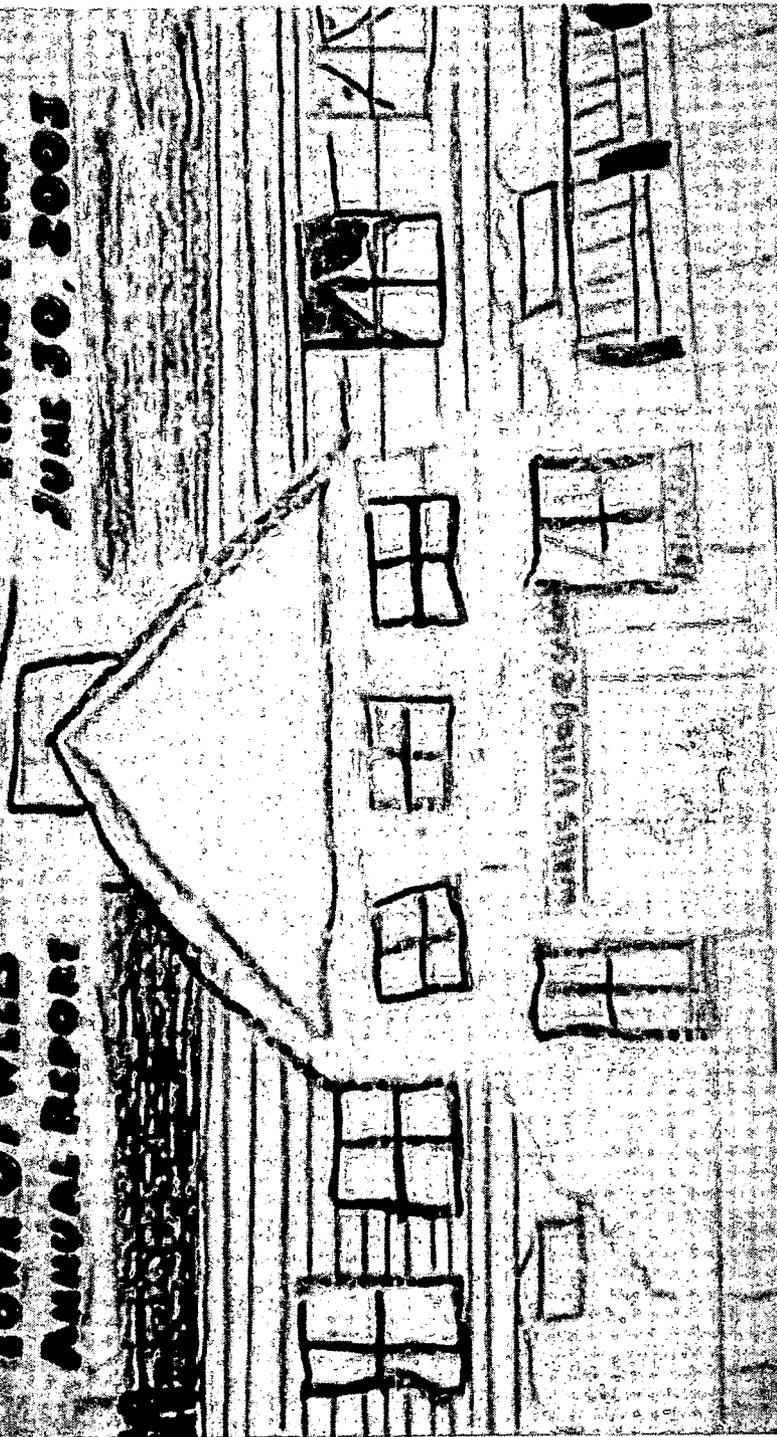


**TOWN OF WELLS
ANNUAL REPORT**

**FISCAL YEAR
JUNE 30, 2003**



WELLS VILLAGES

Artwork by Alison Dunlap

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 1, 2003	Fiscal year begins
September 10, 2003	First payment of Property Taxes Due
November 10, 2003	Second payment of Property Taxes Due
March 1, 2004	Town Meeting (Business Meeting) Wells School Multi-Purpose Room at 7:00 p.m.
March 2, 2004	Annual Town Meeting – Polls for Australian Ballot Will open at 10:00 a.m. and will close promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the M.W.A. Hall
March 10, 2004	Third payment for Property Taxes due
May 10, 2004	Fourth payment of Property Taxes Due. Property Taxes must be paid in full to avoid 8% penalty.
June 30, 2004	Fiscal year ends

Selectboard meet every other Tuesday in the Wells School Building at 7:00 pm
School Board meet 2nd Wednesday of month at Wells School at 7:00 pm

Town Office Hours

Town Clerk	Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
		Also By Appointment
Treasurer	Monday – Friday	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
		Also By Appointment
Library Hours	Monday	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
	Wed & Fri	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Church Services	Episcopal	8:45 am Sunday
	Methodist	9:15 am Sunday



ELECTIVE TOWN OFFICIALS

Office	Name	Term	Expires
Moderator	Norm Brown	1	2004
Town Clerk	Katharine R. Bergen	3	2004
Town Treasurer	Donald Reed	3	2004
Select Board	Robert Combs	3	2004
	Kenneth Littlewood	3	2005
	Sharon Brown	3	2006
Listers	Linda Knipes	3	2004
	Steven Schinski	3	2004
	Vacant	3	2007
Constables	1 st Norman Brown	1	2004
	2 nd David Chalmers	1	2004
School Directors	Charity Downs	3	2005
	Colleen Harrison	3	2006
	Meredith Pratt	3	2004
Town Agent	Donna Lamb	1	2004
Grand Juror	Joel Davidson	1	2004
Library Trustees	Virginia Fenton	5	2004
	Jima VanGuilder	5	2005
	Judyann Bremer	5	2006
	Angela Thomas	5	2004
	Claire Atkinson	5	2008
Justice of the Peace	Sharon Brown (D)	2	2004
	Expires Arthur Daly (D)	2	2004
	Jan. 15, 2004 Barbara Goodspeed (R)	2	2004
	Phyllis Reed (R)	2	2004
	Paul Woodruff, Sr. (R)	2	2004

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MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

1. *(Not less than 40 days before Town Meeting)* Last day to file petitions signed by at least five percent of voters with the Town Clerk for articles to be included in Town Meeting warnings. 17:2642(a)
2. *(40 days before Town Meeting)* the legislative body has its first opportunity to warn the annual Town Meeting and the Presidential Primary for Major Party Candidates, and post the warning and notices in two public places and in or near the Town Clerk's office. 17:2641(a), 17:2642, 17:2701
3. *(Sixth Monday before election)* 5:00 PM deadline for filing with the Town Clerk nominating petitions for town offices to be filled by Australian Ballot. (17:2681(a))
4. *(Within 24 hours of receipt)* Town Clerk must return nominating petitions found not to conform, stating in writing the reasons why they cannot be accepted. 17:2681(e)
5. *(Wednesday after filing deadline)* 5:00 PM deadline for candidates to file written consent for the candidate's name to be on the ballot. 17:2681(a)
6. *(Wednesday after filing deadline)* 5:00 PM deadline for a person to withdraw after he or she has consented to be nominated. 17:2681(d)
7. *(Wednesday after filing deadline)* 5:00 PM deadline for candidates to file supplementary if initial petition was not accepted. 17:2681(e)
8. *(Not less than 30 days before Town Meeting)* Last day for municipality to post warning of Town Meeting and notice of Presidential Primary for Major Party Candidates. Instructions for voting procedures and contact information shall also be posted. 17:2641(a), 2642, 2521(a)
9. The most recent checklist of the town should also be posted at this time, wherever the warning and notice is posted. 17:2141, 2501, 2521(a)

(Second Monday before the election) Town Clerk's office must be open from 10:00 AM or earlier until at least 12:00 noon for the purpose of receiving applications for addition to the checklist. 17:2532(b)(c)

10. *(On any of the three days immediately preceding the first Tuesday in March)* Towns who have voted to do so must hold the open meeting portion of their annual Town Meeting (at a time set by the select board). 17:2640(b)(c)

11. *(One day preceding the first Tuesday in March)* In towns using the Australian Ballot, an early or absentee voter, or an authorized family member or health care provider acting on the voter's behalf, may request an early or absentee ballot until 5:00 PM or the closing of the Town Clerk's office. 17:2531(a), 2532(a)

TOWN INFORMATION

Dog Licenses

All dogs six (6) months of age or older shall annually, on or before April 1, be licensed. RABIES certificates must be signed by a duly licensed veterinarian and delivered to the Town Clerk stating that the dog has within the past 24 months (for dogs 2 years of age and older) or 6 months (for dogs over one but less than two years), been vaccinated against rabies, **BEFORE** any dog is licensed. April 1 is the last day a license may be obtained without a penalty of 50% being assessed.

Regular License Fees:

Neutered male or spayed female	\$5.00
Male or female not neutered/spayed	\$9.00



Dog Ordinance

Pursuant to Title 24, Chapter 59, Section 2291 (10), (14), & (15); Section 3549 of Title 20, Vermont Statutes Annotated, the Select Board of the Town of Wells has adopted an ordinance to regulate dogs in the Town of Wells, to wit:

“Uncontrolled Dog” as a dog owned and kept by any person, which is running at large within the Town, including a dog, while on any public way or place, which is not under restraint. A dog is under restraint within the meaning of the ordinance if it is controlled by a leash not more than eight (8) feet long, or is “at heel” beside a competent person and obedient to that person’s commands, or is on or within a vehicle. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to require the leashing of any dog while on private property by permission of the property owner or his agent, or to restrict the use of dogs for lawful hunting. An uncontrolled dog shall include all dogs which, by reason of habitual or frequent barking, howling or yelping, disturb the peace and quiet of surrounding landowners.

The ordinance was adopted on May 30, 1995, and took effect on July 30, 1995. The full text of the ordinance can be found in the Town Clerk’s office.

TOWN INFORMATION

Fire Permit



Contact our Fire Warden, Harold Bates, 802-645-0286, for information on outside burn permits.

Transfer Station



Transfer Station permits are available at the Town Office to residents with 911 addresses, in Wells. Permit fee us \$7.00 per vehicle and \$2.50 for each additional vehicle. The Transfer Station is located on Bull Frog Hollow Road.

Hours: Mon., Wed., and Sun 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Transfer Station Attendant: Bob O'Grady

Voting



To vote in a Town election, one must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America
- Be 18 years of age, or over
- Have taken the Freeman's Oath in the State of Vermont
- Have his or her name appear on the Voter Checklist no later than 7 days before election

Please contact the Town Clerk for an application to the Voter Checklist.

TOWN INFORMATION

Absentee Voter Information:

The voter who expects to be absent or who wishes to vote at home should apply for an absentee ballot before noon the day before the election. The application form for the absentee voter ballot may be requested from the Town Clerk by mail, phone or in person. The request for the application may be made by the voter or a family member. Anyone else must request the absentee ballot in writing and must show proof that he or she is authorized by the voter to do so (VSA 2532). The applicant must provide the Town Clerk with the following information:

1. His/her name
2. Current address

The voter may also vote early at the Town Clerk's office until the day before the election. The application and any relevant information accompanying it must be kept by the Town Clerk.

Deadlines:

Monday, February 23, 2004 at 4 PM is the last day for application to Voter checklist.

Monday, March 1, 2004 at 5 PM, last day for early or absentee ballots to be picked up for the March 2, 2004 election.

Monday, March 1, 2004 at 5 PM is the end of absentee ballot voting in the Town Clerk's Office.

IMPORTANT: If, after receiving your absentee ballot, you decide to vote in person, you may do so but only if you return the complete set of unmarked ballots, together with the envelopes intended for their return, to the Presiding Officer at the time you appear at the polls to vote in person.

VERMONT VOTER RIGHTS

YOU MAY SEE A BALLOT IN ADVANCE

- * Your Town Clerk has sample ballots for you to see at least 10 days before the election

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO ASSISTANCE

- * Bring the person of YOUR CHOICE into the voting booth with you to help you vote. (Not your employer or union representative)
- * You can get help marking your ballot. Ask an election official for assistance
- * Two election officials will help you. (No one can tell you how to vote!)
- * Bring a magnifying glass or other device to help you vote.
- * If you are disabled or ill, you may ask the election officials to bring a ballot out to your car.
- * Bring a list of candidates or articles into the voting booth to help you vote. (You may NOT show your list to other voters or leave it in the booth).

YOU CAN VOTE EARLY OR VOTE FROM HOME

- * You can vote at the Town Clerk's Office or take a ballot home to vote anytime 30 before the election.
- * Call the Town Clerk or sign a request form and the clerk will send you a ballot by mail.

YOU CAN GET A NEW BALLOT IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE

- * If you give your first ballot to an election official, you can get another ballot to vote.
- * You can get up to three ballots.

YOUR BALLOT IS PRIVATE

- * No one has the right to see how you voted or to ask you how you voted. Cast your ballot by folding and placing your ballot in the ballot box.

PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS

- * Election officials are here to help you understand how to vote. They cannot help you decide who to vote for and they may not tell you candidates names.
- * If you are not sure that you are being properly assisted, ask to speak to the presiding officer.

URGENT TAX INFORMATION:



Vermont Homeowners Must File a New Form

All resident Vermont homeowners are required to file the new **DECLARATION OF VERMONT HOMESTEAD FORM HS-131**

Here's what you should know about the Homestead Declaration:

DO I REALLY NEED TO FILE?

You must file if you are a **Vermont resident AND you own and occupy a Vermont property as your principal home** as of April 1, 2004. You do NOT need to file if you own only commercial property, a vacation home, or second home in Vermont.

WHAT IS A HOMESTEAD?

Your homestead is your principal dwelling and contiguous land, plus additional buildings and improvements except parts used for business or rental purposes.

WHY DOES THE STATE NEED MY DECLARATION?

The declaration determines which school property tax rate is applied to your property. You must file the declaration in order to receive the correct rate.

WHAT ARE THE SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX RATES?

Homesteads are taxed at a base state rate of \$1.10 per \$100 of property value to fund Vermont's per-pupil grant. Your actual tax rate reflects proportional increases for local spending and local assessment levels.

Non-Residential Properties are taxed at a base state rate of \$1.59 per \$100 property value, adjusted for the local common level of appraisal.

WHEN SHOULD I FILE?

File the declaration **as soon as possible** but no later than **APRIL 15, 2004**. You can send the declaration separately from your income tax and other property tax returns.

Note: If you are late, you must still file the declaration and you are subject to a penalty and interest.

HOW CAN I GET THE FORM?

The form will be mailed to you in December, 2003. Additional ways to get the form:

- Call 1-866-828-2865 (toll-free in VT)
- Email: taxforms@tax.state.vt.us
- Call 802-828-2515 (local or out-of-state)
- Visit your Town Clerk
- Included in your Vermont income tax booklet

WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

- For assistance:
- Call 1-866-828-2865 (toll-free in VT)
 - Email: schooltax@tax.state.vt.us
 - Call 802-828-2865 (local or out-of-state)
 - Web site: www.state.vt.us/tax

From the Vermont Department of Taxes

2004 VERMONT *Declaration of Vermont Homestead* **FORM HS-131**



DUE DATE: April 15, 2004
PRINT in BLUE or BLACK INK

You MUST file this form if you are a Vermont resident as of January 1, 2004 and own and occupy your homestead on April 1, 2004.

VT Resident Social Security Number	Spouse or CU Partner Social Security Number
VT Resident Last Name	First Name Initial
Spouse or CU Partner Last Name	First Name Initial
Mailing Address (Number and Street/Road or PO Box)	
City/Town	State Zip Code
Location of Homestead	1 VT School District Code
number, street / road name	2 City/Town of Legal Residence on 04/01/2004 State
3. SPAN Number (REQUIRED)	(From your 2003/2004 property tax bill)

4. Special Situations Check if you are:

- Grantor and sole beneficiary of a Revocable Trust that owns the property.
- Homestead on farm property
- Life Estate owner of the Property.
- Owner of homestead property that crosses town boundaries. (If so, you must file a declaration for each town.)

5. Business Use of Dwelling (See instructions. If no business use, enter 00.00) 5. . 00 %

6. Rental Use of Dwelling (See instructions. If no rental use, enter 00.00) 6. . 00 %

7. Business or Rental Use of Improvements or Other Buildings.
 Are improvements or other buildings located on your parcel, other than the dwelling, used for business or rented out? Yes No

SIGN HERE Under penalties of perjury, I have examined the above information and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. I further declare I am a Vermont resident and the above homestead is my principal dwelling as of April 1, 2004. Preparers cannot use Declaration information for purposes other than preparing the Declaration.

Keep a copy for your records.	▶ Your signature	Date	Telephone Number (optional)
	Check here if authorizing the VT Department of Taxes to discuss this Declaration with your preparer.		
Preparer's Use Only	▶ Preparer's signature	Date	Check if self-employed
	▶ Firm's name (or yours if self-employed) and address		Preparer's SSN or PTIN
			EIN
			Preparer's Telephone Number

MAIL TO: Vermont Department of Taxes, PO Box 1779, Montpelier, VT 05601-1775

Form ITS-131

NOTICE TO ALL LANDOWNERS

THE REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE PERMITS FOR SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAND, AND FOR CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION OF WASTEWATER SYSTEMS AND POTABLE WATER SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED. The ability to create a lot greater than 10 acres that is exempt from the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules has been eliminated. Any size lot created after June 13, 2002 must receive a permit. As of June 14, 2002, single family residences (SFRs) with their wastewater and water supplies could be built on previously exempt lots until November 1, 2002 without having to meet the rules. A new law has extended that period until November 1, 2004. After November 1, 2004 and before July 1, 2007, SFRs may be built on such lots without a permit but the water supply and wastewater systems must be prepared by an engineer or a site technician (designer) who must certify compliance with the rules. After July 1, 2007, building construction or modification of systems generally need a permit. If you build a SFR that depends on meeting the build-out date of November 1, 2004 to keep it exemption, you may want to file supporting documentation in the town land records for future reference.

Buildings other than SFRs continue to require a permit as they have in the past.

The rules regarding the site conditions necessary for a buildable site have also been changed. Some lots that could not meet the rules before might be able to be built upon now. Sites cannot be properly evaluated without a site visit by a designer. Town permit requirements may be different than the state requirements. It is important to contact both the town and the state about proposed projects so that any differences can be determined early and be resolved. Projects with existing town permits must also meet the state requirements. State permits remain in effect and do not have to be updated to meet the new rules.

There are many requirements in the law, some new, some held over from previous times. Mostly they relate to single family residences, home occupations and certain farm activities. These exemptions have various closing dates and some are permanent as long as no subdivision of land occurs and the design flows are not increased. In general, all systems will be covered by the rules after July 1, 2007. Project designs must be certified by designers and the design certifications and installation certificates must be filed on the town land records.

