked with their new street addresses in municipal public records, such as the Grand List. If you choose to exercise this option, you are required by law to provide the Town Clerk with an alternate mailing address, such as a Post Office box. Copies of the "Confidentiality Option Form" and instructions are available at your Town Office or on the Internet @ www.state.vt.gov/e911. Your Confidentiality Option Form is not a public record and is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law. Town officials are required to preserve your privacy.

STATE OF VERMONT ENHANCED 9-1-1 BOARD
 94 STATE STREET, DRAWER 20, MONTPELIER, VT 05620-6501
 TEL: (802) 828-4911 FAX: (802) 828-4109 TTY (802) 828-5779
 TOLL FREE: 1-800-342-4911

THETFORD FAST SQUAD

The Thetford FAST squad has had a fantastic year. Our sole purpose continues to be to provide emergency medical service to the community of Thetford. Squad members, who are all volunteers, are able to respond to most emergencies within minutes. We continue to work closely with the Police, Fire and Highway Departments, as well as the ambulance services, in managing emergencies.

The members of the Thetford FAST Squad again wish to thank the community of Thetford for all of their support during our fundraising campaign. We continue to receive generous donations and have been overwhelmed by the various notes and cards accompanying the donations. **THANK YOU!**

Training for the squad members is a high priority. This year we participated in classes as part of our continuing education that included topics such as search and rescue, pharmacology, obstetrical emergencies, pediatric trauma, drug recognition, basic trauma assessment, public education, injury prevention, and bioterrorism incidents. We continue our monthly squad drills on a variety of pertinent topics with an open invitation for other area squads to join us. In the past year, we have been fortunate to have several outside speakers from Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, the Hanover Fire Department, local community members, as well as individual members speaking on their particular area of expertise. Additionally, another of our volunteer members completed an Emergency Medical Technician Intermediate course in January 2003.

Another priority of the FAST is community service and education. We continue to offer safety information to the community on a variety of topics such as car seat and seat belt safety. We once again provided medical coverage for the larger cross-country races at Thetford Academy this fall. Approximately 10 volunteers worked at each race to provide enough personnel to staff a fully stocked first aid room, a rescue truck, an ATV for rapid response and a finish line response team. This group responded to over 100 incidents at the two races and provided care for numerous young athletes and spectators.

Including motor vehicle crashes, we responded to 144 emergencies in 2003 in Thetford. This represents a 13% increase in total calls as compared to last year. We also responded to 19 incidents in neighboring towns as mutual aid. We have seen an increase of 10-15% overall for the last 4 years.

We saw an increase in membership and a decrease in attrition for 2003. We have also increased the number of squad members who can provide advanced life support services to the members of our community and continually strive to provide a high quality of care in the pre-hospital setting.

Our current roster stands at 17 members.

President –	Mariah Capurso	Bill Wallace	George Stowell	Larry Ackerman
V. President –	Wendy Cole	Tim Moore	Gail Paige	Brenda Moore
Treasurer –	Janet Stowell	David Goodrich	Tim Ouellette	Bill Hoyt
Secretary –	Casey Huling	Spunk Kuehlwein	Sarah Blanchard	
		Don Fifield	Jeff Sirjane	

Please join us in thanking Roxy Maxfield for her many years of service to the town of Thetford and the Thetford FAST Squad. Roxy was a driving force in the squad for many years and provided over 16 years of leadership as the President of the squad. We wish her well in her retirement.

Our goal is to provide the town of Thetford with a professional level of emergency service. Thank you for all of your support over the last year. Those interested in becoming members should call 785-2412. We look forward to continuing our service to the town of Thetford.

Respectfully submitted by Mariah Capurso, President

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

I was appointed Road Foreman in September 2003 and have faced many challenges. Working with FEMA on the water damage caused by the heavy rains in early August is cause for lots of paperwork. Immediate repairs were done with extra help from Larry Godfrey, Pete Goodrich, Evan Rowell and Gary Ulman and we thank them for helping us out. Some of the needed culverts were installed, and there are still some needed.

Between trying to clean up from that damage and preparing for winter we've been incredibly busy. This winter has been unfriendly to the road crew with rain and snow, warm and freezing temperatures. We've also had usual amount of equipment breakdowns that challenged us as well.

The Thetford Highway Department currently consists of a good crew of men that work very well together – Lynn King, Scott Magoon, Jim Pero and part-time help of William Houts. I wouldn't be able to do my job well without them, and their cooperation. The Sawnee Bean paving project was completed late in the season, but done nonetheless. As we leave winter behind, my crew and I plan to start adding gravel to roads, clean out the ditches and culverts, and repair road shoulders.

Thank you to the town residents for your thoughtfulness through the holidays with gifts of cookies and treats while my crew and I were out keeping roads passable for all the traveling families and friends. We appreciate your support and cooperation.

Timothy J. Gibbs, Road Foreman

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT INVENTORY

Highway Equipment:

1992 International Dump w/plow & Sander
 1996 International DT466 Truck
 1997 Galion 870B Grader
 1999 International 2554 Dump Truck
 2000 International Dump Truck
 2002 Ford F550 Pickup Truck

Garage Equipment:

Craftsman Drill Press
 Surveyor Tripod & Rod
 Miller Dialark Welder
 Brush Chipper – Eager Beaver
 York Road Rake
 John Deere Mower
 Lincoln Power Mig 255
 Wacker Water Pump
 Wisconsin 8 Wheel Trailer
 Emglo Air Compressor
 (2) Trailer Mounted Chloride Tanks
 Chloride Tank (2500 Gallon)
 Safety Kleen Parts Cleaner
 Husqvarna Chainsaw 18" bar
 Jonsered Chainsaw 16" bar
 (2) Jonsered Chainsaw 18" bar

Makita 7 ¼" circular saw
 Milwaukee ½" drill
 Makita 180mm Disc Grinder
 Makita 3/8" drill
 Lincoln 20 ton air jack
 Napa Battery Charger
 Water Pump
 Ladders (20' metal, 32' Wood, 16' fiberglass)
 (2) Creepers
 (2) Hand Dollies
 Rolling Tool Box
 (2) Logger Chaps
 Shovels, Rakes, etc.
 Assorted Hand Tools (wrenches, hammer, etc.)
 Lincoln 20 ton hydraulic Jack
 Transmission Jack
 Air Grease Gun
 Torch Set
 Drill Press
 Air wrenches 3 x 1/2"/1" x 1"
 Makita 4" disc grinder
 Makita 14" grinder cut off saw
 Bench Grinder 2 wheel
 Stihl HT75 Pole Saw
 Jonsered 450 Brush Cutter
 Napa Pressure Washer
 Yamaha Generator

THETFORD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE YEARS 2003 THROUGH 2008

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Chipper - 15yrs 05, 20			\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		
Mower - 10yrs 06, 16				\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	
Truck 1 - 8 yrs 02, 10	\$9,750.00	\$9,937.50				
Truck 2 - 10 yrs 06, 16				\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00
Truck 3 - 10yrs 08, 18						\$24,000.00
Truck 4 - 10yrs 10, 20	\$15,327.89					
Grader - 12 yrs 09, 21						
Loader - 12 yrs 03, 15		\$17,800.00	\$17,800.00	\$17,800.00	\$17,800.00	
Pickup Truck	\$2,400.00					
Fire Truck Replacement			\$39,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$39,000.00
Total Projected Expenditures:	\$27,477.89	\$27,737.50	\$39,000.00	\$97,800.00	\$87,800.00	\$86,000.00
Fund Balance January 1:	\$49,191.13	\$70,137.97	\$118,020.50	\$156,471.52	\$135,105.10	\$123,170.35
Projected Contribution (incl. int.):	\$45,084.83	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Projected Expenditures:	-\$27,477.89	-\$27,737.50	-\$39,000.00	-\$97,800.00	-\$87,800.00	-\$86,000.00
Fund Balance December 31:	\$66,798.07	\$112,400.47	\$149,020.50	\$128,671.52	\$117,305.10	\$107,170.35
Balance w/ Averaged Interest:	\$70,137.97	\$118,020.50	\$156,471.52	\$135,105.10	\$123,170.35	\$112,528.87

THETFORD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE YEARS 2009 THROUGH 2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Chipper - 15yrs 05, 20					
Mower - 10yrs 06, 16					
Truck 1 - 8 yrs 02, 10		\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
Truck 2 - 10 yrs 06, 16	\$23,000.00				
Truck 3 - 10yrs 08, 18	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00		
Truck 4 - 10yrs 10, 20		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Grader - 12 yrs 09, 21	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	
Loader - 12 yrs 03, 15					
Pickup Truck					
Fire Truck Replacement					
Total Projected Expenditures:	\$82,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$76,000.00	\$41,000.00
Fund Balance January 1:	\$112,528.87	\$105,555.31	\$79,333.08	\$51,799.73	\$48,089.72
Projected Contribution (incl. int.):	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Projected Expenditures:	-\$82,000.00	-\$100,000.00	-\$100,000.00	-\$76,000.00	-\$41,000.00
Fund Balance December 31:	\$100,528.87	\$75,555.31	\$49,333.08	\$45,799.73	\$77,089.72
Balance w/ Averaged Interest:	\$105,555.31	\$79,333.08	\$51,799.73	\$48,089.72	\$80,944.21

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

The Thetford General Fund and Highway Fund budgets are products of a process that begins in December when the Select Board and Budget Committee meet with town organizations and divisions to review budgetary requests for the next fiscal year. The final budget incorporates these requests as best as possible.

The fiscal year 2004 General Fund and Highway Fund budgets, as presented in the Town Report, represent a particularly thorough review by the Select Board and the Budget Committee. Each line item was discussed and a determination was made regarding how to fund them.

Some items (i.e., fuel costs, utilities, insurance) are not in the total control of the town officials and the monies to fund these need to be increased. In addition, the town is being asked to be responsible for some projects previously funded by town organizations or the State of Vermont. Also, there is a substantial increase in the Town Hall bond interest payment plus a need to fund the preservation of town records. Funds are also required to upgrade the Information Systems in the renovated Town Hall. However, the funding for a number of items was reduced or held level so that the overall increase in the budgets is reasonable.

Therefore, the Budget Committee recommends the adoption of the proposed Town of Thetford General Fund and Highway Fund budgets for FY2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Brown
Lynne A. Miller



Linden
Tilia americana

The American tree is common in rich woods or fertile soil, and is distributed from N. B. west to the eastern shores of Lake Superior, the southern shores of Lake Winnipeg, the Assiniboine River (Man.) eastern Dak. and Neb. Kan. Okla. and eastern Tex., and south to Va. and along the mountains to Ga. In N. C. it is common in the mountain region, and rare in other parts of the State, its maximum height is 80 feet. It is common throughout N. E. and climbs to an altitude of 1200 feet in the hills. The wood is soft, straight-grained, light brown, and is easily worked; it is manufactured into general woodenware, furniture, carriages, and wood-pulp. Weight 28 lbs. per cubic foot. The tough inner bark is shredded and used for mat-fiber.

LATHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

HOURS

Monday:	2:00 – 8:30 PM
Tuesday:	2:00 – 5:00 PM
Wednesday:	10:00 – 5:00 PM
Thursday:	2:00 – 5:00 PM
Friday:	10:00 – 5:00 PM
Saturday	10:00 – 1:00 PM

In 2003, the trustees worked diligently to implement Freeman Foundation funds. New public access computers, an automated library catalog and circulation system, new children's seating and extensive collections of DVDs and audiobooks are now available for all town residents. Many thanks are due to Nancy Tiedemann who worked patiently to connect each barcoded title with its catalog record and to teach everyone how to use the new circulation system. The board also hired Simon Brooks as Children's Librarian, when Tammie Patten retired in September.

Programs included a book discussion series exploring "West by Southwest," made possible by the Vermont Council on the Humanities. Coordinating with Thetford Reads, the library co-hosted a Lord of Sandwich Competition, a Feast of Fables, and a book giveaway on Halloween. Nancy Schindler keeps story time eternally young.

From three visits to the Regional Library, the Town Library borrowed 1,650 books and these state books were taken out 1,232 times. Books featuring Large Type were also borrowed from the state. 2,005 videos were borrowed from almost 30 video series offered by the library from the LUV Video Co-op. 198 requests for books were made through Inter-Library Loan and 68 of our books were sent around the state on loan this past year.

The total number of library materials borrowed from this library was 13,726 with 10,636 people coming to use the library. 381 visitors came to view the exhibits in the Bicentennial Gallery. 1,105 audiobooks circulated this year.

During the past year the library bought 187 books and 55 audiobooks for children and adults. 225 film titles and 147 audiobooks were purchased with Freeman funds. 614 titles were added to the library's shelves. 70 donated magazine subscriptions produced a total of 97 magazines with four newspapers.

The library provided space for 51 meetings of The Thetford Hill Improvement Society, the Thetford Hill Preservation Committee, the Thetford Recreation Committee, Adult Basic Education, the Thetford Conservation Commission, the Parish Players, and the Thetford Hill Water Coop.

The library depends on voluntary efforts from many members of the community. Alice Gnaedinger, Helen MacLam, and Inge Trebitz worked behind the scenes to process and barcode materials. Charlie Eastridge was joined this fall by Maria Ciambra and Alida Adams who have worked willingly to process new materials. All the volunteers are approaching the new automated system with growing confidence every day. Your support through the annual appeal assures the success of your library.

Come visit in 2004. If we don't have what you need, we can get it for you. You may even browse the library catalog from the ThetNet website.

Trustee meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm and you are always welcome.

The Latham Library Scholarship will be awarded in 2004 and all Thetford residents are eligible for consideration.

Peter Blodgett, Librarian

Trustees:

Kathryn Bonyai T'06
Janice S. Cook T'06
Sally Duston T'05

Gwendolen Gensler T'07
Darla LaRoche T'07
Lucy Young T'05



PEABODY LIBRARY

<u>HOURS</u>	
Tuesday:	5:00 – 8:00 PM
Wednesday:	2:00 – 8:30 PM

In its 137th year, children met every Wednesday to read together at the Peabody Library. "Putlitzer Prize Books" were explored every other Tuesday night during the summer. This series was made possible by the VT Council on the Humanities. In August, the eighth Penny Carnival brought large crowds while Silk Road drew a standing room only crowd for their energetic music and stories. September saw a familiar library presence in the Post Mills Labor Day parade. The Fifteenth Annual Holiday Readings were read for young and old by the librarian.

The Paperback Book Sale continued on the porch all summer providing reading material to the many folks of the Lake Fairlee region. Flowers continued to grace the front of the library all summer thanks to friends with green thumbs.

The enthusiasm of trustees and volunteers has wrought more improvements to the library. In September, the Library moved from its own building into the Odd Fellow's Hall next door to allow for exciting renovations. Renovations are proceeding with new bookcases, new lighting, a new carpet and a freshly painted interior made possible by a Freeman Foundation grant. Freeman funds purchased more audiobooks and movies for the library collection. Almost all the collection was boxed up and the State books were returned during the renovations. Library service was limited for the last three months of the year.

The Library had 930 visitors borrowing 821 books from the library's own collection with more than 225 state books lent from the Regional Library. 111 audiobooks also circulated from the

library to enrich hours spent driving, ironing, and gardening. A total of 1,159 titles circulated from the library in 2003 for an average of 23 titles a week.

On Wednesday afternoons throughout the year younger readers gathered to practice their skills by working on projects together and listening to stories. Their energy and enthusiasm was inspired by Tammie Patten, and encouraged by Simon Brooks who took over for Tammie in September.

Come visit Thetford's oldest library in 2004 to savor a space of revitalized grace and dignity. More films and audiobooks will be available for your pleasure in the "new" library, thanks to the Freeman Foundation funds. Your faithful support insures that the Peabody Library continues to serve the people of the town for its 138th year.

Peter Blodgett, Librarian

Trustees:

Andrew Boyce, Murray Burk, Olivia Chapman, Brad Gellersted, Stacey Glazer, Suzanne Houston, Nancy Hughes, Phebe McCosker, El Wilson



THETFORD LIBRARY FEDERATION

Our Federation has made good progress this year in working toward its two stated objectives: To work through its member libraries to improve library services in the Town; and to maintain the Bicentennial Building as a free home for Latham Memorial/Thetford Town Library and for the library/archives of the Thetford Historical Society.

In working toward the first objective, there have been several physical improvements. A grant from the Freeman Foundation has made possible the rewiring of the computer network and the installation of two additional public-access computers in Latham Library. By the end of this year, the book collection at Latham will be computerized, and circulation at Latham, the Academy, and the Elementary School will be automated. Peabody Library is in the process of installing new bookcases and carpet, completing a two-year program; they are operating in the Odd Fellows building while this work proceeds. New approaches to encourage reading are being used: At Thetford Academy, student "reader advisory" groups judge the quality of certain books like the nominees for the Newberry Award; and Thetford Community Reads, a plan to obtain multiple copies of a book which members of the community would read and discuss. Latham and Peabody have a new children's librarian, Simon Brooks, who is actively engaged in both libraries.

In the Bicentennial Building, our major effort has been to install a new raised-seam metal roof, which should see us through the next three decades. To pay for this and for the previous year's exterior painting we had to withdraw \$20,000 from our endowment. We also had to replace our sump pump, which had caused a minor flood in the downstairs workroom. The building continues to accommodate meetings of several local organizations, and the gallery has had a series of exhibitions by local artists.

To finance our operations we have three sources of income. The allocation voted annually by the Town goes mainly to provide a major part of the operating budgets of Latham and Peabody, our two public libraries. To maintain our building, we depend on income from our endowment, and on an annual find drive, which so far this year has raised slightly over \$5000.

THETFORD LIBRARY FEDERATION 2003 FINANCIAL REPORT

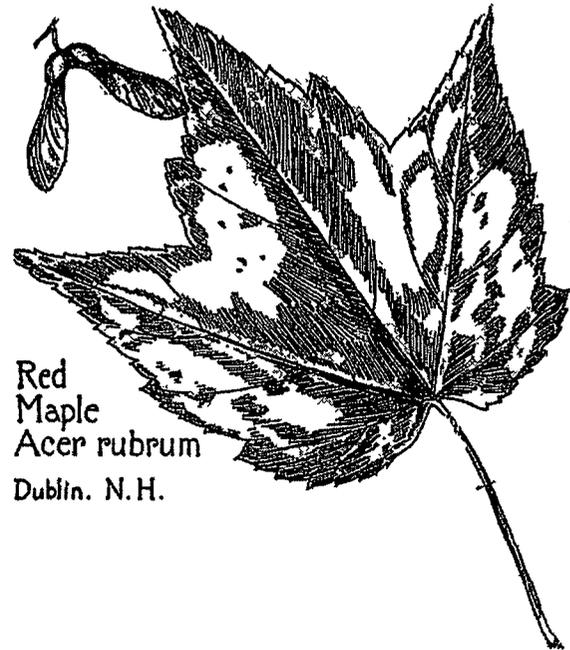
	2003 Budget	2003 Actual	2004 Budget
INCOME:			
Appropriation from Town	52,540	52,540	53,540
Investment Interest	8,000	6,750	7,000
Donations	5,000	7,000	6,000
Bank Interest	300	120	150
Other (from endowment)	11,500	20,000	0
Total	77,340	86,410	65,690
EXPENSE			
Member Library Support	48,600	48,600	48,600
Building	13,000	11,837	5,000
Equipment and Furnishings	0	0	0
Computing Services	3,940	1,990	2,000
Electricity	3,800	3,650	3,800
Heat	2,700	3,769	3,200
Water	450	450	450
Insurance	1,214	1,517	1,517
Alarm System	450	0	450
Repairs & Maintenance	1,200	600	1,200
Custodial	1,600	1,500	1,500
Rubbish	720	720	720
Snow Removal & Mowing	1,500	1,450	1,500
Supplies & Postage	270	200	250
Miscellaneous	50	0	50
Repayment of Endowment	0	0	0
Total	79,494	76,283	70,237
GAIN OR LOSS FOR THE YEAR	-2,154	10,127	-4,547

Dianne Sharkey, Treasurer

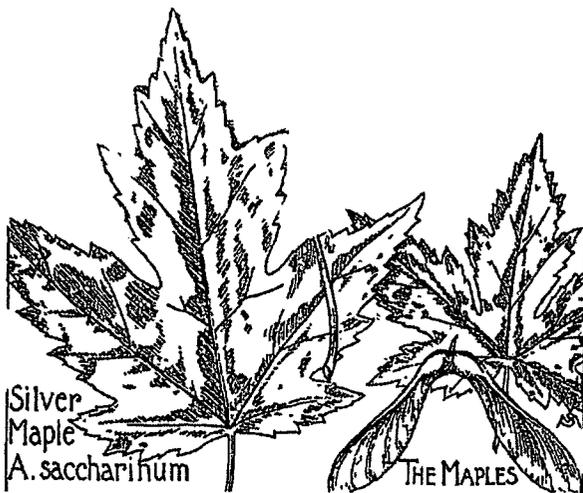
Sugar Maple
Acer
saccharum



The Sugar Maple is common in rich woods and on rocky hillsides especially in the North; it is distributed from southern Newf. west along the St. Lawrence and Saguenay Rivers, Lake St. John and the northern shores of the Great Lakes, to the Lake of the Woods; Minn. Neb. Kan., and south along the Alleghany Mts. to northern Ga. western Fla. and eastern Tex. It is abundant throughout the wooded hills of N. E. and N. Y., but rare near the coast, and it attains its greatest size in the region of the Great Lakes. It is frequently planted as a shade tree on roadsides and in door yards. It is common in the mountain region of N. C. where it attains a height of 50-80 feet, and is local only in other parts of the State. The wood is heavy, very hard, strong and close-grained, susceptible of a fine lustrous polish; it is pale buff white or palest brown buff, and weighs 43 lbs. to the cubic foot; abnormal conditions of growth produce the irregular and interrupted grain known as curled Maple and bird's eye Maple; it is used for cabinet-work, the interior finish and floors of buildings, turnery, ship-building, shoe-last, and very largely for fuel. In the manufacture of Maple sugar this tree stands supreme.¹



Red
Maple
Acer rubrum
Dublin. N.H.



