

**TOWN OF
MONTGOMERY
VERMONT
&
MONTGOMERY
TOWN SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

PROPERTY MAP

Rita Tatro

Franklin County
VT



Ruth Heiser



2003 ANNUAL REPORTS

2003 TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

This year's Town Report is dedicated to two women who have made a huge contribution to our town in a variety of roles.

Ruth Heiser moved to Montgomery in 1964 from California and first became involved in Town government as a volunteer on what was then called the Zoning Board. She would eventually become its Chairperson. In 1982 she was appointed a lister and has served on the Board of listers ever since, over 22 years, including 10 years as the Chairperson.

Rita Tatro was born in Montgomery. She served as an Auditor and was one of the key figures that created the Recreation Department. She was also a "founding father" of the municipal water system and has been a Water Commissioner for over 30 years, serving as Secretary and Treasurer. She is responsible for the day-to-day business management of the Water Department, including billing and all bookkeeping. She is often the first to field calls from water customers.

We want to thank them for their hard work to make the town a better place to live, and their smiles and good cheer while doing some tough jobs. We hope their examples inspire others to become involved in Town government and/or community affairs.

Thank you Ruth and Rita!

AUDITORS ANNUAL REPORT

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY VERMONT

For the Year Ending

December 31, 2003

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Middlesex Vermont 05633

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO TOWN & SCHOOL MEETING

**There will be a statewide Presidential Primary Election
on TUESDAY MARCH 2, 2004**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Babysitting will again be available during the Town Meeting at the Public Service Building for more information contact Tosca Smith @ 326-4138

Lunch will **not** be offered in the basement this year but, we would like to encourage you to visit our local establishments for your dining needs.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The Montgomery Select Board will conduct a public informational meeting on Saturday February 28, 2004 from 9:00am to 11:00pm in the Town Hall in Montgomery Center to allow public discussion or questions relative to items in the current Town Report.

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TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR.....	Tim Murphy
TOWN CLERK & TREASURER.....	Renee J Patterson
SELECT BOARD MEMBERS:	
Jerome J Mayhew.....	Term Expires 2004
Tosca Smith.....	Term Expires 2004
Merle Van Gieson.....	Term Expires 2005
Kenneth Cota.....	Term Expires 2006
Scott Perry.....	Term Expires 2006
LISTERS:	
Ruth Heiser.....	Term Expires 2004
Sharon Perry.....	Term Expires 2005
Karen Scheffler (resigned).....	Term Expires 2006
Carol McGregor (appointed)	
AUDITORS:	
Charles Henderson (resigned).....	Term Expires 2004
Robert Boucher (appointed)	
Marijke Dollois.....	Term Expires 2005
Anne Cote (resigned).....	Term Expires 2006
Robert Barnard (appointed, resigned)	
Felicity Barnard (appointed)	
FIRST CONSTABLE.....	Barry Domina
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR.....	Anita Woodward
FIRE WARDEN.....	Gary Lumbra
ROAD COMMISSIONER.....	William Baker Sr
TOWN AGENT.....	Barry Kade
TOWN GRAND JUROR.....	Select Board
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR.....	Darlene Marrier
HEALTH OFFICER.....	Lois Goff
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS - Center	
Annie B Purrier.....	Term Expires 2004
Gyneth Lumbra (deceased).....	Term Expires 2005
Lyndol Elkins (appointed)	
Charles R Purrier.....	Term Expires 2006
Earl Lumbra.....	Term Expires 2007
Lynda P Cluba.....	Term Expires 2008
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS - Village	
Vivian Deuso.....	Term Expires 2004
Joann Lanphear.....	Term Expires 2005
Lois Lumbra.....	Term Expires 2006
Penny Newton.....	Term Expires 2007
Douglas Tryhorne.....	Term Expires 2008

Town Officers (continued)

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Nancy Martinson.....	Term Expires 2004
Barry Kade.....	Term Expires 2004
Al Bowman (deceased).....	Term Expires 2005
Charles Henderson (appointed)	
Jody Jones.....	Term Expires 2005
Christine DuRona.....	Term Expires 2006
Carol Farmer.....	Term Expires 2007
Alice "Sue" Peters.....	Term Expires 2008

FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

William Baker Sr.....	Term Expires 2004
Randy St Onge.....	Term Expires 2005

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Sharon Perry.....	Term Expires 2004
Jerome J Mayhew.....	Term Expires 2005
Suzanne Wilson.....	Term Expires 2006
Merrill "Billy" Cabana.....	Term Expires 2007
Kenneth Cota.....	Term Expires 2008

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE:

Charles Henderson
 Elizabeth Hoss
 Laurie Murphy
 Annie Purrier
 Erin St Onge

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Gary Marrier (resigned), Sean Nalette (appointed)	Term Expires 2004
Jonathan Betts.....	Term Expires 2005
Carol Farmer.....	Term Expires 2005
Barry Kade.....	Term Expires 2006
Scott Smith.....	Term Expires 2006

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD:

Thomas Smith.....	Term Expires 2005
Ralph Chilton.....	Term Expires 2006
Douglas Clokey.....	Term Expires 2006
Gary Marrier.....	Term Expires 2007
Jonathan Betts.....	Term Expires 2007

MINUTES

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - 2003

Conformably to the Warning, the legal voters of the Town of Montgomery met at the Town Hall in said Town, County of Franklin, State of Vermont, on Tuesday, the 4th of March, A.D., 2003 at 9 o'clock A.M.

The meeting came to order at 9:05 A.M.

Article

1. Elect a Moderator.

Brent Godin made a motion to nominate Tim Murphy. Tim Murphy was elected by voice vote.

Lynda Cluba explained the new format for the Town Report. No questions.

Article

2. Act on the reports of the Town Officers.

Anita Woodward made a correction to the minutes of Town Meeting 2002, Article 4. The statement should read "She is paid 50% of the collection fee after the 8% fee is deposited in the general fund."

Barry Domina made a motion and was seconded to accept the reports as amended. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

3. Shall the Town vote to appoint a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. § 2651, if not, shall the Town elect a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2646(16).

Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to appoint a road commissioner. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

4. Elect the remaining Town Officers as provided by statute:

- (a) A Town Clerk for a term of three years;

Sharon Perry nominated Darlene Marrier, Scott Smith nominated Renee Patterson, Brent Godin nominated Barry Domina. Barry declined. Brent asked the nominees to speak. Darlene and Renee spoke of their qualifications. A ballot vote was requested and more than 7 people stood in support. There were 146 votes cast; Darlene received 45, Renee received 99. Renee Patterson was elected.

Lynda Cluba gave the oath of office to Renee Patterson.

- (b) A Treasurer for a term of three years;

Lisa Perry nominated Renee Patterson, Sharon Perry nominated Darlene Marrier. Renee Patterson was elected by voice vote.

- (c) One Selectperson for a term of three years, by ballot;

Lynda Cluba nominated Kenneth Cota, Denise Domina nominated Barry Domina, Barry Domina declined. Chris DuRona nominated Barry Kade, Barry Kade declined. Without objection the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Kenneth Cota. Kenneth Cota was elected.

- (d) One Selectperson for a term of three years, by ballot;

Scott Smith nominated Barry Kade, Joanne Giroir nominated Scott Perry, Tosca Smith nominated Rob Barnard, Rob declined; Brent Godin nominated Barry Domina, Tosca Smith nominated Karen Scheffler.

1st vote with 142 votes cast. Barry Kade-31, Scott Perry-60, Barry Domina-30, Karen Scheffler-21. No majority.

Barry Domina withdrew his name from the race. 2nd vote with 134 votes cast. Barry Kade-32, Scott Perry-88, Karen Scheffler-11, 3 spoiled.

Scott Perry was elected.

(e) One Lister for a term of three years, by ballot; Ruth Heiser nominated Darlene Marrier, Stan Feldman nominated Karen Scheffler. With 128 votes cast. Darlene Marrier-55, Karen Scheffler-71. Karen Scheffler was elected.

(f) A First Constable for a term of one year; Barry Kade nominated Barry Domina. Barry Domina was elected by voice vote.

(g) One Auditor for a term of three years, by ballot; Chris DuRona nominated Ron Sylvester, Ron declined. Tosca Smith nominated Suzanne Wilson, Suzanne declined. Theresa Demar nominated Anne Cote, Tosca Smith nominated Gabrielle Marquette, Gabrielle declined. Eric Cota made a motion to stop nominations. Motion passed. Without objection the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Anne Cote. Anne Cote was elected.