The Departments wants to provide you with the information you need to receive proper permit or exemption for any building you are planning. Please feel free to contact by e-mail the staff listed on the website. For more information please contact your Regional Office at <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dcc/ww/EngServ.htm> or phone Barre: 802-476-0190 Essex: 802-879-5656 Rutland: 802-786-5900 Springfield: 802-885-8855 St. Johnsbury: 802-751-0130 Waterbury: 802-241-3822

MARRIAGES

*Robert Wayne Coleman & Catherine Elaine Greene
January 9, 2003 at Wells*

*Wesley Cary, Jr. & Nichole Lynn Zajicek
February 14, 2003 at Pawlet*

*Mark Allen Mueller & Enkhtuyaa Lkhasurendorj
February 27, 2003 at Wells*

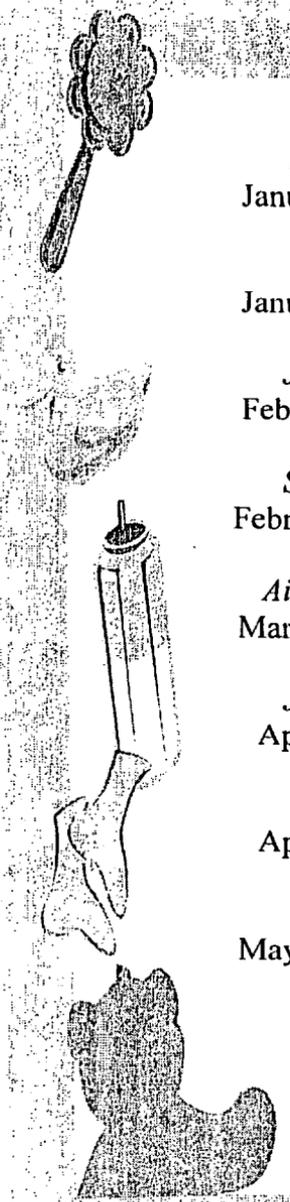
*Frank Edward Barker & Linda Sheri Knipes
August 16, 2003 at Bomoseen*

*Jamison R, Kendrick & Gordana Horvat
September 22, 2003 at Manchester*

*David Lawrence Hickey & Frances Ann Dinanno
October 11, 2003 at Wells*

*Timothy John Raley & Veronica Anne Mantel
December 13, 2003 at Dorset*

*Timothy Stewart McLaughlin & Susan Ashcroft Licari
December 27, 2003 at Wells*



2003 BIRTHS

Samantha Sue Burke
January 15, 2003 in Rutland

Sierra Rose Ynesta
January 28, 2003 in Rutland

Jocelyn Elizabeth Fry
February 8, 2003 in Rutland

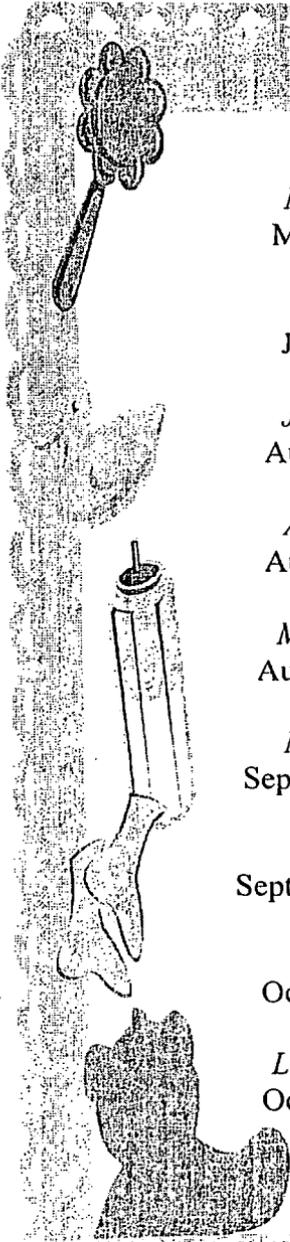
Skylar Nicole Morrell
February 24, 2003 in Rutland

Aidan Clyde Hudak-Hall
March 10, 2003 in Randolph

Joseph Michael Fiske
April 20, 2003 in Rutland

Skylar Ann Casey
April 27, 2003 in Rutland

Trinity Joyce Brown
May 14, 2003 in Bennington



2003 BIRTHS

Matthew Ryan Haskins
May 31, 2003 in Rutland

Montana Lea Stomski
June 2, 2003 in Rutland

Jeffrey Lynn Davies, III
August 4, 2003 in Rutland

Andrew Patrick Bacher
August 8, 2003 in Rutland

Morgan Elizabeth Baker
August 20, 2003 in Rutland

Marissa Lynn Holcomb
September 2, 2003 in Rutland

Keeley Marie Derusha
September 19, 2003 in Rutland

Trey Xavier Ringquist
October 4, 2003 in Rutland

Logan Michael Ringquest
October 4, 2003 in Rutland

DEATHS

Rosemary Viger
January 9, 2003 at Rutland

Terry Pafundi
January 23, 2003 at Wells

Sandra Johnson Juckett
February 10, 2003 at Wells

Esther K. Call
March 5, 2003 at Middlebury

Harold J. Siemen
March 5, 2003 at Rutland

George Lewis Hulihan
September 24, 2003 at Wells

Alice Pratt Read
October 7, 2003 at Rutland

Frederick Elmer Martell, Sr.
December 25, 2003 at Wells

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

What an eventful year this has been! I think that the most significant event is the incredible generosity of Donald and Joanne Preuss in donating land for our new town office. Did you know that Don's parents donated the land for the fire department building? The kindness and affection that the entire Preuss Family has shown for Wells should be celebrated!

A big thank you to Perry Waite who was instrumental in getting us a significant grant from the State of Vermont Building and Grounds Services Department for the construction of a new town office – Mark Reaves and Mr. Thomas Torti of this department have been concerned about the conditions of our record storage and a big thank you to them for the grant also.

Stephanie Andrew-Smith has donated literally hundreds of hours in the past two years to our town as the Assistant Town Clerk – she has been invaluable, not only as my assistant, but as my good friend. She's a peach!

Many thanks to all of you, my friends and neighbors, for your support and patience these past two years. We have accomplished a lot but we couldn't have done it without you!

Respectfully submitted,
Katharine R. Bergen
Wells Town Clerk



TOWN OF WELLS

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT BOARD

During the budget year of 2002-2003, three major projects were completed.

A new grader was purchased by the Town that replaced the twenty- one year old grader that was becoming a maintenance problem. The purchase was made within the budget at no additional cost to the taxpayer. Funds held in reserve added to money borrowed paid for the grader. The loan is being paid within the existing budget causing no additional taxes.

A compactor was added to the Transfer Station. The compactor is being purchased on a lease/buy basis within our contract with our disposal agent. The addition of the compactor has helped the environment around the station in that it has reduced the loose material, once very present. The compactor increases the amount of material in each load reducing the number of trips required by the hauler.

The culvert/bridge at the run-off for Lake St. Catherine on North Street was replaced. The disruption to traffic on this main road was held to a minimum by using a prefabricated culvert and our highway crew; this reduced the time needed to make the change. A state grant paid a large portion of the project. The culvert has performed to expectations since its completion.

Two significant events have happened in the work toward a new or renovated Town Office. Through the generosity of the Preuss family, an acre of property, on Route 30 next to Thomas's Auto Repair, has been donated to the Town of Wells. This is the second time the Preuss family has given land to Wells. The first was the property where the firehouse now stands. The new piece of property is in an excellent location within the town, and saves the town considerable amount of money. We all thank Don and Jo-Anne Preuss for their generosity.

Through the efforts of our State Representative, Perry Waite, Wells has received a \$100,000.00 grant. This grant will help provide Wells with a Town Office that protects all records as well as providing a place to conduct the business of Wells. The Town Office will provide the space and atmosphere necessary for employees and Town Officers to work to support the people of Wells.

The Select Board has, as one of its principle responsibilities, the maintenance of the roads. The Highway crew made up of our Foreman, David Chalmers, Stanley (Bum) Martelle and David Ricard, carry out that work. Without the outstanding work of these men throughout the year we all would see a major difference in our ability to move on our roads. Whether it is winter or summer our Highway Crew does what is needed to get the job done. We thank them for all the work that goes on behind the scenes so our lives can go on as normal.

For two years I have worked with our Bookkeeper, Linda Knipes. She has done a great job in supporting the Select Board with the preparation needed for our meetings. She works closely with the Town Treasurer to maintain the town's financial records. She deals daily with towns people on questions from Taxes to Transfer Station Tags. It is important to have a friendly face for those coming into our Town Office and Linda does that for Wells. Special thanks go to Linda for creating this town report and to those who helped her.

Additional thanks are given to the Planning Commission for all their work, and the Building Committee for the tasks completed and the ones ahead.

The Select Board wants to thank all the Town Officials for their support during the year. A final thank-you to the people of Wells for allowing us to serve them. Our meetings are held on alternating Tuesdays in the All-Purpose Room of the Wells School. All are invited because your town government is, after all, your responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Littlewood, Select Board Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT 2003

It is with great pleasure that I can report that the financial health of the Town of Wells is positive. I, at this time, wish to thank Bookkeeper/Assistant Treasurer, Linda Knipes, for her dedication & loyalty to me and the Town of Wells. I will miss working with her on difficult financial problems that occur quite often.

I reluctantly leave the office of Treasurer but we all must move on. I also believe that the voters will choose the proper replacement.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald G Reed

1st CONSTABLE REPORT
1 January thru 31 December 2003

Vehicle Blocking Road	1	ADTS Security B&E	2
Disorderly Conduct	1	Nuisance Phone calls	1
Stolen dog	1	Transport animals	2
Harassment	1	Rabii	3
Vin Verification	19	Radar	21
B & E	5	Stolen Mail	1
Dog Complaint General	6	Stray Dog	3
Injured Dog	1	Barking Dog	4
Attacks on dogs by dogs	3	Attacks on people by dogs	2
Assaults	1	Littering	2
Run away vehicle	1	Threatening	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	Abandoned Vehicle	3
Stolen Motor Vehicles	2	Mail box damage	3
911 call outs	2	Alarms	2
Highway obstruction	1	Injured Animal	1
Notice of Trespass	3	Wires Down	1
Unregistered dogs	12	Horses in Road	1
Track vehicle on blacktop	1	Motor Vehicle Trespass	2
All terrain vehicle	4	Theft	2
Permitting coin drops	2	Dumping	1
Lock outs	5	MWA Carnival	1
School Auction	1	Fire Dept Auction	1
Verbal Abuse	1	Illegal gathering	1

Training attended:

Counter Terrorism	Homeland Security
Counter Terrorism	VT Police Academy
Animal Cruelty	VT Police Academy

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and their cooperation in this past year. If you have a problem and need the Constables assistance, feel free to call my home # 645-1961. If I am not readily available call 468-5355 and this # will ring into the Vermont State Police Dispatch. Thank you again.

Sincerely

Norman V. Brown 1st Constable

2nd CONSTABLE'S REPORT
March 2003 – December 2003

Dog Complaints (General)	7	All Terrain Vehicles	3
Harassment	2	Threatening	2
Suspicious Vehicle	2	Vandalism	1
Stolen Motor Vehicle	1	Abandoned Vehicles	3
Trespassing	2	Complaints	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	Horses in Road	1
School Auction	1	Fire Dept Auction	1
Wildlife Call (Fox)	1	Complaints (General)	5
Vin Verification	1		

I would like to thank the citizens of Wells for their continued support in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

David Chalmers
2nd Constable

FIRE WARDEN REPORT 2003

What a difference a year makes! In Wells we had enough rain to keep vegetation green and growing all season. We had enough rain to keep the small streams and ponds flowing with no flooding in this area. The water table has had a chance to recover from our drought years.

The residents of Wells have, again, been very cooperative in calling to get permits for any outside fires. We remind you again there are NO permits issued in town for burn barrels.

Thank you for your cooperation.

For a permit or to get your questions answered call:

Harold Bates, Warden

802-645-0286

Mike Martelle, Deputy Warden

802-325-6339



TOWN OF WELLS BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee would like to thank Donald and JoAnne Preuss for their gift of land to the Town of Wells for the purpose of building a new town office. This generous gift will enable us to have an office to provide protection for all of our town records as well as housing our town clerk, town treasurer, bookkeeper, listers, a temperature controlled vault and space to hold our Board of Civil Authority meetings.

In addition to this, we will be meeting all state and federal regulations regarding accessibility, fire codes, etc.

At the present time we have \$156,549.26* toward this office. We wish to thank our representative Perry Waite for his assistance in getting us a grant from the State in the amount of \$100,000.

During 2004, we will be working on a proposal to present to the Selectboard and voters. We sincerely hope that you will find his proposal feasible and allow us to continue our goal, which is the completion of this building.

Howard Carkin, President
Barbara Goodspeed, Secretary
Ken Littlewood
David Murray
Lori Andrus
Eleanor Mead

1/11/04

* Includes \$10,000 voted in March, 2003

WELLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

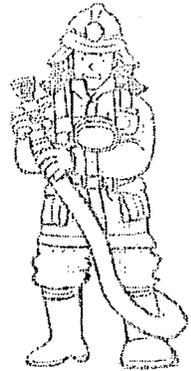
In 2003, we had a total of 48 calls as of the close of the year \, December 31, 2003.

Again we would like to thank the townspeople for their support and their support in the future. We continue to welcome new members.

In 2003, with FEMA dollars, we were able to replace all our air packs and put in a cascade system. In 2004, we have Homeland Security money to purchase an imaging camera, multi gas meter, radio communication between our department and Rutland Dispatch and to update our rescue tools.

With the town support, hopefully we can purchase a new fire truck in the near future. Our projected operating budget amounts to \$57,600.00, which is broken down as follows:

Utilities	\$ 4,000.00
Insurance	15,000.00
Building Expense	5,000.00
Radio Expense	2,000.00
Vehicle	
Operations	1,200.00
Maintenance	6,000.00
New Equipment	10,000.00
Dues and Magazines	500.00
Dispatch Fees	2,500.00
Breakfast	1,400.00
Postage/Printing	1,000.00
Fire Prevention	500.00
Training	2,000.00
Fundraising	2,500.00
Misc.	<u>4,000.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 57,600.00



Our department receives, hopefully, \$12,000.00 this year from the town. The membership from the department does fundraising for the remaining balance. This consists of Modern Woodmen Bingo's, Coin Drops, Breakfasts, Dinners, Raffles, this year a Tag Sale on Variety Day and our Bake-Less Bake Sale. We would like to thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Ken Johnson, Fire Chief
And
Peter Johnson, President

WELLS VILLAGE LIBRARY
Librarians Report 2003

Circulation:

Adult Fiction	320
Adult Non-Fiction	32
Juvenile Fiction	365
Juvenile Non-Fiction	84
Books-On-Tape	<u>46</u>

TOTAL CIRCULATION: 875

Patrons Registered as of 12/31/00: 506

Patrons using the Library:

Adults	613
Juveniles	<u>260</u>

TOTAL PATRONS: 873

Interlibrary Loan Requests: 7

VT Dept of Libraries Books circulated: 4

2003 was a very busy year at our lovely little village library.

Our Video Collection has grown to over 150 different videos for both adults and children, including some great Disney classics, while our Books-On-Tape collection has over 170 sets. The Books-On-Tape include The Buffalo Soldier, and Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.

Adelphia Cable Company has continued to offer free Internet cable connection to the library's two computers. The library still has it's own e-mail address through which you can request books and information. The address is: wvlibrary@adelphia.net. Also check us out on the Internet at: <http://users.adelphia.net/~wvlibrary>. We have made some nice upgrades to our technology offerings and have seen a very positive response to our Internet capabilities.

Many thanks to our wonderful Story Hour volunteers Angela Thomas, Cynthia Larson, Lauren Martelle and Joni Eekhoff. The children this summer had such a grand time! We also offered 'Toddler Tales' on Fridays again this summer for the younger-than-school aged children.

One of our Library Trustees, Nancy Dingman, moved this year to go back to Pennsylvania where they previously lived. Nancy was a vital part of our library serving on our library board.

Donations of books are always welcome. Whatever is not selected to be included in the library's collection will be placed in our annual Book and Bake Sale in the beginning of July.

One thing that the library is concerned about is the alarming number of overdue books still out from 2003. Almost 100 books both adult and juvenile have not yet been returned to the library as of the first of 2004. The library hours are posted at the library (Monday, 6:00 – 8:00, Wednesday and Friday, 3:00 – 5:00), and the Wells Village Store has been gracious to continue as our local "Book Drop" for those who can not get to the library during open hours. Our collection is small enough...please return overdue books.

Our Christmas Tree on the library lawn was spectacular again this year thanks to Ron Bremer and Joe Capron. Our lawn has been so very well kept thanks to Pete Brace, and our snow has been removed by Jonathan Bullock. Thank you to all who have helped to add to the hometown spirit of our little village of Wells.