Silver
Maple
A. saccharinum

THE MAPLES

FINANCIAL REPORTS



***YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2003***

**TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT - NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2003**

Significant Accounting Policies:

A. Financial Reporting Entity:

The Town of Thetford, Vermont, for financial reporting purposes, includes all funds and account groups relevant to the operations of the Town. The financial statements, presented herein, do not include agencies which are not controlled by the Town of Thetford. An example of such an agency is the Thetford School District. A separate report will be issued for the Thetford School District prior to its annual meeting.

B. Fund Accounting:

The accounting policies of the Town conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. Accordingly, the accounts of the Town are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered as separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise it assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for on individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds are grouped, in the financial statements in this report, into three broad categories, as follows:

I. Governmental Funds (General Fund and Highway Fund):

These funds are general operating funds of the Town, and are used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

II. Special Revenue Funds:

Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (Other than expendable trusts) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

III. Fiduciary Funds: Trust and Agency Funds:

Trust and Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the Town in a trustee capacity or as an Agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds. These include expendable Trust Funds, non-expendable Trust Funds, and Agency Trust Funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting:

I. Measurement Focus:

All government funds and Expendable Trust funds are accounted for on a spending, or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included in their balance.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental funds types is limited to exclude amounts represented by non-current liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities.

All non-expendable Trust Funds are accounted for on a "capital maintenance" focus. This means that all assets and all liabilities (whether current or non-current) associated with their activity are included in their balance sheets.

II. Basis of Accounting:

Basis of Accounting refers to revenues or expenses that are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of Accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

a. Modified Accrual Basis of Accounting:

The Modified Accrual Basis of Accounting is followed in the governmental fund types and agency funds. Under the Modified Accrual Basis of Accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, i.e., both measurable and available. Available is intended to mean collectible within the current period, or soon enough thereafter to pay current liabilities. Intergovernmental revenues received as reimbursements for specific purposes or projects are recognized if the relevant expenditures have been recorded. Intergovernmental entitlements for unrestricted purposes are recorded as revenues at the time of receipt, or earlier if measurable and available.

Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenues when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received.

Expenditures are recorded when the liability is incurred, except for: (a) interest on long-term debt, which is recorded when paid; and (b) accumulated unpaid vacation, sick pay, and other employee benefits which are not accrued.

Outlays for fixed assets are considered expenditures when paid. No provision is made for depreciation of these fixed assets. Outlays for retirement of general long-term debt are recorded when the debt is due.

b. Accrual Basis of Accounting:

The Accrual Basis of Accounting is followed by the Non expendable Trust Funds. Under the Accrual Basis of Accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when incurred.

D. Total Column on Combined Statements - Overview:

I. Total Column on Combined Statements - Overviews:

Captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations, or changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting practices. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Inter fund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

II. Long-Term Debt:

As of December 31, 2003, the Town's long-term debt consisted of two notes payable and one bond payable:

- To State of Vermont, interest at 2%, annual principal payments of \$ 9,375.00 plus interest, due December 31, 2004, total \$ 9,375.00.

- To Vermont Bond Bank, interest ranging from 1.55% to 5.00%, annual principal payments of \$ 30,000.00 plus interest, due December, 2022, total \$ 570,000.00.

The total amount of long-term debt is \$ 579,000.00.

III. Receivables:

Taxes receivable and other receivables are recorded net of allowance for collectibles. In addition, a reserve for delinquent receivables is set aside in fund balances to account for receivables which are past due, but which may ultimately be collectible.

IV. Reserve for Delinquent Accounts:

Reserves have been established to cover estimated receivables which won't be collected in 2004. State of Vermont statutes require that these reserves be subtracted from the current year surplus or deficit calculation.

Town Hall Renovation Bond Repayment Schedule					
Year	Rate	Principal	Interest	Annual P & I	Balance (Principal)
2002			\$7,630.06	\$7,630.06	\$600,000.00
2003	1.55 %	\$30,000.00	22,701.00	52,701.00	570,000.00
2004	1.92 %	30,000.00	22,236.00	52,236.00	540,000.00
2005	2.38 %	30,000.00	21,660.00	51,660.00	510,000.00
2006	2.71 %	30,000.00	20,946.00	50,946.00	480,000.00
2007	3.01 %	30,000.00	20,133.00	50,133.00	450,000.00
2008	3.32 %	30,000.00	19,230.00	49,230.00	420,000.00
2009	3.53 %	30,000.00	18,234.00	48,234.00	390,000.00
2010	3.75 %	30,000.00	17,175.00	47,175.00	360,000.00
2011	3.86 %	30,000.00	16,050.00	46,050.00	330,000.00
2012	3.96 %	30,000.00	14,892.00	44,892.00	300,000.00
2013	4.07 %	30,000.00	13,704.00	43,704.00	270,000.00
2014	4.20 %	30,000.00	12,483.00	42,483.00	240,000.00
2015	4.33 %	30,000.00	11,223.00	41,223.00	210,000.00
2016	4.43 %	30,000.00	9,924.00	39,924.00	180,000.00
2017	4.53 %	30,000.00	8,595.00	38,595.00	150,000.00
2018	4.63 %	30,000.00	7,236.00	37,236.00	120,000.00
2019	4.73 %	30,000.00	5,847.00	35,847.00	90,000.00
2020	4.83 %	30,000.00	4,428.00	34,428.00	60,000.00
2021	4.93 %	30,000.00	2,979.00	32,979.00	30,000.00
2022	5.00 %	30,000.00	1,500.00	31,500.00	0.00
Totals:		\$600,000.00	\$278,806.06	\$878,806.06	

TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - DECEMBER 31, 2003					
	General Fund	Highway Fund	Special Revenue Fund	General Long Term Debt	TOTALS (memo only)
ASSETS					
Cash	1,819,926.50		723,808.33		2,543,734.83
Taxes Receivable	148,029.02				148,029.02
Due from Employees	0.00	0.00			0.00
Other Receivables	4,722.08	56,458.23			61,180.31
Due from (to) Other Funds	(111,193.56)	(25,805.66)	72,501.65		(64,497.57)
Long-Term Debt				579,375.00	579,375.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,861,484.04	\$30,652.57	\$796,309.98	\$579,375.00	\$3,267,821.59
LIABILITIES & EQUITY FUNDS					
Accounts Payable	181,580.97				181,580.97
Due to Schools	1,642,156.00				1,642,156.00
Due to (from) other Funds	(54,170.96)				(54,170.96)
Accruals	(3,874.18)				(3,874.18)
Notes Payable				579,375.00	579,375.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,765,691.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$579,375.00	\$2,345,066.83
FUND BALANCE					0.00
Restricted			796,309.98		796,309.98
Unrestricted	20,792.21	30,652.57			51,444.78
Restricted for Delinquent Taxes	75,000.00				75,000.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$95,792.21	\$30,652.57	\$796,309.98	\$0.00	\$922,754.76
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND EQUITY	\$1,861,484.04	\$30,652.57	\$796,309.98	\$579,375.00	\$3,267,821.59

TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT SUMMARY OF LONG TERM DEBT - DECEMBER 31, 2003					
Item Financed	Financing Source	Balance 12/31/02	Principal Paid	Interest Paid	Balance 12/31/03
Ford F-550 Dump Truck (2001)	State of VT Municipal Loan	18,750.00	9,375.00	375.00	9,375.00
Town Hall Renovation	Vermont Bond Bank	600,000.00	30,000.00	22,701.00	570,000.00
Totals		\$618,750.00	\$39,375.00	\$23,076.00	\$579,375.00

TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT STATEMENT OF CHANGES TO FUND BALANCE TOWN AND HIGHWAY FUNDS - 2003						
	General Fund			Highway Fund		Totals (Memo Only)
	Undesignated	Reserved for Delinquent Taxes	Special Rev. Transfer	Undesignated	Special Rev. Transfer	
FUND BALANCE 12/31/02	\$123,622.92	\$75,000.00		(\$12,460.90)		\$186,162.02
Total Revenues	757,310.35			663,561.54		1,420,871.89
Total Expenses	860,141.06			620,448.07		1,480,589.13
Transfers to Designated and Reserved			110,000.00		50,000.00	160,000.00
FUND BALANCE 12/31/03	\$20,792.21	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,652.57	\$0.00	\$126,444.78

TOWN of THETFORD, VERMONT				
STATEMENT OF CHANGES TO SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				
Year Ending December 31, 2003				
Account	Balance 12/31/02	Revenues	Expenses	Balance 12/31/03
Emergency Mgmt/E-911	1,316.68	13.00	1,329.68	0.00
Cruiser Replacement	18,682.07	5,044.69	0.00	23,726.76
Restoration of Records	6,934.28	5,016.58	0.00	11,950.86
Recycling	63,724.15	75,151.51	369.46	138,506.20
Act 200	6,895.52	16.48	0.00	6,912.00
Town Plan Planning Grant	3,800.00	2,850.00	5,500.00	1,150.00
Equipment Fund	49,191.13	45,084.83	27,477.89	66,798.07
Fire Truck Fund	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Special Bridge Fund	48,357.96	32,832.70	32,826.75	48,363.91
Tucker Hill Bridge Fund	5,050.00	0.00	0.00	5,050.00
Stowell Rd Bridge Fund	0.00	5,000.00	8,000.00	(3,000.00)
Conservation Commission	3,473.76	17.17	1,038.00	2,452.93
EEGL Funds - Re-appraisal	6,864.92	12,082.82	0.00	18,947.74
Recreation Park Post Mills	549.76	0.00	0.00	549.76
Town Hall Renovation Bond	582,018.51	40,396.75	572,402.12	50,013.14
FEMA Funds	\$0.00	\$55,452.28	\$50,216.01	\$5,236.27
TOTALS	\$796,858.74	\$248,506.53	\$648,943.90	\$401,657.64

		2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
	GENERAL FUND REVENUES					
1	Town Clerk Fees	18,000.00	33,475.10	25,000.00	35,809.11	30,000.00
2	Delinquent Tax Penalty	15,000.00	33,735.61	19,000.00	12,575.62	10,000.00
3	Interest Delinquent Taxes	17,000.00	30,814.33	18,000.00	8,848.07	8,000.00
4	Interest	15,000.00	11,219.96	10,000.00	2,134.09	2,000.00
5	Use of Town Records	0.00	0.00	0.00	939.50	500.00
6	Liquor Licenses	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
7	Dog Fines	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
8	Dog Penalties	1,000.00	1,050.00	1,000.00	650.00	700.00
9	Dog Licenses	2,000.00	1,741.00	1,800.00	1,755.00	1,800.00
10	Zoning Fees	4,000.00	4,858.46	4,500.00	10,477.20	7,500.00
11	Subdivision Fees	300.00	425.00	500.00	1,464.00	1,000.00
12	PC/ZBA Fines	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Septic Fees	1,200.00	1,285.00	1,200.00	1,760.00	1,200.00
14	Copying Fees	2,200.00	2,418.65	2,200.00	3,614.20	2,500.00
15	Office Supplies	100.00	217.00	175.00	71.07	100.00
16	Zoning Materials	150.00	291.50	200.00	410.00	250.00
17	Computer, Communications	75.00	65.18	75.00	161.57	100.00
18	Municipal Court Fines		50.00	0.00	149.00	0.00
19	Traffic Fines	1,000.00	4,524.11	3,000.00	11,716.12	7,500.00
20	Police Receipts	0.00	571.50	500.00	456.84	500.00
21	Police Dept - Outside Funding	0.00	3,718.89	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
22	Sale of Equipment - Police	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	COPS Revenue - Prior Year		11,943.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Listers' Research	25.00	5.00	25.00	33.45	25.00
25	Listers' Changes - Re-Bills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Current Use Withdrawals	0.00	3,505.00	0.00	1,044.30	0.00
27	Recycling Receipts	2,000.00	2,544.31	2,200.00	5,238.04	3,500.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
28 Trash Sticker Revenues			50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00
29 Treasure Island	15,000.00	17,558.90	16,000.00	15,246.20	15,000.00
30 Insurance Refunds	0.00	266.35	0.00	138.91	0.00
31 Insurance Claim Receipts				2,262.33	0.00
32 Federal Land Entitlement	800.00	1,162.00	1,000.00	1,331.00	1,000.00
33 Flood Cont./Water Resources	800.00	624.75	600.00	3,714.00	1,000.00
34 Forest & Parks Tax	500.00	21.00	100.00	21.00	21.00
35 Railroad Tax	2,500.00	2,808.77	2,500.00	2,808.74	2,500.00
36 PILOT Revenues	750.00	2,730.65	2,000.00	2,534.96	2,000.00
37 Cemetery Lot Sales		250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
38 Sale of Town Owned Property				5,874.67	0.00
39 Miscellaneous	500.00	1,017.50	500.00	288.69	300.00
40 Special Appropriations Tax Levy	61,900.00	61,900.00	161,100.00	110,100.00	0.00
41 Town Tax Levy	465,766.00	418,477.00	507,398.08	471,252.08	627,495.20
42 Hold Harmless Revenue	0.00	47,289.00	0.00	36,146.00	25,000.00
43 Addl. Current Yr Taxes Raised		3,585.60	0.00	5,834.59	
44 Subtotal General Revenue Fund	627,816.00	706,380.50	834,823.08	757,310.35	801,741.20
45 Gen. Fund Surplus - Prior Year	112,038.50	112,038.50	123,622.92	123,622.92	20,792.21
46					
47 Total Gen. Fund Revenues	\$739,854.50	\$818,419.00	\$958,446.00	\$880,933.27	\$822,533.41
48					
49 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES					
50 Selectmen's Salaries	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
51 Selectboard Clerk	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	837.52	2,500.00
52 Social Security	13,000.00	11,344.44	0.00	64.07	191.25
53 Selectboard Contingency	3,500.00	2,841.32	3,500.00	5,398.15	3,500.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
54 Advertising	3,000.00	3,314.65	3,000.00	3,162.86	3,000.00
55 V.L.C.T. Dues	1,659.00	1,701.00	1,750.00	2,003.00	2,003.00
56 Other Dues & Meetings	500.00	0.00	500.00	325.00	500.00
57 Unemployment	3,500.00	3,770.00	4,563.00	4,562.72	4,945.00
58 Workers Comp	0.00	489.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
59 Insurance	29,000.00	26,477.00	29,000.00	28,261.00	32,000.00
60 PACIF (Insurance) deductible				1,000.00	0.00
61 Dental Plan	7,300.00	6,267.14	7,000.00	7,710.80	0.00
62 Retirement			6,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
63 Information Tech. Systems			1,000.00	160.00	8,000.00
64 Tax Mapping	1,235.00	1,235.00	1,235.00	1,235.00	1,235.00
65 Legal Services	2,500.00	1,126.62	2,000.00	1,085.00	1,500.00
66 Travel	500.00	793.14	500.00	663.94	500.00
67 Accounting Services	2,000.00	2,700.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
68 Fire Warden (See Fire Dept.	2,100.00	1,165.78	2,110.00	1,520.00	0.00
69 for 2004 Proposed Budget)					
70 Total Selectboard	\$75,794.00	\$66,725.09	\$72,158.00	\$61,489.06	\$72,374.25
71					
72 Town Report	4,000.00	3,630.86	4,700.00	4,363.45	5,000.00
73 Restoration of Records					2,000.00
74 Total Records	\$4,000.00	\$3,630.86	\$4,700.00	\$4,363.45	\$7,000.00
75					
76 Town Office Supplies	3,500.00	3,683.63	4,000.00	5,097.78	4,000.00
77 Copier Contract Support	500.00	375.00	500.00	150.00	500.00
78 Copier Maintenance/Supplies	1,000.00	339.00	1,000.00	779.99	1,000.00
79 Computer Software & Support	2,000.00	1,049.99	2,600.00	2,377.40	2,400.00
80 Computer Maintenance	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	300.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
81 Computer Supp./Equipment	750.00	257.28	2,000.00	1,831.47	500.00
82 Telephone	3,700.00	3,501.66	4,000.00	4,216.65	3,500.00
83 Postage	3,000.00	3,409.76	3,500.00	4,360.79	4,000.00
84 Dues and Meetings	400.00	58.00	500.00	546.00	500.00
85 Payroll Service	2,000.00	2,178.35	1,000.00	1,108.24	0.00
86 Equipment Maintenance	200.00	49.95	200.00	219.25	200.00
87 Tools & Equipment	500.00	615.90	3,500.00	3,564.42	1,000.00
88 Total Town Office	\$17,850.00	\$15,518.52	\$23,100.00	\$24,251.99	\$17,900.00
89					
90 Board of Civil Authority					
91 BCA Expenses	1,500.00	1,434.80	500.00	923.00	750.00
92 BCA Ed Workshops	100.00	360.00	250.00	40.00	250.00
93 BCA Totals	\$1,600.00	\$1,794.80	\$750.00	\$963.00	\$1,000.00
94					
95 Election Officials	500.00	160.00	250.00	104.00	250.00
96 Election Supplies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
97 Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
98 Election Totals	\$500.00	\$160.00	\$350.00	\$104.00	\$350.00
99					
100 Auditors	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
101 Dues & Meetings - Auditor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
102 Professional Services			4,000.00	1,900.00	0.00
103 Total Auditors	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$4,100.00	\$1,900.00	\$0.00
104					
105 Listers Salaries *	32,000.00	32,218.62	26,750.00	22,499.42	22,440.00
106 Social Security			1,500.00	1,778.30	1,716.66
107 Supplies & Miscellaneous	500.00	728.99	350.00	222.22	250.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
108 Copier Service Contract	300.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
109 Telephone & Advertising	100.00	782.58	400.00	1,058.18	100.00
110 Postage	2,300.00	265.61	250.00	749.70	500.00
111 Dues & Meetings	300.00	390.00	500.00	170.00	500.00
112 Professional Services	15,000.00	9,905.00	1,100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00
113 Travel	300.00	403.37	200.00	179.22	250.00
114 Equipment	500.00	1,500.35	500.00	513.98	250.00
115 Legal fees	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
116 BCA Appeals	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
117 Total Listers	\$56,300.00	\$46,394.52	\$31,750.00	\$28,371.02	\$27,306.66
118					
119 Town Clerk's Salary **	33,500.00	29,113.86	24,960.00	29,229.87	25,459.00
120 Social Security			2,080.00	2,236.09	1,948.00
121 Asst Clerk	28,500.00	31,629.07	14,980.00	15,624.01	15,280.00
122 Social Security				1,195.24	1,169.00
123 Town Assistant	0.00	2,788.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
124 Town Clerk Benefits	5,100.00	5,987.09	5,600.00	6,715.65	8,300.00
125 Town Clerk Dental					1,263.00
126 Asst. Clerk Benefits	3,600.00	3,015.46	0.00	916.22	0.00
127 Deductibles - Clerk	200.00	0.00	200.00	800.00	800.00
128 Deductibles - Asst. Clerk	200.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
129 Total Town Clerk	\$71,100.00	\$72,933.73	\$47,820.00	\$56,717.08	\$54,219.00
130					
131 Town Treasurer's Salary ***			19,760.00	22,822.43	21,840.00
132 Treasurer Social Security			1,196.00	1,745.92	1,670.00
133 Asst. Treasurer			7,500.00	6,590.78	6,365.00
134 Asst. Treasurer Social Security				504.19	487.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
135 Town Treasurer's Benefits			3,900.00	2,585.00	4,000.00
136 Town Treasurer's Dental					1,263.00
137 Deductibles			200.00	0.00	400.00
138 Supplies			0.00	815.04	500.00
139 Professional services				0.00	0.00
140 Total Town Treasurer			\$32,556.00	\$35,063.36	\$36,525.00
141					
142 Zoning Administrator	6,400.00	7,966.42	7,200.00	9,761.86	8,670.00
143 Social Security			490.00	746.77	663.00
144 Zoning Admin. Asst.					2,000.00
145 Social Security					153.00
146 Supplies	500.00	252.69	500.00	615.64	500.00
147 Advertising	500.00	333.98	500.00	298.31	500.00
148 Postage/Telephone	400.00	65.98	400.00	413.04	400.00
149 Dues & Meetings	200.00	435.00	300.00	370.00	300.00
150 RPC Dues	2,892.00	2,892.00	2,892.00	2,892.00	2,892.00
151 Legal Services	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
152 Travel	75.00	213.97	150.00	68.62	100.00
153 Equipment	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	250.00
154 Total Planning/Zoning	\$11,967.00	\$12,160.04	\$12,932.00	\$15,166.24	\$16,428.00
155					
156 Janitor	1,500.00	1,253.20	2,500.00	1,434.76	2,000.00
157 Social Security				50.07	153.00
158 Supplies	150.00	420.18	300.00	1,012.16	400.00
159 Rubbish Removal	300.00	229.19	500.00	471.71	500.00
160 Repairs & Maintenance	4,000.00	1,557.90	2,000.00	4,873.06	2,000.00
161 Grounds Maintenance	350.00	164.25	350.00	634.13	350.00