(h) One or more Grand Jurors; Lynda Cluba nominated the Selectboard. The Selectboard was elected by voice vote.

(i) An Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested; Kenneth Cota nominated Barry Kade, Stan Feldman nominated Ed Deptula. Barry Kade was elected by voice vote.

(j) One Cemetery Commissioner for the Village Cemetery Assoc. for a term of five years; Chris DuRona nominated Douglas Tryhorne. Douglas Tryhorne was elected by voice vote.

(k) One Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Assoc. for a term of five years; Brent Godin nominated Lynda Cluba. Lynda Cluba was elected by voice vote.

(l) One Library Trustee for a term of five years; Chris DuRona nominated Denise Stepanak, Carol Farmer nominated Sue Peters. Sue Peters was elected by voice vote.

(m) One Library Trustee for a term of two years; Sue Peters nominated Al Bowman, Chris DuRona nominated Brent Godin, Brent declined. Jerry Mayhew nominated Denise Stepanak. Al Bowman was elected by an hand count of Al-63, Denise-61.

(n) One Fire Commissioner for a term of two years; Carol Farmer nominated "Sonny" Cote, Sonny declined. Sonny Cote nominated Arthur St. Onge, Jr., Arthur declined. Arthur St. Onge, Jr. nominated Randy St. Onge. Randy St. Onge was elected by voice vote.

(o) One Budget Committee member for a term of five years; Jerry Mayhew nominated Kenneth Cota, Jill Cummings nominated Gabrielle Marquette. Kenneth Cota was elected by voice vote.

(p) One Planning Commissioner member for a term of three years; Eric Cota nominated Barry Kade, Jill Cummings nominated Rob Barnard, Melinda Swearingen nominated Lisa Perry, Lisa declined. Barry Kade was elected by a hand count of Barry Kade-75, Rob Barnard-44.

(q) One Planning Commissioner member for a term of three years; Erin St. Onge nominated Scott Smith, Lori Sampietro nominated Rob Barnard. Scott Smith was elected by a hand count of Scott Smith-64, Rob Barnard-48.

Article

5. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to defray the cost of the town wide reappraisal?

Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to accept the Article as written. Sharon Perry explained that the original budget was to contract with one firm for the reappraisal. It was not possible to hire a single firm and the town had to contract with 3 people. Doug McArthur was hired to do the appraisal work. Two data collectors were hired, the listers are the project managers and will do the data entry. The cost for computer and camera equipment was more than budgeted. The final cost is now estimated to be \$90,330. This will include \$15,000 of tax support this year plus money from the state of approx. \$7,000. The request from the taxpayers for next year should be \$10,000 to \$15,000. She was asked if there has been any budget for legal appeals? She stated that appeals to the BCA had been considered but not for any appeals beyond that level. She also stated that with a new lister there will be additional training costs. Discussion ceased. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

6. Shall the town vote to authorize the Selectboard to purchase a new, ten wheel, fourteen yard dump truck with snow plow and wing, to be paid out of the Machinery Replacement fund, or some other method?

William Baker, Sr. made a motion and was seconded to accept the motion as written. He explained that we will have \$60,000 towards the new truck if this article passes, and the intent is to sell the 1994 truck and 10 wheeler which will hopefully raise approximately \$40,000. The total cost of the new truck is \$115,000, so the balance of \$15,000 will have to be borrowed or raised by some other method. Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to amend the article to read "machinery replacement fund, and to borrow up to \$15,000 on a 1 year note, or some other method." The motion to amend was defeated by voice vote. Arthur St. Onge made a motion and was seconded to amend the motion "to borrow up to \$65,000 on a 1 year note, or some other method." The motion to amend passed by voice vote. The vote on the amended article was passed by voice vote.

Article

7. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow up to \$40,000 with a five year note, for expansion and repair of the Town garage, to be paid out of the Building Capital Improvement Fund?

Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

8. Shall the Town vote to pursue a pedestrian path from the end of the sidewalk in Montgomery Center, to the beginning of the Recreation center, with the Town's share of the cost not to exceed \$36,000, and if so, appropriate the sum of \$18,000 this year for the the Town's share?

Carol Farmer made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. Carol explained the results of the feasibility study. The \$36,000 would be the town's share of a Transportation Enhancement Grant that will be pursued by the Planning Commission. The total project costs would equal approximately \$180,000. The town needs to commit to their share of \$36,000 in order to be eligible for the grant. The article passed as written by voice vote.

The meeting was recessed at 12:10 PM and reconvened at 1:05 PM.

Article

9. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply \$13,737 of tax money, toward the \$28,766 annual bond payment for the Montgomery Village water system, with the balance to be distributed among the users.

Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The Article passed by voice vote.

Merle Van Gieson made a motion and was seconded by Ken Cota to suspend the rules to take up Article 20 now. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

20. Shall the Town vote to collect interest as prescribed by law on its delinquent taxes, 1%/month for the first three months or fraction thereof, and 1 1/2%/month or fraction thereof, thereafter?

Merle made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written.

Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to amend the article to read "1%/month or fraction thereof, thereafter?" The motion to amend passed by voice vote. The vote on the amended article passed by voice vote.

Article

10. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following sums of money to defray expenses in the ensuing year for:

(b) Summer roads. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$55,000 + \$10,000 St.Aid. The motion passed by voice vote.

(c) Winter roads. Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$50,000 + \$28,000 St.Aid. The motion passed by voice vote.

(d) Fire Department. Erin St. Onge made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$17,140. The motion passed by voice vote.

(e) Recreation Department. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$9,000. The motion passed by voice vote.

(f) Rescue Department. Merle Van Gieson made a motion and was seconded to pass over the article. The purpose of including the Article was to let the voters know that the Rescue was now self sufficient as Barry Domina had said. Vote to pass over passed by voice vote.

(g) Machinery Replacement. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$20,000. The motion passed by voice vote.

(h) Building Capital Improvement Fund. Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$10,000. Ken explained that the money was to be used for future repairs on town buildings. Patrick Farmer made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$20,000. The vote on the amendment passed by voice vote. The amended amount of \$20,000 was passed by voice vote.

(i) Police Services. Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$29,810. Gabrielle Marquette made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$20,000. The vote on the amendment was defeated by voice vote. There were questions as to what the police assistance money could be used for. Ron Goff explained that the money could be used to enhance the police dept., but cannot be used to defray current budget expenses and cannot be used for non law enforcement activities. Sean Nalette made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$25,000. The vote on the amendment was defeated by voice vote. Ken Cota called the question. Passed by voice vote. The vote on the original article was passed by voice vote.

(j) Library Operating Services. Erin St. Onge made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$4,000. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$3,000. The vote on the amendment passed by voice vote

Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to amend the article to include "plus any additional grants, gifts or other non local tax sources." The vote on the additional amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed by voice vote as amended.

(k) Library Debt Services. Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$4,000. The motion passed by voice vote.

(l) Flood Recovery Debt. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$40,613. The annual payment is for \$44,051. The 2003 annual payment is defrayed due to Property Acquisition funds in the amount of \$3,438. The motion passed by voice vote.

(m) Public Safety Building. Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$5,500. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

11. Shall the Town vote the following sums of money to pay the Town Officers;

(a) Town Clerk; Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to pay \$16,000. Renee Patterson made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$14,000. The vote on the amendment passed by a hand count of Yes-43, No-37. The motion passed as amended by voice vote.

Merle Van Gieson made a motion and was seconded to allow Vincent Illuzi, Representative to the Essex-Orleans Senatorial District to speak. Without objections Mr. Illuzi spoke to the taxpayers.

(b) Treasurer; Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to pay \$8,000. Renee Patterson made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$6,000. The amendment was defeated by voice vote. The original motion passed by voice vote.

(c) Selectboard Member; Gabrielle Marquette made a motion and was seconded to pay each member \$1,500. Tosca Smith made a motion to amend the amount to \$1,000. The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended.

(d) Listers; Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to pay the listers 1st & 2nd yr members \$7.00/hr, 3rd & 4th yr members \$8.00/hr, and 5th yr and on \$8.50/hr plus .30/mile as written. Parma Jewett made a motion and was seconded to amend the article to "plus \$0.36/mile". The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

(e) Auditors; Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to pay the same as the listers, but with no mileage. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to amend the article to delete "but with no mileage." and to add "plus \$0.36/mile." The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended by voice vote.