Respectfully submitted

Trish Capron. Librarian

**WELLS VILLAGE LIBRARY
TREASURER'S REPORT 2003**

Cash on hand January 1, 2003		\$ 303.79
Money Market Acct Transfers	\$ 6,600.00	
Contributions	246.45	
Dividends	39.60	
Checking Interest	4.38	
E-Rate Phone	<u>108.00</u>	
Total:	\$ 6,998.43	
Total Funds Available:		\$ 7,302.22
 Disbursements:		
<u>Library Services</u>		
Librarian	\$ 2,686.00	
Books & Videos	891.40	
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Stamps, Supplies, Post		
Office Box, Gift Certificate	1,212.62	
<u>Building Occupancy</u>		
Electricity	689.05	
Phone	743.24	
<u>Janitorial Services</u>		
Lawn Cutting & Snow Removal	<u>725.00</u>	
Total Disbursements:	<u>\$ 6,947.31</u>	
Total Balance on Hand December 31, 2003		<u>\$ 354.91</u>

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Cash on hand January 1, 2003		\$ 7,024.13
<u>Contributions</u>		
Town of Wells	\$ 3,000.00	
Interest	55.16	
Book & Bake Sale	<u>1,291.30</u>	
Total:	\$ 4,346.46	
Total Funds Available:		\$11,370.59
 <u>Distributions</u>		
Transfers to NOW Account	<u>\$ 6,600.00</u>	
Total Balance on Hand December 31, 2003		<u>\$ 4,770.59</u>
 Book & Bake Sale Profits \$1,291.30		
	<u>(112.00)</u> change	
	\$1,179.30	

WELLS CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

Treasurer's Report

March 10, 2002 to March 10, 2003

Checking Account Balance, March 10, 2002: \$ 3,990.45

Receipts:

Dividends, AT&T, Agere, Verizon, Lucent \$ 788.10
Dividends, George Putnam Fund 13.85
Interest, Evergreen Bank (CDs) 857.85
Grave Openings 310.00

Total Receipts: \$ 1,969.80

Total Funds Available (Checking): \$ 5,960.25

Disbursements:

Gas, Oil and Repairs \$ 203.27
Tree Removal 500.00
Miscellaneous 60.43
Transfer to Savings 3,000.00

Total Disbursements: \$ 3,763.70

Checking Account Balance, March 10, 2003: \$ 2,196.55

Savings Account Balance, March 10, 2002: \$ 3,692.46

Receipts:

Perpetual Care \$ 225.00
Donations 1,025.00
Transfer from Savings 3,000.00
AT&T, Comcast Fractional Shares 17.96
Interest 31.34

Total Receipts: \$ 4,299.30

Total Funds Available (Savings) \$ 7,991.76

Disbursements:

Transfer Perpetual Care to CD \$ 1,800.00

Total Disbursements: \$ 1,800.00

Savings Account Balance, March 10, 2003: \$ 6,191.76

Perpetual Care Investments:

39	Shares AT&T	490	Shares Verizon	
168	Shares Lucent Technologies	25	Shares Putnam Fund	
1	Share Agere Class A	14	Avaya	
45	Shares Agere Class B	64	Comcast	
	Evergreen Bank CDs (Trust Fund)			\$32,745.69

Restoration Fund Balance included in Accounts above: \$ 425.48

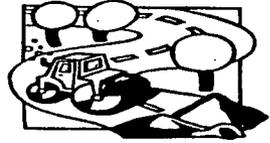
**EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION
JULY 1, 2002 – JUNE 30, 2003**

Select Board	Jeff Clark	\$ 2,335.00
	Robert Combs	1,300.00
	Kenneth Littlewood	1,390.00
Town Clerk	Katharine Bergen	
	Compensation	19,204.39
	Fees	10,511.00 **
Treasurer	Donald Reed	2,527.00
Bookkeeper/Asst Treas.	Linda Knipes	21,567.01
Listers	Sharon Brown	945.00
	Harriett Kostoff	780.00
	Karen Elliott	540.00
	Steve Schinski	385.00
1 st Constable	Norman Brown	1,686.00
2 nd Constable	Kim Hunter	1,902.00
	David Chalmers	240.00
Cemetery	Monte Reed	3,814.00
Transfer Station	Robert O'Grady	7,169.25
	Arthur Siemen	75.00
Hwy Labor: &	David Chalmers	28,187.89
	Stanley Martelle Sr.	25,346.52
Poundkeeping	David Ricard	24,664.76
	Jeff Clark	474.00

** Additional fees of \$ 2,171.46 retained by the Town.

COMPUTATION OF TAX RATES

2003-2004



TOWN TAXES:

TOWN HIGHWAY TAX RATE:	
Municipal Grand List	\$ 938,722.24
Highway Tax Rate	.2268
APPROVED BUDGET	\$ 293,250.00
Less State Aid to Highways	80,332.52

TOTAL: \$ 212,902.20

TOWN GENERAL FUND TAX RATE:	
Municipal Grand List	\$ 938,722.24
Municipal Tax Rate	.2900
APPROVED BUDGET	\$ 259,150.00
APPROVED APPROPRIATIONS	56081.00
Less Other Income	
Delinquent Taxes (Pr/Int/Pen)	40,000.00
Bank Interest	3,000.00

TOTAL: \$ 272,229.45



COMPUTATION OF TAX RATES Con't

2003-2004

SCHOOL TAXES:



STATE SHARE OF SCHOOL TAXES	
Education Grand List	\$ 936,803.37
State Tax Rate	1.3372
TOTAL:	<u>\$1252,693.47</u>

LOCAL SHARE OF SCHOOL TAXES	
Education Grand List	\$ 936,803.47
Local Tax Rate	.4210
TOTAL:	<u>\$ 394,487.90</u>



TAX RATES TO BE SET

HIGHWAY TAX RATE	.2268
GENERAL FUND TAX RATE	.2900
STATE SHARE SCHOOL TAX RATE	1.3372
LOCAL SHARE SCHOOL TAX RATE	<u>.4210</u>
TOTAL RATE	<u>2.2750</u>

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT
As of February 1, 2004

2000-2001

Lewis Mark	\$ 520.43
Litt Alan	83.76
Park James	<u>170.62</u>
	\$ 774.81

2001-2002

Cyr Marcel	\$ 149.72
Hatch Joy	728.04
Kenna Joanna	4,930.16
LeBlanc Ola	1,755.78
Lewis Mark	680.43
Litt Alan	105.00
Oakman John	1,658.56
Park James	<u>213.88</u>
	\$10,221.57

2002-2003

Andrus Carroll	\$ 4,329.68
Andrus Carroll	1,424.24
Andrus Carroll	1,755.80
Angus Valley Farm	183.24
Burgess Harold	56.88
Cyr Marcel	821.96
Cyr Marcel	151.04
Fredericks Perty	763.12
Geib Jeanne	7.42
Global Slate Inc	56.47
Global Slate	13.54
Gould Clarence Jr	259.94
Gould Clarence Jr.	259.94
Hart Robert	251.08
Hatch Joy	1,177.08
Hayes Dawn	717.04
Hayes William	447.29
Jensen Brent	904.36
Kenna Joanna	6,305.20
Lamparillo Jeanine	1,222.20

LeBlanc Ola	\$ 1,771.48
Lewis Mark	1,316.36
Litt Alan	105.92
Martelle Bruce	317.75
Martelle Fred	42.17
Matteson William	1,439.96
McClain Sherri	115.25
Moreno John	2,414.96
Oakman John	1,673.40
Park James	215.80
Presslet Janet	3,957.75
Roaix Susan	188.32
Shattuck Alice	1,754.04
Vadeboncouer Pat	1,558.55
Winchell Donna	256.01
Young Felicia	<u>190.12</u>

\$38,417.94

Robert N. Schmidt CPA, P.C.

P.O. Box 887 Rulland, Vermont 05702 -- Phone: (802) 775-1917 - Fax: (802) 775-1979

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

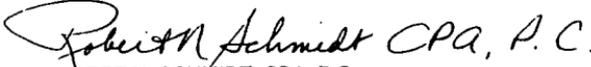
Board of Selectmen
Town of Wells
P.O. Box 585
Wells, VT 05774

Gentlemen:

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Wells, as of June 30, 2003, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Wells, Vt., management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Wells as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.


ROBERT N. SCHMIDT, CPA, P.C.
License No. 92-0000160
Rulland, Vermont
November 16, 2003

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

	June 30, 2002	June 30, 2003
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash Balance:		
General Operating Checking Acct	\$ 139,153.84	\$ 65,600.10
Equipment Fund MM Acct	76,501.54	35,253.53
Transfer Station NOW Acct	7,083.14	7,190.09
East Wells Cemetery MM Acct	3,261.28	3,296.31
Reappraisal Fund NOW Acct	7,241.69	14,587.19
Preservation Fund NOW Acct	-	2,496.86
Planning Commission NOW Acct	-	1,069.93
Office Building Fund MM Acct	-	46,866.53
Delinquent Taxes Receivable	<u>129,526.06</u>	<u>104,801.73</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 362,767.55</u>	<u>\$ 281,162.27</u>
 CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Due to the Wells School District	\$ 76,488.00	\$ -----
Payroll deductions payable	-	489.80
Overpayment of Taxes	-	3,110.10
Payroll taxes payable	<u>2,783.32</u>	<u>3,110.81</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 79,271.32</u>	<u>\$ 6,710.71</u>
 Fund Balances:		
General Fund	\$ 189,408.58	\$ 163,772.12
Equipment Fund	76,501.54	35,253.53
Transfer Station Fund	7,083.14	7,109.09
East Wells Cemetery Fund	3,261.28	3,296.31
Reappraisal Fund	7,241.69	14,587.19
Preservation Fund	-	2,496.86
Planning Commission Fund	-	1,069.93
Office Building Fund	-	46,866.53
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 283,496.23</u>	<u>\$ 274,451.56</u>
 Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	 <u>\$ 362,767.55</u>	 <u>\$ 281,162.27</u>

STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED
JULY 1, 2002 TO June 30, 2003

Educational Grand List	\$	930,379.44
School Tax Rate (State and Local)		x 1.5716
Tax Rate Times Grand List	\$	<u>1,462,184.00</u>

Municipal Grand List	\$	931,922.42
Municipal Tax Rate (General Tax And Highway)		x .3902
Tax Rate Times Grand List	\$	<u>363,636.12</u>

Educational and Municipal Taxes	\$	<u>1,825,820.12</u>
---------------------------------	----	---------------------

Accounted For As Follows:

Taxes Collected	\$	1,739,909.54
Delinquent Taxes to Collector		<u>85,910.58</u>
	\$	<u>1,825,820.12</u>

Total Monies Accounted For:

Amount Credited School District	\$	1,462,205.00
Amount Credited Highways		208,937.00
Amount Credited Town of Wells		<u>154,678.12</u>
	\$	<u>1,825,820.12</u>

LONG TERM DEBT
June 30, 2003

\$80,000 Note Payable to Banknorth N.A. dated October 10, 2002
with interest at 4.2% with principal payments of \$4,000 due quarterly
beginning on December 31, 2002

Proceeds of Note deposited to Equipment Fund	\$	80,000.00
Less: Principal payments made during current Fiscal year		<u>12,000.00</u>
Unpaid Principal Balance as of June 30, 2003	\$	<u>68,000.00</u>

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash Balance - July 1, 2002	\$ 139,153.84
Receipts:	
Income:	
State Aid and Grants to Highways	\$ 80,568.80
Current Use	621.00
Interest Income	3,019.89
Permits, Fines and Fees	1,086.01
Culvert Sales	150.00
Recording fees	2,171.46
Licenses	1,037.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	<u>6,915.38</u>
	95,569.54
Other Receipts:	
Prior Year Replacement Checks Deposited	1,792.84
Taxes:	
Overpayment of taxes	3,110.10
Current Taxes	1,739,909.54
Delinquent Taxes	104,478.00
Interest on Current Taxes	3,228.17
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	24,023.29
Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	<u>11,911.32</u>
	<u>1,886,660.42</u>
Total Cash Available	2,123,176.64
Disbursements:-	
Tax Paid to School District	1,538,693.00
Disbursements per Schedule	<u>518,883.54</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>2,057,576.54</u>
Cash Balance - June 30, 2003	<u>\$ 65,600.10</u>

EAST WELLS CEMETERY ACCOUNT

Cox Fund	\$2,276.69
Carpenter Fund	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$2,376.69

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002 – (including
Accumulated interest of \$884.59 and contributions
Of \$2,376.69) \$ 3,261.28

Interest Income 35.03

CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003 \$ 3,296.31

PLANNING COMMISSION FUNDS

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002 \$.00

Deposits 6,000.00

Interest Income 9.93

\$ 6,009.93

Disbursements (4,940.00)

CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003 \$ 1,069.93

EQUIPMENT FUND

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002 \$76,501.54

Proceeds of note payable to Banknorth, N.A. 80,000.00

Transfer from General Operating Account 25,000.00

Interest Income 491.54

Purchase of new grader (133,987.00)

Note payments (including interest

Of \$752.55 (12,752.55)

CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003 \$ 35,253.53

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING FUND

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002	\$.00
Transfer from General Operating Account	10,000.00
Receipts	37,348.14
Interest Income	<u>153.39</u>
	47,501.53
Disbursements	<u>(635.00)</u>
CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003	<u>\$ 46,866.53</u>

TRANSFER STATION FUND

CASH BALANCE – July 1, 2002	\$ 7,083.14
Fee Income	6,797.63
Interest Income	<u>53.79</u>
	13,934.56
Disbursements	<u>(6,744.47)</u>
CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003	<u>\$ 7,190.09</u>

REAPPRAISAL FUND

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002	\$ 7,241.69
Interest Income	72.50
State Grant	<u>7,273.00</u>
CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003	<u>\$ 14,587.19</u>

PRESERVATION FUND

CASH BALANCE – JULY 1, 2002	\$.00
Interest Income	10.47
Receipts	<u>2,883.61</u>
	\$ 2,894.08
Disbursements	<u>(397.22)</u>
CASH BALANCE – JUNE 30, 2003	<u>\$ 2,496.86</u>

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY 02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-3000-10.00	Selectmen's Salary	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 5,025.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 8,500.00
100-3000-10.01	Clerical for Selectmen	800.00	780.00	900.00	900.00
100-3000-10.16	Selectmen Milage Reimb.	700.00	396.90	500.00	500.00
100-3000-15.00	FICA - Town Portion	16,000.00	9,536.45	12,000.00	12,000.00
100-3000-15.01	Medicare	5,600.00	2,213.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
100-3000-16.00	Unemployment	2,500.00	1,947.17	2,500.00	2,500.00
100-3000-20.00	Office Supplies	3,000.00	2,367.19	3,000.00	4,000.00
100-3000-21.00	Postage	3,500.00	3,332.86	3,500.00	3,500.00
100-3000-22.00	Office Equipment Repairs	500.00	100.98	500.00	500.00
100-3000-23.00	Copier Lease	1,400.00	1,408.17	1,500.00	1,500.00
100-3000-27.00	Radio Service	-	113.00	-	-
100-3000-30.00	Advertising & Legal Notices	800.00	707.05	1,000.00	1,000.00
100-3000-34.00	Town Office Phone	1,800.00	2,195.10	2,000.00	2,000.00
100-3000-40.00	Town Office Rent	5,100.00	5,100.00	5,100.00	6,000.00
100-3000-41.00	Dues & Subscriptions	1,200.00	1,636.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
100-3000-44.00	Appropriations	34,231.00	34,231.00	56,081.00	-
100-3000-48.00	Insurance	14,000.00	14,045.94	14,000.00	16,500.00
100-3000-60.00	Legal Services	9,000.00	2,354.25	5,000.00	5,000.00
100-3000-62.00	Printing & Binding	2,500.00	2,729.30	2,500.00	4,000.00
100-3000-76.00	Street Lights	5,000.00	4,047.88	4,000.00	4,000.00
100-3000-76.01	Clerk's Office Electric	800.00	828.03	800.00	800.00
100-3000-83.00	Office Equipment/Software	3,000.00	1,038.53	3,000.00	3,000.00
100-3000-84.00	NEMRIC/Microsolve	3,600.00	1,735.75	3,600.00	2,600.00
100-3000-91.00	Interest on Loans	3,500.00	4,737.71	3,500.00	2,000.00
100-3000-99.00	Miscellaneous	200.00	353.02	200.00	200.00
		\$ 127,231.00	\$ 102,960.85	\$ 138,181.00	\$ 85,500.00

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-3100-10.00	Town Clerk Salary	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 19,204.39	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 10,500.00
100-3100-10.01	Town Clerk Health Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,750.00
100-3100-10.02	Town Clerk Dental	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
100-3100-10.16	Town Clerk Mileage	-	224.00	200.00	200.00
100-3100-17.00	Bookkeeper Salary	22,000.00	21,667.01	22,000.00	22,000.00
100-3100-18.01	Health Insurance	3,800.00	3,910.36	4,150.00	9,850.00
100-3100-19.02	Dental Insurance	300.00	296.55	300.00	400.00
100-3100-20.00	Town Treasurer Salary	7,500.00	2,527.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
100-3100-29.00	Heat Town Buildings	2,000.00	4,175.06	2,200.00	3,000.00
100-3100-30.00	Library Phone	-	-	-	600.00
100-3100-35.10	Cleaning Town Office	500.00	360.00	400.00	400.00
100-3100-40.00	Officers Meetings & Schools	600.00	480.00	500.00	500.00
TOTAL TOWN CLERK		\$ 58,700.00	\$ 52,844.37	\$ 59,250.00	\$ 60,100.00
100-3310-10.00	Election Workers Wages	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,445.25	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
100-3310-62.00	Printing of Ballots	300.00	16.39	300.00	200.00
TOTAL ELECTIONS		\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,461.64	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 3,200.00
100-3420-10.00	Auditors	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,110.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 5,000.00
100-3420-16.00	Auditors Mileage Reimb.	-	-	-	-
100-3420-40.00	Meetings & Schools	-	70.00	-	-
TOTAL AUDIT EXPENSES		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,180.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 5,000.00

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY 02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-3430-10.00	Listers Salary	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 7,000.00
100-3430-11.00	Professional Listers	7,000.00	225.00	7,000.00	7,500.00
100-3430-16.00	Listers Mileage Reimb.	100.00	24.50	100.00	100.00
100-3430-20.00	Reappraisal	-	-	-	8,000.00
100-3430-40.00	Meetings & Schools	-	45.00	100.00	100.00
TOTAL LISTING EXPENSES		\$ 10,600.00	\$ 2,944.50	\$ 10,700.00	\$ 22,700.00
100-3430-10.00	Municipal Planning & Zoning	\$ 300.00	\$ 252.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
100-3620-40.00	Meetings & Schools	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PLANNING ZONING		\$ 300.00	\$ 252.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
100-4100-10.00	Constables Salary	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,386.24	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
100-4100-16.00	Constables Mileage Reimb.	1,000.00	884.01	1,000.00	1,000.00
100-4100-20.00	Equipment for Constables	500.00	594.69	500.00	500.00
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT		\$ 6,500.00	\$ 5,864.94	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
100-4110-10.00	Poundkeeping Labor	\$ 150.00	\$ 162.40	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
100-4110-26.00	Poundkeeping	150.00	196.00	150.00	500.00
TOTAL POUNDKEEPING		\$ 300.00	\$ 358.40	\$ 350.00	\$ 700.00
100-4590-10.00	Labor for Forest Fires	\$ 650.00	-	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
100-4590-20.00	Equipment for Fire Warden	100.00	-	100.00	100.00
TOTAL FOREST FIRE WARDEN		\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-5110-10.00	Labor	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 38,742.29	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
100-5110-20.00	Materials	20,000.00	10,599.97	20,000.00	20,000.00
100-5110-50.00	Independent Contracting	-	-	-	-
100-5118-27.00	Resurfacing	47,000.00	47,000.00	47,000.00	47,000.00
100-5119-20.00	Culvert Purchases	6,000.00	1,810.58	4,000.00	4,000.00
TOTAL SUMMER HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE		\$ 113,000.00	\$ 98,152.84	\$ 111,000.00	\$ 113,000.00
100-5120-30.00	East Wells Road Project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
100-5120-30.01	Lake Bridge Project	-	-	-	-
TOTAL HIGHWAY PROJECTS		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
100-5140-10.00	Labor	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 38,650.98	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
100-5140-20.00	Materials	40,000.00	32,941.16	40,000.00	40,000.00
100-5140-50.00	Independent Contracting	5,000.00	3,220.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
TOTAL WINTER HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE		\$ 90,000.00	\$ 74,812.14	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
100-5330-28.00	Buy/Maintain & Repair Vehi	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,007.37	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
100-5331-29.00	Fuel, Gas & Oil	10,000.00	9,240.53	8,000.00	8,000.00
100-5332-32.00	Vehicle Replacement Fund	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
100-5333-35.00	Vehicle Communications	1,500.00	1,316.25	1,500.00	15,000.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY VEHICLES		\$ 46,500.00	\$ 50,564.15	\$ 46,500.00	\$ 66,000.00
100-5340-40.00	Meetings & Schools	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL HIGHWAY MEETINGS		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ -

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY 02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-5360-22.00	Small Tools for Highway	\$ 700.00	\$ 571.39	\$ 700.00	\$ 2,500.00
100-5360-25.00	Uniforms for Highway Employ.	1,200.00	1,472.52	1,600.00	1,600.00
100-5360-33.33	Buy & Maintain Equipment	5,000.00	3,207.26	5,000.00	5,000.00
100-5365-33.00	Equipment Rental	1,500.00	1,605.00	1,500.00	3,000.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT		\$ 8,400.00	\$ 6,856.17	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 12,100.00
100-5370-20.00	Street Signs	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 832.39	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL STREET SIGNS		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 832.39	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
100-538048.00	Highway Workers Health Ins.	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 26,950.07	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 32,100.00
100-538148.00	Highway Workers Dental his.	2,100.00	1,978.53	2,100.00	2,700.00
TOTAL INSURANCE BENEFITS		\$ 27,100.00	\$ 28,928.60	\$ 30,600.00	\$ 34,800.00
100-5400-34.00	Highway Dept. Phone	1,000.00	610.78	800.00	800.00
100-5400-35.00	Maint. Highway Building	1,000.00	1,703.66	1,000.00	1,000.00
100-5400-76.00	Electricity	1,200.00	1,143.06	1,200.00	1,200.00
100-5400-99.00	Miscellaneous	350.00	57.09	350.00	350.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY BUILDINGS		\$ 3,550.00	\$ 3,514.59	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 3,350.00
100-5400-35.00	Maint. Other Town Buildings	\$ 500.00	\$ 347.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
TOTAL OTHER TOWN BUILDINGS		\$ 500.00	\$ 347.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00

ACCOUNT	NAME OF ACCOUNT	BUDGET FY 02-03	ACTUAL FY 02-03	BUDGET FY 03-04	BUDGET FY 04-05
100-5430-10.00	Labor	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 8,271.47	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
100-5430-20.00	Materials - Transfer Station	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
100-5430-23.02	Disposing of Waste	65,000.00	49,502.76	65,000.00	72,000.00
TOTAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL		\$ 80,000.00	\$ 57,774.23	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 82,000.00
100-5520-10.00	Labor - Wells Cemetery	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,814.41	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
100-5521-10.00	Labor - E. Wells Cemetery	450.00	-	450.00	450.00
100-5521-10.01	Cemetery Expenses	100.00	370.17	200.00	200.00
TOTAL WELLS CEMETERIES		\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,184.58	\$ 6,150.00	\$ 6,150.00
100-9300-89.00	Rutland County Tax	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,999.65	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,500.00
TOTAL RUTLAND COUNTY TAX		\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,999.65	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,500.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 596,281.00	\$ 513,883.54	\$ 608,481.00	\$ 590,700.00

Granville Rescue Squad
East Potter Avenue PO Box 153 Granville NY 12832
1-518-642-1830

www.geocities.com/granvillerescue granvillerescue@adelphia.net

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWNS WE SERVE:

The members and staff of the Granville Rescue Squad would again like to thank all of those who have supported us in the past year. The following are some of the updates from 2003:

In the year 2003, we handled 1110 emergency calls for medical assistance, putting 58,105 miles on the ambulances. The breakdown by area as follows:

Granville Village: 508, Granville Town: 331, Pawlet/West Pawlet: 131, Wells: 65, Rupert: 12, Hebron: 20, Danby: 2, Other surrounding towns: 41.

We continue to operate four fully equipped advanced life support ambulances, authorized by both the State of New York and State of Vermont Department of Health. Our EMS professionals include a group of 45 volunteers and 5 paid staff. Many new volunteers have joined this year. We have also added additional daytime staffing to bring more timely response during daytime hours, when there is limited volunteer availability. Even with all these personnel, we receive assistance from neighboring rescue squads and give the same "mutual aid" assistance in their times of need.

Some of our equipment has been replaced this year, updating stair-chair extrication devices, extremity splints, advanced life support supplies and training presentation hardware.

We continue to work with the local fire departments and village police to bring public access defibrillation to all those in need. In 2003, all cardiac arrest patients had an AED at their side within six minutes of the 911 call. We thank firefighters and police for their support in this project, in addition to all their other assistance.

We also thank the local businesses for their support this year. Many of the local businesses have given donations and discounts, have allowed their employees who are members of the squad to leave work for calls, and have helped us with advertising and public awareness.

Anyone having questions regarding our services should feel free to contact us. We always look to add mature, professional volunteers to our roster.

We could not have operated without the support of many individuals, businesses and other emergency services personnel. We look forward to serving and working with you in the future.

Have a Safe 2004!

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Zinn, Captain

LAKE ST. CATHERINE ASSOCIATION, INC.

POULTNEY - WELLS

Po Box 631, Wells, Vermont 05774

2003 Report to Wells

The Lake St. Catherine Association enjoyed another successful year. The 440 members of the Association represent 71% of the Lake properties.

The Association continues to concentrate its efforts in maintaining Lake property values by **controlling the growth of Eurasian milfoil**. With a work crew of seven, we operated three harvesters, two unloaders, and a truck during June, July, and August. 304 truckloads of milfoil were removed from the Lake, up from 260 the previous year. The Association spent \$62,331 on milfoil control.

The Association has received a permit from the State DEC to apply the herbicide Sonar (fluridone) at a very low level (less than 10 parts per billion) in 2004. We expect the treatment to greatly reduce milfoil activity in the Lake for up to five years. The cost of this treatment will be in excess of \$300,000. In addition to regular dues, Lake residents have contributed more than \$100,000 to the fund for Sonar treatment. We need a large increase in funding from the Town of Poultney and Wells.

Zebra Mussels are a new threat to our Lake. The microscopic larval stage is transported from lake to lake on boat hulls, in bait buckets, and in motor cooling systems. The only safe method of preventing the spread of this dreaded pest is with a hot-water wash. Anyone bringing a boat to Lake St. Catherine is encouraged to follow this procedure.

Lake Safety is another important activity of the Association. The Lake Safety Committee installed additional hazard markers and instituted an "adopt a buoy" program, with more volunteers being responsible for installation and maintenance of these important safety devices. The Association continues to offer the State certified Safe Boating Course each summer. Over 200 youths from the area have participated in this valuable education.

Water Quality is monitored on a regular basis during the summer, with tests for both water clarity and pollutants. Testing in the State lab indicated that all samples were within acceptable drinking water limits. Lake St. Catherine is clean.

Social activities included the associations' annual meeting combined with a pot-luck supper in early July. A Golf Tournament rounded out social and sports activities.

Trustees for the current year were elected at the Annual Meeting in July. Officers for the coming year are Bob Moore-President, Howard Irons-Vice-president, Elliott Rosen-Treasurer, and Sylvia Bingham-Secretary.

The Association **thanks Wells** for its previous financial support. We need a substantial increase in the Wells contribution this coming summer. We believe that Lake St. Catherine contributes to the quality of life in Wells. The Town benefits from taxes paid by Lake property owners. The merchants benefit from the business of summer residents. The people in the Town benefit from the recreational values of the Lake that we share.

Lake St. Catherine Association
Philip T. Pope, Chair, Government Relations Committee

George D. Aiken Resource
Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
22 North Main St Suite 2, Randolph VT 05060
(802) 728-9526 Fax (802) 728-5951

*"A non-profit non-partisan network of local people
dedicated to helping communities conserve and develop
their natural and human resources."*

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 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 backroads through our better backroads 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 streambank stabilization in several locations, helping to develop

community centers and recreation fields. We currently have funding available for low interest loan (3.0-5.0%) to develop agritourism ventures on farms.

In Wells, we provided a \$1,000 Dry Hydrant grant and a consultant to help the fire department address ISO issues. 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.

"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 501© (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 efforts 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 about 15 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.



POULTNEY - METTOWEE WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

Poultney-Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District
PO Box 209, Poultney, VT 05764
(802) 287-5841 fax (802) 287-5841

Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District
2530 Slate Rt. 40, Greenwich, NY 12834
(518) 692-2927 fax (518) 692-9942

Over the past four years the Poultney-Mettowee Watershed Partnership has completed many great projects. We are truly motivated and excited by the tremendous conservation work that is taking place in our watershed. We encourage you to become involved in the Partnership and work with us to improve the quality of the watershed and the communities in which we live. Please support our request for financial assistance from your town's general fund. Together we can really make a difference.

The Poultney-Mettowee watershed is the entire land area that drains into either the Poultney or the Mettowee Rivers.

Our History

The Partnership began in summer 1998 with a few people talking together and realizing that their organizations were working towards many of the same conservation goals. As a result, our unique, bi-state partnership began, focusing on our mutual concerns for protection of natural resources and water quality. The Partnership has completed many projects throughout the watershed. Highlights for 2003 include riparian buffer planting in four towns, leading summer programs for local youth, maintaining the native plant nursery in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy, volunteer work days and scientific data collection and monitoring of the rivers. The time and advice of committee members is invaluable and we sincerely thank them. Based on their knowledge, we increased public awareness and have begun to find solutions to issues and concerns throughout the watershed.

Our Future

Some projects currently underway, or still in the planning stages, include:

- Water quality monitoring of the Poultney River.

The Partnership brings together the outstanding conservation work in the Poultney and Mettowee rivers, so that we can benefit from each others' experience and knowledge, and together be stronger in our common goal.

- Producing stock in our native plant nursery to supply material for floodplain and Clay Plain forest restoration projects in partnership with Nature Conservancy.

- A landowner outreach project that supplies trees for riparian landowners that will address high temperatures in the Mettowee River.
- Conducting a detailed assessment of local rivers using volunteers.
- Leading environmental service projects for youth in the watershed.
- Increase nutrient management assistance to agricultural producers.

Get Involved

Contact either of us, or the project coordinators (phone 802-287-4284), to request a copy of our annual report of accomplishments. Or visit our website: www.poutlneymettowee.org. Let us know what concerns you have, what problems you see, and what help you would like to address them. We look forward to hearing from you, and working with you in the future.

Marli Rupe

*Poutleny-Mettowee Natural Resources
Conservation District*

Joe Driscoll

*Washington County Soil & Water
Conservation District*

B R O C
Community Action in Southwestern Vermont
Since 1965

To the Citizens of the Town of Wells and Members of the Selectboard:

First, BROCC would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Wells who have supported the agency through the appropriation process over the years, acknowledging the important work we do. This past year BROCC continued to experience a large increase in limited income families who needed help just meeting their basic needs – enough food on the table; heat for warmth through the winter; and a roof over their heads.

BROCC helped meet the basic needs of 21 families in the Town of Wells between 10/01/02 and 9/30/03. In addition, our Micro Business Development Program worked with 1 resident interested in starting or expanding a small business, weatherized 4 homes, comprised of 9 individuals through our Weatherization & Energy Conservation program, and reimbursed 2 day care home providers in Wells for serving nutritious meals to about 20 children in their care. BROCC also created several new partnerships and collaborations throughout the year with local organizations and businesses to help raise food for our emergency food shelf; as well as to help raise much needed funds through events and fund raising so that the needs of our neighbors continue to be met.

BROCC staff work hard each and every day to not only address immediate crisis, but to work on developing prevention plans with each person who needs our help. We are very proud of moving an individual or family up from the effects of poverty in their lives. In doing so, we advance our mission of “Helping people”. “Changing lives”. And we thank you, the Wells community for helping make this possible.

Sincerely,

Linda G Rooker
Executive Director

60 Center Street, Rutland VT 05701 802-775-0878 Fax: 802-775-9949 800-717-BROCC

VERMONT ADULT LEARNING

1 Scale Ave/Suite 93/Rutland Vermont 05701/802-775-0617/Fax 802-773-0323

Vermont Adult Learning works with adults age 16 and over who are not enrolled in school and want to finish secondary school, improve their skills, or prepare for college or a career. We provide instruction in reading, writing, math, English for speakers of other languages, as well as communication, problem solving, decision making, interpersonal and lifelong learning skills. VAL also helps adults prepare for the CDL, U.S. citizenship, GED exam or the Adult Diploma Program.

Classes and tutoring are offered at our learning center in Rutland, in various community sites, and in students' homes and workplaces.

Vermont Adult Learning collaborates with 7 supervisory unions, Rutland County Head Start, Rutland County Parent Child Center, and the Vermont Center for the Book, Neshobe Family Network to provide family literacy services.

With the recent trend toward reform of the welfare system, we have also collaborated with PATH (formerly known as Department of Social Welfare), Dept. of Employment and Training and the Stafford Technical Center to combine our services. In partnership with those agencies, we are designing and delivering intensive and comprehensive services to help adults move into paid employment that will enable them to support their families.

Last Year Vermont Adult Learning served 520 adult residents of Rutland County and provided 15355 hours of instruction. Of these totals, 11 residents of Wells were served and provided with 290 hrs of instruction.

Student achievements included:

- 2 Students obtaining a high school diploma or GED

Other Student achievements include:

- Acquiring job readiness skills
- Obtaining employment
- Retaining or improving employment
- Improving Parenting Skills
- Increased participation in children's education

The cost of providing educational services, in relation to Wells' appropriation of \$400 is outlined below:

- Total students served in FY03 = 11
- Total hours of instruction provided = 290
- Total cost to Wells per instructional hour = \$1.38 (\$400/290)
-

We appreciate your support.

J. ClarkPostemski, Regional Manager

VERMONT ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) greatly appreciates the Town of Wells 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, municipalities, and state and federal grants. Last year we served 1,413 people statewide—1,128 adults and 285 children.

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.

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 Pittsford. We served two adults in Wells 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 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 1-877-350-8839 or general@vabvi.org or visit our website at www.vabvi.org.

SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING

Report to the Citizens of Wells

This report briefly describes the services and support provided to elders in Wells by the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging during the past year; these included:

Senior Meals:

The Council provided funding for meals served to elder residents of Wells. This funding helped make available 2,132 meals that were prepared and delivered to the homes of 9 older persons in your community who were in need of this special support. This service, provided through contract, is often referred to as "Meals on Wheels". We also supplied "Blizzard Bags" to Meals on Wheels participants and other isolated elders, containing "shelf-stable" meals for use in a weather related or other emergency situation. In addition, 28 Wells elders participated at one or more of the luncheon sites available in our region, enjoying 698 meals.

Case Management Assistance:

21 elder residents of your community were served by SVCOA Case Management staff who provided help with applications and problem solving around programs such as Fuel Assistance, SSI, Medicaid, Food Stamps, etc. Case Managers also helped frail elders who were facing long term care placement, assisting those who wanted to and were able to remain independent connect with available supports including Medicaid Waiver assistance.

Other Services:

The Council on Aging also made available the following services to help support older persons in your community: 1) Telephone support through our "Senior Helpline" (786-5991 or 1-800-642-5119). This service provided easy phone access to elders and others in need of information about available programs and supports for older persons; 2) Health benefit counseling information and form filing assistance through our SHIP Program; 3) Legal service support through a contract with the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Provision of information related to elder issues through the "Elder Connection" column written by Barbara Hanson appearing weekly in the Rutland Herald; 5) Nutrition education and counseling provided by a Registered Dietician to elders who needed to improve their dietary intake; 6) Senior Companion support on a one on one basis for frail, homebound elders;

7) Elder Care Clinician outreach services to elders struggling with a variety of mental health issues provided through a contract with Rutland Mental Health; 8) Transportation support through the Elders on the Go Program and One-2-One; 9) Community Development Assistance and 10) Caregiver information and support for family members and others who are providing help to elders in need of care.



RONALD J. CIOFFI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RUSS GATES, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TO THE TOWN MANAGER, OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF WELLS:

For more than 57 years, the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice has brought high-quality, affordable community based home health and hospice services to people in the comfort of their homes.

In the face of rising healthcare costs, nursing shortages, shrinking reimbursement and regulatory changes to the health care system, RAVNAH has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective health care services to some of Rutland County's most vulnerable individuals. We are proud to report that we continue to be a community leader in guiding and shaping the future of home health, preventative and long-term care services, including home care, hospice, maternal-child health and community programs. Our services not only promote a healthy community, but also support individual dignity and independence in the home.

We are proud to report on a number of successes we have achieved:

- Provided over 1,200 hours of volunteer service in our Hospice Program.
- Initiated Hospice Palliative Care Program.
- Instituted Options Counseling for nursing home admissions.
- Collaborated with Wilcox Pharmacy in the Synagis® Program for patients with respiratory syncytial virus.
- Provided over 3700 flu vaccinations.
- Prepared for compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

We could not have been successful without our dedicated staff. RAVNAH's staff and volunteers made over 84,000 visits to 2,494 different patients. In the town of Wells we provided 1018 visits to 41 individuals.

To the individuals and organizations of the town of Wells that have supported us during 2003 we are truly thankful. With your support, RAVNAH will continue to meet our mission "to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services."

Again, we say thank you for your support.

RUTLAND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PO Box 222 Rutland VT 05702

78 South Main Street, Rutland VT 05701 • (802) 775-8224 • Fax: (802) 747-7699

E-mail: mail@rmhsccn.org

7 Court Square, Rutland VT 05701 • (802) 775-4388 • Fax: (802) 775-3307

135 Granger Street, Rutland VT 05701 • (802) 747-3588 • Fax: (802) 775-7196

Information & Referral: (802) 747-7696 or Toll Free 877-430-2273 • TTY/TDD 800-253-0191

In the year 2003, 27 towns in Rutland County supported the work of Rutland Mental Health Services through town giving. Our agency is committed to providing quality services regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The generous support of towns such as Wells assures that quality services are available for their families, friends and neighbors. Town giving dollars support services which include:

- Individual Counseling for Children, Adults and Families
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Emergency/Crisis Services

During fiscal year 2003, Rutland Mental Health Services provided 110 hours of services to 15 Wells Residents. We value our partnership with the Town of Wells in providing these much needed services and thank you for your continued effort.

Mark G Monson
President and Chief Executive Officer

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 small 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:

- Information and Referral
- Home and Community Access Program
- Meal on Wheels (people with disabilities under the age of 60)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling
- Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program
- Sue Williams Freedom Fund

To Learn More About VCIL, Call Us Toll-Free AT 1-800-639-1522



RUTLAND COUNTY WOMEN'S
NETWORK & SHELTER
PO Box 313
Rutland, Vermont 05702

Business: 775-6788

Crisis: 775-3232

RUTLAND COUNTY WOMEN'S NETWORK AND SHELTER
ANNUAL REPORT 2003

The Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter is a non-profit agency working within Rutland County to provide safety and support services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We have been in Rutland County for almost 25 years serving men, women, and children who live in danger.

This year the shelter has been constantly busy. In addition to families needing immediate housing for their safety, we gave counseling and other support services to well over 3400 people. We assist people with counseling, support groups, help with relocation, are available on a 24 hour crisis line for domestic violence and rape, assist with family court advocacy, and other services necessary to keep families safe.

The families, volunteers, and staff of the shelter thank the voters of Wells for their continued support of our program. Because of your consistent support, we are able to continue to provide a safe haven for those survivors of domestic violence from your town.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Roguen
Assistant Director

VERMONT C.A.R.E.S

(Committee for AIDS Resources, Education and Services)

For close to two decades of the AIDS epidemic Vermont CARES has been providing support services to Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and their family members. In addition, Vermont CARES has provided education and training to Vermonters of all ages on how to prevent the further spread of HIV infections to themselves and loved ones. In 1997 Vermont CARES help to develop and opened 600 Dalton Drive, Vermont's only residential facility for people living with HIV in Colchester.