		2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
162	Utilities	3,500.00	3,094.22	5,000.00	5,222.53	4,000.00
163	Equipment	600.00	493.93	1,500.00	941.47	500.00
164	Alarm Service	100.00	200.00	200.00	500.00	200.00
165	Total Town Hall	\$10,500.00	\$7,412.87	\$12,350.00	\$15,139.89	\$10,103.00
166						
167	Conservation Supplies	75.00	0.00	75.00	47.00	75.00
168	Advertising	0.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
169	Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
170	Dues & Meetings	150.00	220.00	150.00	0.00	50.00
171	Professional/Legal Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00
172	Newsletter	350.00	0.00	350.00	200.00	0.00
173	Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
174	Conservation Trust Fund	300.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	250.00
175	Project Support	600.00	693.28	500.00	200.00	500.00
176	Total Conservation	\$1,475.00	\$1,385.28	\$1,475.00	\$1,447.00	\$875.00
177						
178	Energy Committee	500.00	329.01	500.00	500.00	500.00
179	Total Energy Committee	\$500.00	\$329.01	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
180						
181	Emergency Management	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	899.00	1,500.00
182	Total Emergency Mgmt	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$899.00	\$1,500.00
183						
184	Constable	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
185	Police Chief	30,000.00	21,201.64	35,000.00	34,999.90	35,000.00
186	Chief Social Security				2,677.49	2,678.00
187	Special Officer	20,000.00	9,903.07	25,000.00	24,189.48	30,000.00
188	Social Security			3,000.00	1,850.49	2,295.00

		2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
189	Police Benefits	8,000.00	1,946.48	8,000.00	8,998.22	9,600.00
190	Police Dental					1,694.00
191	Grants/Other Funding Payroll	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	4,535.00	0.00
192	Supplies	600.00	364.16	600.00	1,376.77	600.00
193	Computer	2,000.00	1,724.80	2,000.00	1,187.00	0.00
194	Special Officer Start-up	0.00	1,019.90	1,000.00	274.48	500.00
195	Telephone	2,500.00	1,811.11	2,500.00	3,005.78	2,500.00
196	Radio/Dispatch	7,600.00	11,347.94	11,500.00	9,590.79	10,000.00
197	Dues & Meetings	200.00	200.00	300.00	254.00	350.00
198	Police Training	1,500.00	10.50	1,000.00	335.75	500.00
199	Contracted Services	200.00	2,113.90	500.00	0.00	0.00
200	Vehicle Repair	1,000.00	1,771.45	1,000.00	5,310.00	2,000.00
201	Travel	3,000.00	1,565.95	3,000.00	3,598.44	3,000.00
202	Equipment, Repair, Radio	2,000.00	508.48	2,000.00	2,273.03	2,000.00
203	Vehicle Replacement	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
205	Total Police	\$86,601.00	\$60,489.38	\$104,401.00	\$109,456.62	\$107,718.00
206						
207	Fire Department Operations	59,500.00	59,500.00	65,250.00	65,250.00	67,300.00
208	Fire Warden					2,200.00
209	Fire Truck/ Replacement Fund	65,000.00	60,286.06	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
210	Total Fire Department	\$124,500.00	\$119,786.06	\$90,250.00	\$90,250.00	\$69,500.00
211						
212	Upper Valley Ambulance	36,570.00	39,255.00	39,255.00	39,255.00	39,255.00
213	Total Ambulance	\$36,570.00	\$39,255.00	\$39,255.00	\$39,255.00	\$39,255.00
214						
215	Health Officer Wages	750.00	165.00	500.00	398.75	500.00
216	Social Security			50.00	30.50	50.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
217 Dues & Meetings	75.00	55.00	75.00	0.00	75.00
218 Travel	100.00	0.00	100.00	58.40	50.00
219 Total Health Officer	\$925.00	\$220.00	\$725.00	\$487.65	\$675.00
220					
221 Animal Control Wages	700.00	332.56	700.00	123.49	500.00
222 Social Security			35.00	6.69	35.00
223 Pound Fees	500.00	2,160.00	600.00	235.00	500.00
224 Humane Supplies	100.00	0.00	200.00	37.01	100.00
225 Licensing Supplies	300.00	410.36	300.00	20.50	100.00
226 Dues & Meetings	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
227 Dog Damage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
228 Legal Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
229 Travel	200.00	342.41	250.00	71.91	150.00
230 Total Animal Control	\$1,900.00	\$3,245.33	\$2,185.00	\$494.60	\$1,485.00
231					
232 GUVSWMD	14,393.50	14,393.00	14,394.00	14,393.50	14,393.50
233 Solid Waste Hauling			50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00
234 Supplies	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
235 Total Solid Waste	\$14,393.50	\$14,393.00	\$64,894.00	\$14,393.50	\$64,393.50
236					
237 Recycling Salaries	8,000.00	5,910.00	6,700.00	6,337.97	6,835.00
238 Social Security			350.00	466.36	523.00
239 Supplies, Advertising	700.00	46.79	500.00	131.43	250.00
240 Bin Lease	4,000.00	3,230.00	4,000.00	3,400.00	4,000.00
241 Bin Pickup	21,000.00	22,353.52	23,000.00	9,080.45	9,000.00
242 Newspaper Pickup				1,094.90	1,200.00
243 Magazine Pickup				788.10	900.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
244 Mixed Paper Pickup				3,105.20	3,300.00
245 Mixed Plastic Pickup				1,176.35	1,300.00
246 Glass Pickup				4,130.85	4,300.00
247 Cardboard Pickup				1,899.13	1,900.00
248 Metal Pickup				1,327.34	1,400.00
249 Rubbish Removal - Recycling		206.00		336.47	400.00
250 Fuel Surcharge				589.44	600.00
251 Community Education	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
252 Travel	200.00	0.00	200.00	15.13	200.00
253 Facility Const. & Maintenance	2,000.00	1,701.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
254 Site Lease	2,400.00	2,400.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
255 Capital Reserve Appropriation			75,000.00	75,000.00	
256 Total Recycling	\$38,400.00	\$35,847.31	\$114,850.00	\$111,879.12	\$41,208.00
257					
258 Cemeteries - Mowing	2,500.00	2,290.03	2,500.00	2,400.00	2,500.00
259 Hillside Cemetery Assn	200.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
260 Supplies	225.00	163.96	200.00	113.08	200.00
261 Repairs	1,000.00	1,800.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
262 Total Cemeteries	\$3,925.00	\$4,453.99	\$4,000.00	\$3,813.08	\$4,000.00
263					
264 Clara Martin Center	4,266.00	4,266.00	4,266.00	4,266.00	4,266.00
265 VNA/VNH	8,460.00	8,460.00	9,800.00	9,800.00	9,800.00
266 Library Federation	52,540.00	52,540.00	52,540.00	52,540.00	52,540.00
267 WR Council on Aging	4,950.00	4,950.00	4,950.00	4,950.00	4,950.00
268 FAST Squad	5,286.00	5,286.00	5,286.00	5,286.00	5,286.00
269 VT Ctr. Independent Living	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
270 Adult Basic Education	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00	800.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
271 The Family Place	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
272 Hospice of the Upper Valley	650.00	650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
273 Headrest	1,518.00	1,518.00	1,518.00	1,518.00	1,518.00
274 CVCAC	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
275 George Aiken RC&D	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
276 Orange County Diversion	175.00	175.00	175.00	175.00	175.00
277 Upper Valley Services	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
278 Safeline	200.00	200.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
279 VT Green Up	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
280 GMEDC	1,239.00	1,239.00	1,239.00	1,239.00	1,239.00
281 VT Assn for the Blind	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
282 ACORN	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
283 Milfoil/Aq. Nuisance Control	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
284 Maple Leaf Treatment Center	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
285 Kids Place of Randolph	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
286 Total Appropriations	\$88,284.00	\$88,284.00	\$88,774.00	\$89,074.00	\$89,074.00
287					
288 School District	3,864,846.00	3,864,846.00	4,292,156.00	4,292,156.00	
289 Total School District	\$3,864,846.00	\$3,864,846.00	\$4,292,156.00	\$4,292,156.00	\$0.00
290					
291 Recreation Development/ Supplies	500.00	289.21	500.00	0.00	500.00
292 Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
293 Telephone, Utilities	500.00	523.49	550.00	564.55	600.00
294 Repairs & Maintenance	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
295 Total Recreation	\$2,500.00	\$2,312.70	\$3,050.00	\$2,564.55	\$3,100.00
296					

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
297 Treasure Island Wages	10,200.00	8,160.56	10,200.00	8,108.62	10,000.00
298 Social Security			550.00	521.13	788.00
299 Property Taxes	16,000.00	17,828.46	19,000.00	19,330.41	21,000.00
300 Supplies	800.00	1,208.16	900.00	691.88	1,000.00
301 Advertising, Postage	50.00	26.21	50.00	36.00	50.00
302 Telephone	170.00	119.31	170.00	232.35	170.00
303 Insurance	650.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
304 Facility Repairs & Maintenance	10,000.00	12,360.54	7,000.00	6,999.11	7,000.00
305 Utilities	600.00	559.06	600.00	239.74	600.00
306 Training & Miscellaneous	300.00	579.85	650.00	645.00	800.00
307 Residence Repairs/Maint.			10,000.00	10,304.13	7,500.00
308 Total Treasure Island	\$38,770.00	\$40,842.15	\$49,120.00	\$47,108.37	\$48,908.00
309					
310 Town Hall Bond - Principal			30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
311 Town Hall Bond - Interest			22,701.00	22,701.00	22,236.00
312 Total Town Hall Bond			\$52,701.00	\$52,701.00	\$52,236.00
313					
314 Interest Expense	10,000.00	3,968.70	10,000.00	2,856.10	5,000.00
315 Total Interest	\$10,000.00	\$3,968.70	\$10,000.00	\$2,856.10	\$5,000.00
316					
317 County Tax	38,000.00	37,388.00	39,000.00	43,070.00	45,000.00
318 Total County Tax	\$38,000.00	\$37,388.00	\$39,000.00	\$43,070.00	\$45,000.00
319					
320 Veterans' Flags	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
321 Scholarships	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
322 Miscellaneous	0.00	119.43	0.00	116.82	0.00
323 Town Clerk Refunds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
324 Real Estate Refunds	0.00	9,054.54	0.00	1,193.48	0.00
325 Real Estate Abatements	0.00	4,519.29	0.00	2,411.69	2,500.00
326 Bank Fees	1,500.00	1,272.69	1,500.00	1,740.39	1,500.00
327 Total Miscellaneous	\$2,400.00	\$15,865.95	\$2,400.00	\$6,362.38	\$4,900.00
328					
329 TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$4,604,700.50	\$4,559,642.29	\$5,203,302.00	\$5,152,297.06	\$822,533.41
330 School District	\$3,864,846.00	\$3,864,846.00	\$4,292,156.00	\$4,292,156.00	\$0.00
331 Town Expenditures less School	\$739,854.50	\$694,796.29	\$911,146.00	\$860,141.06	\$822,533.41
332					
333 General Fund (GF) Revenues	\$739,854.50	\$818,419.00	\$958,446.00	\$880,933.27	\$822,533.41
334 GF Revenues - Expenditures	\$0.00	\$123,622.71	\$47,300.00	\$20,792.21	\$0.00
335					
336 General Fund Surplus (Deficit)	\$0.00	\$123,622.71	\$47,300.00	\$20,792.21	\$0.00
337 Unutilized Prior Yr Surplus		\$0.21			
338					
339 (Deficit)	\$0.00	\$123,622.92	\$47,300.00	\$20,792.21	\$0.00

* Budgeted amounts based on 14 hours per week per Lister as open to the public and not to exceed 15 hours per week.

** Budgeted amounts based on 30 hours per week as open to the public and not to exceed 32 hours per week.

*** Budgeted amounts based on 26 hours per week as open to the public and not to exceed 28 hours per week.

		2002 Proposed	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
1	HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES					
2	State Highway Aid	115,000.00	116,309.58	115,000.00	124,340.68	115,000.00
3	Highway Receipts	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,916.01	0.00
4	Highway Grant Receipts		109,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Sale of Fuel	500.00	340.80	500.00	1,005.95	500.00
6	Highway Materials Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
7	Highway Equipment Fund	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	0.00
8	Overweight Vehicle Permit Fees	225.00	310.00	275.00	345.00	300.00
9	Appropriation - Stowell Rd. Bridge	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
10	Insurance Claims Receipts	0.00	4,900.00	0.00	4,818.00	0.00
11	Highway Tax Levy	224,729.00	224,729.00	\$432,085.90	432,085.90	399,517.43
12	Total Highway Revenue	\$395,454.00	\$501,089.38	\$597,860.90	\$663,561.54	\$515,317.43
13	Surplus/(Deficit) Highway Fund Prior Year	160,016.00	160,016.00	(\$12,460.90)	(12,460.90)	\$30,652.57
14	Total Available Highway	\$555,470.00	\$661,105.38	\$585,400.00	\$651,100.64	\$545,970.00
15						
16	HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES					
17	Total Highway Wages	150,000.00	140,092.60	153,000.00	136,396.32	153,000.00
18	Social Security	12,000.00	10,717.07	13,000.00	10,496.73	14,000.00
19	Employee Benefits	28,400.00	28,125.51	31,000.00	33,011.04	35,000.00
20	Highway Dental					4,220.00
21	Clothing Allowance	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,500.00
22	Deductibles	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
23	Office Supplies	200.00	184.00	200.00	197.03	1,000.00
24	Telephone	1,400.00	1,136.84	1,400.00	1,218.64	1,400.00
25	Radio Maintenance	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00	1,197.00	1,200.00

		2002 Proposed	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
26	Dues & Meetings	200.00	405.00	300.00	0.00	300.00
27	Travel	250.00	655.39	300.00	550.41	300.00
28	Retirement Administration	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29	Service Charges	0.00	70.17		34.95	0.00
30	Total Administrative	\$195,725.00	\$182,386.58	\$202,400.00	\$184,102.12	\$213,920.00
31						
32	Construction and Maintenance Expenses - Includes Bridges, Culverts, Guard Rails, Crushed Rock, Gravel, Asphalt, Calcium Chloride, Outside Grading, Lumber, Concrete Blocks, Mulch, Grass Seed, Equipment Rental.	38,000.00	38,905.46	46,000.00	31,590.28	44,000.00
33	Annual Repaving Projects - Includes repaving, ditching, culvert replacement and shoulder work.	129,000.00	225,034.96	130,000.00	108,623.27	130,000.00
34	Resurfacing Expenses - Includes gravel and the crushing of gravel.	18,000.00	7,446.18	20,000.00	1,728.37	18,000.00
35	Winter Road Supplies	57,000.00	69,258.06	60,000.00	74,405.91	60,000.00
36	Flood Damage Repairs				\$50,216.01	
37	Total Road Expenses	\$242,000.00	\$340,644.66	\$256,000.00	\$266,563.84	\$252,000.00
38						
39	Bridge Supplies	200.00	6,552.71	0.00	128.01	0.00
40	Other Bridge Expenses	0.00	20,807.35	0.00	1,761.43	0.00
41	Transfer to Stowell Bridge Fund			5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
42	Streetlights	6,700.00	6,429.13	7,000.00	7,386.94	7,000.00
43	Total Bridge & Streetlights	\$6,900.00	\$33,789.19	\$12,000.00	\$14,276.38	\$7,000.00

		2002 Proposed	2002 Actual	2003 Proposed	2003 Actual	2004 Proposed
44	Garage Equipment/Repairs - Includes materials for repairs and maintenance to the Town Garage and surrounding area.	5,500.00	1,296.65	5,500.00	1,760.32	10,000.00
45	Garage Supplies	800.00	1,462.16	800.00	4,385.02	1,000.00
46	Garage Utilities	3,400.00	3,668.70	3,700.00	5,156.55	4,500.00
47	Rubbish Removal	375.00	403.49	400.00	351.96	400.00
48	Alarm Service	170.00	200.00	200.00	100.00	200.00
49	Vehicle Fuel & Oil	17,000.00	17,996.17	18,000.00	21,719.71	18,000.00
50	Vehicle Supplies	100.00	728.25	100.00	4,170.31	250.00
51	Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
52	Insurance Deductible	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
53	Highway Equipment Fund	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	0.00
54	Equipment & Payments	3,700.00	579.95	3,700.00	2,400.00	3,700.00
55	Vehicle Repair Parts	27,000.00	41,949.60	30,000.00	58,358.94	30,000.00
56	Vehicle Repair Tools	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00	529.90	0.00
57	Vehicle Warranties	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,930.00	2,500.00
58	Equipment Rental				5,066.70	0.00
59	Trucking/Towing				2,165.77	0.00
60	Total Town Garage	\$108,645.00	\$113,284.97	\$113,000.00	\$154,595.18	\$71,050.00
61	Highway Signs	2,200.00	3,461.61	2,000.00	910.55	2,000.00
62	Total Highway Signs	\$2,200.00	\$3,461.61	\$2,000.00	\$910.55	\$2,000.00
63	Total Highway Expenditures	\$555,470.00	\$673,567.01	\$585,400.00	\$620,448.07	\$545,970.00
64						
65	Highway Fund (HF) Revenues	\$555,470.00	\$661,105.38	\$585,400.00	\$651,100.64	\$545,970.00
66	HF Revenues less Expenditures	\$0.00	(\$12,461.63)	\$0.00	\$30,652.57	\$0.00
67	Unutilized Prior Year Surplus		\$0.73			
	Highway Surplus (Deficit)	\$0.00	(\$12,460.90)	\$0.00	\$30,652.57	\$0.00

SUMMATION OF TAX RATE AND MONIES RAISED									
YEAR	TOTAL TAX	HIGHWAY TAX	TOWN TAX	TAX	SCHOOL TAX	TAX	ARTICLES	TAX	TAX
1993	1.8637	215,706.27	0.1346	300,773.86	0.1877	2,412,429.43	1.5096	34,949.00	0.0318
1994	1.9346	283,067.09	0.1772	303,576.07	0.1902	2,416,321.00	1.5129	86,789.00	0.0543
1995	2.0158	283,704.37	0.1768	272,388.21	0.1698	2,586,914.00	1.6123	91,289.50	0.0569
1996	2.0492	229,981.97	0.1501	258,946.00	0.1690	2,557,808.00	1.6690	93,706.79	0.0611
1997	2.1713	283,535.49	0.1793	283,182.24	0.1790	2,780,342.00	1.7577	87,447.50	0.0553
1998	2.1465	351,148.90	0.2684	296,283.14	0.1934	2,525,262.00	1.6486	103,800.00	0.0361
1999	2.2255	416,473.00	0.2683	281,145.00	0.1554	2,658,334.00	1.7129	97,233.00	0.0889
2000	2.3675	295,127.90	0.1862	458,802.92	0.2909	2,816,567.18	1.7757	131,800.00	0.1147
2001	2.6769	382,216.42	0.2378	443,420.63	0.2760	3,379,143.00	2.1026	97,250.00	0.0605
2002	2.2733	269,729.00	0.1329	418,477.00	0.2061	3,864,846.00	1.9039	61,900.00	0.0305
2003	2.6007	432,085.90	0.2098	471,252.08	0.2288	4,292,156.00	2.0842	160,100.00	0.0777

DELINQUENT TAX LIST
As of December 31, 2003

	2003	2002	2001	2000/prior	TOTAL
Bailev. L *	\$2,114.37				\$2,114.37
Bailey, W & F	2,345.83				2,345.83
Bartlett, D & K	1,628.60				1,628.60
Berecz, F	5,405.92				5,405.92
Berecz, T & D	4,670.85				4,670.85
Bowen, B	2,829.56				2,829.56
Bragg, R	1,315.95				1,315.95
Brown, J	1,743.30				1,743.30
Cadwell, L & M	1,859.50		1,005.99		2,865.49
Cross, M	3,529.15				3,529.15
Dube, L & B	215.86	188.68	4.26		408.80
Gioia, R	4,535.95				4,535.95
Godfrey Rd Holdings	460.54				460.54
Goodrich/McNeill	1,282.67				1,282.67
Holmes D *	137.00				137.00
Howard, A & T	2,101.37	460.18			2,561.55
Hurt, J	2,767.14				2,767.14
Jamieson, D	2,959.60				2,959.60
Jamieson, B	1,378.37	1,204.85			2,583.22
Johnson, R & M *	1,000.00				1,000.00
Johnson Trust **	7,227.35	691.46			7,918.81
Jordan, W & D	4,525.22				4,525.22
Kogel, C	2,474.54				2,474.54
Kostintina's	5,627.91	1,143.78			6,771.69
Labutti, B	2,319.82				2,319.82
Manning, A	3,276.88	2,864.36			6,141.24
Martin, R & P	655.38	575.56			1,230.94
Meyer/Landman *	5,285.92				5,285.92
Pagani, D	1,379.40				1,379.40
Paragon Homes, Inc.	4,413.39				4,413.39
Perkins, R & K	2,390.04				2,390.04
Pompy Press	3,934.86	2,158.64			6,093.50
Sidler, B & S	278.93				278.93
UV Landfill	1,820.49	1,591.31	2,170.97	15,059.04	20,641.81
Stone, S	717.48				717.48
Stunkel, E	4,674.74				4,674.74
Tallman, S *	7,711.07				7,711.07
Vasant, J & C *	6,538.16				6,538.16
Washburn, R	940.37				940.37
White, B	4,530.42				4,530.42
Wood, M **	3,674.79	231.25			3,906.04
TOTALS	\$118,678.69	\$11,110.07	\$3,181.22	\$15,059.04	\$148,029.02

* Indicates 2003 taxes paid in full in January, 2004

** Indicates 2002 taxes paid in full in January, 2004

DIVISION OF TAX RATES - 2003	
Town	0.2288
Highway	0.2098
Warned Articles	0.0777
School District	2.0842
TOTAL TAX RATE	2.6007

STATEMENT OF CHANGES TO DELINQUENT TAXES
(Taxes Billed vs. Taxes Collected)
Year Ending December 31, 2003

Delinquent Taxes as of December 31, 2002		\$86,701.20
Total Taxes Raised and Billed - Tax Year (TY) 2003	\$5,355,593.98	
Additional Taxes Billed - TY 2003	5,834.59	
Total Property Taxes Billed in 2003		<u>5,361,428.57</u>
		\$5,448,129.77
Total Taxes Collected - TY 2003	5,242,749.88	
Total Taxes Collected - TY 2002 and prior	<u>57350.87</u>	
Total Taxes Collected in 2003		<u>\$5,300,100.75</u>
<i>Delinquent Taxes as of December 31, 2003</i>		<i>\$148,029.02</i>

Estimated Tax Rates for 2004
(Town, Highway, Warned Articles)
Using 2003 Grand List

	Amount to be Raised	Grand List	Estimated Tax Rate
Town	\$648,187.41	\$2,061,634.12	0.3144
Highway	\$399,517.43	\$2,061,634.12	0.1938
Warned Articles	\$70,000.00	\$2,061,634.12	0.0340
TOTAL	\$1,117,704.84		0.5421
<i>(Amount to be raised/Grand List = Tax Rate)</i>			

TREASURER AND DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

2003 in Thetford marked the first year in many that the offices of Town Clerk, Town Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector were not held by a single person. In March, my Mother, Roberta Howard, opted not to run for re-election for these three offices. Although I miss sharing an office with her, she is enjoying a much-deserved retirement. I was elected to the offices of Town Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector, after serving for 12 years as Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer.