(f) Board of Civil Authority; Merle made a motion and was seconded to accept pay \$6.50/hour plus \$0.36/mile. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

12. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$600 for a donation to Hazen's Notch Association's 2003 Campership Fund. This money would applied towards the cost of sending three or more children from

Montgomery to the Hazen's Notch Association's Summer Camp?
Lynda Cluba made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$600. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

13. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,800 for the Champlain Valley Agency on Aging for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation, and the toll-free Senior helpline, Said sums to come from Town Funds?

Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$1,000. Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$1,800. The amendment passed by voice vote. The article passed as amended.

Article

14. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,440 for home health services provided by the Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.?

Lynda Cluba made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$1,440. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

15. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500 for Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation?

Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$500. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

16. Shall the Town vote to aid the Montgomery Historical Society in the cost of storing the Hectorville Covered Bridge for a period of up to four years, with the Town's share of the cost not to exceed \$1,500, and if so, appropriate \$375 this year for the Town's share?

Brent Godin made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$375. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Article

17. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the Community Youth Center?

Jill Cummings made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$1,000. Beth Crane made a motion and was seconded to passover the article. Passed by voice vote.

Article

18. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$96,701 for the Contingent Selectboard?

Greg Fondak made a motion and was seconded to amend the amount to \$81,701. The amendment was defeated by voice vote. The original motion passed by voice vote.

Article

19. Shall the Town vote to have all taxes paid into the Treasury as provided by law, or on the installment plan, first installment due August 10, 2003, second and final installment due on October 10, 2003.?

Armand Auclair made a motion and was seconded to "Have the taxes paid into the treasury on the installment plan,....." The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

21. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to receive and expend for town purposes any additional grants, gifts or other revenue in excess of those calculated in determining the proposed budget for the year beginning January 1, 2003?

"Billy Cabana" made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

22. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of taxes, not to exceed the sum of \$60,000 for the period March 5, 2003 to March 3, 2004, and execute and deliver the notes to the town, if needed?

Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

23. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow for the Water Department for use in case of emergency, not to exceed the sum of \$50,000 for the period March 5, 2003 to March 3, 2004, and execute and deliver the notes to the Town, if needed?

Barry Domina made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

24. Shall the Town vote to approve in principal, the renovation and placement of the Hectorville Bridge at a suitable location? (non binding vote)

Brent Godin made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

25. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to acquire by gift or purchase land for a municipal forest to promote reforestation, water conservation and good practices?

Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

26. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into contract with new business or the expansion of old business to fix the Municipal tax applicable to such real or personal property at a percentage of the annual tax? (Due to Act 60, such contracts can only adjust the Municipal tax. Any adjustment to the school tax requires approval from the State Legislature.)

Tosca Smith made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

27. Shall the Town vote to publish names and the amounts of delinquent taxes due, in the Annual Report?

Ken Cota made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

28. Shall the Town vote to publish names and the amounts of delinquent ambulance bills due, in the Annual Report?

Richard Bocian made a motion and was seconded to accept the article as written. The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

29. To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

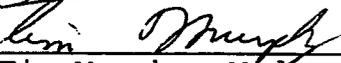
The Selectboard asked for a hand count on whether the Annual School District Meeting should be held on the same day as the Annual Town Meeting? (non binding vote) A show of hands supported having the two annual meetings on the same day.

Barry Kade made a motion and was seconded to have the Selectboard set up a committee to look into setting up a website for the Town of Montgomery. (non binding vote) Motion passed by voice vote.

Betty Hoss made a motion and was seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM. So moved.

A true record this 5th day of March, 2003.

Attest: 
Renee Patterson, Town Clerk

Attest: 
Tim Murphy, Moderator

Attest: 
Kenneth Cota, Selectperson

WARNING

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - 2004

The legal voters of the Town of Montgomery in the County of Franklin are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, the 2nd day of March, 2004 AD, at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business to wit:

1. Elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.
2. Act on the reports of the Town Officers.
3. Shall the Town vote to appoint a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2651, if not, shall the Town elect a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2646(16)?
4. Elect the remaining Town Officers as required by law:
 - (a) One Selectperson for a term of three years by ballot;
(Jerome Mayhew - term expires)
 - (b) One Selectperson for a term of two years by ballot;
(Tosca Smith - term expires)
 - (c) One Lister for a term of three years by ballot;
(Ruth Heiser - term expires)
 - (d) One Lister for a term of two years by ballot;
(Karen Scheffler resigned - Carol McGregor appointed)
 - (e) A First Constable for a term of one year;
(Barry Domina - term expires)
 - (f) One Auditor for a term of three years by ballot;
(Charles Henderson - resigned - Robert Boucher appointed)
 - (g) One Auditor for a term of two years by ballot
(Anne Cote resigned - Robert Barnard appointed - resigned - Felicity Barnard appointed)
 - (h) One or more Grand Jurors;
(Selectboard - term expires)
 - (i) An Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested;
(Barry Kade - term expires)
 - (j) One Cemetery Commissioner for the Village Cemetery Assoc. for a term of five years;
(Vivian Deuso - term expires)
 - (k) One Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Assoc. for a term of five years;
(Annie B. Purrier - term expires)
 - (l) One Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Assoc. for a term of one year;
(Gyneth Lumbra deceased - Lyndol Elkins appointed)

- (m) One Library Trustee for a term of five years;
(Nancy Martinson - term expires)
 - (n) One Library Trustee for a term of five years;
(Barry Kade - term expires)
 - (o) One Library Trustee for a term of one year;
(Alan Bowman deceased - Charles Henderson appointed)
 - (p) One Fire Commissioner for a term of two years;
(William Baker, Sr. - term expires)
 - (q) One Planning Commission member for a term of three years;
(Gary Marrier resigned - Sean Nalette appointed)
5. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to defray the cost of the town wide reappraisal?
(2003 - \$15,000)
 6. Shall the Town vote to extend the sidewalk from the end of the sidewalk in Montgomery Center, to the beginning of the new pedestrian path, and allocate \$14,632 for the project, which is the balance from the \$18,000 that was appropriated in 2003 to construct the pedestrian path?
 7. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum \$13,737 to be applied toward the \$28,766 annual bond payment for the Montgomery Village water system, with the balance to be distributed among the users? (2003 - \$13,737)
 8. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following sums of money to defray expenses in the ensuing year for:
 - (a) Fire Department; (2003 - \$17,140 - 2004 request \$17,000)
 - (b) Rescue Department; (2003 - \$0 - 2004 request \$0)
 - (c) Summer Roads; (2003 - \$55,000 - 2004 request \$55,000)
 - (d) Winter Roads; (2003 - \$50,000 - 2004 request \$55,000)
 - (e) Machinery Replacement; (2003 - \$20,000 - 2004 request \$20,000)
 - (f) Bridges; (2003 - \$15,000 - 2004 request \$15,000)
 - (g) Library Operating Expenses; (2003 - \$3,000 - 2004 request \$8,000)
 - (h) Library Debt Service; (2003 - \$4,000 - 2004 request \$4,000)
 - (i) Building Capital Improvement and Maintenance Fund; (2003 - \$20,000 - 2004 request \$20,000)
 - (j) Flood Recovery Debt; (2003 - \$40,613.00 - 2004 request \$44,052)
 - (k) Public Safety Building. (2003 - \$5,500 - 2003 request \$6,500)

(l) Police Services; (2003 - \$29,810 - 2004 request \$18,000)

(m) Recreation Department; (2003 - \$9,000 - 2004 request \$9,000)

9. Shall the Town vote the following sums of money for the Town Officers as requested?

(a) Town Clerk; (Salary 2003 - \$14,000 - 2004 request \$12,000)
(Health Insurance 2003 - \$0 - 2004 request \$9,047)

(b) Town Treasurer (2003 - \$8,000 - 2004 request \$8,000)

(c) Each Selectboard Member; (2003 - \$1,000 - 2004 request \$1,000)

(d) Listers; (2003 - 1st & 2nd yr. members - \$7.00/hr., 3rd & 4th yr. members - \$8.00/hr., 5th yr. and on - \$8.50/hr. plus 0.36/mile - 2004 request the same)

(e) Auditors; (2003 - same as Listers - 2004 request the same)

(f) Board of Civil Authority. (2003 - \$6.50/hr. plus \$0.36/mile - 2004 request the same)

10. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,800 for the Champlain Valley Agency on Aging for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation, and the toll-free Senior HelpLine? (2003 \$1,800 - 2004 request \$1,800)

11. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1,440 for home health services provided by the Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.? (2003 \$1,440 - 2004 request \$1,440)

12. Shall the Town of Montgomery appropriate the sum of \$500 for Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation? (2003 \$500 - 2004 request \$500)

13. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$600 for a donation to the Hazen's Notch Association's 2004 Campership Fund. This money would be applied towards the cost of sending three or more children from Montgomery to the Hazen's Notch Association's Summer Camp? (2003 - \$600 - 2004 request \$600)

14. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$375 for the Town's second year share of the cost to store the Hectorville Covered Bridge for a period of up to four years.

15. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$89,652 for Contingent Selectboard? (2003 \$96,701 - 2004 request \$89,652)

16. Shall the Town vote to have all taxes paid into the Treasury on the installment plan as provided by law, first installment due on August 10, 2004, second and final installment due on October 10, 2004?

17. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to receive and expend for town purposes any additional grants, gifts or other revenue in excess of those calculated in determining the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2004?

18. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of taxes, not to exceed the sum of \$60,000.00 for the period March 2, 2004, to March 1, 2005, and execute and deliver the notes to the Town, if needed?

19. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow for the Water Department for use in case of an emergency, not to exceed the sum of \$50,000 for the period March 2, 2004 to March 1, 2005, and execute and deliver the notes to the Town, if needed?
20. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to acquire by gift or purchase land for a municipal forest to promote reforestation, water conservation and good practices?
21. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into contract with new business or the expansion of old business to fix the Municipal tax applicable to such real or personal property at a percentage of the annual tax? (Such contracts are for the Municipal tax only. Any such contracts for school taxes require approval from the State Legislature.)
22. Shall the Town vote to publish names and the amounts of delinquent taxes due, in the Annual Report?
23. Shall the Town vote to publish names and the amounts of delinquent ambulance bills due, in the Annual Report?
24. To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

Dated at Montgomery, Vermont this 31 day of January, 2004 AD.

Selectboard,

Kenneth Cota
Kenneth Cota, Chair

Merle Van Gieson
Merle Van Gieson

Scott Perry
Scott Perry

Jerome Mayhew
Jerome Mayhew

Tosca Smith
Tosca Smith

Attest: [Signature]
Town Clerk

AUDITORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2003

We have examined the accounts of the various town departments for the year 2003. We have found no evidence of misappropriation of funds. Also, to the best of our knowledge and information, there are no invoices outstanding beyond thirty days from the time we finished auditing the accounts.

Respectfully submitted,

Felicity Barnard
Robert Boucher
Marijke Dollois

Town of Montgomery Cash Assets as of 12/31/03

	<u>Total 12/31/02</u>	<u>Total 12/31/03</u>
Cemetery - Center	\$ 94,578.88	\$ 96,770.14
Cemetery - Clapp	14,555.87	14,474.60
Cemetery - Village	21,618.24	21,565.22
Fire Department	16,212.07	16,330.94
Flood Loan	3,946.32	3,140.67
Library*	4,691.36	7991.92
Water Dept. - Center	34,671.12	45,697.98
Water Dept. - Village	11,635.13	14,334.80
General Fund - Banknorth*	<u>181,406.44</u>	88,804.41
General Fund - Deposit in Transit		9,107.10
General Fund - Money Market		<u>111,502.17</u>
SUBTOTAL:	\$ 442,198.73	\$ 429,719.95
Uncollected Taxes	<u>47,756.49</u>	<u>39,188.73</u>
SUBTOTAL:	\$ <u>489,955.22</u>	\$ <u>468,908.68</u>

* These are operating funds to cover expenses through August 2004.

Town of Montgomery Liabilities as of 12/31/03 for the year 2004

Flood Recovery Loan – Community National Bank (4-year loan)

\$123,454.22 Principal
\$4,296.21 Interest @3.48%
Payment due 12/03/04 \$44051.58

Public Safety Building (Library) – Banknorth Group (10-year loan)

\$26,389.41 Principal
\$1,372.25 Interest @5.2%
Payment due 10/20/04 \$4000.00

Water Project:

Bond #1 – Principal Balance \$163,252.35

Payment due 5/13/04 \$3,758.00
Payment due 11/13/04 3,758.00

Bond #2 – Principal Balance \$385,075.14

Payment due 5/13/04 \$10,625.00
Payment due 11/13/04 10,625.00

2004 BUDGET SUMMARY

The 2004 Municipal Budget is slightly less than last year's budget. However the amount of revenue needed to be raised by taxes has increased by about \$29,000. There are several reasons for this increase.

First on the revenue side, the Selectboard decided not to take a loan out as authorized last year to fund the purchase of the new Town truck. This used more of the unreserved cash funds than anticipated but avoided a longer term cost from interest.

On the expense side, there are several new items that are being presented to the voters that haven't been completely offset by reductions in other areas. These include health care and retirement plans for town employees and a request by the library trustees to pay for a librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

Budget Committee

Kenneth Cota, Chairman
Merrill Cabana
Jerome Mayhew

Suzanne Wilson
Sharon Perry

TAXES 2003

Municipal Grand List - Real Estate	\$70,865,004.00
Personal Property	<u>\$140,032.00</u>
	\$71,005,036.00
Education Grand List - Real Estate	\$70,865,004.00
Personal Property(Cable)	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
	\$70,877,004.00
1% of Municipal Grand List	\$710,050.36
1% of Education Grand List	\$708,770.04

TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED

Select-board's Acct	\$96,701.00	
School District	1,131,396.00	
Winter Roads	50,000.00	
Summer Roads	55,000.00	
Recreation Dept	9,000.00	
Machinery Replacement	20,000.00	
Fire Dept	17,140.00	
Police Dept	29,810.00	
Flood Recovery	40,613.00	
Library - Debt Service	4,000.00	
Operation Expense	3,000.00	
Public Safety Building	5,500.00	
Bridges	15,000.00	
Building Capital Improvement	<u>20,000.00</u>	
		\$1,497,160.00
State of Vermont - Taxes reduction payments		
Hold Harmless	14,007.00	
P.I.L.O.T.	<u>51.00</u>	
		<u>14,058.00</u>
Total Taxes Assessed		1,483,102.00
Gained by fractions in tax rate		<u>5,955.24</u>
		<u><u>1,489,057.24</u></u>
TOTAL TAXES BILLED		
Municipal Grand List	\$710,050.36 X .50	\$355,025.18
Education Grand List	\$708,770.04 X 1.60	<u>\$1,134,032.06</u>
		<u><u>\$1,489,057.24</u></u>