The support of the Town of Wells in Vermont CARES effort continues to be absolutely essential. Evidence of support from the Town of Wells has included individual financial contributions from community members, volunteer work and forums for HIV education presentations. In addition, many volunteers and/or former employees are residents of the Town of Wells and surrounding areas.

In 2003, the number of HIV + people accessing services from Vermont CARES increased by over 150% from the previous year. In the past year, we have provided support services to over 150 Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS and close to 500 of their family members, some of whom are from the Town of Wells. These services include service coordination, advocacy, support, transportation, and emergency financial assistance. We have also assisted dozens of HIV + people locate and access safe and affordable housing using federal rental assistance programs through scattered site apartments in and around the Town of Wells.

Vermont CARES Prevention Programs are designed to help individuals at risk for HIV develop knowledge and skills that they can use to protect themselves from contracting the virus that caused AIDS, and to encourage HIV testing and treatment. Vermont CARES offers prevention programs on many different levels for individuals at risk of HIV including peer outreach, needle exchange and oral HIV testing. During the past year, 25 individuals living with and at risk of HIV have been involved in community outreach and education. That work included one-on-one outreach to individuals at risk, presentations at schools as well as public information tables at community events in the Town of Wells and other communities in Rutland County. Over the course of the past twelve months, we have reached well over 5,000 Vermonters directly with HIV prevention education information. In addition, Vermont CARES collaborates with other social service agencies that serve individuals at high risk of HIV infection to ensure access to resources to help them with a myriad of issues including domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health, and homelessness.

With continued support from the Town of Wells, Vermont CARES will be able to take on the new challenges facing us as more and more people believe that "AIDS is over" or there is a cure for AIDS. The fact remains that there is no cure for AIDS...current treatments are exceedingly expensive, toxic and often have limited effect. The growing media hype about the "end of AIDS" has led to an alarming increase in the number of people, particularly young people, who report that they have stopped protecting themselves against HIV infection. We have a lot of work to do to actually bring this epidemic to its end.

Thank you for your continued support. If you are in need of any additional information, documentation or have any questions, please call 802-863-2437 or 800-649-2437.

Kendall Farrell
Executive Director



Currently, there are approximately 60 members of the Society who meet for a dinner or supper times a year at the Modern Woodmen Hall in Chicago.

The Society's major function is to discover and preserve the history of the woodmen to establish or illustrate the history of the woodmen and for the preservation of such material and for its use by all who wish to examine or study it; also to preserve the history of the woodmen and the preservation of historic buildings, monuments and other objects of interest.



Vermont Department of Health
Rutland District Office

Agency of Human Services

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 Wells.

Bioterrorism – Emergency Preparedness:

The Vermont Department of Health is actively working with local, state and federal agencies to assure a rapid and effective response to bioterrorism and other public health threats or emergencies. Local health department response may include: finding and identifying disease early; investigating the source of the disease; providing accurate and timely information to the public and health professionals; and collaborating with other agencies during biological, environmental or weather events. The Rutland District Office has become a contributing member of the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) for the Rutland Region. In the past year we have established ties with many of the emergency response agencies. We have also provided training to town health officers, worked closely with the Rutland Regional Medical Center to increase active surveillance, and participated with local and statewide partners in a table top exercise on October 3, 2003. This exercise tested our ability to interact correctly in the vent of a regional emergency incident.

WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children)

One of the most effective ways to improve the health of the overall population is to improve nutrition and physical activity. 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, 39 women, infants and children living in Rutland City received foods as well as health screening and individualized nutrition education through this program. The average value of foods provided is \$35.00 per person per month.



WELLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Officers 2003-2004

President:	Joe Capron
Vice President:	Edgar Corey
Recording Secretary:	Kathy Bergen
Treasurer:	Tracee Oakman
Correspond Secretary:	Trish Capron
Historian:	Harold Bates
Trustees:	Rose Corey Al Ruesch Edgar Haskins

Members in our society; meetings are held 4
all, each after a sumptuous potluck

er and collect any material that may help
ells. The Society will provide for the
accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to
the Society will undertake the
ments and markers in Wells.

West Nile Virus Surveillance:

West Nile Virus first appeared in the U.S. in New York City in 1999 and has become well established in nearly all states. Birds, some 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. As of October 21, 2003: 76 birds and three horses have tested positive for WNV. Three human cases of WNV have been confirmed in the state. In Rutland County from June 12 – October 17, 2003, 88 dead birds were reported, 61 were tested, and 7 birds were found to be infected with WNV. There were no human or equine cases reported during this same time period for Rutland County.

If you would like more information about these efforts, or if you have a public health concern, please call the Rutland District Office at 802-786-5811. Please visit our web site at www.healthyvermonters.infor for Healthy Vermonters 2010, our state's blueprint for improving public health, news releases; other publications and reports; and general public health information.

RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Annual Report 2003

The RRPC's Mission:

To provide leadership and technical expertise to encourage cooperative planning with and among the region's communities and area wide interests; and, strive to improve the quality of life for people in the region by promoting harmony between sustainable economic development, environmental interests and other planning issues.

2003 Activities:

In pursuit of its Mission, the RRPC continued to work closely with the region's 27 communities on a wide range of projects:

- Provided **technical assistance** on community development issues – including assisting in the update and implementation of town plans, zoning & subdivision regulations, telecommunications ordinances in virtually every member community.
- Assisted – communities to successfully apply for funds through the **Municipal Planning Grant** program.
- Continued the RRPC's very successful **cooperative purchasing program** with municipal and non-profit entities organizations in towns, saving them substantial amounts on fuel oil, diesel and gasoline.
- Used **GIS(Geographic Information Systems)** tools to work on transportation, watershed planning, and emergency management initiatives. Also continued involvement of GIS in planning projects, the RRPC intern program, and community training.
- Continued **support of the Rutland Regional Transportation Council** in their planning for the future transportation needs of the Rutland Region; participated in several route/intersection upgrade studies; continued to work with communities to create bridge and culvert inventories for use with GIS.
- Worked with the **Rutland Economic Development Corporation** and the **Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce** on a regional strategy to better coordinate community development, economic development and travel and tourism activities. Both organizations have become permanent ex-officio members of the Board of Regional Commissioner.

- Assisted communities with **emergency management planning**, including updates to Rapid Response Plans, assisting in the re-formation of the Rutland Local Emergency Planning Committee, and beginning Federal Hazard Mitigation planning.
- Received \$200,000 Federal **Brownfields Assessment** grant and began the organization of a steering committee and the identification of potential sites.
- Continued to offer **education, training, and information distribution programs** to municipal officials and to pay for those program related to planning and zoning and other community development issues.

RUTLAND REGION TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Formed in 1992, the Rutland Region Transportation Council (RRTC) provides a forum for the development of regional transportation planning and transportation projects that may have regional impacts. In addition, it coordinates policies and priorities with the Vermont Agency of Transportation and promotes cooperation on transportation issues in the Rutland Region. The Council is the primary method for public involvement in transportation planning. State and federal funds are obtained by the Rutland Regional Planning Commission which provides support for the Council. The Planning Commission also provides planning, administrative, and geographic information system staff.

All municipalities in the Rutland Region are encouraged to be active in the Transportation Council and those with representative named to the Council may vote on any issues. Municipalities are not obligated to participate in the Council and those that do participate may cease their involvement at any time.

Over the last fiscal year (October 2002 – September 2003), the Rutland Region Transportation Council and its staff have been working for improved transportation planning in Rutland County in the following ways:

- Continued to assess the Rutland region's top transportation problems including whether planned projects conform to the Rutland Regional Plan. From a regional perspective, improvements to the Route 7 and 4 corridors are always high priorities;
- Participated in discussions regarding transportation projects such as improvements to VT 73 and the Pittsford-Brandon Route 7 upgrades;

- Provided comments to the Vermont Agency of Transportation on the development of Vermont's FY 2004 transportation Capital Budget and Program and the FY 2004-2006 State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP);
- Continued to discuss the potential for a roundabout to reduce the number and severity of accidents at the US7/VT103 intersection in Clarendon;
- Continued to assist towns with road network (culvert, bridge and road condition) inventories. Utilizing the RRPC's simple system of aerial photos and data collection (condition, etc.) sheets, 2 towns have completed culvert inventories and 5 are in progress.
- Continued to address seasonal transportation problems along VT 103, VT 100, and US 4 by working with staff of neighboring Regional Planning Commissions and ski area representatives;
- Collected traffic data at multiple locations for two towns;
- Worked with the Rutland Physical Activity Coalition to increase bicycle and pedestrian opportunities in the area (including a map of walking trails in Rutland City);
- Worked with transit providers and human service agencies to improve transportation service to those with special needs including elders;
- Began work with towns along Route 30 for possible Byways designation;
- Assessed the region for existing and potential locations for Park and Ride lots;
- Distributed reports, bulletins, fliers and newsletters, and maintained the Council's Web page.

In the current federal fiscal year (October 2003 – September 2004), the Rutland Regional Transportation Council is continuing many of these efforts. A stronger focus on access management is expected in the coming year.

Meetings of the Rutland Region Transportation Council are held once each month, normally on the fourth Thursday, in Rutland. All those with an interest in transportation and related issues are invited to attend. Questions about the Transportation Council may be directed to the following individuals: Susie Leonard or Susan Schreiber, Senior Planners (775-0871) or Richard Baker, Chairman (247-6366).

RUTLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT Annual Report-Calendar year 2003

The Rutland County Solid Waste District offers a variety of solid waste, recycling, waste education, household hazardous waste, composting and administrative support programs for our sixteen member municipalities. Some services are also available to non-District communities on a fee for service basis. In addition, the District operates a regional drop-off center and transfer station at Gleason Road in Rutland City. District program, facility and rate information is now available on our web site, www.rcswd.com

Waste Disposal: During 2003, residents and businesses in our member municipalities disposed of approximately 37,000 tons of municipal solid waste, nearly all of through the District's master disposal contract with Casella Waste Management. The cost of disposal, handling and transportation from the District Transfer Station at Gleason Road to the landfill was \$68.04 per ton. State taxes, district surcharge and the Rutland City Host Community Fee totaled \$23.97, for a final disposal of \$92.01 per ton.

Recycling: The District owns a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), or recycling center, off West Street in Rutland City that is leased by Casella Waste Management for their operations. The MRF accepts seventeen recyclable commodities from transfer stations, commercial haulers and large generators for processing and sale for re-use.

Household Hazardous Waste: Rutland County Solid Waste District operates an extensive Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program for the district residents. The program operates year-round from the Gleason Road facility, and scheduled collections at twenty town transfer stations through spring, summer and fall. The HHW program collects and safely disposes of dozens of hazardous, flammable and toxic materials, anti-freeze, pesticides, used motor oil, asbestos, fluorescent tubes, computers and electronics. For 2003 the District collected and disposed of 58,722 lbs of electronics, televisions and computers; 23,947 linear feet of fluorescent lamps (plus 288 other pieces); 10,036 gallons of paint and other HHW; 574 refrigerators, air conditioners and other Freon based units; and had over 774 households and 73 businesses participate in this program.

Other programs: The District also offered other waste management, education and reduction programs, including construction and demolition waste, clean wood, food waste and concrete and asphalt "earth materials" recycling. The District is continuing with its "Merry Mulch" program in collecting and processing over 1,200 Christmas trees annually.

The District's food waste program is operated in cooperation with the Rutland County Natural Resource Conservation District. Customers include supermarkets, greenhouses, and produce distributors. The district also received a grant from the Agency of Natural Resources to offer a "clean sheetrock" waste drywall program for contractors and homeowners.

Planning, Other Improvements: As required by the new state solid waste plan, the District updated its "Implementation Plan" which serves as a business plan for the next five years. This plan was approved of by the Board of Supervisors in April and sent to the state for their review. The District is anticipating the State's comments on the plan soon with a revision ready for public review sometime in 2004.

James O'Gorman
District Manager

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

The Vermont League of Cities and Town's 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 serve and strengthen the ability of 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. VLTC distributed over 575 copies of local government publications and distributed over 3,200 hard copies or electronic mail versions of VLTC'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 VLTC Health Trust represents the most affordable option available to provide health insurance to your employees. The value of VLTC 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 VLTC, along with 140 other municipal entities including villages and fire districts. Membership dues are \$.72 per capita plus \$250 service fee per year. VLTC 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 website at www.vltc.org.

WELLS VILLAGE SCHOOL

School Board, Chair

If you want to see enthusiasm, activity, growth, change and joyful noises, Come to the school!

I have been on the board now for five years, and it has been wonderful to watch the growth and maturing of those that were little mite when I started and who are now are our "upper class-men".

As always, I urge that if you are able, please volunteer some of your time and talents to the school. We have a staff that will happily find you a job to do. They are very creative at that. Thanks to all of you that have volunteered this year. You do make a difference; and you serve as a role model for the kids. Public service is important for all of us. The sixth-graders with their programs of visitations to the Indian River Nursing Home are learning how rewarding that can be. We have to educate the children in such services because from them will come our future selectman, constable members of various town boards, MWA, and even school boards!

Of course, the biggest physical change you can see at the school is our two new classrooms: Even though they are in the basement, they are actually bright and airy. As one of the Supervisory Union board members said when they were showing them off at one of the meetings, "You don't feel like you are in the basement". If you haven't seen them yet, they will be open at Town Meeting. The fifth and sixth graders really like their new room, and now have room to conduct all the specialized teaching and reading out of closet and cubby-holes.

Because we did the project over several years using surpluses and the 30% rebate from each project as we did them, we did not have to raise money by bonds. Which means, we don't have to pay any interest. One of the state people who work on deciding what the State will reimburse the town on the final piece of the project saw the rooms when they were almost finished and said that we "got a lot of bang for the buck".

A large thank you to the MWA who let us use their facilities for the fifth grade almost two months until the new rooms were complete! In December we reached a three year contract with the teachers. We feel that it is a good contract. There was give and take on both sides. Of course, one of the important points on any contract in these days is medical insurance. We now have an agreement on this which we feel will help keep down the cost on this. The teachers individually pay 10% of the cost of their health insurance. The contract is public document, and if you want to see a copy, you may ask to do so; and you are always welcome to attend School Board Meetings and ask questions and make comments.

We ask for your support of the budget. We have reduced or eliminated some of our programs in order to reduce costs. We feel that by using the programs in place and by rearranging some responsibilities, we can cover those areas. We are thus able to keep the increase over last year's budget to 2.5%. So please vote in favor of the budget, so in any event- Please Vote! That is another example that you can give the kids to show how democracy works.

Respectfully submitted,

Charity Downs
School Board Chair

Report of the Principal

Once again it is my pleasure to inform you of the progress of the Wells Village School for the year 2003.

We have been fortunate over the past four years to participate in the VT Reads program granting us \$10,000 a year annually and the services of a literacy consultant. The grant has allowed us to focus on professional development and increase materials in the area of literacy. Part of our work has been to establish or modify assessment systems and use this data to drive decisions about student support services. We have chosen the Four Blocks Framework for Literacy as our curriculum guideline school wide. These efforts are integral in helping us improve student performance and achievement in the area of literacy. The faculty has participated in coursework related to the areas of writing, guided reading and self-selected reading.

I served as a member on our district committee reviewing supervision and evaluation tools. After many hours of work the committee accepted a working document to pilot across the district this year. It is based on the Charlotte Danielson model, A Framework for Teaching. Our goal is to have a tool that truly seeks to improve teaching skills with a clear, common language.

Our one-week residency held a focus on dance with Karin Amirault of Burlington. Each class perfected their presentation for our evening performance. The crowd of spectators appeared to thoroughly enjoy the evening including several originals by the artist and a group of older unknown dancers who strangely resembled our faculty and staff.

Our Family Literacy Night in April was a huge success. Money from the literacy grant allowed each child in attendance to leave with new books and each parent to leave with new ideas to support their child's literacy skills.

The 5th & 6th graders traveled to Boston in May and enjoyed three days immersed in city life. We visited the Museum of Science, the New England Aquarium, the U.S.S. Constitution, Plimoth Plantation, the Mayflower II and many others. Financial support for this trip came through fundraising by the students and parents. Thank you for your generosity in supporting those events.

With the resignation of former superintendent, Walter Goetz, a search was launched for his replacement. An extensive process was used to find new superintendent, Maynard "Chip" Baldwin. The Wells community had the opportunity to meet him at our annual open house and surprise him with a birthday cake. We look forward to many years of collaboration and his energized leadership.

Open House was also the evening I kissed a cow! Actually it was a young calf from the Cooper farm accompanied by the runner-up Washington County Dairy Princess. The students were thrilled to have the opportunity to see me do such a silly thing and attendance at Open House has never been higher.

In an effort to alleviate space issues in our school, the school board undertook a construction project over the summer that added two classrooms in our basement. The 5th & 6th graders took up residency in October and are enjoying the wonderful new space. Many thanks to our generous neighbors at the M.W.A. for allowing us to use space in their building while we awaited the completion of the project. The exterior of the school also got a facelift with fresh paint this year.

Our goal is to educate the total child and in keeping with that thinking we offer fine arts opportunities throughout the year such as the VT Institute of Natural Science and the VT Symphony Orchestra Fiddlesticks Ensemble. After school programs include Math Club, 5 & 6th Soccer and Basketball and Homework Club.

In our continual pursuit of excellence, this fall the faculty took on the process of the VISMT Audit of our Mathematics Program. We are currently awaiting the results. Our intent is to focus on Math for school-wide improvement next year. As we approach 2004, we will be establishing plans to help us achieve this goal.

We attempt to keep community members informed of school activities via our local newspapers. Our weekly school newsletter, The Chalkboard is also posted on line at www.rsusu.org. Click on the Wells Village School link.

I consider it a privilege to continue to serve as your principal. Thank you for your generous support of our students and their educational programs.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. O'Leary
Principal

REPORT OF EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Early Education Program provides necessary intervention to handicapped and at-risk preschoolers. Children who are eligible for the Early Education Program fall into one of two categories: 1) Children who display a 40% delay in one or more learning areas, such as speech/language, cognitive, motor skills, behavior and self help, and are eligible for Essential Early Education; and 2) Children who are at-risk in any number of developmental areas, such as social, speech/language, general knowledge, large and small motor skills.

The Early Education Program continues to serve the children from the towns of Ira, Tinmouth, Wells, Middletown Springs and Poultney. The program and curriculum are similar to that of most preschool programs and maximum attention is paid to addressing the individual strengths and needs of each of the students. The teachers have backgrounds in early education and early intervention of handicapped and at-risk children. Direct services from a language teacher and an Early Interventionist are available to ALL children, not just children with specific needs in these areas.

The Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Early Education center-based program is able to serve 34 students in three separate class sessions. Essential Early Education children are served both in the home and center-based programs. Essential Early Education children are given priority when selecting a center-based enrollment as mandated by law. At-risk children fill the remainder of the openings within the center-based program.