Despite the fact that much of the Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector's duties were familiar to me, there were nonetheless a number of new challenges to address this past year. Municipal government can be described with many words, but 'boring' isn't one of them. At my request, we began doing payroll in-house in May, which I anticipate will eventually prove to be both a savings in cost, as well as a more readily available source of customized payroll information. In addition to now being able to process payroll in two business days vs. four, we now are able to offer the options of more deductions to employees (to more than one financial institution, to contribute to benefit plans, to electronically deposit payroll checks - even to prepay property taxes.) Before, these 'extras' resulted in an extra fee assessed by the payroll service. Change is never without its associated annoyances, and we are still working out a few minor snags. My co-workers are thanked for their patience in adapting to these changes.

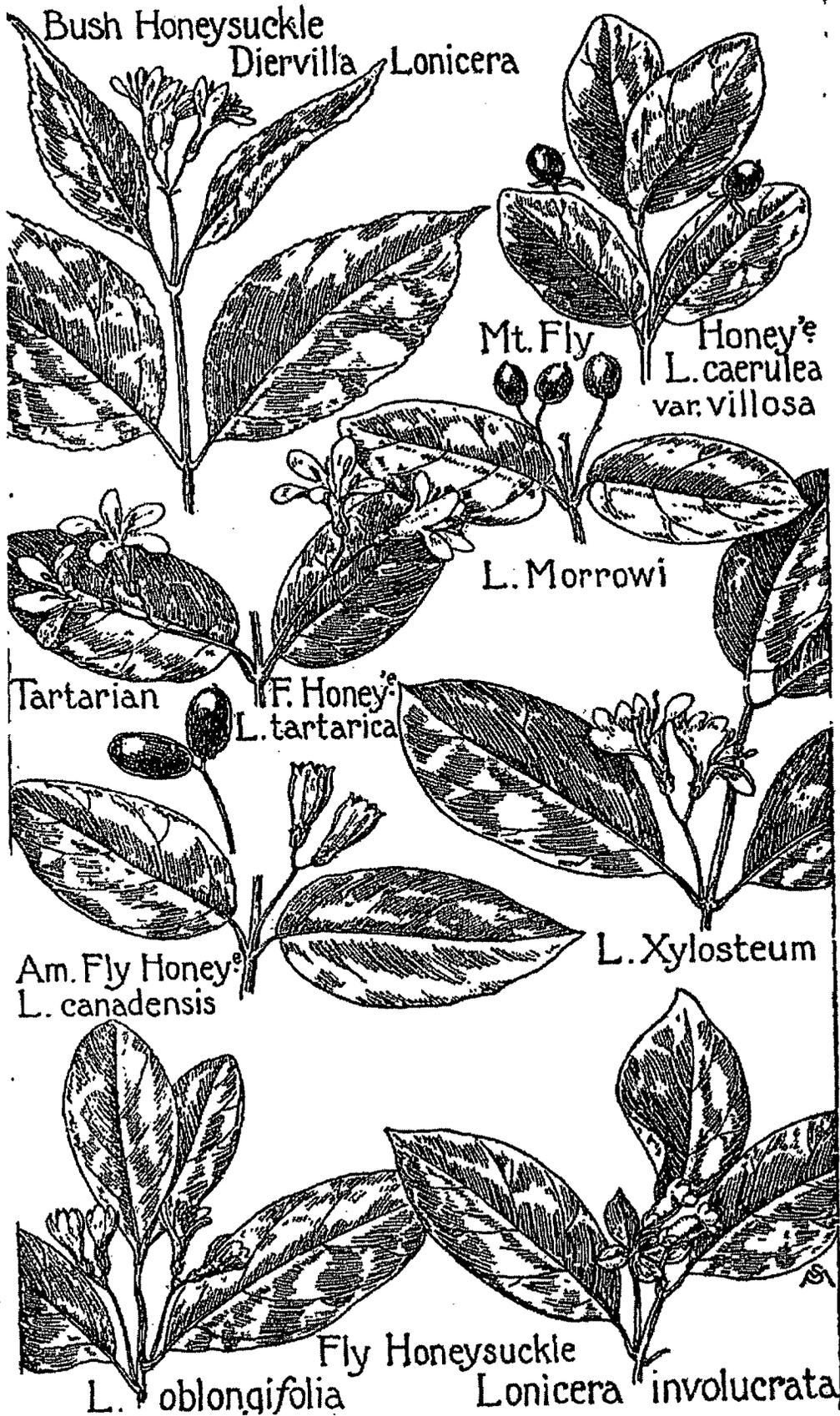
Other notable changes include utilizing electronic banking for funds transfers and direct deposits (although with the painfully slow internet connection at the office, it's often quicker to pick up the telephone and call.) We have taken advantage of a new offsite data backup option, courtesy of our municipal software provider, which provides a second secure, non-office location for our accounting and tax data, should anything happen at the office. I am also working out a reciprocal agreement with West Fairlee Treasurer Nancy Bragg, whereby each of us would be permitted to restore our data to the other's system in an emergency, so that both Towns could continue to function financially in a time of crisis.

If you read the enclosed financial reports carefully (and I hope that you will) you will notice that interest expense is up from last year. This is due to the fact that we had to borrow from our line of credit to pay expenses beginning in April, 2003. That is considerably earlier than in previous years, and it is what I foresee to be a trend. As budgets go up, we find ourselves in the position of having to cover more expenses with less available funds, in the period before tax revenues begin to come in. This past year, a number of people requested multiple tax payments, with the idea that two smaller payments would be easier to budget for than one large payment in October. From the Town's perspective, it would improve our cash flow, and even out our 'feast or famine' revenue stream. Please consider a two (or more) property tax payment system - I'd love to hear your thoughts, pro and con.

Which brings me to the subject of delinquent taxes. You will recall that at last year's Town Meeting, the voters passed a resolution limiting delinquent taxes to those taxes less than 1 full year past due. For the majority of those persons with unpaid taxes, a payment plan to pay off delinquent taxes seems to have worked very well. Taking into consideration individual circumstances, we are much closer than we were to a delinquent list that only contains taxes for the previous year.

My Assistant, Laurie Ingalls, and I are looking forward to another busy year. There are significant changes to property tax billing for 2004, with the implementation of Act 68. To come into compliance with GASB 34 requirements, we will also be incorporating changes into our financial reporting system in 2004, reflecting the value and condition of Town and Highway assets, which should prove to be a good planning and budgeting tool. These required tasks, as well as a number of innovations and procedures that we have planned, should keep things interesting. As always, if you have any questions or concerns with anything related to matters financial, please contact our office - we are more than willing to listen.

Martha Howard, Treasurer & Delinquent Tax Collector and Laurie Ingalls, Assistant



ANNUAL REPORTS

2003



***COMMUNITY, AREA
and
STATE ORGANIZATIONS***

THETFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The society has had a very productive year. Physically this could best be seen at the Hughes Barn Museum, where we carried through with plans we have had for several years, to convert the storage room in our third building into an exhibit room for textiles. First we had to remove the artifacts stored in the room – some to our storage building, some to the workroom in the library, some duplicates and extraneous items by sale. A crew of Joe Deffner, Charles Latham, and Thetford Academy students (and cross-country champions) Matt Ozahowski and Tom Chapin got this done. Then the same crew cleaned and painted the room. Then contractor Mike Fifield built a low platform around the edges of the room for exhibits. (At the same time, he re-covered the gable ends of our storage building, to fill in cracks which had developed as the siding dried out.) Finally, with the help of Jean Munn, we arranged a textile exhibit in three sections: spinning with wool and flax; weaving; and sewing. The exhibit needs more work, but we have made a good start and learned a lot.

In the main barn, we extended our post office area into the corner where the textile material had been. We added some more laminated labels, made by Inge Trebitz. And we had the usual openings on four Sunday afternoons in August.

We kept the historical library open three days a week all year. Our regular volunteers were Barbara Condict, Marian Fifield, Louise Vaughan, Martha Wiencke, and Lilla Willey. Processing continued on manuscript collections, and we made considerable progress on cataloguing our oversize and artifact collections. We continue to answer many queries, in person or by mail and telephone, mainly about genealogy. We are investigating a new process to print and store our large collection of hundred-year-old glass-plate negatives, and have begun to have our tapes of oral history transcribed.

We have been of some help in the restoration of the Town Hall, finding early photographs of the building, and suggesting possible exhibits in the Wallace Vault.

In April, we had our regular sessions on Academy history with the seventh grade classes, and also worked a bit with the senior human geography class. We had a booth at Vermont History Expo in Tunbridge in June, and contributed to a Copper Mining District cookbook published in June. Last year's Town Report carried an article by Charles Latham about Daniel Waterman of Thetford, who joined the California Gold Rush in 1850. At our annual meeting in July, our speaker was Peter Mallary, publisher of *Behind the Times* and president of Vermont Historical Society, who talked about Democracy in Vermont.



HISTORICAL ARTICLE

THE WORTHEN FAMILY OF POTATO HILL AND FIVE CORNERS

A family prominent in Thetford in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were the Worthens, who lived on the now little used-road which leads around the north side of Potato Hill from North Thetford to the Five Corners above Post Mills. The following paper from the archives of Thetford Historical Society, was written in 1977, by George Schoenhut, who then lived in the Worthen house at the Five Corners.

The Orange County Gazetteer of 1888 cryptically tells us that one Thomas Worthen immigrated into Bradford from Londonderry, New Hampshire. It does not divulge when, why, or with whom, except that Worthen had a wife named Mary Adams. But the Gazetteer does tell us that his son, Thomas, Jr. moved from Bradford to Thetford in 1819, that he bought a farm of Abner Bartholomew on Road No. 6, and that he died there in 1860, after a strenuous life. His house, which

has now collapsed, was west of the lodge owned by Royce Bond and then Donald Sweet, and is now (1977) a sort of condominium for porcupines.

Thomas Worthen, Jr. married Betsy Hewes of Hanover, the daughter of a Revolutionary War soldier. They had three children. One was Joseph Worthen, who married Elizabeth Chase. He was famous for an activity which he carried on for many years. In the fall, Joseph collected turkeys from Fairlee, Thetford, and Vershire and with the help of boys he drove them to Boston, over roads no better than third class, if as good. When the turkeys roosted, as they inevitably did, man and boys took refuge in a convenient farmhouse. This activity, which I have read lasted even after the introduction of the railroad, earned him the nickname "Turkey" Worthen. There is also a story that Joseph annually cut his long red hair and beard at sheep-shearing time, and sold it to the wig-makers in Boston.

Joseph Worthen acquired the property at Five Corners in 1865, and moved the whole family down to the house where I now live. He had six children; it is the eldest son, Thomas W. D. Worthen, about whom the rest of this story revolves. This Thomas was born in 1845, presumably in the condominium for porcupines. He was named, not for his grandfather as you might think, but prophetically for Thomas William Dorr of Rhode Island, who tried to achieve universal suffrage by force and rebellion (Dorr's Rebellion, 1839). As the eldest son, Thomas started early to aid his father in heavy farm chores; hand mowing the hay, cutting firewood, mending wall, carrying yokes of maple sap, and helping with the turkey drive to Boston. He developed a sturdy body early in life. Once while carrying his scythe to a hay field, he stumbled over an obstacle and cut his shoulder to the bone. As the Post Mills doctor was too far away to be useful, his mother sewed up the wound with a length of white linen thread.

In the winter, Thomas and his siblings trudged down the hill to the schoolhouse at Five Corners. "It was a mean road, the terms were short." Tom's pastimes, according to his son, were fishing the local ponds and streams, and attending every possible traveling circus. There he went wild over the acrobats, who in turn, took a fancy to him, and showed him many tricks of skill and endurance which were useful to him for the rest of his life. During the long winters, he practiced and practiced, and then the next spring returned to the circus for criticism and encouragement.

Graduating from Thetford Academy in 1868, Worthen entered Dartmouth with the class of 1872, the toughest wrestler in his class. He led freshman classmates into a revolt against the sophomores. After this, the sophomores averred that his initials were an acronym for "Too Wicked to Die."

He attended college in the fall and spring terms only, and taught school in Lebanon during the winter to help pay bills. The students there were not only fresh, but rough as well; they carried a previous teacher to the outskirts of town where they abandoned him. Following that poor soul, Worthen reported, "It took two days of physical violence to prove to them that I could 'hold it.' Then, we got down to business."

Worthen graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Dartmouth, and then taught school in Woodstock before he returned to Dartmouth as a Tutor. He taught Greek, Latin, and Mathematics, and earned the nickname "Tute." Even after he became a full professor (in both Greek and Mathematics), he was always known affectionately as Tute. He was popular at football rallies, where he would use an elaborate and absurd series of formulas to predict that Dartmouth would win on the following day. Besides his academic burdens, he taught gymnastics for twenty years. Once when he vaulted over the college fence (now only in token by the flagpoles), Professor Noyes remonstrated with him, "Tutor Worthen, it will be consistent with the decorum expected of a member of the faculty, if hereafter you will enter the campus by the gate."

"Tute" built a house on Webster Street in Hanover, and surrounded it with trees and shrubs which he dug up in the woods. Many years later, after he had sold the house, a friend came by and saw him pruning a tree and asked why. Tute answered, "I planted this tree and I noticed that it needed pruning; so I am pruning it." He loved gardens, though his son found them "more extensive than immaculate." Once when he was engaged in the garden, a tramp came to the front door to beg some old clothes. Mrs. Worthen, who answered the door, referred the tramp to Tute. The tramp walked around to the garden, took one look at Tute's ragged outfit, and walked away without a word.

Occom Pond in Hanover was the idea of Mrs. Worthen, but it was Tute who organized the transformation of what had been a hideous swamp and alder thicket into the beautiful body of water which delights the denizens of the Outing Club today.

In 1904, in the then overwhelmingly Republican town of Hanover, Worthen ran for the legislature as a Democrat. It was the year when the Republicans nominated Teddy Roosevelt for President and the Democrats nominated Alton B. Parker. The students and town put on a resplendent bipartisan torchlight parade, with placards reading "Teddy and Tute," "Parker and Tute," and "Tute anyhow." He won. The railroad in those days presented every legislator with a free pass, but Tute refused his on the ground that he had been elected by the people and not the railroad. In his late sixties, he became a Public Service Commissioner and served till he was eighty.

Worthen as a Thetford Academy graduate took an active interest in the affairs of the Academy. In 1891, he became an Academy trustee, serving for over three decades. He was a prime mover in organizing the 75th Anniversary celebration of the Academy in 1894, and was a member of the three-man executive committee from 1901 to 1910. He died in Middletown Springs, Vermont, in 1925.



THETFORD HILL PARISH PLAYERS

Work continues on the historic Eclipse Grange building. The roofing is now finished, and the driveway has been graded and filled for better drainage.

Two productions written by local artists were presented in the Theater last year: an independent production of *PAM: Map of a Country*, by Duncan Nichols, and *Princess Olivia*, a Parish Players production of a charming musical play for children (and adults!) by Charles Egbert. Ethan Cole's production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* also drew enthusiastic crowds. Also in 2003, the Grange hosted the first presentation of the Signal & Noise production company, *Summertree*, directed by Faith Catlin, the director of the previous year's very popular *A Thousand Clowns*. The Grange also hosted a presentation of *The Magic Flute*, by Opera Etc.

The Parish Players once again offered a chicken barbeque to accompany the Thetford Hill Fair.

This year is already starting off with auditions and rehearsals for a full roster of plays that will carry the Parish Players, and Signal & Noise, forward at a breakneck pace until at least September of 2004.

The Parish Players remains grateful to the Town of Thetford for its continuing support of our efforts to improve the historic structure of the Grange, and of our efforts to entertain and challenge our friends and neighbors with our productions.

AMERICAN LEGION POST #79 OF THETFORD

The purposes of this Post are to foster all those for which our country stands, to help people in need whenever we can and to give special help to our veterans. We also aim to educate young people on flag etiquette which has been taught for several years at area schools. Our meetinghouse is located on Thetford Hill, opposite Thetford Elementary School. Meetings are held at 7:00pm on the first Thursday of each month except January and February.

Flags for all known veteran's graves are put out before Memorial Day and removed after Nov 11. We would like to thank the Thetford Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts for their participation in this project. Please notify the Legion of any veterans buried in the town of Thetford so that a flag can be placed at the gravesite.

Available on loan to anyone are the following items of hospital and invalid equipment: hospital beds, wheelchairs, bedpans, crutches, walkers, commodes, and various canes. Some of these items are in short supply. Borrowers are asked no fee for the use of the equipment but donations are gratefully accepted. We do ask that borrowed items be kept in good condition and returned in a timely fashion. If you need to borrow or donate equipment that is no longer needed, please contact a Legion member listed below.

The American Legion would like to thank the community for its support during our fundraisers. Your donations help provide much needed monies for continued building maintenance and upkeep plus community projects. One large expense this year was upgrading the electrical wiring at a cost of nearly \$1900. This was necessary in order to maintain our insurance.

Post #79 makes the building available to the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Brownies for their meetings. Many thanks to Eagle Scout Curtis Marcy whose Eagle Project was insulating the ceiling and heat pipes plus painting the inside of our building.

This Post welcomes all veterans who served honorably in all our wars and conflicts. We ask that you join in remembering our fallen comrades.

Commander:	Raymond "Fred" Adams	785-4331
Adjutant:	Nathan Pero	333-4671



European
Spindle
Tree
E. europeus

THETFORD GIRL SCOUTS

Our service unit continues to thrive and currently serves over 100 girls in the towns of Fairlee, Lyme, Orford, Thetford, and West Fairlee. Thetford alone now has six different groups serving several age levels.

Daisy Girl Scouts, who are kindergarten age, are under new leadership with Cathee Clement. These eight girls are very busy learning what it means to be a Girl Scout and planning a routine for the upcoming TES talent show. As membership remains high at the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade level, we continue to support two Brownie Groups. Group #2395, with 14 girls, is now being lead by Cindy Grigel with Tammie Patten and Molly Donovan as co-leaders. This group of energetic scouts have carved pumpkins for the Thetford Hill display and are planning to attend an upcoming Dartmouth women's hockey game. Group #2554 has 14 girls and is lead by Troi Ulman and Keisha Barbour. These busy bees have baked Christmas cookies and are participating in the service project to benefit the orphanage in Afghanistan, as all our Groups are.

Due to a large number of Brownies bridging up to Juniors last spring, a second Junior Group was added this fall. Sharon Littlefield returns this year to Group #2064 and 9 enthusiastic young ladies. These girls have already traveled to Camp Chenoa to participate in the 'Drum Beats' event and are planning a return visit to Boston for an overnight adventure on the USS Salem. Tracy Borst and Bernice Clark moved up from the Brownie level with their group of eleven 4th graders to start our second Junior group. These girls have been to the climbing wall in Quechee, and are planning a trip to the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium with dinner at a fancy Italian restaurant and then an overnight at the See Enrichment Center in Manchester.

The Cadette Girl Scout Group #2468 is in its second year with Helen Huff and Carol Mullen as leaders. Membership doubled from last year and we officially became a Senior/Cadette Group. Girls have been challenged in the corn maze, found undiscovered abilities while at the climbing wall and are taking on the responsibility of planning a service unit event. We are also looking forward to a winter overnight at a Girl Scout owned facility in Gorham, NH, an afternoon of roller skating and attending an Adventure Day at Camp Farnsworth.

One of our favorite activities is selling Girl Scout cookies. The girls not only raise their own funds for projects and activities but learn some valuable lessons along the way: goal setting, teamwork to reach those goals, social and business skills. More than half of our girls, from Brownie's to Cadette's, attended summer camp at our own Camp Farnsworth last year. Most girls helped pay their own way by using credits they earned from the cookie sale. Some were able to go with the aid of a Campership, which is funded through the cookie sale. A huge 'thank you' to all who have supported a Girl Scout in this fundraiser.