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY 2004 PROPOSED BUDGET

	REVENUE	ACTUAL 2002	BUDGET 2003	ACTUAL 2003	BUDGET 2004	CHANGE 04-03 BUDGET
1	Unreserved Funds	\$67,100.00	\$67,100.00	\$8,686.68	\$8,687.00	(\$58,413.00)
2	Delinquent Taxes	\$48,792.07	\$47,756.00	\$45,197.62	\$39,189.00	(\$8,567.00)
3	Penalty/Interest on delinquent taxes	\$13,570.88	\$0.00	\$16,145.20	\$14,858.00	\$14,858.00
4	State Aid - Roads	\$82,196.00	\$72,000.00	\$76,946.00	\$72,000.00	\$0.00
5	Town Machinery	\$59,592.00	\$59,500.00	\$56,226.00	\$57,909.00	(\$1,591.00)
6	Highway Construction Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,859.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7	Police Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,710.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8	Judicial Fines	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,012.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
9	Rent - US Postal Service	\$9,167.00	\$9,900.00	\$9,900.00	\$9,900.00	\$0.00
10	Rent - Banknorth ATM	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
11	License - Dog	\$1,195.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,364.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
12	License - Liquor & Tobacco	\$700.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
13	Recording Fees	\$13,974.00	\$11,000.00	\$18,150.00	\$14,000.00	\$3,000.00
14	Office Fees	\$3,244.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,730.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
15	Copier/Fax	\$727.00	\$0.00	\$156.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
16	Interest	\$3,560.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,905.59	\$2,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
17	Building Application Fees	\$3,236.00	\$0.00	\$3,463.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
18	DRB Application Fees	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
19	Bianci Compliance Letter Fees	\$825.00	\$0.00	\$660.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
20	Taxes Paid on State Owned Land	\$6,425.95	\$0.00	\$6,442.08	\$6,400.00	\$6,400.00
21	Current Use/Hold Harmless	\$12,806.00	\$0.00	\$14,007.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
22	P.I.L.O.T.	\$49.00	\$0.00	\$51.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
23	Sale of Town Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
24	Miscellaneous	\$3,855.00	\$1,000.00	\$7,673.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
25	Sub-Total	\$332,664.90	\$279,056.00	\$320,584.52	\$249,943.00	(\$29,113.00)
26	Property Taxes	\$301,965.00	\$365,764.00	\$320,179.00	\$394,656.00	\$28,892.00
27	TOTAL REVENUE	\$634,629.90	\$644,820.00	\$640,763.52	\$644,599.00	(\$221.00)
28						
29	EXPENSE ACCOUNTS					
30	ADMINISTRATION					
31	Town Officers	\$58,299.00	\$57,000.00	\$58,987.06	\$56,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
32	Social Security	\$9,535.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,220.25	\$11,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
33	Ins - Unemployment Comp	\$990.00	\$1,485.00	\$1,485.12	\$1,756.00	\$271.00
34	Employee Health & Retirement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,047.00	\$9,047.00
35	Ins - Workman's Comp	\$8,710.00	\$10,147.00	\$11,682.00	\$13,547.00	\$3,400.00
36	Ins - Property & Liability	\$10,511.00	\$10,782.00	\$12,412.05	\$9,865.00	(\$917.00)
37	Office Supplies & Postage	\$17,673.00	\$13,000.00	\$15,904.00	\$16,788.00	\$3,788.00
38	Restoration of Records	\$2,750.00	\$0.00	\$260.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
39	Town Reports & Postage	\$1,480.00	\$650.00	\$718.00	\$650.00	\$0.00
40	Office Building	\$5,879.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,373.00	\$6,000.00	(\$1,500.00)
41	Legal Services & Surveying	\$360.00	\$750.00	\$886.00	\$750.00	\$0.00
42	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$116,187.00	\$113,314.00	\$119,927.48	\$125,403.00	\$12,089.00
43						
44	ASSESSMENTS					
45	County Tax	\$9,740.00	\$10,936.00	\$10,936.00	\$10,500.00	(\$436.00)
46	NW Solid Waste Management	\$992.00	\$992.00	\$992.00	\$992.00	\$0.00
47	VT League of Cities & Towns	\$645.00	\$915.00	\$915.00	\$984.00	\$69.00
48	NW Regional Planning Comm	\$813.00	\$813.00	\$813.00	\$813.00	\$0.00
49	**Montgomery Historical Society	\$0.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$0.00
50	TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	\$12,190.00	\$14,031.00	\$14,031.00	\$13,664.00	(\$367.00)

51	EXPENSES	ACTUAL 2002	BUDGET 2003	ACTUAL 2003	BUDGET 2004	CHANGE 04-03 BUDGET
52	FIRE AND RESCUE					
53	**Fire Operating Expenses	\$17,840.00	\$17,140.00	\$14,401.00	\$17,000.00	(\$140.00)
54	Dry Hydrant	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$990.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
55	**Rescue Operating Expenses	\$6,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
56	TOTAL FIRE AND RESCUE	\$25,340.00	\$17,140.00	\$15,391.00	\$17,000.00	(\$140.00)
57						
58	HIGHWAYS					
59	Employee Health & Retirement	\$9,856.00	\$9,829.00	\$12,943.65	\$21,964.00	\$12,135.00
60	Town Garage	\$3,450.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,283.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
61	**Summer Roads - Town	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,820.00	\$55,000.00	\$0.00
62	Summer Roads - State Aid	\$14,567.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
63	**Winter Roads - Town	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$46,228.00	\$55,000.00	\$5,000.00
64	Winter Roads - State Aid	\$28,210.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$0.00
65	Construction - State Aid	\$30,963.00	\$34,000.00	\$29,501.00	\$34,000.00	\$0.00
66	**Machinery Replacement	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$118,377.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
67	Machinery Repair	\$36,139.00	\$45,000.00	\$50,795.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
68	**Bridges	\$11,553.00	\$15,000.00	\$22,735.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
69	TOTAL HIGHWAYS	\$229,882.00	\$271,829.00	\$366,739.00	\$288,964.00	\$17,135.00
70						
71	LIBRARY					
72	**Operating Expense	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$5,000.00
73	**Debt Service	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
74	TOTAL LIBRARY	\$5,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$5,000.00
75						
76	MISCELLANEOUS					
77	**Bldg Cap Improvement & Maint	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$2,777.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
78	Delinquent Taxes	\$47,756.00	\$47,756.00	\$39,189.00	\$39,189.00	(\$8,567.00)
79	**Flood Recovery Debt	\$45,000.00	\$40,613.00	\$44,051.58	\$44,052.00	\$3,439.00
80	Legal/Ads - Zoning	\$186.00	\$750.00	\$83.20	\$750.00	\$0.00
81	Bike & Pedestrian Path	\$0.00	\$18,000.00	\$3,368.00	\$0.00	(\$18,000.00)
82	**Reappraisal Fund	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
83	Street Light	\$6,426.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,930.96	\$7,000.00	\$0.00
84	Town Hall - Grange	\$3,346.00	\$4,000.00	\$5,139.47	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
85	**Public Safety Building	\$5,178.00	\$5,500.00	\$7,303.00	\$6,500.00	\$1,000.00
86	**Village Water Bond	\$13,737.00	\$13,737.00	\$13,737.00	\$13,737.00	\$0.00
87	Miscellaneous	\$6,171.00	\$6,000.00	\$11,876.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
88	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$137,800.00	\$178,356.00	\$149,455.21	\$156,228.00	(\$22,128.00)
89						
90	POLICE					
91	**Operating Expenses	\$37,638.00	\$29,810.00	\$17,373.09	\$18,000.00	(\$11,810.00)
92	TOTAL POLICE	\$37,638.00	\$29,810.00	\$17,373.09	\$18,000.00	(\$11,810.00)
93						
94	RECREATION					
95	**Operating Expenses	\$8,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$0.00
96	TOTAL RECREATION	\$8,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$0.00
97						
98	REQUESTS					
99	**Champlain Valley Agency on Aging	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
100	**Franklin County Home Health	\$0.00	\$1,440.00	\$1,440.00	\$1,440.00	\$0.00
101	**Franklin County Industrial Dev	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
102	**Hazen's Notch Association	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
103	TOTAL REQUESTS	\$1,600.00	\$4,340.00	\$4,340.00	\$4,340.00	\$0.00
104	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$574,137.00	\$644,820.00	\$703,256.78	\$644,599.00	(\$221.00)
Contingent Selectboard = TOTAL 2004 EXPENSES at Line 104 minus (BUDGET 2004 REVENUES at Line 25						
+ total of line items individually voted on highlighted with asterisks)						
Contingent Selectboard = \$644,599.00 - (\$249,943.00 + \$305,004.00) = \$89652.00						
** indicates line items individually voted on at Town Meeting						

PROPOSED BUDGET 2004

ESTIMATED INCOME

Proposed tax receipts and other income:

Taxes		\$394,656.00
Unreserved Funds	\$8,687.00	
Delinquent Taxes	\$39,189.00	
Penalty/Interest on delq taxes	\$14,858.00	
State Aid - Roads	\$72,000.00	
Town Machinery	\$57,909.00	
Rent - US Postal Service	\$9,900.00	
Rent - Banknorth ATM	\$1,000.00	
License - Dog	\$1,200.00	
License - Liquor & Tobacco	\$600.00	
Recording Fees	\$14,000.00	
Office Fees	\$5,000.00	
Copier/Fax	\$150.00	
Interest	\$2,000.00	
Building Application Fees	\$1,500.00	
DRB Application Fees	\$200.00	
Bianci Compliance Letter Fees	\$300.00	
Taxes on State Owned Land	\$6,400.00	
Current Use/Hold Harmless	\$14,000.00	
P.I.L.O.T.	\$50.00	
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	
		\$249,943.00
		\$644,599.00