The Rutland Southwest Early Education Program provides a developmentally appropriate preschool curriculum, which, through his/her play, allows each child to grow across all developmental areas. Socially, our goal is to increase the self-esteem, self-reliance, and independence of our students. By regarding each child as a whole person, we recognize the importance of the family; parents are the child's primary educators. The Rutland Southwest Early Education staff works closely with parents to plan and implement programs for children.

The Early Education staff currently includes two full-time positions. These positions are: Early Interventionist/Teacher and teacher assistant. A language teacher serves students 1-1/2 days per week. The staff is currently serving thirty-seven children ages 2-5 years through our center-based/home-based programs.

The Early Education Center-Based Program is located at Poultney High School. This program currently runs three classes providing services to 2-5 year olds. The staff also provides home-based services to children 2-5 years old and early intervention services to children 0-3 in collaboration with the Family Infant Toddler Project (Part H).

Other services provided by the Early Education Program include: preschool screenings for 3 and 4 year old children from all towns in the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union; evaluations of children with developmental delays to determine Special Education eligibility for Essential Early Education; coordination of the transition process from preschool to kindergarten; and support for families and existing community preschools through assistance, consultation and/or direct services as appropriate. There is also collaboration with the Even Start Program serving children 0-5 throughout the district.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheri Kinney
Darlene Ellis

Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Report from the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

As the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, I submit my 4th annual report for the district.

To reach our goal of students achieving high academic levels, teachers and administrators continue to seek ways to improve curriculum, instruction and assessment. In each curricular area, some parts are established and successful and some are being improved while some are being developed. As the Department of education determines how we will implement the testing aspects of the new Federal law, the No Child Left Behind Law, we will adjust our plan.

The English Language Arts Curriculum was distributed, K-12, in the spring of 2003 with the pilot year being 2003-2004. Professional Development for the improvement of literacy instruction and assessment is on going through coaching and various graduate reading courses offered in the district.

We are in our fourth and final year of involvement with the Reading Improvement Project/Statewide Improvement Grant, a Federally funded four-year project that is designed to strengthen student reading and writing, pre-K-grade 3 and reduce special education referrals. Sally O'Doherty, Early Literacy Improvement Specialist, has been a coach, leader, consultant and professor for not just the schools identified for the project but for each of our schools in some way.

The new district Supervision & Evaluation system was completed and is in its pilot year. We provided a full day of professional development to all teachers and administrators in order to train teachers what research the system is based on. Administrators had previously received three days of training with other Rutland area administrators.

Fifteen new teachers attended an Orientation Day prior to the opening of school. The day was filled with the superintendent discussing our goals and the new Supervision and Evaluation system. There was training on Bloodborne Pathogens and on how to access district e-mail and the Internet. Curricular areas and specific grade level assessment information was shared along with a tour to district schools.

Vermont School Quality Standards require that we provide new first and second year teachers with on going support from a successful experienced teacher for two years. I am pleased that we have eight trained experienced teachers able to support our new teachers in the district.

Coordination with receiving high schools took the form of sending our Language Arts and Elementary Spanish Curriculums to the schools. We received some suggestions from department heads that will be implemented.

Preliminary work began on the development of the Science Curriculum. This is the first curriculum document that is being written with draft Grade Level Expectations (GLE) from the Department of Education as we prepare for the Federal 2005 assessments. Bruce Parks, Program Improvement Coordinator, continues to assist us with these efforts.

This is my thirtieth year in the district and it continues to be a pleasure to work with the administrative team, working together and supporting each other to meet the many challenges that face all educators with the No Child Left Behind Law.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Folger
RSWSU Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

**Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union
Early Education Outreach Coordinator
2003-2004 Annual Report**

Early education experiences are now available to families in outer lying areas of the district, in addition to the center based EEE program Poultney. Research shows that the earlier children and families are engaged in language rich activities, the more successful children are in school.

Three different free programs are now offered throughout the school year. All are voluntary. **Playgroup** is an enjoyable way to meet and get together with other families with young children. Children birth to age 5 and their parents are welcome. Currently, playgroups take place on a regular basis in 2 different locations within the district. The times and locations are listed below:

- **Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 A.M., Tinmouth, Tinmouth Church basement**
- **Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:00 A.M., Middletown Springs, Middletown Springs Elementary**

Home visiting is another early education program for families. The home visitor knows that you are your child's first and most important teacher. In addition to playing with you and your child, the home visitor can bring activities for you to share with your child. She is also there to answer your questions and help you connect with programs and resources you might need. I am available to do home visiting and look forward to spending time with you and your child, if you would like.

The last program that is offered is called **Even Start**. It is an intensive, integrated family literacy program. Any family with a child under 8 years of age and a parent without a high school diploma or with limited reading, writing, or math skills is eligible. Priority (if there is a waiting list) is based on family needs.

Even Start is a weaving together of adult education and early education tailored to individual families. Even Start team members build a strong relationship with each family. The adult educator and family educators work closely with families in a group setting, as well as in the home. Even Start partners up with Vermont Adult Learning, Headstart, the Parent Child Center, The Vermont Center For The Book, and the Vermont Council On The Humanities to offer a wide range of services and programs to Even Start families. I am an Even Start team member and welcome the opportunity to meet with families who are interested in Even Start.

In addition to the above ongoing programs, some additional short-term programs may take place this school year in outer lying communities in the district if grant funding is available. These programs, called **Family Book Programs**, last 3-4 weeks, one session per week, and are geared to families with children 5 years of age and younger. Families spend time together enjoying high quality children's books with related activities and receive a free set of the books by participating.

If you have questions or would like more information about the above programs, I will be happy to talk with you about them. My office is located at the Middletown Springs Elementary School and the number there is 235-2365.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Krantz
Early Ed Outreach Coordinator

**Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union
2003-04 Annual Report**

Special Education Coordinator's Report

Special Education programs provide services to students identified as having learning or emotional disabilities, health, speech and language, hearing or learning impairments, autism, and multiple disabilities. Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union served approximately 154 students this year.

Programs continue to address academic difficulties, provide accommodations and modifications to the regular education curriculum, implement positive social skills, teach functional daily living skills, and prepare students to contribute to society to the best of their ability. Eligibility for special education services and placements are determined by a student's Evaluation/Planning and IEP teams. Students with special needs can receive services that include speech and language support, help from instructional assistants, community based programs, and related therapies or counseling as determined necessary.

Federal and State law requires Child Find to locate and identify children who need services at the earliest age possible. Research states there is a strong correlation between early education and successful experience in school. A strong foundation of early intervention has been a focus in Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union for children and families. Through Early Education Committees under the auspices of Special Education, in addition to the Even Start Program and Early Education Program in Poultney, early education opportunities will be expanding. Pre-school programs in the Timmough and Middletown Springs Elementary Schools will also be in place for the coming school year. The Stonebridge Inn in Poultney will house satellite programs offered in Rutland, specifically Vermont Adult Learning, Day Care, Headstart, Parent Child Center, and Even Start offices for easier RSWSU community accessibility. This strong commitment to early education interventions and family support should provide our youngsters with a solid beginning of lifelong learning.

A "continuum" of services is expanding in order to serve our students locally and cost effectively. The OPTIONS Program is a Life Skills component of Poultney High School located off campus, available to all districts in RSWSU for students who have significant learning challenges and require an intensive life skills curriculum in a structured environment. In addition to the

established BECOME Program, the new ACT Program under the OPTIONS umbrella has been created to serve students who are functioning below average in daily life skills, and have behavioral or social issues. Vermont Achievement Center and the Success Program in Rutland continue to serve RSWSU students with intensive behavioral challenges who are in need of a more specialized day program setting. The goal is to return these students to the local public school district or local setting as the capacity is built to serve them.

A major focus has been to address the capacity of Instructional Assistants/Paraprofessionals who work with our most challenged students. Federal and State regulations require that training and supervision be provided. Project EVOLVE, through the University of Vermont, emphasizes the need to identify an over reliance on Paraprofessionals, and to look at models of Special Education.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001/Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires that Paraprofessional/Instructional Assistants employed be "highly qualified" by January, 2006.

The Supervisory Union has begun specific assessment and training activities to ensure that compliance is met for all Paraprofessionals/Instructional Assistants.

I welcome the RSWSU new Special Educators and Special Education Administrative Assistant, Patricia Kinirons, and would like to express gratitude to the Superintendent of Schools, Chip Baldwin, Poultney Community, Special Educators and all educators. It is support, collaborative efforts and strong partnership among all of us that achieves positive outcomes for our students with special needs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marian Ackerman
Special Education Coordinator

Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Report of the Superintendent of Schools

It is with pleasure that I offer the residents of the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union (Towns of Ira, Middletown Springs, Poultney, Tinmouth, and Wells) my first impressions regarding education within our communities. I came to the district, having been a Superintendent and most recently Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for the Barre Supervisory Union. These previous administrative positions have given me a unique advantage in being able to take the reins of the RSWSU, which, by all indications is a well-functioning district.

The reasons for the success are clear: hard working board members; competent and caring administrators, faculty, and staff; and most importantly, wonderful children.

There are several issues that are enormous in terms of complexity and implications for each of our school districts. I will try to highlight some of these issues and will continue to gather information so that we make decisions that are child-centered, focused on improved teaching and learning, and balance the needs of our taxpayers. Schools need to reflect the values of the communities that they serve. To that end, we are driven by the belief that all children will learn well, to the best of their ability.

Declining Enrollments and Rising Costs

Each of our districts are faced with the problem of shrinking enrollments and escalating costs. Boards have to continually assess the cost of doing business and examine their budgets for economy. This has resulted in some loss of positions and programs throughout the districts.

Some of our districts have looked toward offering pre-Kindergarten as a solution to increasing our student numbers, gaining additional state revenues over time, and improving the educational entry skills of our children.

No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

The reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now known as the No Child Left Behind Act, is having major ramifications for not only our districts, but education in Vermont and across the country.

Issues such as teacher and paraprofessional qualifications, adequate yearly progress of all children including the disaggregation of data by subgroups, and annual testing in grades three through eight and high school have resulted in continuing school improvement efforts and some confusion as clarification is sought from the U.S. Department of Education. With the size of legislation such as NCLB, there are sure to be some growing pains and adjustments to be made.

Vermont's Change from Act 60 to Act 68

The legislation enacted in Vermont several years ago, Act 60, was the culmination of the legislative efforts to address the issue of equalizing the educational opportunities for all children regardless of where they resided. The beginnings of Act 60 emerged with a state-wide property tax and a local "above block" spending piece. Just as taxpayers and school officials were getting comfortable with being able to understand the law, the next generation, Act 68, comes upon us.

The Vermont Department of Education, in the process of providing technical assistance, along with the Tax Department, has stated that there is currently no way to make a good estimate of an actual homestead tax rate as the law currently reads. House Bill 540 (currently passed the House and is in the Senate) addresses this problem by having the State set homestead and non-homestead tax rates rather than tax liabilities. The pending result will be the actual tax rates taxpayers will see on their tax bills, which will be done by taking the equalized homestead and non-homestead rates and dividing by the most recent common level of appraisal.

Education Mandates

Late last year a joint report of the Vermont School Boards Association, the Vermont Superintendents Association, and the Vermont Principals Association was submitted to the new Commissioner of Education in accordance with Section 43 of Act 68. We often hear a lot of rhetoric about unfunded mandates and now we can refer to a careful study that articulates some of the complex issues such as driver education, criminal record checks, Governor's diploma, alcohol and drug prevention, licensing, etc. to name a few. The complete text of the report is available on www.vtvsba.org, along with other meaningful information.

One of the major pieces of legislation during the upcoming session will deal with the issue of school choice. The debates that will surround this policy

directive will be emotional, and politically charged. School communities need to not only gather information on how this will affect their local school, but to be a voice for equal opportunity for each and every child within the district. Again, I opened with the words that schools need to reflect the values of the communities they serve, and will now be challenged to make sure that it happens.

I am very proud of the work of your staff and hope that some of the highlights I have presented have been not only informative, but heightened your opinion of the combined efforts and talents of the people working with your children. My office remains open for you to come in and express your ideas, comments, or concerns. Working together as "Partners in Education" we can improve our schools, leave no child behind, and prepare our students for the 21st century now upon us.

In closing, I would like to again thank the boards, staff, students, and community for their continued support. The collaborative efforts of all will allow us to see the fruits of our labors.

Respectfully submitted,

Maynard F. Baldwin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

NOTICE!

The Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and each of the member school districts (Ira, Middletown Springs, Poultney, Tinmouth, and Wells) are responsible for the provision of a free and appropriate public education for every child with an educational disability ages 3-21 living within a member town.

We are searching for any child including those birth through 2 years of age who might be eligible for and in need of special education and related services help. Anyone can and should make a referral of any child living in one of these towns they believe may be eligible for special education. They can do so by contacting in writing or by telephone:

The Principal of the school which the child is or will be likely to attend

OR

The Superintendent of Schools
Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union
168 York Street
Poultney, Vermont 05764
Tel: 287-5286

Referral information will be handled in confidence. The referral may lead to an evaluation of the child to determine if he or she is eligible for and in need of special education. If the answer is yes, an individualized educational plan will be developed and implemented by a multi-disciplinary team of people including the child's parents.

Please! If you suspect a child residing in one of these towns may be in need of special education, make a referral!

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Wells School District will not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities including vocational education and special instruction as and to the extent provided by law.

The following person(s) have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Wells School District's non-discrimination policies:

Linda O'Leary, Principal
Section 504 Coordinator
Wells Village School
135 VT Route 30
Wells, Vermont 05774
Tel: 645-0386

Additional inquiries regarding the provisions of the federal laws related to children or adults with handicapping conditions or disabilities impacting the Wells School District including Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union, 168 York Street, Poultney, Vermont 05764,
Tel: 287-5286.

RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION

CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET

REVUNUES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
IRA	\$18,517	\$17,195	\$20,063	\$22,758
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	\$46,681	\$43,687	\$50,490	\$57,200
POULTNEY	\$173,212	\$161,065	\$192,873	\$217,945
TINMOUTH	\$25,081	\$23,445	\$30,666	\$33,629
WELLS	\$49,709	\$46,321	\$51,937	\$59,303
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	\$313,200	\$291,713	\$346,029	\$390,835

RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET

EXPENDITURES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Salaries				
Superintendent	\$76,220	\$79,000	\$85,024	\$84,000
Business Manager	\$29,492	\$32,751	\$36,862	\$36,862
Curriculum Coordinator (50% to 75%)	\$27,242	\$27,841	\$29,252	\$46,545
Secretary	\$30,125	\$30,125	\$31,029	\$31,029
Data Entry/Payroll Clerk	\$13,778	\$15,518	\$14,191	\$14,191
50% Business Ofc. Asst.	\$8,034	\$7,959	\$8,275	\$8,275
Treasurer	\$1,372	\$1,372	\$1,413	\$1,455
Custodian	\$1,543	\$1,656	\$1,400	\$1,700
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000
Substitutes	\$0	\$1,766	\$500	\$500
Total Salaries	\$187,806	\$197,988	\$207,946	\$244,557

Benefits					
Group Health Insurance	\$29,241	\$29,140	\$33,862	\$34,868	
Social Security/Medicare	\$15,794	\$16,729	\$17,593	\$18,905	
Municipal Retirement	\$3,999	\$4,400	\$4,366	\$3,341	
Workers Compensation	\$976	\$1,148	\$1,177	\$1,139	
Unemployment	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	
Dental/Eye Care	\$2,126	\$2,126	\$2,126	\$2,701	
Life Insurance	\$475	\$356	\$475	\$0	
Total Benefits	\$52,641	\$53,929	\$59,629	\$60,984	
Other Expenses					
Bookkeeping Services	\$19,548	\$19,548	\$22,531	\$23,080	
Hired Professional Services	\$3,310	\$3,731	\$3,310	\$3,360	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$3,100	\$3,511	\$4,500	\$4,500	
Office Rent	\$18,120	\$18,330	\$18,120	\$19,629	
Insurance	\$1,500	\$3,166	\$2,200	\$3,200	
Communications	\$8,300	\$7,114	\$8,000	\$8,000	
Advertising	\$5,000	\$4,833	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Printing	\$1,000	\$450	\$200	\$500	
Travel	\$4,025	\$2,428	\$3,635	\$4,650	
Supplies	\$5,550	\$9,159	\$6,675	\$9,075	
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Dues and Fees	\$3,300	\$3,786	\$4,280	\$4,300	
Total Other Expenses	\$72,753	\$76,056	\$78,451	\$85,294	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$313,200	\$327,973	\$346,026	\$390,835	

RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION

PRE-SCHOOL BUDGET

REVUNUES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
IRA	\$0	\$5,693	\$5,728	\$0
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	\$19,179	\$2,846	\$5,728	\$12,771
POULTNEY	\$60,741	\$73,955	\$71,684	\$70,251
TINMOUTH	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,193
WELLS	\$15,976	\$19,908	\$20,063	\$19,157
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	\$95,896	\$102,402	\$103,203	\$105,372
IDEA B GRANT FUNDS		\$8,150		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$95,896	\$110,552	\$103,203	\$105,372

**RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
PRE-SCHOOL BUDGET**

EXPENDITURES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Salaries				
Teacher	\$41,869	\$45,350	\$46,886	\$48,446
Language Teacher (30%)	\$15,308	\$15,222	\$15,767	\$15,786
SLP	\$0	\$7,299	\$0	\$0
Salary Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Aide	\$11,500	\$11,502	\$11,847	\$12,204
Substitutes	\$250	\$603	\$285	\$308
Total Salaries	\$68,927	\$79,976	\$74,785	\$76,744
Benefits				
Group Health Insurance	\$12,836	\$11,174	\$14,229	\$14,073
Social Security/Medicare	\$5,253	\$5,708	\$5,722	\$5,871
Municipal Retirement	\$460	\$460	\$474	\$488
Workers Compensation	\$277	\$277	\$277	\$277
Unemployment	\$10	\$10	\$5	\$5
Tuition Reimbursement	\$933	\$882	\$933	\$1,086
Dental/Eye Care	\$850	\$807	\$978	\$978
Total Benefits	\$20,619	\$19,318	\$22,618	\$22,778

Other Expenses					
Hired Professional Services	\$1,200	\$2,916	\$750	\$750	
Building Rent	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	
Communications	\$200	\$184	\$100	\$200	
Advertising	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Student Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Travel	\$250	\$325	\$400	\$400	
Supplies	\$1,100	\$1,032	\$1,000	\$1,000	
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Dues and Fees	\$100	\$0	\$50	\$0	
Total Other Expenses	\$6,350	\$7,957	\$5,800	\$5,850	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$95,896	\$107,251	\$103,203	\$105,372	

RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
SPECIAL EDUCATION BUDGET

REVENUES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Assessments				
IRA				
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	\$6,469	\$5,806	\$8,696	\$9,000
POULTNEY	\$20,096	\$15,326	\$17,076	\$17,183
TINMOUTH	\$71,853	\$54,103	\$63,176	\$64,743
WELLS	\$9,453	\$6,755	\$5,129	\$6,429
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	\$22,007	\$16,117	\$23,285	\$22,807
IDEA-B GRANT FUNDS	\$129,878	\$98,107	\$117,362	\$120,162
TOTAL REVENUES		\$149,224	\$117,362	\$120,162
	\$129,878	\$247,331	\$117,362	\$120,162

**RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
SPECIAL EDUCATION BUDGET**

EXPENDITURES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Salaries				
Special Education Coordinator	\$53,749	\$58,000	\$60,317	\$60,317
Special Education Consultant	\$0	\$23,183	\$0	\$0
Counselor	\$15,000	\$9,475	\$0	\$0
Speech/Language Aide	\$6,066	\$9,704	\$0	\$0
SLP	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$0
Substitutes	\$0	\$380	\$0	\$0
Secretary	\$20,085	\$20,085	\$20,688	\$20,113
Total Salaries	\$94,900	\$130,827	\$81,005	\$80,430

Benefits					
Group Health Insurance	\$12,252	\$13,877	\$13,698	\$17,217	
Social Security/Medicare	\$7,261	\$10,832	\$6,197	\$6,152	
Municipal Retirement	\$1,011	\$803	\$828	\$829	
Workers Compensation	\$634	\$634	\$474	\$474	
Unemployment	\$20	\$32	\$10	\$10	
Tuition Reimbursement	\$0	\$1,041	\$0	\$0	
Dental/Eye Care	\$850	\$1,046	\$850	\$850	
Total Benefits	\$22,028	\$28,265	\$22,057	\$25,532	
Other Expenses					
Hired Professional Services	\$1,500	\$3,369	\$1,500	\$1,000	
Other Professional Services	\$2,250	\$83,394	\$3,600	\$3,600	
Communications	\$2,500	\$1,706	\$2,500	\$2,500	
Advertising	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$0	
Travel	\$2,250	\$1,958	\$1,750	\$1,750	
Supplies	\$1,500	\$2,352	\$1,500	\$2,000	
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Dues and Fees	\$850	\$678	\$850	\$850	
In-Service Training	\$2,000	\$1,984	\$2,500	\$2,500	
Total Other Expenses	\$12,950	\$95,441	\$14,300	\$14,200	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$129,878	\$254,533	\$117,362	\$120,162	

**RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION
SHARED PROGRAMS BUDGET**

EXPENDITURES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Salaries				
Teacher, Art	\$20,392	\$22,515	\$23,768	\$24,941
Teacher, Phys. Ed.	\$24,206	\$25,599	\$26,620	\$28,109
Teacher, Music	\$26,450	\$24,598	\$27,672	\$30,020
Teacher, Gifted & Talented	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nurse	\$9,574	\$10,273	\$10,875	\$11,465
Substitutes	\$450	\$1,677	\$495	\$462
Total Salaries	\$81,072	\$84,662	\$89,430	\$94,997

RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION

SHARED PROGRAMS BUDGET

REVUNUES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
IRA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	\$44,810	\$41,913	\$46,954	\$48,465
POULTNEY	\$3,127	\$852	\$849	\$569
TINMOUTH	\$29,964	\$27,943	\$31,306	\$32,327
WELLS	\$45,140	\$41,914	\$47,070	\$48,525
TOTAL REVENUES	\$123,041	\$112,622	\$126,179	\$129,886

Benefits					
Group Health Insurance	\$25,618	\$18,051	\$23,273	\$21,522	
Social Security/Medicare	\$6,169	\$6,475	\$6,804	\$7,232	
Workers Compensation	\$673	\$673	\$673	\$673	
Unemployment	\$23	\$23	\$23	\$23	
Tuition Reimbursement	\$2,205	\$1,072	\$2,745	\$2,566	
Dental/Eye Care	\$1,181	\$699	\$1,181	\$1,054	
Total Benefits	\$35,869	\$26,993	\$34,699	\$33,070	
Other Expenses					
Repairs and Maintenance	\$0	\$269	\$0	\$269	
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Supplies	\$450	\$419	\$450	\$450	
Dues and Fees	\$150	\$224	\$100	\$100	
Improvement of Instruction	\$1,500	\$364	\$1,500	\$1,000	
Itinerant Salary Contingency	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total Other Expenses	\$6,100	\$1,276	\$2,050	\$1,819	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$123,041	\$112,931	\$126,179	\$129,886	

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

REVENUES	FY03 BUDGET	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 BUDGET	FY05 BUDGET
Local Sources				
Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$95,079	\$0
Property Taxes	\$295,550	\$301,952	\$304,303	\$0
Tuition	\$12,200	\$14,647	\$11,302	\$21,000
Interest	\$6,500	\$5,299	\$5,500	\$5,500
Food Service	\$9,800	\$10,359	\$9,800	\$9,800
Glebe Rent	\$68	\$68	\$68	\$68
Transportation	\$0	\$850	\$0	\$850
Other	\$0	\$215	\$0	\$0
Total Local Sources	\$324,118	\$333,390	\$426,052	\$37,218
State Sources				
General State Support	\$1,099,935	\$1,093,664	\$1,072,617	\$0
Grant				
ACT 68 Res./Non-Res. EEGL Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,431,936
Other State Sources	\$89,149	\$91,767	\$96,536	\$114,025
Block Grant	\$56,863	\$56,863	\$53,405	\$53,270
Intensive Reimbursement	\$91,623	\$88,611	\$92,484	\$148,680
Pre-School Grant	\$7,734	\$7,749	\$7,734	\$6,733
Food Service	\$450	\$477	\$450	\$450
Total State Sources	\$1,345,754	\$1,339,131	\$1,323,226	\$1,755,094
Federal Sources				
Food Service	\$10,500	\$9,890	\$10,500	\$10,500
Total Federal Sources	\$10,500	\$9,890	\$10,500	\$10,500
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,680,372	\$1,682,411	\$1,759,778	\$1,802,812

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Elementary</i>				
Teacher J. Grote	\$26,447	\$26,047	\$27,953	\$29,795
Teacher P. Hunter	\$28,482	\$28,991	\$30,023	\$34,970
Teacher K.				
Levine/Wincowski	\$29,499	\$27,143	\$31,058	\$45,320
Teacher Birbeck	\$42,722	\$41,934	\$44,517	\$46,355
Teacher J.				
Roach/Cassidy	\$27,464	\$1,210	\$27,953	\$28,760
Teacher, DeMichele	\$29,499	\$29,499	\$31,058	\$32,900
Teacher, J. Turner	\$27,464	\$22,245	\$28,988	\$32,900
Teacher, Bean (30%)	\$9,765	\$9,765	\$10,249	\$10,249
Assistant, Higgins	\$0	\$10,985	\$11,139	\$0
Assistant, J.				
Johnson/Dunbar	\$11,300	\$8,456	\$0	\$0
Assitant, K Hunter	\$0	\$2,042	\$0	\$0
Substitutes	\$5,000	\$22,570	\$5,500	\$6,000
Group Health				
Insurance	\$38,295	\$30,447	\$41,122	\$26,956
Social Security	\$18,180	\$18,262	\$19,000	\$20,000
Municipal Retirement	\$452	\$1,627	\$463	\$0
Worker's Comp	\$1,235	\$1,173	\$1,500	\$1,200
Unemployment Comp	\$640	\$122	\$720	\$560
Tuition Reimburse	\$5,000	\$2,563	\$4,000	\$4,000
Dental/Eye	\$2,800	\$1,762	\$2,500	\$2,500
Disability Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
Professional Services	\$3,000	\$3,860	\$3,500	\$3,500
Reading Recovery	\$12,500	\$24,329	\$24,500	\$25,235
Literacy Grant				
Teacher/Fine Arts	\$1,000	\$2,100	\$1,000	\$1,000
Repairs &				
Maintenance	\$3,000	\$3,530	\$3,500	\$3,500
Printing & Binding	\$350	\$0	\$350	\$350
Field Trips	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,200
Travel	\$500	\$120	\$500	\$750
Supplies	\$9,780	\$9,907	\$10,896	\$20,895

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Elementary</i>				
Books & Periodicals	\$14,520	\$7,483	\$3,910	\$7,500
Equipment	\$4,300	\$4,344	\$0	\$0
Dues & Fees	\$6,700	\$3,301	\$5,700	\$3,600
Contingency/SPED Allocation	\$0	\$0	\$223	\$0
Total Regular Education	\$359,894	\$345,817	\$371,822	\$390,495
<i>Art Program</i>				
Teacher, Kristiansen	\$11,664	\$12,408	\$13,301	\$13,717
Supplies	\$950	\$950	\$950	\$950
Books and Periodicals	\$50	\$0	\$200	\$200
Total Art	\$12,664	\$13,358	\$14,451	\$14,867
<i>Health & Safety Program</i>				
Teacher, Tinsley	\$12,421	\$12,932	\$13,682	\$14,175
Supplies	\$500	\$331	\$500	\$500
Total Health & Safety	\$12,921	\$13,263	\$14,182	\$14,675
<i>Music Program</i>				
Teacher, Routhier	\$14,330	\$10,670	\$13,420	\$13,824
Repairs & Maintenance	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100
Supplies	\$875	\$669	\$825	\$500
Total Music	\$15,305	\$11,339	\$14,345	\$14,424
<i>Enrichment</i>				
Teacher, M. Scieszka (20%)	\$6,815	\$6,489	\$7,040	\$0
Social Security	\$522	\$496	\$540	\$0
Supplies	\$690	\$879	\$400	\$0
Books & Periodicals	\$150	\$150	\$230	\$0

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Improvement of Instr</i>				
Software	\$235	\$25	\$150	\$0
Dues & Fees	\$100	\$100	\$250	\$0
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Enrichment	\$8,512	\$8,139	\$8,610	\$0
 <i>Guidance Service</i>				
Clinician	\$12,000	\$11,400	\$12,000	\$18,506
Total Guidance	\$12,000	\$11,400	\$12,000	\$18,506
 <i>Health Services</i>				
Nurse, R. Hanson	\$5,662	\$5,904	\$6,351	\$6,616
Supplies	\$595	\$315	\$470	\$365
Books & Periodicals	\$60	\$18	\$35	\$35
Total Health Services	\$6,317	\$6,237	\$6,856	\$7,016
 <i>Other Support Services</i>				
Insurance, Accident	\$875	\$878	\$930	\$800
Total Other Support Services	\$875	\$878	\$930	\$800
 <i>Medicaid Services</i>				
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Social Security	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Medicaid Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
 <i>Improvement of Instr</i>				
In-Service Training	\$1,062	\$290	\$315	\$193
Total Improvement Of Instr	\$1,062	\$290	\$315	\$193

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Ed Media Services</i>				
Librarian, M. Scieszka (50%)	\$16,683	\$17,008	\$17,600	\$18,924
Substitutes	\$0	\$110	\$0	\$154
Health Benefits	\$4,407	\$4,963	\$5,270	\$5,756
Social Security	\$1,277	\$1,309	\$1,350	\$1,448
Worker's Comp	\$120	\$58	\$125	\$125
Unemployment Comp	\$80	\$12	\$80	\$80
Tuition Reimbursement	\$935	\$1,457	\$935	\$1,500
Dental/Eye	\$245	\$182	\$245	\$315
Prof. Services- Technology	\$6,200	\$5,456	\$5,310	\$5,200
Repairs & Maintenance/Travel	\$550	\$318	\$500	\$150
Supplies	\$1,632	\$1,957	\$3,650	\$2,400
Books & Periodicals	\$2,525	\$2,715	\$2,500	\$2,500
Equipment/Software	\$6,800	\$6,471	\$5,500	\$8,456
Dues & Fees	\$500	\$222	\$500	\$500
Total Ed Media Services	\$41,954	\$42,238	\$43,565	\$47,508
<i>Board of Education</i>				
Board Salary, M. Aborn/C. Harrison	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
Board Salary, C. Downs	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
Board Salary, C. Hopson/M. Pratt	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
Social Security	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
Professional Services	\$790	\$349	\$790	\$340
Election Services	\$225	\$0	\$225	\$225
Legal Services	\$2,000	\$8,269	\$2,000	\$1,000
Insurance, Liability	\$230	\$0	\$230	\$230
Communications	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$200
Advertising	\$350	\$1,111	\$350	\$350
Dues & Fees	\$1,190	\$1,097	\$1,190	\$1,190
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$100	\$258	\$100	\$100
Total Board Of Education	\$5,570	\$11,569	\$5,570	\$4,120

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03	FY03	FY04	FY05
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Principal's Office</i>				
Principal L. O'Leary	\$53,642	\$55,000	\$56,100	\$56,100
Assistant Principal	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500
Secretary H. Hayes-Martelle (60%)	\$9,925	\$10,601	\$9,776	\$10,069
Secretary, J. Green/Chesnut (40%)	\$4,326	\$2,869	\$3,678	\$3,788
Medical Designee	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Substitutes	\$250	\$479	\$750	\$2,500
Group Health Insurance	\$10,033	\$9,822	\$11,999	\$11,997
Social Security	\$5,250	\$5,466	\$5,475	\$5,638
Municipal Retirement	\$437	\$747	\$412	\$824
Worker's Comp	\$395	\$333	\$400	\$400
Unemployment Comp	\$160	\$40	\$160	\$160
Tuition Reimbursement	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Dental/Eye	\$400	\$500	\$500	\$500
Professional Services	\$100	\$250	\$100	\$100
Repairs & Maintenance	\$500	\$3,277	\$4,000	\$3,500
Communications	\$4,400	\$3,081	\$4,000	\$3,250
Printing & Binding	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500
Travel	\$350	\$0	\$350	\$350
Supplies	\$500	\$499	\$750	\$850
Computer Software	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250
Equipment	\$500	\$316	\$0	\$0
Dues & Fees	\$1,450	\$719	\$1,000	\$1,000
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,244
Total Principal's Office	\$96,368	\$94,999	\$102,700	\$106,520

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
REGULAR EDUCATION				
<i>Fiscal Services</i>				
Bookkeeper, J. Quinn/ H. H. Martelle	\$8,570	\$8,570	\$9,244	\$9,521
Substitutes	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$231
Group Health Insurance	\$4,025	\$4,237	\$4,814	\$4,899
Social Security	\$675	\$541	\$688	\$728
Worker's Comp	\$80	\$18	\$80	\$40
Unemployment Comp	\$80	\$10	\$80	\$20
Dental/Eye	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Professional Services	\$1,200	\$1,053	\$1,100	\$1,200
Audit Services	\$1,300	\$1,275	\$1,350	\$1,475
Repairs and Maintenance	\$250	\$1,257	\$250	\$250
Fidelity Bond	\$100	\$0	\$100	\$100
Communications	\$325	\$325	\$325	\$350
Supplies	\$400	\$319	\$400	\$400
Dues & Fees	\$100	\$95	\$100	\$100
Interest	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Fiscal Services	\$18,655	\$17,800	\$18,881	\$19,414
<i>Plant Operations & Maint</i>				
Custodian , W. Cyr Ass't	\$21,852	\$21,853	\$21,852	\$22,508
Custodian/Substitutes	\$1,900	\$1,173	\$1,924	\$1,773
Health Benefits	\$7,483	\$7,483	\$8,949	\$9,136
Social Security	\$1,820	\$1,762	\$1,825	\$1,820
Municipal Retirement	\$875	\$874	\$875	\$901
Worker's Comp	\$1,450	\$1,388	\$1,525	\$1,525
Unemployment Comp	\$160	\$14	\$160	\$160
Dental/Eye	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Professional Services	\$3,750	\$1,002	\$800	\$1,000
Grounds Care & Upkeep	\$3,250	\$3,568	\$1,700	\$1,000

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES

REGULAR EDUCATION	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
<i>Plant Operations & Maint.</i>				
Refuse Removal	\$0	\$0	\$2,200	\$2,200
Snow Removal	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,250	\$1,300
Repairs & Maintenance	\$11,675	\$13,396	\$26,275	\$7,500
Insurance, Property	\$2,530	\$3,659	\$2,750	\$4,500
Travel	\$0	\$148	\$0	\$250
Supplies	\$6,500	\$6,847	\$6,750	\$7,500
Electricity	\$12,180	\$12,922	\$12,100	\$12,700
Propane	\$550	\$536	\$575	\$600
Fuel Oil	\$5,900	\$5,714	\$5,500	\$6,000
Equipment	\$8,000	\$5,721	\$0	\$6,500
Dues and Fees	\$100	\$14	\$565	\$100
Total Plant Ops & Maint	\$91,425	\$88,324	\$97,825	\$89,223
<i>Transportation Services</i>				
Purchased				
Transportation	\$57,731	\$51,958	\$58,310	\$60,350
Total Transportation Services	\$57,731	\$51,958	\$58,310	\$60,350
<i>Long Term Debt</i>				
Interest	\$8,320	\$8,230	\$6,752	\$5,251
Principal	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total Long Term Debt	\$33,320	\$28,230	\$26,752	\$25,251
<i>Grades 7 & 8</i>				
In State Tuition	\$63,168	\$45,809	\$39,200	\$17,952
Out-of State Tuition	\$73,696	\$98,872	\$117,600	\$98,832
Private School Tuition	\$5,264	\$10,528	\$11,200	\$18,303
Total Grades 7 & 8	\$142,128	\$155,209	\$168,000	\$135,087

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES

REGULAR EDUCATION	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
<i>Secondary (9 - 12)</i>				
Professional Services	\$1,000	\$400	\$2,500	\$2,500
In State Tuition	\$189,504	\$144,824	\$134,400	\$125,664
Out-of-State Tuition	\$157,920	\$160,961	\$229,600	\$203,105
Private School Tuition	\$15,792	\$16,192	\$16,800	\$48,808
Total Secondary (9 - 12)	\$364,216	\$322,377	\$383,300	\$380,077
<i>Transportation Services</i>				
Purchased Transportation	\$7,500	\$5,795	\$8,250	\$8,250
Total Transportation	\$7,500	\$5,795	\$8,250	\$8,250
TOTAL REGULAR EDUCATION	\$1,338,126	\$1,277,180	\$1,408,598	\$1,396,079
SPECIAL EDUCATION				
<i>Elementary Program</i>				
Teacher K Byrne	\$26,447	\$24,992	\$27,953	\$29,795
I.A. L. Taggart/Skaza	\$11,300	\$8,577	\$11,138	\$12,042
I.A. K. Fox/Reich	\$11,300	\$774	\$11,300	\$13,460
I.A. Stoneberg	\$0	\$13,145	\$0	\$0
Substitutes	\$1,500	\$1,155	\$1,500	\$1,500
Group Health				
Insurance	\$7,391	\$9,341	\$13,378	\$9,605
Social Security	\$3,867	\$4,584	\$4,539	\$4,231
Municipal Retirement	\$904	\$544	\$900	\$1,021
Worker's Comp	\$200	\$138	\$210	\$200