We would also like to thank the many organizations that allow us to hold meetings in their facilities and the support of family and friends.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen S. Huff
Service Unit Facilitator

THETFORD YOUTH SPORTS

The Thetford Youth Sports (TYS) Board is the body designated to manage organized athletics for Thetford children in grades K-6. The Board reviews current issues, collects/allocates revenue and sets policies that we believe are in the best interest of the children participating in our baseball, softball, basketball and soccer programs. The heart of TYS, however, is the volunteers, parents and particularly the coaches whose dedication (and patience) allow for a rewarding experience for our young athletes. In particular, the TYS board wishes to thank Philip O'Donnell for his grounds keeping, Tim Gray and Jeff Hodge for creating new baseball backstops and board members Kristie Gray for organizing the highly successful Cook-Walsh soccer camp and Andy Martin for refinishing the steel on the new soccer goals, extending their useable life significantly.

Of course, the most significant athletics-related development in Thetford over the past year has been the construction of the new elementary gymnasium. This is a tremendous asset for the town, and TYS is fortunate to list itself as one of its beneficiaries. Thanks to the TES Building Committee, headed by Karen Buttrey, for making this happen. Incidentally, the gym scoreboard was purchased by TYS with funds collected through sports program's registration and through money given by the town. Soon a protective net will be installed over the scoreboard...keep your fingers crossed in the meantime.

As previously mentioned, the TYS board manages athletic activities for all Thetford children in grades K-6. Obviously, the predominance of participating children attend Thetford Elementary School. However, please be aware that our programs are open to residents whose children attend other schools and to those who have chosen to school their children at home. Similarly, all programs are open to children who may otherwise find it difficult to participate because of financial hardship. Please ask a board member about waiving registration fees if this is your situation. For those families with more than 2 participating children, the TYS board continues with its policy of limiting registration fees for any given season to the first two children registered (currently \$40).

Over the past year, the TYS board has seen the departure of board members Amos Kornfeld, Bob Leach, and Loretta Gray. Many thanks to these individuals for their hours of service and insight. Certainly, a special "thank you" is owed to Loretta, who has served as coach, director and as president of the TYS board for 7 years. I think it's fair to say that the development of TYS over this time is, to a very large extent, due to Loretta's hard work.

With participation up in every sport, TYS is serving an ever-important role in the development of Thetford's youth. Our community's continued involvement in TYS-sponsored activities, whether through coaching, helping with facilities, or through some other means, will ensure the realization of the positive experience we all seek for our kids.

Mike McCabe
TYS Board President

SNOW COASTERS, INC.

First and foremost, we would like to extend our appreciation to the landowners for the continued use of their land. An extra effort has been made by a number of landowners with re-routes and new route construction. Thank You!

To show respect for these generous landowners, it is very important that riders stay on marked trails at all times! As a reminder, state law mandates speed limit on roadways to be 10 mph. Please respect motorists, trails, trail users and speed limits. Please help us keep the trails safe.

There have been many new and exciting events for the Snow Coasters in the past few years. We purchased a 1986 track truck groomer and drag for grooming the corridor and some secondary trails. We have two club members that built two 51-inch drags, and readied their sleds to use with these drags, for grooming our secondary trails.

We would like to thank everyone for his or her continued support of our fundraisers! The first annual Snow Coaster's chicken barbecue was held in September at the Rest 'n Nest Campground. We are looking forward to building on this annual event. Other fundraisers include a raffle (1st prize was a 2003 Z120 Arctic Cat), pizza drive, Nascar race pool, poker ride, etc. Please look for advertisements on these events at local businesses. Fundraising money is used to support grooming, trail maintenance, Thetford Academy scholarship, and children's day.

Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month - October through April, at various locations. They begin at 6:30 pm with a potluck dinner, then the business meeting at 7:00 pm. All are welcome! Please contact one of the officers for location of the meeting.

For any additional information, please contact me, Phillip O'Donnell, at 785-4701 or stop by one of our meetings.

List of Officers:

President - Phillip O'Donnell

Vice-President - Dirk Borst

Treasurer - Becky Gray

Secretary - Loretta Gray

Membership Chair Person - Roxy Maxfield

Trail Master - Phillip O'Donnell

Corresponding Secretary - Diane Osgood

TMA's sold by:

Roxy Maxfield

Phillip O'Donnell

Loretta Gray

Phillip O'Donnell, President
Snow Coasters Inc.

UPPER VALLEY FISH AND GAME CLUB

Purpose:

- To work for improvement and stimulate interest in the sports of hunting and fishing.
- To promote and engage in the conservation of fish and game management and other natural resources in the area.
- To promote and maintain friendly relations with landowners.
- To promote good sportsmanship and educate the public with respect to conservation, hunting and fishing.

Officers:	President: Robert Stone	Thetford Center	785-4237
	Vice Pres: Doug Stone	Thetford Center	785-2140
	Treasurer: Bruce Avery	North Thetford	333-9671
	Secretary: Rhett Scruggs	East Thetford	333-4067

Membership: Currently 185 members, 17 are junior members. Open to any person interested in helping with our stated purpose. Junior membership is available to person's aged 15 and under.

Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month. Held at the Thetford Elementary School Library September - May, 7:00 pm and at the club grounds June-Aug, 6:30 pm. Annual meeting is held in February.

Activities: Ice fishing derby on Lake Fairlee in February - 123 participants in 2003. Children's fishing derby in June - 39 children participated in 2003. Sponsored a Firearms Hunter Safety class and a Bow Hunter Safety class in the fall - certificates were presented to 33 Firearms Hunter Safety students and to 8 Bow Hunter Safety Students in 2002. The club actively sponsors local youngsters to the State Conservation Camp each summer - 4 were sponsored in 2003.

Facilities: The club maintains a building, pond, and shooting ranges on approximately 200 acres on the Five Corners Road in Thetford Center. The shooting ranges are used for rifle, pistol, action pistol, sporting clays, trap shooting and Archery competition. Club members are welcome to use the facilities and the surrounding property.

Rhett W. Scruggs
Secretary



Smooth-leaved Shadbush
A. laevis

ELIZABETH MINE REMEDIATION PROJECT

The Elizabeth Mine, a former iron, copperas and copper mine bordering the towns of Thetford and Strafford, has been polluting Copperas Brook and the West Branch of the Ompompanoosuc since its closure in 1958. Representatives from the Thetford Select Board and Conservation Commission as well as Thetford and Strafford residents in the Elizabeth Mine Study Group have been working with landowners, community groups from Strafford, and federal and state agencies for seven years to clean up the mine. The mine site was included on EPA's National Priorities List of Superfund sites in 2001.

Technical studies by EPA in the winter of 2003, to prepare for the remediation of the site, found that the face of 27-acre Tailing Pile 1 was unstable and in danger of failing. EPA determined that such a failure might result in a huge mud slide of waste tailings flowing down the Copperas Brook and Ompompanoosuc River valleys, destroying 11 houses along the river in Thetford and ecological damage as far down the Ompompanoosuc as the Connecticut River.

This human health threat resulted in an emergency response action at the Mine coordinated by EPA in cooperation with state and local emergency response teams. Initially, threatened residents were notified of the potential danger and emergency notification and evacuation plans were developed and short-term emergency response measures were taken to temporarily stabilize the tailing face. Pumps were installed on the tailings during spring runoff in order to pump water from the tailing ponds and sand was dumped at the base of the tailing piles to stop erosion that was taking place within the face of the tailing pile. Ultimately, EPA received emergency funding to implement more permanent stabilization measures. We would like to thank Thetford emergency response personnel for their quick response in pulling together evacuation support for the threatened residents.

This fall work began on the installation of a new plastic drainage pipe, which will drain water from the tailing pond around the outside of the tailing pile and back into Copperas Brook. This work was finished in early 2004. In the summer of 2004, EPA will build an earthen buttress sloped out more gently from the steep face of the tailing pile to complete the stabilization work. In preparation for these permanent remedies, several community meetings were held to discuss the measures to be taken and the resulting community impacts, most notably traffic increase from large trucks hauling fill materials up Rt. 132 to the site. EPA and state officials worked closely with town and school administrators to make sure all community concerns were addressed. The work in the fall of 2003 and early winter of 2004 was successfully accomplished without incident, however drivers should beware that the increased truck traffic along Rt. 132 will resume in the spring of 2004.

While the stabilization measures, engineering for the final remediation and negotiations to solve liability issues with landowners continue, currently there is no funding for the final cleanup of the site. This is due to inadequate funding of the Superfund program by Congress and will likely result in delayed action at the Elizabeth Mine site. Representatives from local groups and state agencies working on the clean up have actively approached Vermont's congressional delegation and federal EPA to seek reestablishment of Superfund funding for this and other projects. We will continue these efforts and our work with EPA to review and comment on remediation plans as the project moves forward. We will also continue informing and including the public in the process.

If you have questions or comments about this project, please contact:

Thetford Select Board, Neal Meglathery, 785-2016

Thetford Conservation Commission, Scott Stokoe, 785-2083

Elizabeth Mine Study Group, Bob Walker, 785-4126

EPA Project Manager, Ed Hathaway, 888-372-7341, ext. 81372

UPPER VALLEY RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE

Connecticut River Joint Commissions

This year the Upper Valley Subcommittee began to update our *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan* with a close look at water quality and water-related issues in our region, particularly the need for more complete information on the safety of the river for swimming, fishing, and boating.

The Town of Norwich and City of Lebanon have sent new representatives to the Subcommittee, bringing new ideas and interests to ensure that discussions continue to be well-balanced.

The Subcommittee has continued to carry out our legal obligation to provide information and assistance to the states, towns, and local landowners on projects near the river, advising the two states on the Fairlee/Orford bridge restoration, advising a landowner on a dock proposal, and following the continued commercial and highway developments in West Lebanon. We are also monitoring the success of a major riverbank restoration project in Fairlee.

We have encouraged all towns in our region to review our current *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan*, and to incorporate its recommendations as they update town plans and revise their zoning ordinances, particularly for shoreland protection. The heavy rains of last August demonstrated the critical importance of giving rivers and streams enough room.

The Upper Valley River Subcommittee is advisory and has no regulatory authority. The public is welcome to participate in our meetings, on the third Monday evening of every other month, at the Lyme Town Office. Citizens interested in representing the Town are invited to contact the selectmen. More information, including a calendar, advice on bank erosion and obtaining permits for work in or near the river, and a summary of the *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan*, is on the web at www.crjc.org/localaction.htm.

Cyrus Severance and Linda Matteson, Thetford representatives

CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS

This year the Connecticut River Joint Commissions have looked at issues as wide-ranging as the status of municipal wastewater treatment plants in the watershed to the hazards of development on the varied clays left by glacial Lake Hitchcock. Appointed by the legislatures of New Hampshire and Vermont to guide growth and development in the watershed, the CRJC are advisory and have no regulatory powers, preferring instead to ensure greater public involvement in decisions that affect the river and its valley.

With the support of the four US Senators from NH and VT, the Commissions were able to provide \$85,000 in Partnership Program grants for locally-inspired projects, including grants for a major conference on storm water management, a documentary film on Vermont's copper mining history, the Orford Conservation Festival, the bi-state Milk Marketing Study Group, and a northern extension of the Connecticut River Birding Trail.

In 2003, the Commissions completed a major riverbank restoration demonstration project at the Fort at No. 4 in Charlestown, which protected both a key Contact Period archeological site at the fort and a population of federally endangered mussels just offshore. We continue to work to bring the attention of federal and state agencies to the *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan*, to give local people new influence in the decisions of their government when it comes to their river. Our five local river subcommittees are an active voice for river issues in their regions.

CRJC supports efforts to safeguard natural, agricultural, and historic assets of the valley, and are working with businesses and the states to strengthen the local base for tourism through visitor centers in ten "waypoint communities" along the Connecticut River Byway, including White River Junction and Fairlee. This year we worked to provide signage for each of them, and provided staff and coordination for the Byway effort. Visit the Byway at www.ctrivertravel.net.

We welcome the public to our meetings on the last Monday of each month. Visit our web site at www.crjc.org for a calendar of meetings, useful information and links, and our newsletter, *River Valley News*.

TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION

During 2003, the Regional Commission continued to provide technical expertise and resources for municipal officials as well as advocated for members' needs with the State Legislature and with state and federal agencies. We function as staff for many of our towns and most of our work was initiated at the request of Selectboards, Planning Commissions, and other town officials. Major accomplishments for this past year included:

Regional and Local Transportation Planning - The Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) worked with member municipalities on numerous local transportation projects. Two Rivers' staff wrote many Transportation Enhancement Grants and assisted our towns in procuring design engineers, processing requisitions for payment, and organizing public meetings for local input - Two Rivers helped projects get built. This office also assisted communities as they worked their way through the environmental permitting process on transportation projects.

Local Technical Assistance - Over the past year, we provided advice and support to all town officials on a wide range of activities. This included grant writing and administration, assistance on town plan revisions, ordinance development, GIS mapping, transportation planning, and Act 250 development review. The TRORC Region once again received the largest share of municipal planning grants statewide. This allowed our towns to conduct the planning necessary to respond to changes in state and federal requirements.

Emergency Planning Activities - The Regional Commission's emergency management planning program continued to be funded by FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. Projects focused on all-hazards planning associated with natural and man-made disasters. Our staff helped write and coordinate many of the \$800,000 First Responder Grants for safety equipment received by our towns.

Economic Development Planning - In 2003, the Regional Commission continued working on a \$200,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant to assess the level of contamination on many sites throughout our Region. Once the level of contamination is known, the Regional Commission will help towns locate funding sources for clean-up. Additional federal dollars are being sought to continue this program. In addition, TRORC spent considerable time obtaining and maintaining the eligibility of our Region for federal economic development administration money. This resulted in over \$800,000 for the Town of Randolph.

We value your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
William B. Emmons, III, Chairperson, Pomfret

GEORGE D. AIKEN RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

The George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) has been "making things happen" for towns with natural resource conservation and rural development projects over the past year. We are here to serve your community. We coordinate and facilitate assistance to town governments, school districts, fire departments watershed groups and nonprofit organizations in the six southern Vermont counties. By bringing together help from our extensive network of resources, we can focus technical and financial resources on your specific needs. We get technical assistance and staff help through the U.S. Department of Agriculture but private sources make up most of our budget. The Council is a self-supporting 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Highlights of our work in the six counties in 2003 include:

- 14 towns received funding to improve water quality and upgrade back roads through our better back roads grants
- Two towns received complete water supply plans identifying all potential useable water sources for fire fighting in the town
- 16 towns received funding and engineering assistance to design and install dry hydrants as a source of water to fight fires
- 6 towns received Jeffords fire safety grants to purchase personal protective gear for firefighters
- Numerous farmers received technical and marketing assistance with agritourism ventures
- 5 Farmers received grants to support agritourism on their farms
- 10 towns received assistance from a consultant to help them prepare for an ISO (Insurance Service Office) evaluation. Towns are given a rating from 1 to 10 by the ISO and many insurance companies use that rating to set their rates. If a town can lower their ISO rating, it may lead to lower insurance costs for businesses and residents in that town
- We continue to serve as the fiscal agent for the White River Partnership and Connecticut River Birding Trail
- Teams of high school students from throughout the area participated in the Vermont Envirothon

Other current projects include helping a town with flooding problems, erosion control and stream bank stabilization in several locations, helping to develop community centers and recreation fields. We currently have funding available for low interest loans (3.0-5.0%) to develop agritourism ventures on farms. Do you have a project or program that could use some assistance to "make it happen"? Over the years the George D. Aiken RC&D Council has helped many communities and organization on a variety of projects. We work on a request basis, so the first step is up to you, giving us a call. For information and free consultation call Kenneth Hafner our RC&D Coordinator at (802) 728-9526 or email: kenneth.hafner@vt.usda.gov.

GREATER UPPER VALLEY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Thetford is a charter member of the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District which was created in 1990 for the express purpose of managing waste generated within its member municipalities.

Services to Thetford and its residents in 2003 included:

- Access to household hazardous waste and recycling services required by the State of Vermont.
- Planning for the town's long-term waste management needs, including continued planning and development of the North Hartland landfill.
- Special collections of big trash, tires, and clothing held in Thetford.
- Direct service to 194 Thetford residents who participated in District sponsored events including household hazardous waste events, scrap metal collection, used oil collection, compost bin sales, tire collections, clothing recycling, bulky waste collection, and computer recycling events.

We welcome your suggestions on ways to improve our services and are always on the outlook for new opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle. District events for the upcoming collection season will be available at Town Meeting, at all Town Clerks' offices, and the District office at 296-3688 or www.guvswd.org.

Fred Moody, Executive Director, GUVSWMD



GREEN UP VERMONT

~ Green Up Day, May 1, 2004 ~

Thirty-three years strong, "Green Up Day" is a special day when Vermonters clean and spruce up their communities. We were the first state in our nation to designate a day for such cleaning of the entire state. Working together, we can keep our unique Green Up spirit growing for Vermont.

Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501c(3) organization that promotes litter-free communities by supporting Green Up Day, civic pride and education.

Over 13,000 Vermonters participated in Green Up Day 2003, using over 33,000 Green Up bags, collecting over 200 tons of trash, piles of mixed metals and tires. Green Up Vermont arranged widespread promotional support in excess of \$25,000.

The success of Green Up for Vermont depends upon two essential ingredients. One is the combined effort of individuals and civic groups who volunteer to make it all possible; and two, the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont.

With your town's help, we can continue our unique annual Vermont tradition of, taking care of our beautiful landscape and promoting civic pride so our children grow up with Green Up.

Careful use of resources minimizes Green Up's costs. The State appropriates funds that cover just under 10 percent of our budget. The rest comes from gifts from towns, individuals and businesses. These funds pay for supplies, promotion and services of two part-time employees. We ask your community to contribute, according to population, to keep Green Up growing for Vermont.

MILFOIL PROJECT

Project Completion Summary

The Lake Fairlee Community mounted another ambitious control program for the summer of 2003. Numerous volunteers and paid staff members worked very hard, mostly motivated by a love of the lake. This effort paid off with the removal of enormous volumes of milfoil. The commitment from the community in the form of volunteer labor and donations has once again been essential to this effort, with private donors state grants funding the bulk of the project.

Hand pulling by itself has proven to be inadequate on Lake Fairlee. This year marked the beginning of the implementation of bottom barriers as a new method of control that appears to be more efficient. The crew also worked on a suction harvester operation on another lake to prepare for using that method on Lake Fairlee in the future. Growth in many areas was controlled, but there were many areas where the project failed to prevent further spreading. The impact of the bottom barriers will not be noticed until next year. The density of milfoil populations, particularly in very shallow areas, has continued to increase, although at a slower rate than in prior years. Many returning staff made for a productive and experienced crew, but deploying bottom barriers for the first time initially presented challenges. Community outreach activities were increased to help generate more donations and volunteer labor. This was in response to a one-time need to fund large capital expenditures. Most of our resources were directed to the largest part of our operation, which involved using divers for hand pulling. The volume of milfoil removed was slightly less than the prior year due to the time spent at the end of the season installing bottom barriers instead of hand pulling.

The Milfoil Project was multifaceted. The volunteers played a necessary role with hand pulling areas around their camps that are hard to get to with other crews. Volunteers also helped with administrative duties, fund raising, and education. The dive team consisted of two scuba divers and a boat operator for each of two boats, generally working in deeper water (over 2 ft.). A third boat was donated and used to help shuttle divers and plant material back and forth from the staging areas, and a pontoon boat was rebuilt and used for bottom barrier installation. Shallow water teams, called "Rubber Duckies," usually consisted of teams of two or three people without scuba gear.

Looking to the future, the lake will have to continue to implement new methods that are more efficient than hand pulling. This year we had a large amount of fund raising activity to fund one-time capital purchases (bottom barriers and pontoon boat rebuild) but many donors have said they cannot sustain their contributions due to the poor economy and rising property taxes. We have begun designing a suction harvester and will apply for a permit this winter. Chemical treatments, such as Flouridone remain prohibitively expensive and environmentally unpopular.

Approximately 120 acres of Lake Fairlee have been targeted as areas of nuisance plant control. An estimate of 200 cubic yards of milfoil was removed from Lake Fairlee. This represents 8,083 large dive bags, plus about 3,000 gallons of plant material. Further details can be found in the dive log or contact Tofer Sharp (Trustee, Lake Fairlee Association, 785-2993).

GREEN MOUNTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Throughout the year, GMEDC was an active participant in bringing the Randolph 'DuBois & King' (D&K) project closer to reality. The project will establish the Vermont Technical College's (VTC) business incubator and a new downtown Randolph office building. GMEDC provided a key component of the funding by structuring a \$216,000 assumption agreement that was originally advanced to the Connecticut River Valley Revolving Loan Fund from Rural Development. GMEDC voted to assume the loan and then advance the needed funds to the Randolph Area Community Development. This strategic approach provided the critical piece to the project's financing structure and enabled the D&K project to proceed. This project represents the first in our region that has been funded through the US Department of Commerce. We met with the US Undersecretary of Commerce during his August visit to the VTC campus and participated in the October D&K groundbreaking ceremony in Randolph. During these ceremonies, GMEDC's Diane Murphy received special recognition for her *'exemplary performance dealing with the grant administration process'*.

Directors face significant challenges in fulfilling their responsibilities to oversee the activities of modern Economic Development/Investment Companies. Changes in the marketplace have created a more competitive and demanding environment. As a consequence, the role director has grown in importance and complexity. Directors must take an active role in governing, monitoring, and evaluating the company's business activities and risks. Directors must also balance the needs of the community, the interests of the clients/members, and the image of the company. In late summer early fall, we initiated the process of recruiting and nominating directors with significant community leadership and business experience. Messrs. Fred Thomas, Peter Johnson, Matt Bucy, Hod Palmer, Dick Podolec and Ed Childs officially join the GMEDC board at our annual meeting scheduled for October 21, 2003. Elections are pending.