Balance in Money Market Acct	\$111,502.00	
Checking	88,805.00	
Deposits in Transit	9,107.00	
		\$209,414.00

Less Reserved Funds:

Fire Dept	\$25,129.51	
Rescue Dept	14,098.13	
Recreation Dept	8,090.59	
School Community Dept	3,482.92	
Center Cemetery Acct	200.00	
Operating Fund	36,000.00	
Sidewalks	3,503.00	
Bridges	15,571.64	
Restoration of Records	3,818.00	
Bldg Capital Improvement & Maint	17,223.00	
Machinery replacement	0.00	
Police Services Dept	13,657.00	
Police Grant	14,735.66	

PROPOSED BUDGET 2004

Reappraisal Fund	25,258.55	
Pedestrian Path	14,632.00	
State Aid Construction	5,327.00	
		\$200,727.00
Unreserved Funds		\$8,687.00

ESTIMATED EXPENSES

Contingency Fund:

Town Officers	\$56,000.00	
Social Security	11,000.00	
Ins - Unemployment Comp	1,756.00	
Ins - Employee Health & Retirement	9,047.00	
Ins - Workers' Compensation	13,547.00	
Ins - Property & Liability	9,865.00	
Office Supplies & Postage	16,788.00	
Town Reports w/Postage	650.00	
Office Building	6,000.00	
Legal Services & Surveying	750.00	
County Tax	10,500.00	
NW Solid Waste Management	992.00	
VT League of Cities & Towns	984.00	
NW Regional Planning Commission	813.00	
Employee Health & Retirement - Highway	21,964.00	
Town Garage	5,000.00	
State Aid - Summer Roads	10,000.00	
State Aid - Winter Roads	28,000.00	
State Aid - Construction	34,000.00	
Machinery Repairs	45,000.00	
Delinquent Taxes	39,189.00	
Legal/Ads - Zoning	750.00	
Street Lights	7,000.00	
Town Hall - Grange	4,000.00	
Miscellaneous	6,000.00	
		\$339,595.00

Warned Articles:

Reappraisal Fund	\$15,000.00
Montgomery Village Water Bond	13,737.00
Fire Department	17,000.00
Summer Roads	55,000.00
Winter Roads	55,000.00
Machinery Replacement	20,000.00
Bridges	15,000.00
Library Operating Expenses	8,000.00
Library Debt Service	4,000.00
Building Capital Improvement & Maint	20,000.00

PROPOSED BUDGET 2004

Flood Recovery Debt	44,052.00	
Public Safety Building	6,500.00	
Police Services	18,000.00	
Recreation Department	9,000.00	
Champlain Valley Agency on Aging	1,800.00	
Franklin County Home Health Agency	1,440.00	
Franklin County Industrial Development	500.00	
Hazen's Notch Association	600.00	
Hectorville Covered Bridge storage	375.00	
	<u>375.00</u>	
		\$305,004.00
Total Estimated Expenses		\$644,599.00

The recommended sum to be raised from taxes as follows:

Reappraisal Fund	\$15,000.00	
Montgomery Village Water Bond	13,737.00	
Fire Department	17,000.00	
Summer Roads + \$10,000 State Aid	55,000.00	
Winter Roads + \$28,000 State Aid	55,000.00	
Machinery Replacement	20,000.00	
Bridges	15,000.00	
Library Operating Expenses	8,000.00	
Library Debt Service	4,000.00	
Building Capital Improvement & Maint	20,000.00	
Flood Recovery Debt	44,052.00	
Public Safety Building	6,500.00	
Police Services	18,000.00	
Recreation Department	9,000.00	
Champlain Valley Agency on Aging	1,800.00	
Franklin County Home Health Agency	1,440.00	
Franklin County Industrial Development	500.00	
Hazen's Notch Association	600.00	
Hectorville Covered Bridge storage	375.00	
Contingency - Selectboard	<u>\$89,652.00</u>	
		\$394,656.00

Respectfully submitted,

Budget Committee

Merrill "Billy" Cabana
Kenneth Cota
Jerome J Mayhew
Suzanne Wilson
Sharon Perry

**SELECTBOARD REPORT
TOWN OFFICERS' SALARIES**

AUDITORS:

Ronald Sylvester	\$488.00	
Marijke Dollois	404.00	
Charles Henderson	<u>350.00</u>	
		\$1,242.00

LISTERS:

Ruth Heiser	\$5,474.44	
Sharon Perry	3,645.25	
Karen Scheffler	2,161.25	
Darlene Marrier	<u>352.00</u>	
		\$11,632.94

SELECTBOARD:

Tosca Smith	\$1,000.00	
Jerome Mayhew	1,000.00	
Merle Van Geison	1,000.00	
Kenneth Cota	1,000.00	
Scott Perry	<u>1,000.00</u>	
		\$5,000.00

BOOKKEEPER: Merrill "Billy" Cabana

\$3,960.00

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER:

Renee J Patterson	18,023.22	
Lynda P Cluba	<u>4,338.48</u>	
		\$26,321.70

ASSISTANT CLERKS:

Anne Cote	\$2,727.00	
Lynda Cluba	\$1,516.00	
Darlene Marrier	<u>\$329.00</u>	
		\$4,572.00

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR:

Anita Woodward, 4% of Delinq. Taxes collected		\$5,195.50
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CLERK OF THE SELECTBOARD & DRB:

Darlene Marrier		\$858.75
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TOWN OFFICER'S SALARIES (Continued)

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:

Darlene Marrier \$2,027.00

DOG OFFICER: Amy Cochran \$1,826.28

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY:

Elizabeth Hoss	\$48.75	
Charles Henderson	\$45.50	
Erin St Onge	\$43.88	
Laurie Murphy	\$11.38	
Annie Purrier	\$11.38	
	<u> </u>	\$160.89

HEALTH OFFICER: Lois Goff \$150.00

Total Town Officers \$58,987.06

ROAD CREW:

William Baker Sr	\$35,533.84
William Baker Jr	31,239.36
Gary Baker	663.00
	<u> </u>
	\$67,436.20

SELECTBOARD REPORT - SUMMARY 2003

Salaries:

Auditors	\$1,242.00	
Listers	11,632.94	
Selectboard	5,000.00	
Bookkeeper	3,960.00	
Town Clerk/Treasurer	22,361.70	
Assistant Clerks	4,572.00	
Delinquent Tax Collector	5,195.50	
Clerk of the Selectboard & Development Review Board	858.75	
Zoning Administrator	2,027.00	
Dog Officer	1,826.28	
Board of Civil Authority	160.89	
Health Officer	150.00	
	<u> </u>	\$58,987.06

SELECTBOARD SUMMARY(Continued)

Town Clerk's Office Expense		\$15,903.67	
Police Services		17,373.09	
Village Water Bond Payment		13,737.00	
Public Safety Building Expense		7,302.90	
Bicycle & Pedestrian Path		3,368.00	
Town Office Building Expense		7,372.73	
Town Reports & Postage		1,192.63	
Restoration of Records		260.00	
Town Hall Expense		5,139.47	
Insurances		38,522.82	
Assessments:			
School District	\$1,131,396.00		
Town	<u>95,563.02</u>		
		1,226,959.02	
Social Security & Medicaid		10,220.25	
Street Lights		6,930.96	
Legal Services & Surveying		886.00	
Bridges		22,734.61	
Miscellaneous		11,876.00	
Machinery Expense		50,794.94	
Garage Expense		5,283.15	
State Aid		29,500.84	
Winter Roads		74,227.56	
Summer Roads		65,820.25	
Reappraisal Expense		32,065.83	
Machinery Replacement		<u>118,377.00</u>	
			\$1,824,835.78

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - 2004 BUDGET
Police Department