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES

SPECIAL EDUCATION <i>Elementary Program</i>	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
Unemployment Comp	\$240	\$30	\$240	\$200
Tuition Reimbursement	\$1,500	\$355	\$1,500	\$1,800
Dental/Eye	\$850	\$448	\$850	\$950
Professional Services	\$9,500	\$7,974	\$7,500	\$8,500
Repairs & Maintenance	\$500	\$0	\$250	\$250
Tuition	\$3,015	\$0	\$0	\$0
Advertising/Travel	\$550	\$403	\$600	\$600
Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,056	\$900	\$900
Books & Periodicals	\$200	\$257	\$150	\$150
Equipment	\$0	\$453	\$0	\$0
Computer Software	\$1,000	\$261	\$1,750	\$250
Dues & Fees	\$2,000	\$715	\$726	\$500
Total Elementary Special Ed	\$83,264	\$75,202	\$85,384	\$85,954
 <i>Summer Special Services</i>				
Tutor Salary	\$1,500	\$570	\$1,500	\$1,000
Social Security	\$125	\$44	\$125	\$125
Professional Services	\$3,500	\$300	\$3,000	\$1,500
Total Summer Special Services	\$5,125	\$914	\$4,625	\$2,625
 <i>Speech/Audiology Services</i>				
Assistant, S. Ploof	\$12,636	\$11,934	\$12,636	\$14,796
Substitutes	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250
Health Benefits	\$3,795	\$3,720	\$4,364	\$4,957
Social Security	\$986	\$913	\$1,005	\$1,132
Municipal Retirement	\$505	\$487	\$520	\$592
Worker's Comp	\$85	\$23	\$85	\$50
Unemployment Comp	\$80	\$7	\$80	\$40

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES

SPECIAL EDUCATION	FY03	FY03	FY04	FY05
<i>Elementary Program</i>	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
<i>Speech/Audiology Services (Con't)</i>				
Dental/Eye	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Professional Services	\$17,900	\$17,908	\$19,000	\$19,000
General Supplies	\$200	\$784	\$200	\$200
Books & Periodicals	\$200	\$190	\$200	\$200
Software	\$600	\$100	\$100	\$100
Dues & Fees	\$350	\$342	\$350	\$350
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$253	\$0
Total Speech/ Audiologic Services	\$37,837	\$36,658	\$39,293	\$41,917
 <i>Coordinator's Office</i>				
Assessment	\$22,007	\$16,117	\$23,285	\$22,807
Total Coordinator's Office	\$22,007	\$16,117	\$23,285	\$22,807
 <i>Transportation- Elementary</i>				
Summer Transportation Purchased	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transportation	\$0	\$6,732	\$10,500	\$10,500
Total Transportation	\$0	\$6,732	\$10,500	\$10,500
 <i>Secondary Program</i>				
Professional Services	\$125,000	\$114,583	\$125,000	\$115,500
Transportation	\$2,500	\$4,680	\$2,500	\$5,000
Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,000
Total Secondary Program	\$127,500	\$119,263	\$127,500	\$155,500
 TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION	 \$275,733	 \$254,886	 \$290,587	 \$319,303

WELLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPENDITURES

<i>PRESCHOOL PROGRAM</i>	FY03 Budget	FY03 Actual	FY04 Budget	FY05 Budget
Assessment	\$15,976	\$19,908	\$20,063	\$19,157
TOTAL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM	\$15,976	\$19,908	\$20,063	\$19,157
 <i>VOCATIONAL PROGRAM</i>				
Tuition	\$22,000	\$13,881	\$11,000	\$37,650
TOTAL VOCATIONAL PROGRAM	\$22,000	\$13,881	\$11,000	\$37,650
 <i>FOOD SERVICE</i>				
Cook W. Martindale	\$8,652	\$8,809	\$8,652	\$8,912
Ass't Cook Hansen	\$3,158	\$3,008	\$3,216	\$3,313
Substitutes	\$200	\$365	\$300	\$308
Social Security	\$920	\$932	\$955	\$935
Municipal Retirement	\$347	\$352	\$359	\$357
Worker's Comp	\$750	\$688	\$788	\$788
Unemployment Comp	\$160	\$8	\$160	\$60
Repairs & Maintenance	\$500	\$505	\$750	\$500
Supplies	\$1,450	\$792	\$1,000	\$1,250
Propane	\$550	\$501	\$500	\$600
Food	\$12,000	\$11,524	\$12,500	\$12,000
Contingency/Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$1,500
Dues and Fees	\$100	\$75	\$100	\$100
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE	\$28,787	\$27,559	\$29,530	\$30,623
 TOTAL ALL FUNDS	 \$1,680,622	 \$1,593,414	 \$1,759,778	 \$1,802,812

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2003
WELLS VILLAGE SCHOOL**

There were approximately 87 voters present.

Norman Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

School representatives present: Charity Downs, Melissa Aborn, Cherry Hopson, Linda O'Leary and Walter Goetz.

Town Clerk, Kathy Bergen, read the School District Warning.

Article #1: To elect Moderator & School District Clerk. No discussion.

Article #2: To elect one school director for 3 years. No discussion.

Article #3: Shall the voters appropriate \$1,759,778 for the support of the school and students for fiscal year 7/1/03 to 6/30/04. No discussion.

Results: yes; 190 no; 111

Article #4: Shall the town authorize the school district to enter a lease contract of copier machines for longer than three years? No discussion.

Result: yes; 177 no; 121

Article #5: Shall the town authorize the school district to place \$100,000 from the audit fund balance of June 30, 2002, into a reserve under the control and direction of the school board directors for the purpose of funding facility maintenance and upgrade? Gerry woodruff asked about \$100,000 toward a \$680,000 project for downstairs. Charity answered that the upgrading of the downstairs will provide two additional rooms. Students are being taught in the hall. More discussion followed.

Result: yes; 158 no; 142

Article #6: Shall the town authorize the school directors to negotiate tuition payments for high school students. Norm asked Superintendent Goetz to explain the article, which he did. Cherry stated that she is strongly opposed to the article – the tuition amount should be tied to Granville's tuition rate, not the state support grant. Charity stated that Granville is the designated school and if the article doesn't pass, then there will be no other choice of high school and that the money should follow the child. There was much more discussion.

Result: yes; 201 no; 100

Article #7: To transact any other business. No discussion.

Norm Brown, Moderator, called the Town Meeting to order at 8:35 PM and all observed a moment of silence for military personnel lost and serving overseas.

Only one Select Board Member was present; Kenneth Littlewood.

The Town Clerk read the Town Meeting Warning.

Article #1: To elect Town Officers. No discussion.

Article #2: To receive the reports of Town Officers. No discussion.

Article #3: Shall the Town vote to collect taxes in four installments. Paul Woodruff asked what would happen if the article did not pass. Linda Knipes answered the taxes would be collected twice a year.

Result: yes; 270 no; 32

Article #4: Shall the town vote to have the fees collected by the Town Clerk paid to the general fund. Lori Andrus asked why would select board change this since the fees are part of your salary? Kathy answered that she didn't know but cannot live on the amount in the budget. Lori asked Ken why this issue was even being raised. Ken answered that in the view of the selectmen a salary, plus fees too, is a double payment. Stephanie Andrew-Smith asked Ken if the town had been paying the Town Clerk the \$22,000 salary and benefits. Ken answered that no, she pays for her own benefit package. Gerry Woodruff stated that somebody sitting in that position that can answer the community's questions and be available to researchers 40 hours a week should be paid a living wage. Ken said that no one in the community makes that kind of money. There was much more discussion of this article.

Result: yes; 188 no; 103

Article #5: Shall the town vote to appropriate \$10,000 to add to the fund for renovation or replacement of the Town Office. Tammy Holcomb asked if this money was going to renovate or replace the current building. Ken answered that it will be used to replace. Don Preuss has offered to donate an acre of land to build on.

Result: yes; 193 no; 106

Article #6: Shall the town vote to authorize the expenditure of \$3,000 from the above fund for securing land for future construction of a town office. Rich Strange asked if the money was to purchase the land. Ken said no, that it is for permits and incidental costs to transfer the title to the town. Paul Woodruff said that Don Preuss deserves a lot of praise for donating this land to the town. There was much applause.

Result: yes; 188 no; 103

Article #7: Shall the town allot \$2,500 to the Preservation Fund for archival and land records. No discussion.

Result: yes; 204 no; 95

Article #8: Shall the town vote to accept the Proposed Flood Hazard Area Regulations as approved by the Wells Planning Commission and Select Board so that it will be the Permanent Flood Hazard Area Regulation. No discussion.

Result: yes; 198 no; 100

Article #9: Shall the town vote to increase the number of Select Board members from 3 to 5. (By petition) Donna Lamb asked if there are no additional petitions, where would we get two more. Ken said that the Select board would appoint or hold a special election.

Result: yes; 108 no; 193

Article #10: Shall the town vote to include a telephone for a telephone for the library in the amount of \$600 per year in the annual town budget. (By petition) Rich Holcomb asked why. Judyann Bremer answered that one of the library patrons was paying for it but cannot continue.

Result: yes; 171 no; 129

Article #11: Shall the town vote to approve an additional \$4,000 for each constable's salary for law enforcement work in Wells. (By petition) Rich Holcomb asked if this would restore the constable salaries to the previous one before it was cut. Norm answered that yes, it will.

Result: yes; 91 no; 208

Article #12: Shall the town vote to encourage expansion of renewable energy. (By petition) No discussion

Result: yes; 186 no; 100

Article #13: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$10,000 to the Wells Fire Dept. No discussion.

Result: yes; 240 no; 62

Article #14: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$15,000 to the Town of Wells Fire Dept for the purchase of a new truck. Anne Marie Havel asked if we need a new truck..Ken Johnson answered that this money would go into a fund for future purchase. Ken Littlewood asked how long it will take to get a new truck. Ken Johnson answered, 365 days to build to our specifications. Must ask for the appropriation every year.

Result; yes 158 no; 142

Articles #15 through #32, all appropriations. No discussion. All appropriations passed.

Article #33: Shall the town vote to appropriate a sum of money not to exceed \$293,250 for maintaining highways. Donna Lamb asked how many were on the road crew. Ken answered that there were three. A fine crew. Richard Holcomb, Sr. asked why there was nothing in the town report about the new grader and how was it purchased without voter approval. Ken answered that the Select Board is charged by statute to maintain the roads so there is no need to go to the voters. Richard, Sr said that in 1975, the town voted to demand that the Select Board bring major purchases to the voters – this grader purchase should have been brought to the voters. Norm said that if this issue was voted then the Select Board must honor it. Much further discussion followed.

Result: yes; 290 no; 57

Article #34: Shall the Town vote a sum of money not to exceed \$259,150 to be used to defray the general expenses of the town. Rich Holcomb, Jr. asked if the selectmen can have the final say whether we will have a new office without a vote of the town. Ken answered that nothing will be spent without the vote of the town.

Result: yes; 211 no; 86

Respectfully submitted,

Norman, Brown, Moderator
Katharine R. Bergen, Town Clerk

**SPECIAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 19, 2003**

Approximately 41 voters were present.

Select Board Members: Ken Littlewood, Chair; Robert Combs and Sharon Brown

1. Moderator, Norman Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.
2. Town Clerk, Katharine Bergen, read the warning: "Shall the Town vote to have the fees collected by the Town Clerk paid to the General Fund starting March 5, 2003?"
3. Kim Hunter asked about the publishing of the warning in the Granville Sentinel and Free Press. Norm asked if anyone did not get the Free Press in the mail every Friday. Everyone agreed that they did.
4. Ken Littlewood said that the fees were substantial when added to the salary. He said that compensation of \$26,500 had been offered but turned down. Kathy said that no such offer had been made, that he offer was \$22,000.
5. Bob Combs said that he had been a part of the meetings and stood by Ken.
6. Sharon Brown said that she is a newly elected member of the board but felt that the article was poorly worded. She said that if we are going to have a good Town Clerk, then the clerk should be paid accordingly.
7. Stephanie Andrew-Smith said that when the article was voted in March, it was not understood that a yes vote meant no more fees for the Town Clerk. Phyllis Reed said that she understood the article.
8. Tammy Holcomb asked why the Town Clerk was not told that her health insurance had been cancelled. Ken said she signed herself up. Kathy said that she worked for four months thinking that she was insured.
9. Tammy asked about the budgeted amount for the clerk's salary and whether the \$26,500 offered would continue after July 1, 2003. Ken said no.
10. Much discussion followed.
11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

RESULT OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT VOTE ON MAY 20, 2003: YES, 119 - NO, 125

WELLS TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING
Annual School District Meeting
March 1 and March 2, 2004

The legal voters of the Wells Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Multi-purpose room of the Wells Village School Building in said Town on Monday, March 1, 2004 at seven o'clock in the evening and adjourning to the Woodmen Memorial Hall on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at ten o'clock in the morning to act upon the following articles:

- *1. To elect a moderator and school district clerk as required by law.
- *2. To elect one (1) school director for a term of three (3) years.
- *3. Shall the voters of the Wells School District appropriate 1,802,812 for the support of its school and students for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005?
- *4. Shall the voters authorize the Wells School District to allow the school board to spend unexpected revenues such as grants, gifts, or interest on investments?
- 5. To transact any other lawful business to come before the meeting.

* Means articles on Australian Ballot

The business part of the meeting will be held on March 1, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. Polls for the Australian Ballot will open March 2, 2004 at TEN (10) o'clock in the morning and will close at SEVEN (7) o'clock in the evening.

Dated at Wells, Vermont, January __, 2004.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Charity Downs, Chair

Colleen Harrison, Clerk

Meredith Pratt, Member

A true copy. Attested and duly recorded as required by law.

Town Clerk

WARNING
WELLS TOWN MEETING 2004
March 1 and March 2, 2004

The legal voters of the Town of Wells are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Multi-purpose room of the Wells Village School Building in said Town on Monday, March 1, 2004 at seven o'clock in the evening and adjourning to the Woodmen Memorial Hall on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at ten o'clock in the morning to act upon the following articles:

1. To elect Town Officers as required by law for the ensuing year?
2. To receive the reports of the Town Officers for the past year?
- *3. Shall the Town vote to collect taxes, by the Treasurer, in four installments, due: September 10, 2004, November 10, 2004, March 10, 2005 and May 10, 2005?
- *4. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$10,000 to add to the fund for the Renovation or Replacement of the Town Office?
- *5. Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$15,000 out of the "Town Office Building Fund" for Phase 1- Planning Study Conceptual Design Activities?
- *6. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow, through a debt instrument other than a bond, not more than \$60,000 for a term not to exceed 5 years for the town wide property reappraisal process?
- *7. Shall the Town continue to compensate the Town Treasurer in lieu of percentage of taxes paid, based on actual hours worked, at an hourly rate to be determined by the Select Board?
- *8. Shall the Town vote to have the Select Board request the Wells Planning Commission to begin a town-wide discussion of zoning options for the Town of Wells? (Petitioned)
- *9. Shall the Town vote to advise the Select Board to change the bookkeeper's position from full-time to part-time? (Petitioned)
- *10. Shall the Town vote to change the auditor position from appointive outside CPA to an elective three member Board of Auditors? (Petitioned)
- *11. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$12,000 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Dept. for operating expenses?

- *12. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$15,000 to the Wells Volunteer Fire Dept. towards the purchase of a new fire truck?
- *13. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$3,500 to the Wells Village Library for the purpose of operating and purchasing new books and materials?
- *14. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$4,000 to the Granville Rescue Squad?
- *15. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500 to Rutland County Parent/Child Center, Inc.?
- *16. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$158 to the support of the Vermont Center for Independent Living?
- *17. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$200 towards the work of Vermont Cares?
- *18. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$995 to the support and services of Rutland Mental Health?
- *19. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$2,303 to the support of the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
- *20. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$400 to Vermont Adult Learning to provide education services to adults?
- *21. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500 to the Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
- *22. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$150 to the Rutland County Women's Network & Shelter?
- *23. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,000 to support the Southwestern Vermont Council On Aging?
- *24. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$10,000 towards the support of the Lake St. Catherine Association?
- *25. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$100 to the support of Green Up Vermont?
- *26. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500 to the Poultney/Mettowee Watershed Partnership?

- *27. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$50 for services of the George D. Aiken Resource Conservation Council, Inc.?
- *28. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$150 towards the services and programs of the Rutland County Humane Society?
- *29. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$475 towards the work of the BROCC?
- *30. To see if the Town will instruct the Select Board to borrow money to defray the expenses of the of the Town until taxes are collected?
- *31. Shall the Town vote a sum of money not to exceed \$ 306,750.00 to be used for maintaining highways?
- *32. Shall the Town vote a sum of money not to exceed \$ 283,950.00 to be used to defray the general expenses of the Town?

To transact any other lawful business to come before this meeting.

* Means articles on Australian Ballot

The business part of the meeting will be held on March 1, 2004 at 7:00 pm. Polls for the Australian Ballot will open March 2, 2004 at 10:00 am and will close at 7:00 pm.

Dated at Wells, January ____, 2004.

Kenneth Littlewood, Chairman

SELECT BOARD

Robert Combs

Sharon Brown

A True Copy. Attested and duly recorded as required by law.
Received for record on January ____, 2004 at _____.

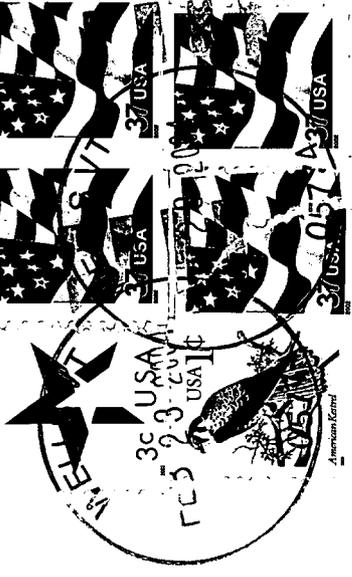
Attest: _____
Katharine R. Bergen, Town Clerk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



Wells Volunteer Fire Department	1-518-747-3225 (911)
Granville Rescue Squad	1-518-747-3225 (911)
Vermont State Police	468-5355
VT Poison Control Ctr. (Burlinton)	1-802-658-3456
Forest Fire Warden (Harold Bates)	645-0286
Deputy Fire Warden (Mike Martelle)	325-6339
Selectboard Chairman (Ken Littlewood)	645-0804
Town Office:	
Town Clerk: Kathy Bergen	645-0486
Treasurer: Don Reed	645-0188
Fax:	645-0464
Constables: First Norm Brown	645-1961
Second David Chalmers	325-3848
Secretary of State	1-800-439-8683
Vermont Department of Health	1-802-786-5811
Rutland Mental Health Services Inc	1-802-775-2381
Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association	1-802-775-0568
Rutland County Humane Society	1-802-483-6700
VT Center for Independent Living	1-800-639-1522
Rutland Co. Women's Crisis Center	1-802-775-3232
VT Office on Aging	1-800-642-5119
Senior Help Line	1-802-786-5990
VT Association for the Blind	1-800-639-5861
Rutland County Parent/Child Center	1-802-775-9711
Probate Court (Fair Haven District)	265-3380

**TOWN OF WELLS
PO BOX 585
WELLS, VT. 05774**



Vt Dept of Libraries
ATTN: Diane
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609