In June, Governor Douglas signed the Vermont \$105 million Jobs Bill into law. We were delighted that the Jobs Bill included a component to provide \$25 million for a new capital pool of mezzanine level investment called the Vermont Opportunity Fund. This fund is being designed to provide capital to existing businesses for job creation. Recent research indicates strong regional market support for the development of this early stage capital pool to assist growing companies. GMEDC is eager to work with entrepreneurs that need early stage financing. Successful entrepreneurs are building companies that are being positioned to provide job security, economic growth and stability to the region. GMEDC will assist strategically in fueling that economic growth and we applaud the Governor's efforts in this important area of economic development.

We organized municipal and corporate visits for senior representatives of the Douglas Administration throughout the late summer and into the fall. These sessions were designed to provide a forum for discussion and an opportunity for listening. We will continue to facilitate such meetings. We arranged for a briefing by China experts at the Tuck School for Secretary of Commerce Dorn. This luncheon briefing took place prior to the Secretary's departure for China on a trade mission designed to explore strategic exporting possibilities. We are pleased that Commissioner Quinn joined us when we presented our board resolution to Peter White the son of our principle founder Craig W. White in recognition of his father's leadership in the 1982 formation of GMEDC.

GMEDC is actively assisting in the capital formation process for a new company, Vermont Plywood LLC. The company was recently formed to purchase and operate the former Chesapeake facility in Hancock. We have introduced qualified investors and are involved in structuring the due diligence process. At a public hearing held on October 14, 2003, the town of Hancock enthusiastically supported the project and initiated the application process for a \$750,000 community block grant to demonstrate their commitment. If the grant is approved, proceeds of this grant will be

loaned to Vermont Plywood and used for working capital and the purchase of equipment. VEDA, USDA and banking companies are completing their due diligence. The economic impact of the success of this pending acquisition is significant; plant employment currently approximates 50 jobs, which is down from 90 when the plant was at full capacity. GMEDC is a leading candidate to administer the \$750,000 community block grant.



VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns' mission is to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. Most government services used by Vermonters on a daily basis are those provided by its cities and towns. These include highways, police, fire, recreation, sewer and water. Vermont municipal officials are responsible for raising and expending nearly one-half of the non-federal taxes raised in the state.

In large part, volunteer elected and appointed municipal officials lead these governments. VLCT provides the following services to its member cities and towns, to strengthen the ability of the these officials to provide quality services at affordable levels of taxation:

- Advocacy representation before the State Legislature, administration and judiciary, ensuring that municipalities have the resources and authority to serve their citizens. VLCT is a leader in the education finance debate and in securing revenues for town highway and bridge maintenance programs.
- Training, technical assistance and publications to strengthen the ability of municipal officials to serve their communities. In the past year, we have responded to almost 50,000 telephone calls, 21,200 of them from local officials on the toll-free telephone line available to them. Our Municipal Assistance Center and Group Services staffs provided over 750 workshops and small group training sessions attended by over 4,000 municipal officials and answered over 2,300 legal questions posed by municipal officials. VLCT distributed over 575 copies of local government publications and distributed over 3,200 hard copies or electronic mail versions of VLCT's Weekly Legislative Report to municipal officials each week during the legislative session.
- Purchasing opportunities to provide needed services at the lowest cost. These include an array of municipal insurance programs, among many others. Examples of how this saves local taxpayers dollars are the securing of municipal employee health insurance and liability coverage for town operations. The VLCT Health Trust represents the most affordable option available to provide health insurance to municipal employees. The value of VLCT PACIF to all our members was made painfully clear last year when the major re-insurer for the largest private sector option available for municipal property and casualty insurance was declared insolvent by the State of Pennsylvania, threatening the payment of claims made under those policies.

All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, along with 140 other municipal entities including villages and fire districts. Membership dues are \$.72 per capita plus a \$250 service fee per year. VLCT maintains its offices in Montpelier and employs 42 staff members. It has an annual operating budget of approximately \$3.0 million.

Individuals interested in finding out more about Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including reviewing its audited financial statements can visit its Web site at www.vlct.org.

THETFORD CENTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 231
Thetford Center, VT 05075

Ever driven by the old schoolhouse on Route 113 across from the Village Store, seen lights on and cars parked around it, and wondered what's going on? We can tell you there's plenty going on! Nearly every day some family, community, or civic event is happening in our Community Center.

Our Community Center has undergone renovation for the past year and a half, thanks to the efforts of past Association president Bruce Slack, TCCA officers and Building Committee, and a generous award from the Preservation Trust of Vermont.

Originally a district schoolhouse, the Center has served the community as a parish hall for the Timothy Frost Methodist Church, the town balloting place, and a central meeting location for a wide variety of activities including family reunions and receptions, seasonal parties, political caucuses, Scout meetings, organizational fundraisers, and community gatherings.

You, too, can rent this beautiful facility. For more information, contact one of the officers named below.

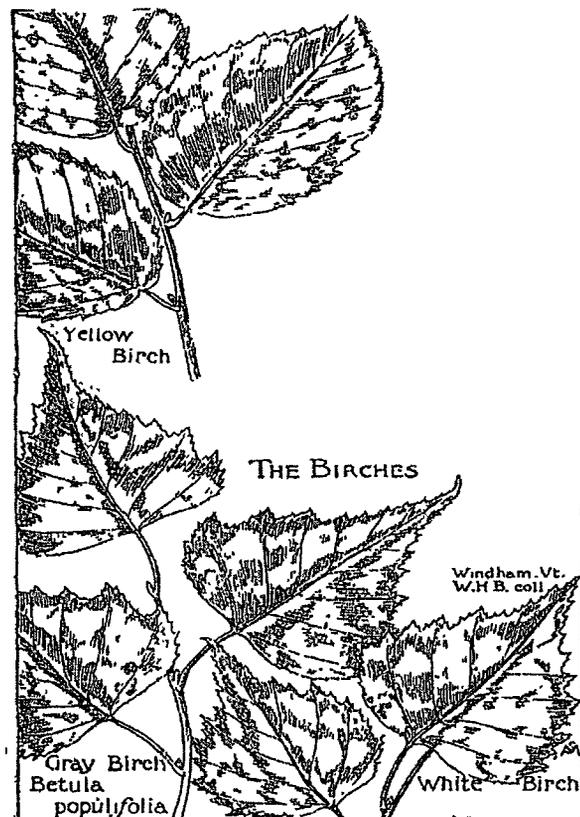
The Thetford Center Community Association is open to anyone with an interest in Thetford Center.

The mission of the Thetford Center Community Association is to "improve and beautify the village of Thetford Center and to promote fellowship and community spirit."

The Association, which owns and maintains the Community Center, sponsors community events and village beautification projects. In 2003, TCCA held the winter potluck series, EMS Appreciation Dinner, Scholarship Dinner, SpringFest, September Annual Meeting (moved by vote of the January Annual Meeting), Open House, and Fundraising Dinner.

We encourage you to join and make things happen in Thetford Center. Annual membership dues are only \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family.

Kevin Brown, *President*, 333-4727
Marty Moses, *Rental Agent*, 785-3060
Sue Rump, *Publicist*, 785-4029



RICE'S MILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The past few years have been active, encouraging ones for Rice's Mills Community Association (RMCA), and this continued in 2003. Great interest, commitment and activity have led to an improved physical structure and ongoing work.

Highlights from this year:

- Debra Kraemer led a successful "Garden Rejuvenation" Day joining youths with senior citizens thanks to a grant from Dartmouth-Hitchcock's "Caring Connections" Program which aims to promote health and well-being by facilitating intergenerational activities. Twenty-six volunteers, ages 4 to 80 something, helped to dig up the old garden, discard weeds, and thin the crowded perennials. The soil was enriched with composted manure and organic fertilizers and then the crew planted many perennials including divisions each gardener brought from their own gardens. Thanks to all who participated! We eagerly await spring and the results of this fun day!
- This fall, under the direction of Garrett Hack, the ceiling and roof have begun to be strengthened and remodeled. Reports had shown that the roof structure was not sound. Garrett will be organizing more workdays in the spring to continue this roof project.
- In November, the RMCA organized a very successful auction! Over \$4,000 was raised to help with the refurbishing of the schoolhouse thanks to more than 60 individuals and local businesses who donated goods and services. Thanks also to our auctioneer, Dean Whitlock, the volunteers, and all those who joined us in making it such a fun & profitable event.

These were the highlights, but our regular summer Sunday potlucks had their own appeal. From a slide show on Utah, and learning to be a clown, to having a laughter-filled decorated vegetable contest, and good discussions about the future of the building, we learned new things and generally enjoyed being part of a close community. We will continue these potlucks beginning in May, so mark your calendar for 2nd Sundays from May-November.

Every spring, the greenhouse is used by members to get a jump on the growing season, and it becomes a nice venture in cooperative community (as each participant helps with their neighbors seedlings.)

The building can also be rented, as evidenced by an art class that began this past summer, and will return again in 2004.

Come to the potlucks and social activities, and come lend us a hand. It's fun, and it is a great community place. All are welcome, members or not, young and old. If you are interested in the potlucks, signs are posted around town several days in advance of the potluck. To get on the mailing list, contact us below. Donations of time and/or money are always encouraged. Donations can be mailed to Polly Cole, Treasurer at 790 Poor Farm Road, Thetford Center, VT 05075.

Bill Shepard and Lelia Mellen, Chairs

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The Vermont Department of Health works to protect and improve the health of all citizens. The following are some of the essential services available to residents of Thetford.

Food & Lodging Inspections: Public health sanitarians inspect eating establishments (restaurants, schools, fairs) to decrease the risk of food borne disease outbreaks. Inspections include review of a 44-item checklist to evaluate food storage, preparation and handling as well as to identify where there is a high likelihood of practices contributing to illness if left uncorrected. Of the 11 establishments in Thetford, 15 inspections were completed by a sanitarian during 2002.

Special Nutrition - Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): WIC improves the health of pregnant and postpartum women, infants and young children by assuring access to health care, teaching families about good nutritional practices, and providing an individually designed package of nutritious food to eligible individuals. During 2002, 55 women, infants and children living in Thetford received foods as well as health screening and individualized nutrition education through this program at an average value of \$35.00 per person per month.

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: Proper vaccination protects children and adults against many diseases, saves health care dollars, and minimizes sick leave from school or work. Immunization has reduced reportable cases of preventable diseases in Vermont to record low levels. Still, total annual hospital charges from vaccine-preventable disease in Vermont is \$2.6M, and each year 150 to 200 Vermonters die of pneumonia or influenza. During 2002, the Health Department distributed 6,055 doses of vaccine to health care providers in Orange County. This represents a value of \$82,999.86 to these communities, including children living in Thetford.

West Nile Virus (WNV) Surveillance: WNV first appeared in the U.S. in New York City in 1999 and has become well established in the United States. Birds, mammals and people can get WNV from the bite of an infected mosquito. The Vermont Departments of Health and Agriculture conduct surveillance for WNV each year from June until cold weather limits mosquito activity in the fall. In 2003, five Town Health Officers in different parts of the state also participated in the program, assisting primarily with mosquito trapping. As of September 19, 2003: 450 mosquito pools were tested, with nine positive for WNV, and three horses have tested positive (one each from Addison, Orleans and Franklin Counties). In Orange County from June-Sept. 16, 2002, 38 dead birds were reported, 13 were tested, and one found to be infected with WNV. There were no reported human or equine cases reported during this same time period.

New public health issues emerge every year. Some challenges being addressed by the Health Department include emergency preparedness and response to disease threats like SARS or potential acts of bioterrorism; expansion of substance abuse prevention and treatment; and improving health care for people with chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma and cardiovascular disease.

If you would like more information about these efforts, or if you have a public health concern, please call the White River Jct. District Office at 802-295-8820. Please visit our web site at www.HealthyVermonters.info for information on health topics, public health emergency preparedness and response, news releases, publications, reports and general public health information.

CENTRAL VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL (CVCAC)

Since 1965, the Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc. has served low-income residents of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties and nine communities in Windsor, Addison, and Rutland Counties. CVCAC's programs and services are designed to help families work toward better lives and to improve the overall quality of life in their communities. This year, CVCAC worked with nearly 9,000 individuals in 4,700 households through Head Start/Early Head Start, our Child Care Food Program, Community Economic Development programs, Family/Community Support Services, Welfare to Work programming, Weatherization assistance, Crisis Fuel resources, and Community Action Motors.

In our most recently completed program year, Central Vermont Community Action helped 36 individuals in 20 Thetford and Post Mills families with emergency assistance and comprehensive program services designed to teach important skills and help people access the resources they need to build better futures.

Here are some CVCAC program statistics for Thetford & Post Mills:

- 14 households (including 24 family members) received emergency assistance with food, shelter, Crisis Fuel, and other basic needs.
- 1 household participated in Head Start and Early Head Start programs that supported 3 family members.
- 1 household with 4 family members received weatherization assistance to help lower fuel bills an average of 20% - the equivalent of 70 gallons of fuel oil or 105 gallons of propane.
- 2 individuals participated in our Community Economic Development programs, which include micro business development, individual development accounts, the Central Vermont Revolving Loan Fund, and the Vermont Women's Business Center.
- 2 individuals participated in our Farmworkers Program designed to help agricultural workers improve their employment status and their financial outlook. Three family members benefited from comprehensive supports and services that boosted average annual earnings from \$9,000 to \$19,000.

VISITING NURSE ALLIANCE OF VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.

Home Care, Hospice and Family Health Services

The Visiting Nurse Alliance is like the local police and fire departments - a strategic part of the community's safety net - with services that must be continuously available to anyone in need. The need varies dramatically from month to month and year to year. The VNA provides a comprehensive range of care, requisitioned by hospital staff and physicians, for everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

We value the continued partnership with the Town of Thetford to help us meet your residents' home care, hospice and family health needs. Town funding accomplishes the following:

- Enables your family, friends and neighbors to remain independent and at home as they receive skilled clinical care during times of injury, recovery from surgery or accidents, disability, whether for short-term and chronic illness. For many such patients, many are addressing multiple medical, emotional and social issues at the same time.
- Provides emotional support plus pain and symptom management during terminal illness. Hospice care extends to family members as well. More and more patients want to be at home during their end of life, and through hospice they have that control.
- Provides community-wellness programs and assistance to young families at risk. Clients range from fathers and/or mothers who want to be more effective parents through learning parenting skills or providing a balanced diet; infants who require hi-tech health care; and children who grow and learn through play groups that offer interaction with other children.

The VNA provided the following services this past year: (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Skilled Nursing	508	<i>Family Support Services</i>	
Physical Therapy	133	Families served	2
Speech Therapy	179	Individuals served	7
Occupational Therapy	22		
Medical Social Worker	24	Fatherhood Program, Dads served	1
Home Health Aide	438		
Homemaker	7		
Total Visits	1371		
 		<i>Orange County Parent Child Center</i>	
<i>Hospice VNH</i>		Families	11
Patient Families served	2	Children	16
Volunteer Hours	94		
Volunteer Visits	36		
<i>MCH</i>			
Children	10		
Home Visits	87		

On behalf of the people we serve in your community, thank you for your continued confidence.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Larman, BSN, MBA
President and Chief Executive Officer



HEADREST

Headrest's mission is to develop and deliver effective programs that improve the lives of those who are addicted, homeless, in crisis, or otherwise bereft of support. Headrest services are Clinically Managed Residential Detoxification for adults, Outpatient Substance Abuse Counseling for adults and teens, and a 24/7 Crisis Information and Referral Hotline. We request annual appropriations from Vermont towns served by our Hotline that is available to their residents 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Trained hotline crisis workers with hundreds of resources at hand have been unceasingly available since 1971 to provide outstanding services to people of all ages. Understanding, non-judgmental staff and volunteers listed carefully, lending emotional support, providing emergency crisis intervention if necessary and give information and referral to callers 24-hours a day (603 448-4400). These special people have expertise in handling crisis involving the use of alcohol and drugs and suicide intervention/prevention. Headrest was awarded re-certification by the American Association of Suicidology in 2003. We answer 1-800-SUICIDE for all of Vermont and New Hampshire. Headrest answered 49 hotline calls from callers identifying themselves as Thetford resident's last fiscal year.

We wish to thank the residents of Thetford for their ongoing public support through their annual appropriation, for their private donations and for their ongoing use of our services.



MAPLE LEAF FARMS ASSOCIATES INC.

Maple Leaf Farm is one of the oldest, continuous operating treatment facilities in the country and one of the only three State licensed alcohol and drug rehabilitation centers in Vermont. The center is licensed for 33 beds, which includes an 8 bed detox unit. Maple Leaf Farm serves men and women ages 17 and older. The disease of addiction crosses all socio-economic and educational boundaries.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for persons affected by substance use, abuse and dependence. We are dedicated to this mission and provide service regardless of ability to pay which often puts us in a deficit position. We measure success through our outcome surveys, which show after 30 days post discharge 80% of those responding have remained drug/alcohol free and reported an improved or satisfactory living standard.

This year's survey data responses reflect:

Overall quality of services remains high. However, the percent of patients that would strongly recommend Maple Leaf Farm decreased from 75% to 66%.

Clinical outcomes remain high. Outcomes around quality of life and overall health improved while several of the short-term outcomes experienced slight declines.

The percent of not-accepted continues to rapidly increase and has risen from 108 to 643 patients/year over the last six years.

97% of the patients felt they received the help they needed.

Maple Leaf Farm provides refuge from stress of daily living and a safe, supportive community of peers in a drug and alcohol free environment.



VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) greatly appreciates the Town of Thetford for including a contribution to VABVI in their 2003 budget.

Our mission is to enable Vermonters with vision problems, whether blindness or impairment, to achieve and maintain independence. We were established with assistance from Helen Keller and the American Foundation for the Blind in 1926. Since then, our agency has provided services to any visually impaired Vermonter who needs them, at no cost to the client, due to the financial support we receive from individuals, businesses, civic organizations, and municipalities as well as state and federal grants.

Our services for children include teaching and support at home and in the classroom. Our Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI) instruct in Braille, and acquire materials such as textbooks in alternative formats appropriate for each child's visual impairment, whether it's Braille, large print or on audiotape. They also assist classroom teachers in instructing with less emphasis on visual learning, such as writing on the blackboard. We also plan educational overnight camps each year, so the students can exercise their independent and daily living skills in a supportive environment. In addition, we also provide transitional services for teens looking beyond high school to higher learning or independent living. We served three children in Thetford last year.

For adults, we make visits to homes to help adapt the home for safety and ease of mobility. We mark stoves, microwaves, thermostats and other appliance for ease of use and help organize pantries and closets to make cooking and other daily living tasks manageable and reasonably efficient. We provide orientation and mobility lessons, including white cane instruction, so that people can get around on their own. We sponsor Peer Assisted Learning and Support (PALS) groups, bi-monthly meetings for peer education and group support, which meet in 11 locations around the state, including Montpelier. We served two adults in Thetford last year.

Volunteers are an important part of our organization. Last year, 204 VABVI volunteers drove 181,206 miles and donated 14,631 hours of service – the equivalent of seven and a half full time employees – either by driving, reading, shopping, brailing, working in our offices or other capacities. It is in large part because of these volunteers that we spent 87 cents out of every dollar on direct services in your community last year. To become a volunteer or to learn more about our services, contact us at 1-877-350-8838 or general@vabvi.org or visit our website at www.vabvi.org.

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) teaches people with significant disabilities how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. We also conduct public education and systems change activities that promote the full inclusion of disabled people into community life.

An estimated one in five Vermonters has a disability. VCIL, a private not-for-profit corporation, is Vermont's first and only cross-disability center for independent living and the first organization in the state to be directed and staffed by a majority of people with diverse disabilities.

Statewide, from October 1, 2002 through September 11, 2003, VCIL responded to 1,974 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information and referrals on a broad range of subjects related to living with a disability. We provided one-on-one peer counseling to 342 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and life opportunities; provided 405 households with financial and technical assistance for making their bathrooms and entrances accessible to a disabled family member; provided over 340 with personal assistance and/or assistive technology; provided communications equipment to 67 deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired individuals through our Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program, and served home-delivered meals to almost 533 Vermonters through VCIL's Meals On Wheels program for Individuals Under 60 with Disabilities.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier with three smaller regional offices in Bennington, Brattleboro and Burlington. The Montpelier office houses our resource library and our toll-free information line, which provides answers to disability-related questions from every Vermont community. Our locally based Peer Advocacy Counselors are available to people with disabilities in every municipality in Vermont.

During FY 2003, VCIL provided direct services to Vermonters, utilizing the following services/programs:

1. Information & Referral
2. Home and Community Access program
3. Meals on Wheels (people with disabilities under the age of 60)
4. Peer Advocacy Counseling
5. VT Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program
6. Sue Williams Freedom Fund

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VCIL, CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-639-1522

UPPER VALLEY SERVICES, INC.

Upper Valley Services, Inc. is a private non-profit agency, which provides a variety of services to individuals with developmental disabilities in Orange County. We also provide a statewide crisis program, for the more challenging individual, which is located in Moretown, VT.