	Budget 2002	Actual 2002	Budget 2003	Actual 2003	Budget 2004	Difference Actual 03- Budget 04	Change Budget 03/04
Revenues							
Prior Yr Reserved					13,657		
Town of Montgomery	35,240	35,240	29,810	29,810	18,000	-11,810	11,810
Judicial Fines	0	868	0	3,012	0	-3,012	0
Police Block Grant	0	1,684	1,684	1,710	0	-1,710	1,684
Total Revenue	35,240	37,792	31,494	34,532	31,657	-16,532	13,494
Expenses							
Uniforms	900	548	200	0	0	0	200
Vehicle payment	6,700	6,954	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicle maintenance	2,000	1,913	2,150	602	0	-602	2,150
Training	300	129	150	472	0	-472	150
Communications	1,800	2,081	2,100	2,097	0	-2,097	2,100
Office Supplies	200	93	100	53	0	-53	100
Radio Repair/Replacement	1,500	1,498	150	0	0	0	150
Payroll & Social Security	21,840	24,423	24,960	10,753	0	-10,753	24,960
Contracted Services	0	0	0	0	31,657	31,657	-31,657
New Equipment	0	0	0	3,169	0	-3,169	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	717	0	-717	0
Total Expenses	\$35,240	\$37,638	\$29,810	\$17,863	\$31,657	\$13,794	(\$1,847)

(000.00)=unfavorable

Reserved Funds

Police Assistance Grant	0	15,010	15,010	275	14,735	0	0
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TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - 2004 BUDGET

Fire Department

	Budget 2002	Actual 2002	Budget 2003	Actual 2003	Budget 2004	Difference Actual 03- Budget 04	Change Budget 03/04
Revenues							
Town of Montgomery	17,840	17,840	17,140	17,140	17,000	-140	140
Town of Westfield	1,460	1,460	1,460	1,460	2,000	540	-540
Grants	0	0	0	2,100	0	-2,100	0
Contributions/Fundraisers	2,500	2,534	2,500	2,152	2,150	-2	350
Interest	350	359	200	138	150	12	50
Total Revenue	22,150	22,193	21,300	22,990	21,300	-1,690	0
Fixed Expenses							
Vehicle Fuel	600	0	500	0	500	500	0
Telephone	500	454	500	278	300	22	200
Insurance	7,000	6,150	6,500	6,719	6,700	-19	-200
Dispatch	1,200	550	800	550	800	250	0
	9,300	7,154	8,300	7,547	8,300	753	0
Other Expenses							
Radio Repair	2,000	273	1,500	592	1,500	908	0
Office Supplies	700	347	400	310	400	90	0
Vehicle Repair	2,500	1,368	2,500	425	2,500	2,075	0
Fire Training	500	50	350	50	350	300	0
Contingency Fund	600	0	600	703	350	-353	250
Dues	200	308	450	201	600	399	-150
Equipment	2,000	6,865	2,000	2,127	350	-1,777	1,650
Payroll	2,500	2,090	2,000	2,090	2,000	-90	0
Social Security	0	158	200	160	2,100	1,940	-1,900
Building Maintenance	0	0	0	196	0	-196	0
Capital Improvements	3,000	0	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	0
Total Other	14,000	11,460	13,000	6,854	13,150	6,296	-150
Total Expenses	\$23,300	\$18,614	\$21,300	\$14,401	\$21,450	\$7,049	(\$150)
Dry Hydrant Request	1,000	1,000	0	990	0	-990	0

(000.00)=unfavorable

**MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPARTMENT
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03		
General Fund	\$17,678.56	
Dry Hydrant	3,366.95	
Capital Improvement	<u>16,212.07</u>	
		\$37,257.58

RECEIPTS

Taxes	\$17,140.00	
Town of Westfield	1,460.00	
Contributions & Fundraising	2,152.17	
Grants	2,100.00	
Interest Income	<u>137.69</u>	
		<u>\$22,989.86</u>
		\$60,247.44

EXPENSES

Payroll	\$2,090.00	
Social Security	159.94	
Office Expense	310.39	
Dues	201.00	
Dispatch Fees	550.00	
Insurance	6,719.00	
New Equipment	2,126.81	
Vehicle Maintenance	424.77	
Traning	50.00	
Radio Repair	592.00	
Building Repair & Maintenance	195.86	
Communication	278.10	
Miscellaneous	703.35	
Dry Hydrant	<u>990.00</u>	
		<u>\$15,391.22</u>
		<u><u>\$44,856.22</u></u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03		
General Fund	\$25,129.51	
Dry Hydrant	3,395.77	
Capital Improvement	<u>16,330.94</u>	
		<u><u>\$44,856.22</u></u>

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - 2003 BUDGET

Rescue Department

	Budget 2002	Actual 2002	Budget 2003	Actual 2003	Budget 2004	Difference Actual 03- Budget 04	Change Budget 03/04
Revenues							
Town of Montgomery	6,500	6,500	0	0	0	0	0
Ambulance Billing	23,535	33,677	14,935	25,394	24,758	-636	9,823
Grants	0	0	0	11,356	0	-11,356	0
Subscriptions/Donations	0	495	0	1,145	0	-1,145	0
Cash on Hand	20,813	0	12,340	14,098	14,098	0	1,758
Total Revenue	\$50,848	\$40,672	\$27,275	\$51,993	\$38,856	(\$13,137)	\$11,581
Expenses							
Ambulance	16,935	16,629	0	0	0	16,629	0
Equipment	6,435	7,540	800	6,497	1,800	6,740	1,000
Communications	2,503	4,074	1,900	7,499	1,600	2,174	-300
Insurance	4,200	3,654	4,200	3,795	4,200	-546	0
Education	2,000	644	2,000	2,356	2,000	-1,356	0
Medical Supplies	3,000	2,688	1,500	2,296	1,500	1,188	0
Uniforms	100	0	100	94	3,600	-100	3,500
Payroll & Social Security	14,000	11,106	14,000	11,479	17,400	-2,894	3,400
Office expense	200	1,272	200	396	2,100	1,072	1,900
Maintenance (Veh.& Equip)	1,000	1,081	2,000	353	1,900	-919	-100
Dues	75	175	175	175	175	0	0
Vaccinations	200	75	200	160	250	-125	50
EMS Dispatch Fee	0	0	0	0	947	0	947
Building Expense	0	75	0	0	0	75	0
Contracted Services	0	0	0	984	984	0	984
Miscellaneous	200	133	200	53	400	-67	200
Total Expenses	\$50,848	\$49,145	\$27,275	\$36,137	\$38,856	\$21,870	\$11,581

(000.00)=unfavorable

PAST DUE AMBULANCE BILLS

NAME	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total Due
Kamala Farmer	617.00						617.00
Paul Dibbler, Jr.		561.00					561.00
Roger Ryea			726.00				726.00
Nicole Richardson				158.80			158.80
Joshua Hartung				726.00			726.00
Total	\$617	\$561	\$726	\$885			\$2,789

RESCUE REVIEW 2003

Montgomery Rescue was awarded three grants during the past year holding a combined value of \$13,456.00. The first grant I worked on was administered by the Vermont Department of Health EMS Division and the Vermont Fire Service Training Council. Vermont EMS District 1 was granted \$11,000.00 for the purchase of automated external defibrillators. Montgomery was one of five towns that received \$2,200.00 for the purchase of a new defibrillator.

The next award was from the U.S. Department of Justice, State Domestic Preparedness Equipment Program Grants administered by the Homeland Security Unit for the purchase of Interoperable Communication Equipment with a value of \$1,656.00. The last award in 2003 was also from D.O.J. and administered by H.S.U. for equipment to help prepare in the event of a terrorist incident with a value of \$9,600.00. Equipment listed on this grant was as follows: a generator, emergency jump kits, defibrillators, and interoperable communication equipment. In the event that we need to provide treatment on people in several locations we will be better prepared to do that as well as being able to communicate directly with public safety officials without the need of radio dispatcher assistance.

This report is being developed in December of 2003; and at this time I am working on a grant that will assist with the cost of developing an emergency plan for the town that will consider the atmosphere of the world we live in today, having greater potential for terrorist related activities. Some may say that we do not need to plan for such things in Montgomery; imagine if everyone left Burlington and showed up on our door step in the middle of winter. Do we have the resources to take care of such a problem? No, but planning will allow us to take better care of each other as well. This grant may be awarded in late winter or early spring of 2004. The events of 9-11-01 have put all emergency services in a growth mode with direction and support from the state and federal government. Please support this growth and improvements to Montgomery Emergency Services.