The services that we provide are as follows:

- ❖ Residential Supports – These supports range from minimal supports to individuals, 24 hour supports in a Group Home setting, and 24 hour supports through contracts with private providers, Developmental Home Providers, who take the individual into their home.
- ❖ Community and Social Supports – These supports include volunteer sites, community integration, social interaction, etc.
- ❖ Vocational supports – These supports include 1:1 training for competitive employment as well as job development services for those who do not need the continual 1:1 job support. In the Town of Bradford, we operate the Connecticut River Redemption Center as a job site for those individuals who wish to work there.
- ❖ Service Coordination – These supports are available to support natural families, guardians, consumers and providers with coordination of services needed by the consumer. Our service coordinators provide 24 hours/7 days a week emergency response.
- ❖ Assessments and Evaluations – These services determine the eligibility of any individual who requests services from Upper Valley Services. State regulations require that individuals requesting services meet specific eligibility and System of Care priority requirements.
- ❖ Crisis Services – This service is a statewide service available to any agency/family where the consumer meets entrance criteria. The Department of Developmental and Mental Health Services determines if the consumer meets the criteria for entrance into this program. This is a short-term program, usually not more than two weeks, with the assistance of families/agencies with reintroduction into their own communities.
- ❖ Family Respite – This service provides limited funding to assist families in keeping their family member with developmental disabilities within their natural home.

ORANGE COUNTY COURT DIVERSION PROGRAM

The Orange County Court Diversion Program (OCCDP) is a cost effective alternative to the criminal court system for first offenders referred by the State's Attorney. It offers both juveniles and adults an opportunity to make amends for their offenses in a way that teaches responsible behavior and deters future delinquent or criminal activities. The State's Attorney dismisses the charges of participants who successfully complete Diversion, resulting in a clean record.

The OCCDP is a local non-profit organization run by a Board of Trustees and staffed by a three-quarter time director, a one-fifth time caseworker and the 28 community volunteers from Orange County who serve as Review Board members. A volunteer citizen Review Board interviews each offender and decides who will be accepted into the program. The main criteria for acceptance into the program is an admission of wrongdoing, and no prior history of criminal activity. Each client accepted into diversion is required to discuss all issues and questions concerning their offense with the Review Board. Throughout the discussion, the client is made aware of the concerns and needs of both the victim and the community, and held responsible for the offense. The Review Board designs an individualized contract that specifies the conditions of the person's participation. Contracts may involve an apology to the victim, mediation between offender and victim, restitution, mental health or substance abuse counseling, a jail tour, community service, a donation to a worthy cause, completion of a GED, a job search, writing an essay, or other appropriate activities related to the offense. Diversion clients have performed volunteer work for local libraries, hospitals, cemeteries, road crews, recycling centers, schools, senior centers, volunteer fire departments and the like. Approx. 85% of the clients who participate in the Orange County Court Diversion program successfully completes the program. Less than 5% of the clients who successfully complete the program end up becoming repeat offenders.

The citizen Review Board replaces the judge and jury in deciding how an offender must make amends for his/her wrongdoing. This approach is a powerful way to help the offender realize the impact and seriousness of the crime to his community and its citizens. For the offender, it takes the act out of the abstract and puts it in a real context where responsibility is both unavoidable and an expected outcome of the program.

In addition to processing criminal cases from court, the Orange County Court Diversion program administers Orange County's Teen Alcohol Safety Program for first time, civil cases of underage drinking. All clients who are referred on a civil offense of underage drinking meet with our Review Board and are required, in addition to other contract conditions, to complete an alcohol assessment and any recommended follow-up counseling or treatment services.

A total of 177 clients were referred for services during the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2003. Of this amount, 104 clients were referred from juvenile and adult court for criminal offenses, and 73 clients were referred for a civil offense of underage drinking. With the exception of a few cases that were transferred from other counties throughout the state, nearly all of the client caseload represented crimes and offenses that occurred in Orange County. In cases involving criminal offenses, clients who successfully completed their Diversion contract during FY03 paid a total of \$11,747.00 in restitution to victims and victim related causes, and performed 368 hours of community service.

Orange County Court Diversion budgeted \$70,421.00 for its FY03 operating budget. Approximately 80% of the operating budget was funded by a State grant and client fees. The remaining 20% of the program's funds came from miscellaneous and local funding sources. These local sources were Green Mountain United Way, town appropriations, and individual donations. For a number of years we have been proud to be supported by appropriations from every town in Orange County.

Thank you for your continued support. Questions and additional information concerning the program should be directed to David Savidge, Executive Director, Orange County Court Diversion, P.O. Box 58, Chelsea, VT 05038. (802-685-3172)

THE FAMILY PLACE

Mission: The Family Place supports the positive growth and development of all parents by offering services that encourage families to build upon their strengths.

The Family Place Parent Child Center serves 22 towns in Vermont as well as numerous NH towns in the Upper Valley. We are committed to promoting the healthy growth and development of families with children aged birth to five. We serve all families, because parenting is the most important role in the community. At the same time, we strive to ensure that our services are available to those families who face significant challenges.

We provide parent education, playgroups, parenting skills, and family support services through home-based and center-based programs. We know that the earlier we reach children and their families, the better the chances are for them to lead successful, healthy lives and make meaningful contributions to their communities.

FAMILY PLACE HIGHLIGHTS IN FY2003 INCLUDE:

- Our Child Care Subsidy Program helped finance child care for 1065 individuals from area towns.
- Our Home Visiting Programs served 1122 individuals over the course of the year.
- We offered 6 Playgroups in area towns. A total of 842 individuals participated in and benefited from these playgroups.
- Our Family Fun Events attracted 467 parents and children.
- Our Parent Education Program served 431 individuals with parenting information and informational workshops.
- Through the efforts of Toys for Tots and the generous donations from local organizations and individuals we were able to offer Holiday Assistance to 514 individuals.
- Our on-site Child Advocacy Center has grown in both number of families served and services offered. Children up to the age of 17 are now able to access the program and we now have an on-site therapist, qualified to treat sexual abuse victims. A total of 68 children in the Upper Valley received services this year.
- There were 369 documented telephone calls for information and referral service as well as numerous walk-ins looking for assistance. We also provide a web site to assist individuals seeking information.
- Our lending library, consisting of more than 450 books and videos is popular with adults and children alike.

Our primary goal for the upcoming year is to strengthen and financially sustain our existing programs. As part of this effort, we are seriously pursuing an earned income strategy for The Family Place.

SAFELINE, INC.

Safeline Inc. is a 501 C 3 nonprofit Domestic and Sexual Violence agency serving women, men and children in Orange and upper Windsor counties in Central Vermont. Safeline Inc. offers numerous services to victims and survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence including but not limited to; a 24 hour toll free hotline service, legal advocacy, hospital and police advocacy, information and referrals, and prevention based educational programs for all ages in local schools and communities.

It is Safeline's mission to provide respite and services to victims of Domestic and Sexual abuse within Orange County and northern tier towns in Windsor County, Vermont. The overriding goal of the organization is to contribute significantly to the prevention and mitigation of such types of abuse.

Service Area:

- Safeline's catchment area has a population of 36,786.
- There are no metropolitan areas in Orange or Upper Windsor counties.
- Randolph, Vermont has the highest concentration of people at an approximate population of 4,900.
- Much of Safeline's service area is very rural; many clients live on unpaved roads, and have limited access to services.
- Some Safeline clients do not have a phone, vehicle, or even running water.

Volunteerism:

- Safeline volunteers received **514** hours of training in fiscal year 2002-2003.
- Safeline Staff hours for volunteer training equaled **186**.
- Safeline has **27** volunteers that have received **20** or more hours of specific Domestic and Sexual violence training, to meet the guidelines for Crisis Worker Privilege as defined by Vermont State Statute. (12 V.S.A 1614)
- Safeline volunteers donated **7,862** hours of time to victims and survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence.
- The Safeline Board of Directors donated approximately **540** hours of time in Fiscal year July 2002 to June 2003.
- Safeline volunteers are Vermont Law School students, artists, social workers, hairdressers, mothers, and survivors.

Safeline Inc. Fiscal Year Statistics for July 2002 to June 2003

- There were **196** victims of Domestic Violence in Orange and Upper Windsor Counties.
- Over **600** hotline calls came from victims or survivors of Domestic Violence.
- There were **32** new victims of Sexual Violence.
- Over **60** hotline calls came from victims and survivors of Sexual Violence.
- Safeline staff and volunteers provided **1914** services for victims and survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence.
- **More than 145 children in Orange and Upper Windsor counties witnessed family violence.**

- Safeline staff and volunteers spent **2000** hours increasing Domestic and Sexual Violence outreach to local communities. Some of the outreach activities included: theatrical productions, postings on bulletin boards in every town in the Safeline service area, awareness campaigns at Vermont Law school, and mailings to doctor's offices, libraries, churches, and schools.

Prevention:

- Safeline's prevention programming includes; Hands are not for Hitting, Safety Planning, Healthy Relationships, Safe Art, and Teen dating violence.
- Safeline's program educator tailors programming to each school, or communities' need.
- **870** School children came to **64** different Domestic Violence prevention programs.
- **328** School children came to **57** different Sexual Violence prevention programs.
- **845** hours of staff time was used for prevention programming.
- Community prevention programming by Safeline Inc. ranges from presentations to local Rotaries, first responders, doctors, nurses, principals, and police to informational booths at local fairs.
- There were **149 local** community prevention programs about Sexual or Domestic Violence, with **1301** professionals and community members in attendance.

Finances:

- Payroll Expenses: **\$85,647.00**
- Other Restricted expenses including rent, travel, paging, telephone and hotline costs: **\$18,751.91**
- Total Unrestricted Expenses including but not limited to; repairs, training, printing, postage, supplies, advertising, insurance, client emergencies, and education: **\$27,294.18**
- Funding Income: Private Foundation Grants: **\$18,000 (these monies were time limited, 1 year only grants)**
- Federal Funding (FVSPA, VOCA) **\$ 54,226.00.**
- SAE (Sexual Assault Education Grant) **\$7,316.**
- State of Vermont Funding: **\$40507.00.**
- Other Unrestricted Funding including but not limited to; town appropriations, fundraising, and individual contributions: **\$9709.00**
- **Total Income: \$156, 430.00**
- **Total Expenses: \$133,104.00**

Safeline Staff:

Pamela Drury

Title: Coordinator of Fund Development & Business Management

E-mail: fundbiz@valley.net

Judy Szeg: (BA) Licensed Vermont Teacher

Title: Program Educator

Email: Jszeg@sover.net

Jennifer Ryan: (BSW)

Title: Direct Service Coordinator

Email: safeline@valley.net

CENTRAL VERMONT ADULT BASIC EDUCATION, INC.

Thetford adults who want help with learning basic reading, writing, math and English as a second language may receive that help through a free program of instruction provided by Central Vermont Adult Basic Education. Men and women 16 years of age and over who are enrolled in the program also have the opportunity to study for their high school equivalency (GED) exam or the adult diploma program. In 2003, six Thetford adults were served by CVABE.

Students and teachers meet in one-to-one and/or small group sessions and design an individual learning program to suit the requirements of each adult student. This "school without walls" ties together basic literacy and math skills with such practical interest areas as child care, budgeting, filling out forms and applications, beginning computer skills, studying for a driver's permit or a Commercial Driving License (CDL), writing reports and memos and reading work related texts.

Last year, six Thetford residents were served by CVABE. Each year, volunteers are welcomed from each community and join with CVABE to help make the service accessible to everyone who needs it. For more information about Central Vermont Adult Basic Education services, you may contact:

CVABE (main office), 46 Washington Street - Suite 100, Barre, Vermont 05641, 802-476-4588
CVABE, 1 Main Street, PO Box 917, Bradford, VT 05033

BUGBEE SENIOR CENTER WHITE RIVER COUNCIL ON AGING

The Bugbee Senior Center is a multipurpose senior center which delivers a broad spectrum of services to residents over 60 and their families.

Services provided during FY 2003 were: Center and Home-Delivered Meals, transportation, advocacy, paralegal services, housing assistance, information and referral, nutrition screening and education, health clinics, volunteer opportunities, informative monthly newsletter, support groups, educational and recreational opportunities. We are the gateway into the aging network for those requiring assistance in remaining vital, independent adults.

New for 2003 are three IBM computers which can be used to access online services. Additionally, we have caring volunteers working one on one to help familiarize folks with computers. We have our own web site as well.

During FY 03, we had the privilege of providing services to 136 Thetford individuals over the age of 60 in a combination of the above listed services. During 2003, 38 Thetford residents joined us for lunch 872 times! The Bugbee Senior Center provided 975 home-delivered meals to homebound or convalescing residents of Thetford over 60. Advocacy and paralegal services were provided by appointment at the Center or individual's homes by Melanie Cash and Eleanor Zue. 1,692 copies of our newsletter (the "Bugbee Bulletin") were sent to 141 individuals in Thetford.

The Bugbee Senior Center welcomes all Thetford residents to learn more about our services. For information, you may contact Kathy Avery at 295-9068 or visit us on line at bugbeecenter.org. Ruel Barrett is the Thetford representative to our Board of Directors. Thank you to all the drivers who have given their time and effort throughout the year. We welcome your visits weekdays 8:30-4:30. We encourage your interest and participation.

Kathleen W. Avery, Executive Director

DESPERATE NEED

The "Meals on Wheels" program has a shortage of drivers to deliver meals to those who are housebound. Once a week, or, as a "standby" when a regular driver cannot make it. PLEASE call Lorraine Carbino (785-2019) or Town Clerk Tracy Borst (785-2922).

Neighbors help Neighbors.



KIDS PLACE

Kids Place is a non-profit agency based in Randolph that offers supervised visitation and parenting support for families in Orange County. Additional sites are located in Bradford and Chelsea.

Mission Statement

"The Kids Place Program provides a safe, neutral, and comfortable place for children and non-residential parents to visit and maintain family ties, no matter what else may be happening in their lives. We know that children have a great need to love both their parents and to feel loved and nurtured by both parents."

The Kids Place program makes it possible for children to see a parent who otherwise could be absent from their lives. Our goal is really quite simple. We want to help families preserve the bonds between parent and child that might otherwise be lost during the stressful and sometimes potentially violent break-ups in families. Almost always this involves working closely with the court system, judges, SRS, attorneys, and other concerned and involved parties. This is all done with the benefit and the welfare of the children placed first and foremost by Kids Place staff.

Kids Place has served over 220 families since its first year of operation in 2000. Our program is the only one of its kind in Orange County. Much of the success of our program stems from the dedication of our staff monitors. These individuals give up many hours of their time and we are profoundly grateful for their help.

If you would like additional information about the services we provide, or volunteer opportunities in your area, please call us at (802) 685-7809.

CLARA MARTIN CENTER

The Clara Martin Center's programs serve children, families, and individuals coping with behavioral challenges, emotional stress, mental illness, alcohol, and other drug problems. Services are confidential and include (but are not limited to):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Counseling ➤ Psychiatric Services ➤ Short-term crisis intervention ➤ School-based & Home-based services ➤ Education for families ➤ Community resource assistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Free Walk-in Clinic ➤ Help with job training ➤ Alcohol & other drug treatment ➤ Respite Care ➤ 24-hour emergency system |
|---|---|

WHY SHOULD YOU HELP?

The Clara Martin Center has continually demonstrated its commitment to the greater Orange County community and the 2003 calendar year has been no exception. In May, our Challenger School was awarded a long-term approval rating from the State of Vermont Department of Education. Staff was noted as being "top notch," with an overall sense of caring and flexibility regarding the needs of children.

In July, the Clara Martin Center received another three-year accreditation from CARF (Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities). This marks the 10th consecutive year in which the Agency has been accredited. A rigorous peer review demonstrated the Agency's adherence to internationally recognized standards. Strengths identified, include the following:

- "Staff members throughout all areas of the organization demonstrate dedication and a commitment to providing quality services to individual persons served and the local community."
- "The collaboration between CMC and other healthcare providers in the community allows for a more thorough and comprehensive approach to the care of persons served."
- "The organization takes pride in and emphasizes maintaining a safe environment for the staff members and the persons served."

Consumers Served by Program in 2003:

Children & Family Services	635
Adult Services	474
CSP Services	180
Substance Abuse Services	1,140
Walk-in Clinic Services	106
Emergency Contacts	<u>2,274</u>
Total Served:	4,809

Total Served from Thetford:

Children & Family Services	21
Adult Services	18
CSP Services	6
Substance Abuse Services	23
Walk-in Clinic Services	<u>1</u>
Total Served:	69

Additionally, the Clara Martin Center provides services within the Thetford school system through our Student Assistance Program two days a week, which offers students access to substance abuse education and counseling, in addition to other services of the Clara Martin Center.

**CSP is our community support program that serves the chronically mentally ill population.*

ACORN AIDS COMMUNITY RESOURCE NETWORK

Although the HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to worsen throughout the developing world, the Upper Valley is not immune to the heartbreak of this incurable virus. ACORN (Aids Community Resource Network) remains committed to our twofold mission: We support people affected by HIV to live fully and with dignity and we offer prevention information to help stop the spread of the virus. All of our services are free and available to anyone living in Grafton and Sullivan Counties of New Hampshire and Windsor and Orange Counties of Vermont.

In the past year, ACORN provided professional case management and program services to 65 clients living with HIV and support services to 130 affected family members. We distributed more than \$46,000 of emergency financial assistance directly to our clients to support their basic housing, health and nutritional needs. Also, ACORN offered support groups, transportation and hospital visitations for those infected with HIV. Our Educational Coordinator took the message of HIV prevention to hundreds of school and college students. In addition, ACORN continued to offer anonymous HIV testing, both in our office as well as at community sites.

We thank you for your continued support. Please contact us for any additional information or for any services.



THETFORD FOOD SHELF

After a hectic year of renovations and relocating, the Thetford Food Shelf once again provided for all who needed it.

Our annual Christmas project has been a continued success. The local churches and other individuals provided families with a large array of toys, games and clothing. Though we lacked the space to assemble food baskets this year, the Food Shelf included gift certificates to area supermarkets in their place.

Special thanks to Helen Huff, her assistants and the Cadette Girl Scouts for assembling and delivering our annual "Remembrance Bags." This year we were fortunate to include many donated Vermont items, cheese, crackers, coffee, maple syrup, along with jams, nuts, candies, spring bulbs and a small loaf of fruit bread provided by the ladies of the Thetford Baptist Church.

We would also like to recognize the many food drives held by our area churches and schools, and the goods they provide. USDA commodities continue to be distributed monthly to recipients. In addition to groceries, the Food Shelf, with the assistance of the Trustees of Trust Funds, is also able to provide financial for fuel, utilities or other necessary expenses in times of need.

Though we are still in the process of adjusting to our new and more limited space, we look forward to another busy year. The continuing support of the Food Shelf by donations of money and food is truly appreciated.

Roberta Howard
Volunteer Food Shelf Coordinator
Town Service Officer

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT
MARCH 1, 2003**

The legal voters of the Town of Thetford in the County of Orange and the State of Vermont are hereby warned to meet in Anderson Hall, Thetford Academy, in the town of Thetford, on Saturday, March 1 2003 at 9:00 am, to transact the following business. Meeting called to order at 9:10 am. Thetford Girl Scouts presented the colors in a flag ceremony. Elmer Brown, Tod Moses, Joe Tofel and a fourth gentleman sang the National Anthem. Pastor John Hartley of the Thetford Baptist Church offered an invocation. Joe Tofel called attention to persons who had passed away over the previous year. Mark McMahon, chair of the Selectboard, introduced candidates for Town and School Offices. Moderator Tofel introduced two new Town Officers - Police Chief Philip Call, and Road Commissioner Frank Thurston.

ARTICLE 1 *To hear and act on the reports of the Town.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Michael Brown. Unanimous by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 2 *Shall the Town have all taxes raised in the Treasurer's Office on or before Wednesday, October 15th, 2003, by 5:00 pm. After this deadline, interest of 1% per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter 1.5% per month or fraction and 8% penalty will be due the Town.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by William Halsey. Passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 3 *Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to borrow money for current expenses in anticipation of taxes.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by William Halsey. Passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 4 *Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to pay off any outstanding debts ahead of schedule if funds are available.*

Moved by Mary Spata, seconded by Michael Brown. Passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 5 *Shall the Town vote to authorize the delinquent tax collector to collect delinquent property taxes in payments sufficient to pay total due within 6 months of the due date.*

Moved by Rick Barrows, seconded by Mark McMahon. Rick Barrows spoke to the Article. Rik Fowle requested a motion to include payment plans. The text of his amended Article would read, "Shall the Town vote to authorize the delinquent tax collector to collect delinquent property taxes in payments sufficient to pay total due within 6 months of the due date, or establish a payment plan." Nancy Stanley requested that payment plans be tailored to fit individual situations. Elisheva Landman supported the notion of all taxes paid before the next bill was due. Faith Alexandre and Frances Rich asked about current policy. Jim Masland called the question. Seconded by Larry Shaper. Vote to close debate passed. Article as amended would read, "Shall the Town vote to authorize the delinquent tax collector to collect delinquent property taxes in payments sufficient to pay total due within 6 months of the due date, or establish a payment plan

that will pay off taxes before the next bill is due." Jim Masland spoke about the difference between the word "authorize" and "require". There is some discretion built into the wording. The Article as amended passed by a show of voter cards. Pam Kneisel spoke about timeliness of tax sales in light of rising tax amounts, not wanting people to lose their houses after six months.

ARTICLE 6 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$ 507,398.08 for the budgeted expenditures of the Town General Fund.*

Moved by Rick Barrows, seconded by Mark McMahon. Rick spoke to the Article, pointing out increased expenses, specifically, solid waste hauling of \$ 50,000.00, (offset by an identical amount in revenue.) Other expenses included a new copier in the Clerk's Office, and work at Treasure Island. Laurie Ingalls asked about Fire Department expenses, surplus. Mark McMahon responded that there was personal gear that was purchased but not paid for in 2002. Phil Call offered further explanation of the Police budget. Richard Krzal asked about Treasure Island, if it would ever be self-supporting. Rick Barrows responded no, not for a while at least, until repairs can be made to make the facility more desirable. Mark McMahon assured the meeting that the Board of Selectmen would look into the way the buildings are taxed by Fairlee and West Fairlee. Diana Wright asked about large unanticipated revenues. Gary Ulman asked about establishing a non-profit trust for Treasure Island. Jim Masland offered to help look into the prospect. Article 6 carried by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 7 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$ 432,085.90 for the budgeted expenditure of the Highway Department.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by William Halsey. Jean Thurston asked about roads to be repaved. Sawnee Bean Road and a part of Robinson Hill Road are scheduled, but due to the increasing costs in asphalt, the Town may have to cut back in their plans. Ann Swanson asked about additional costs on Tucker Hill Road. Mark explained that the Town did the shoulder work, instead of the paving contractor, resulting in higher labor costs. The Town received grant funds due to the change from Class III to Class II (\$ 91,000.00), allowing more paving (the entire road) to be done in one year. Polly Cole asked about work to be done on Sayer Bridge and portion of Tucker Hill Road from Bridge to Route 113. Also under consideration is Main Street in Union Village, and the Barker Road intersection. Re: Sayre Bridge - decking will not be replaced this year. Because the Town is already utilizing a Federal Grant for an over-height warning system for the bridge, no new Federal funds may be used. Richard Krzal asked why the paving funds were nearly \$ 100,000.00 more than budgeted. Mark explained that the over-expenditure was offset by a \$ 91,000.00 state grant, and that maintaining the continuity of the surface was important. Ellis Paige asked about variances in costs vs. budget figures. Vehicle repair expenses have been high, and some of that was due to abuse. That is being addressed with more experienced personnel in administrative positions. Department plans to do approximately 15 miles of resurfacing. Ellis also asked about Equipment and Payment line item - what is it? Pam Kneisel asked about deviating from the paving schedule to save money. Article 7 passed (without amendment).

ARTICLE 8 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$75,000.00, to be added to \$63,000.00 in existing funds, to establish the Town Recycling Center permanently.*

Moved by Sara Ferguson, seconded by Michael Brown. Sara spoke to the Article, indicating that the funds were being requested for a permanent site, but that the amount was a guess. Richard Krzal inquired about the vote two years ago that established the Town's choice of a site. Sara indicated that initial site work indicated that ledge found onsite severely limits what can be done

there. The lowest estimate for the site was over \$ 100,000.00, for just site work, no buildings or improvements. Mary Spata offered an amendment which would read, "Shall the Town raise the sum of \$75,000.00, to be added to \$63,000.00 in existing funds, to establish the Town Recycling Center and solid waste removal permanently." Chris Levey reminded the public that the Recycling Center is a great social location, and that has a value to the Town. Frances Rich asked about the cost of curbside pickup. Nancy Stanley offered that there was too much uninvestigated to raise that sum of money. The site is presently on leased land. There is a contract for purchase signed for \$ 50,000.00. Gary Ulman related a conversation he had with the Vershire Selectboard, that costs in Vershire were down, due to doing the collection "in house," rather than contracting the service out. Mary Bryant asked about siting the Recycling Center at the former Post Mills Landfill site. Tod Moses asked about the state requirements for Recycling and Rubbish Removal. Diana Wright asked about implications of approval or disapproval of the Article. Lynn Miller asked why we don't just buy the present site? Rick Barrows responded that the drawback with the present site is the impact on the neighbors. Judy Bowden indicated that Hartford has curbside recycling, but that it has become expensive. Lucy Young recommended approving the Article, giving the Selectboard discretionary funds to use for recycling/solid waste. Katrin Tchana asked if turning down the Article would indicate that the meeting wanted more information. Sara Ferguson responded yes. Myree Muller asked about the makeup of the committee, and felt that the Article should be turned down based on lack of information. Albert Gollnick offered the following amendment: "Shall the Town raise the sum of \$75,000.00, to be added to \$63,000.00 in existing funds, to establish the Town Recycling fund and solid waste removal permanently." Martha Howard and Mark McMahon indicated that the original money raised was for the establishment of a Recycling Center, and that did not include Solid Waste. Moderator Tofel withdrew the motions that included Solid Waste, due to the wording of the original Special Revenue appropriation. Judy Bowden offered further explanation of the history of recycling in Thetford. Myree Muller called the question. Motion to close debate passed. Article 6 (as warned) passed with a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 9 *Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to contract with a private hauler for removal of solid waste.*

Moved by Mary Spata, seconded by William Halsey. Sara Ferguson spoke to the Article. This Article was amended to read: "Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to contract for removal of solid waste." Are there other companies available to remove solid waste? Tim Taylor offered the suggestion that the word "contract" wasn't appropriate, as it related to the Town providing the service. Fred Thomas asked about the relevance of the Article - the Selectboard would have to come back to the meeting. Motion by Cyrus Severance to close debate. Motion carried. Amendment passed with a show of voter cards. Article 9 as amended passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 10 *Shall the Town vote to change from our current ambulance service, Upper Valley Ambulance, to the Town of Hanover Ambulance service.*

Moved by Mary Spata, seconded by Mark McMahon. Mary Spata explained that the Article is moot, as Hanover is unable/unwilling to provide the service. Mel Maxfield asked why the Selectboard hadn't done their homework before the Warning was written. Mark answered that the timeline was such that the Board didn't have an answer to the question in time. The motion to pass over carried by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 11 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$45,000.00 to be added to the Highway Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by William Halsey. Marian Fifield asked about the accounting for the proposed Fire Department fund - would the funds be accounted for separately? Lynne Miller asked about being more conservative with the amounts. Mark replied that the amount was reasonable, in light of the costs of truck replacement. Article 11 passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 12 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$25,000.00 to be added to the Highway Capital Equipment Replacement Fund to be used for future fire truck replacements.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Mary Spata. Mark explained that allowing the Fire Department's Equipment to be included in the Highway Equipment Fund would have allowed for the truck recently purchased to be financed through the State Municipal Bond Funds, at significantly lower interest, rather than through conventional funding (a bank). The Article passed by a show of voter cards.

Moderator Tofel introduced Senator Mark MacDonald, who spoke to the meeting about the state of Vermont's economy. Moderator Tofel introduced Vermont's Poet Laureate and Thetford resident, Grace Paley. Ms. Paley invited the meeting to the Statehouse on Wednesday night for a reception.

Jim Masland, State Representative addressed the meeting, informing the meeting as to what was happening in Montpelier. Jim introduced Ann Siebert, Thetford's other representative. Ann spoke about the new Federal "No Child Left Behind" program, and other education funding issues.

Mark McMahon presented the Civic Pride Award to Claudine Moore for her years of involvement with Seniors, Schoolchildren, and the Community at large.

Paul Raymond presented an award to retiring Town Clerk and Treasurer Roberta Howard. A brass plaque will be installed in the Town Offices which describes her years of service to the town.

Meeting reconvened at 1:17 PM. Moderator Tofel mentioned the Annual Senator Bill Doyle questionnaire. Moved by Marjorie Thomas, seconded by Michael Brown. Voted to suspend rules, without objection, to allow School Meeting to take place, with balance of Town Meeting to follow. The Town Meeting reconvened at 3:50 PM.

ARTICLE 13 *Shall the Town authorize the purchase of a new dump truck to replace Truck #2 at a cost not to exceed \$75,000, to be financed through the Highway Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by William Halsey. No discussion, Article 13 passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 14 *Shall the Town authorize the purchase of a used pickup truck, at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.00 for the Highway Department. The \$3,500.00 would be spent from the Highway Capital Equipment Replacement Fund.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Myree Muller. Mark McMahon spoke to the Article - there are sources available through surplus which may end up being less expensive than this amount. No further discussion. Article 14 passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 15 *Shall the Town authorize changing the Union Village Bridge Special fund to a new Special Bridge Maintenance fund. This fund would be used for future major construction expenses on Town bridges. Any money spent from this fund would require a vote at the Annual Town Meeting.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Fran Haugen. This Article would allow the Board to utilize funds for future repairs. It is funds raised by the Town and unspent on the Union Village Bridge project. Fran Haugen commented that the Union Village Bridge. Bill Halsey offered an amendment, deleting the words "the Annual". No further discussion on the amendment. Amendment passed by a show of voter cards. Further discussion re: lighting at the UV Covered Bridge – less visible fixtures, motion sensors that would allow the lights to be off except when needed. The Article as amended passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 16 *Shall the Town authorize the spending of \$5,000.00 from the Special Bridge Maintenance fund to match State funds for the repairs and reconstruction of the T. H. #55 Bridge #20, Stowell Rd. Bridge.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Michael Brown. Mark spoke to the Article, indicating that the repairs to the bridge resulted from a bridge inspection report that found the bridge to be inadequate. No further discussion, the Article passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 17 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$5,000.00 to match State funds for the repairs and reconstruction of the T. H. #55 Bridge #20, Stowell Rd. Bridge.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Michael Brown. Moved to pass over, in light of passage of Articles 15 and 16. Motion to pass over seconded and passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 18 *Shall the Town authorize the spending of up to \$1,300.00 from the Special Emergency Management fund for the installation of a generator hook-up at the renovated Town Hall.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Michael Brown. Mark spoke to the Article, indicating that this was designed to update the present capability of the Town Offices to function as a communications center. Article passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 19 *Shall the Town vote to eliminate the office of Town Auditors and contract with a licensed public accountant to perform an annual financial audit of all funds of the Town, under the authority of VSA, Title 17, Section 2651b.*

Moved by Rick Barrows, seconded by Michael Brown. Amendment proposed by Rick Barrows was withdrawn. Further discussion about the need for the Article ensued, including questions about the need to eliminate the Board entirely. The offices have been vacant for 6+ years, and there has been no interest. If it was decided that the Board should be reinstated, that could be accomplished at a warned Town Meeting. A paper ballot vote was taken, the results were as follows: 86 yes, 3 no.

ARTICLE 20 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$9,800.00 for the Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc.*

Moved by Mark McMahon, seconded by Myree Muller. Michael Shoob spoke to the Article, calling attention to the need for the service in Thetford. No further discussion, the Article passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 21 *Shall the Town raise the sum of \$300.00 for Safeline.*

Moved by Charlie Buttrey, seconded by Michael Brown. Charlie spoke to the Article, describing the services of the organization. No further discussion, Article 21 passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 22 *Be it resolved that the Town of Thetford fly the POW MIA flag under the American flag in front of Town Hall on six national holidays (Armed Forces, Memorial, Flag, Independence, National POW MIA Recognition and Veterans Day).*

Moved by Fred Adams, seconded by Gary Ulman. Fred Adams spoke to the Article, Murray Burk spoke against the Article, stating that the POW/MIA issue has been used in foreign policy debates. Robert Pulaski also asked about the relevance of a POW/MIA flag. Grace Paley spoke in favor of an international flag that would honor all POW/MIAs. Tod Moses spoke in favor of the Article. Rick Barrows called the POW/MIA request an "issue," not something that should be considered on par with any other special interest. Barbara Payson spoke against the Article. The Article was defeated by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 23 *Be it resolved that the citizens of the Town of Thetford urgently call upon our municipal leaders, state legislators, governor, and the congressional delegation to put Vermont in the forefront of sustainable energy future. Specifically, we request immediate and ongoing action on legislative initiatives designed to promote energy efficiency in Vermont homes, businesses, public buildings, and transportation systems, and to encourage expansion of the renewable energy industry in the state of Vermont.*

Moved by Bob Walker, seconded by Michael Brown. Bob Walker spoke to the Article. The Article passed by a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 24 A Resolution calling on the state administration and legislature to increase education fund payments to school districts to reduce property taxes; Resolved by the citizens of the Town of Thetford, as follows:

WHEREAS, Act 60 created a State Education Fund with revenues principally coming from the property tax supplemented with State General Fund revenues; and

WHEREAS, the inflationary growth in the value of real property in Vermont has resulted in significant growth in revenues from the property tax in the Education Fund while State General Fund resources for education have not increased to match the growth in education spending; and

WHEREAS, under Act 60 the state contribution to local education funding is principally derived from the statewide education tax rate, set at \$1.10 since adoption. However, the education block grant to local school districts has grown at a rate considerably less than the inflationary growth in statewide property values; and

WHEREAS, local school districts are highly dependent upon the property tax, while the State General Fund has at least 17 major broad-based taxes at its disposal; and

WHEREAS, the State annually sets for all municipalities an Equalized Education Grand List which is adjusted for the inflationary growth in local property values and said adjustment is represented, in part, by a measure known as the Common Level of Appraisal; and

WHEREAS, the single largest contributor to the estimated increase in many FY 2004 local school tax rates, as it was in the FY 2003 school tax rates, is estimated to be the adjustment for the Common Level of Appraisal; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the additional property tax revenue received by the State through the annual adjustment to the Equalized Education Grand List when coupled with the more modest growth in the education block grant will result in continued growth in surpluses in the Education Fund and will not result in an equitable distribution of funds to offset the growth in local education tax rates;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the citizens of the Town of Thetford call on the Governor and the members of the Vermont Legislature to take the necessary action to increase the education block grant or reduce the statewide property tax rate in an effort to reverse the trend of increasing school property taxes.

Moved and seconded. Rick Barrows spoke to the resolution, supporting its intent. Laurie Ingalls spoke to equalizing assessment across the state, at the local (Listers) level. Article 24 passed with a show of voter cards.

ARTICLE 25 To transact any other business.

Joe Tofel said a few words about Democracy, and the way that the meeting was conducted is a testament to Democracy's effectiveness. No further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

ARTICLE 26 *To elect Town and School Officers.*

Article shall be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 4, 2003.

A True Records, Attest:

Joseph Tofel
Town Moderator

Mark McMahon
Selectboard Chair

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS - TOWN OFFICERS - MARCH 4, 2003

TOWN MODERATOR, 1 YEAR	
JOSEPH TOFEL	717
WRITE INS	6
BLANK	120
TOTAL	843
TOWN CLERK, 1 YEAR	
TRACY BORST	361
SARA FERGUSON	167
LAURIE INGALLS	197
TIM MOORE	84
WRITE INS	5
BLANK	29
TOTAL	843
TOWN TREASURER, 1 YEAR	
MARTHA HOWARD	756
WRITE INS	11
BLANK	76
TOTAL	843
DEL. TAX COLLECTOR, 1 YR	
MARTHA HOWARD	555
ROXY MAXFIELD	227
WRITE INS	2
BLANK	59
TOTAL	843
SELECTMAN, 3 YEAR	
MARY SPATA	666
WRITE INS	16
SPOILED	4
BLANK	157
TOTAL	843

SELECTMAN, 2 YEAR	
RICHARD BARROWS	651
WRITE INS	18
SPOILED	1
BLANK	173
TOTAL	843
GRAND JUROR, 1 YEAR	
WRITE INS	25
SPOILED	4
BLANK	814
TOTAL	843
AGT TO PROSECUTE/DEFEND	
WRITE INS	15
SPOILED	1
BLANK	827
TOTAL	843
AGT TO CONVEY REAL ESTATE	
WRITE INS	13
BLANK	830
TOTAL	843
LISTER, 2 YEAR	
ROXY MAXFIELD	656
WRITE INS	4
BLANK	183
TOTAL	843
LISTER, 3 YEAR	
DENISE ADAMS	669
BLANK	174
TOTAL	843

BUDGET COMMITTEE, 2 YR	
WRITE INS	23
BLANK	820
TOTAL	843
BUDGET COMMITTEE, 3 YR	
WRITE INS	14
SPOILED	1
BLANK	828
TOTAL	843
BUDGET COMMITTEE, 2 YR	
LYNNE MILLER	599
WRITE INS	5
BLANK	239
TOTAL	843
TTE OF TRUST FUNDS, 3 YR	
FREDERICK HOWARD	667
WRITE IN	1
BLANK	175
TOTAL	843
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER, 3 YR	
ANDREW MARTIN	679
WRITE INS	3
BLANK	161
TOTAL	843
LIBRARY TRUSTEE, 4 YR	
GWEN GENSLER	647
WRITE IN	1
BLANK	195
TOTAL	843
LIBRARY TRUSTEE, 4 YR	
DARLA LAROCHE	667
WRITE INS	3
BLANK	173
TOTAL	843

OFFICIAL VOTING RESULTS - SCHOOL BUDGET RE-VOTE - MAY 13, 2003	
YES	345
NO	455
BLANK	1
SPOILED	1
TOTAL	802

OFFICIAL VOTING RESULTS - SCHOOL BUDGET RE-VOTE - JUNE 24, 2003	
YES	497
NO	382
BLANK	1
TOTAL	880

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PERMITS NEEDED

ACCESS FROM HIGHWAYS

A written permit is required from the Select Board for any access from property to State Aid roads and all town roads. Anyone building or wishing to drive to his property from these roads must obtain a permit.

Section 43: "It shall be unlawful to develop, construct or re-grade any driveway entrance or approach, or build a fence or building, or deposit material of any kind within, or in any way affect the grade of a highway right-of-way, or obstruct a ditch, culvert, or drainage course that drains a highway, or fill or grade the land adjacent to a highway so as to divert the flow of water to the highway right-of-way, without a written permit from the Board of Selectmen." VSA 19:1-64 Act 460.

ZONING PERMITS

No building construction or land development may commence or no land or structure may be devoted to a new changed use within the Town without a Zoning Permit duly issued by the Zoning Administrator as provided for in the Zoning Ordinance for the Town of Thetford. Any business use carried on within the home requires a Home Occupation permit or Conditional Use approval by the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

SUBDIVISION PERMITS

No subdivision of land may legally occur without a hearing before the Thetford Planning Commission. The placing of a second dwelling on a lot constitutes a subdivision (Thetford Subdivision Regulations, Section 2.44). Application forms and copies of the Thetford Subdivision Regulations are available in the Town Clerk's Office. Sometimes there can be confusion over the meaning of the regulations. The Zoning Administrator and/or members of the Thetford Planning Commission or Zoning Board of Abatement will be glad to try to informally answer questions. A sub-divider is also welcome to come before the Planning Commission during one of its regularly scheduled meetings to ask questions. Meetings are held the first and fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7:30 pm, at the Town Hall.

FLOOD HAZARD AREA ZONING BY-LAW

A comprehensive Flood Hazard Zoning By-Law was adopted by the Select Board on July 31, 1978. This By-Law regulates all new construction and development used prescribed by the Thetford Zoning Ordinance, which fall within the federally-designed flood hazard areas, within 100 feet of these boundaries, or within 100 feet from the centerline of any stream designated as a flood hazard area. Copies of this By-Law may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.

~ continued on following page ~

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS – CONSTRUCTION PERMIT (FOR NEW SYSTEM OR REPAIR OF SYSTEM)

A Sewage Disposal Construction Permit must be obtained for the following:

1. New homes (including trailers, camps, or any other type of dwelling).
2. Any repairs or alterations to existing septic systems.

The sewage disposal system must be designed by a licensed engineer, an application (available from the Town Clerk) must be submitted with engineering drawings. A \$75.00 application fee is charged.

After the completed application and plans are received, the Town Health Officer will review the plans and issue a Construction Permit if the plans meet State and Local Septic regulations.

OCCUPANCY PERMIT

A designer/engineer must make inspections during the construction of the septic system. The Health Officer may also make inspections. When the inspections are complete, the designer/engineer will submit a written report to the Health Officer. If the system has been built as specified in the approved plans, an Occupancy Permit will be issued. The house may not be occupied until this permit is issued.

ADDITIONS

The septic system capacity must be reviewed before additions to existing buildings can be approved for construction.



THETFORD INFORMATION

~ continued from inside front cover ~

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meets 2nd Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
Latham Library

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 PM
Elementary School



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

~ LATHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY ~

Thetford Hill
785-4361

Peter Blodgett, Librarian
Hours:

Monday: 2:00-8:30 PM
Tuesday & Thursday: 2:00-5:00 PM
Wednesday: 10:00-5:00 PM
Friday: 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday: 10:00-1:00 PM

~ PEABODY LIBRARY ~

Post Mills
333-9724

Peter Blodgett, Librarian
Hours:

Tuesday: 5:00-8:00 PM
Wednesday: 2:00-8:30 PM

~ THETFORD HISTORICAL LIBRARY ~

Thetford Hill
Marian Fifield 785-2430
Charles Latham 333-4613

Hours:

Monday & Thursday: 2:00-4:00 PM
Tuesday: 10:00 to Noon
or by appointment, call 785-2068

CHURCHES

~ THETFORD BAPTIST CHURCH ~

East Thetford
785-2050

Rev. John Hartley

~ NORTH THETFORD FEDERATED CHURCH ~

North Thetford
333-4429

Rev. Gail Dimick

~ POST MILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ~

Post Mills
333-9352

Rev. Roger Daum

~ FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ~

Thetford Hill
785-2915

Rev. Thomas Kinder

~TIMOTHY FROST METHODIST CHURCH ~

Thetford Center
785-2167

Rev. Bertha Brown

~ UNION VILLAGE METHODIST CHURCH ~

Union Village
295-3266

**Town of Thetford
Thetford Center, VT 05075**

**U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PRE-SORT STANDARD**

PERMIT #6

**TOWN OF THETFORD
05075-0126**

Thetford Residents – Please see that your E-911 House Numbers are in place!!!

PRE-TOWN MEETING

Monday, February 23, 2004
7:30 PM

Thetford Town Offices



TOWN MEETING

Saturday, February 28, 2004
9:00 AM

Anderson Hall
Thetford Academy



**ELECTION OF TOWN AND
SCHOOL OFFICERS**

Tuesday, March 2, 2004
8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Thetford Center Community
Building

State Library
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609-0601