The Future of 24-7 Coverage

As many of you know I am very committed to providing the best level of emergency medical care to the people of this town. I believe that we must also build a system that will continue to provide the best level of care over the passage of time. The only way we can make sure that someone will be available when needed is to rely on other ambulance services with mutual aid agreements, or create a payroll line in the budget that will support full time paid staff. Enosburgh has relayed to me that the day may come when Enosburgh may not be able to respond to Montgomery as Mutual Aid or that a per capita rate fee of \$13,000.00 may be charged for services. I feel our best option is to support our own Ambulance Service to get the job done. Please support Montgomery Rescue this year at town meeting, and if you can become an EMT you will help save your Ambulance Service.

Barry Domina Business Manager

RESCUE FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 \$12,340.17

RECEIPTS

Taxes	\$0.00	
Billing Income	25,394.10	
Donations	1,144.80	
Grants	11,256.00	
Miscellaneous	100.00	
		<u>\$37,894.90</u>
		<u>\$50,235.07</u>

EXPENSES

Payroll	\$11,479.00	
Office Expense	395.53	
Medical Supplies	2,296.48	
Dues	175.00	
Dispatch Fees	550.00	
Insurance	3,795.00	
New Equipment	6,497.43	
Vehicle Maintenance	352.60	
Training	2,355.50	
Uniforms	93.95	
Contracted Services	983.50	
Communication	6,949.95	
Miscellaneous	53.00	
Richford Health Center	160.00	
		<u>\$36,136.94</u>
		<u><u>\$14,098.13</u></u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03

Respectfully Submitted,
 Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

Rescue Calls 2003

Medical Emergencies	43
Trauma	31
Fire Department Assists	1
Search & Rescue	3
Mutual Aid	2
Transports	54
First Response	22

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY - 2004 BUDGET
Recreation Department

Revenues	Budget 2002	Actual 2002	Budget 2003	Actual 2003	Budget 2004	Difference Actual 03- Budget 04	Change Budget 03/04
Town of Montgomery	8,000	8,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	0	0
Fundraisers & Donations	4,972	10,434	5,000	10,285	5,000	(5,285)	0
Cash on Hand	7,878	0	7,046	0	8,091	8,091	1,045
Total Revenue	20,850	18,434	21,046	19,285	22,091	2,806	1,045
Expenses							
Heating Fuel	1,000	80	650	1,138	1,200	(62)	(550)
Electricity	800	668	700	764	825	(61)	(125)
Telephone	500	543	500	614	616	(2)	(116)
Payroll & Social Security	5,500	5,076	5,500	6,295	7,500	(1,205)	(2,000)
Building Maintenance	4,000	4,905	4,000	1,323	2,750	(1,427)	1,250
Equipment	5,000	691	750	1,183	1,500	(317)	(750)
Grounds Maintenance	0	3,232	2,500	4,564	4,500	64	(2,000)
Tennis Maintenance	0	0	2,000	100	0	100	2,000
Calendar Project	0	0	1,500	0	0	0	1,500
Office & Postage	250	228	250	52	200	(148)	50
Insurance	400	611	700	0	400	(400)	300
Advertising	200	41	200	0	100	(100)	100
Activity Exp. & Supplies	4,500	2,990	1,796	2,507	2,500	7	(704)
Total Expenses	22,150	19,066	21,046	18,540	22,091	(3,551)	(1,045)

(000.00)=unfavorable

Oh what a year! Didn't we have fun?
 Now it's time to remember and thank everyone
 For barbecues, parades, variety shows, snow shoe races,
 Day camp and soccer and smiling faces.
 For Halloween's bonfire that crackled and a 4th that swung,
 thank you Montgomery for being such fun!
 No other town -- we all share this hunch -- has a Rec Center like ours
 And events by the bunch.
 We're grateful; we delight in this town where we live
 And we're back to ask for the money you give.

You fund us; we raise more on our own
 That way we never have to take a bank loan
 To maintain the fields, the courts and the rink,
 We even fix the bathroom sink.
 They money we ask for the money we raise
 We spend it all and all in good ways.

Success by Six teamed with your Rec Board to buy and mend
 The swing sets and play tower and slide for our kids and their friends.

The portable soccer goals for k-3 kids make the huge soccer field kid heaven
 At this rate they'll bend the ball like Beckham before they're eleven!

Is it year #4 we've had the Halloween bonfire on River Walk beach?
To John Little, Melissa Haberman and Dave Burns a big thanks!
Who know the destination of those reeking trucks with big tanks!
They came, they sprayed, and our sweet park reeked of pure liquid stink....
So we lit a back-up blaze that burned in Dirk's rink.
Where was Dirk? What did he have to say...?
 well we kinda hope he was outta town that day...
And for the wood for the fire that sparkled and crackled and sent sparks into the night?
Jake Webster, my oh my you did all right!

And now a quick nod to all you Rec Member Spouses
Who are often called on to leave your snug houses
To help pull off some fun impossibility with good hearted effort
and fine civility.

We made good money while you ate well and bought art.
August's Art Auction taught us all a lot.
In a town with such talent with brushes, fabrics and clay, who knew Bucky's Bucket
would be the buy of the day?

Mabel the St. Bernard soloed with Valerie on sax
For Variety this year our show was not lax.
The Swedish Chef's prize ratatouille was a gastronomic tour de force
Rumor has it Chantal will make it a main course!
The tourists will eat it and not have a clue this show is a 28-year tradition with a
dedicated crew.
For Nikki and Steve and the boys in the band in your honor we all stand
Now Bobby and Jackie join them on stage.
You two simply are the rage.

Day Camp was crowded, the sun often hot.
Gary and Marcia, we thank you a lot.
Our toddlers thru preteens trudged through your yard
To splash in Third Hole under the watchful eye of Sam and Erin the lifeguards.
Parents helped out as counselors now and then.
Thank you our friends!

Our 4th of July, it rocks with reknown.
Did you know people come from all around
to see our silliness and fun floats and no marching band?
For a small town parade we're first in this land.

Tennis is strong under Mel Persicketti
Let's stand and cheer and throw confetti!
Mel is a pro who's always ready
To make YOUR backhand strong and steady.

We work on the field, we keep making it better
It's played on hard in all kinds of weather.
There's softball and t-ball, Minor and Little Leagues
soccer and bike polo -- Trust us to give field what it needs

Over the Block Party September's full moon rose high
She couldn't help but dance a bit in the sky!
Bettie rocked the Village while we ate so much and so well
It's on the calendar for '04, ain't that swell?

Before '03 fades into the mist
Let's take a quick list at the '04 To Do list...
We need to work on the Field House and keep the Rec spiffy
Anyone want to join us? We'll put you to work in a jiffy!
This summer we hope to include community youth
We're working on programs that in truth
Will get those dudes off the Internet, out the door
And engage in activities where body and mind do more.
Please remember your Rec gives scholarships away for kids whose families just can't pay
for the day.

To Flicks for your help with the keys
and on to Sylvester's for all your good deeds
To the Library folks for cookies and book
To Jo Cota for the way the blooming window boxes look
To the Garden Club for your horticultural zest
We thank you all, you're simply the best.

We'll continue to work for a clean safe Rec Center
And invite you join us, become a Member. Help make things happen where people can
play where everyone comes to have a nice day.
The meetings are monthly, phone calls are minimal
The rewards of our work are not merely subliminal.

People smile and play and laugh and lose gloves
At events at the Rec that make this the town we all love.

Ghostwritten for Michelle Legault by Jackie Kaufman

**MONTGOMERY RECREATION CENTER
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 \$7,045.98

RECEIPTS

Taxes	\$9,000.00	
Activity Income	10,245.26	
Tennis Income	300.00	
Donations	40.00	
		\$19,585.26
		\$26,631.24

EXPENSES

Payroll	\$6,295.04	
Office Expense	51.90	
Advertising	0.00	
Telephone	614.31	
Electricity	764.02	
Heating Fuel	1,137.74	
Insurance	0.00	
New Equipment	1,183.17	
Building Maintenance	1,322.80	
Grounds Maintenance	4,564.00	
Tennis Maintenance	100.28	
Activities Expense	2,507.39	
		\$18,540.65
Ending Balance 12/31/03		\$8,090.59

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

MONTGOMERY TOWN LIBRARY
Income/Expense and Budget Report

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	CHANGE	BUDGET
	2002	2002	2003	2003	Actual 03/Budget 03	2004
OPERATING REVENUE:						
Friends of the Library	-	-	1,000	1,868	868	1,500
Fundraising	-	1,344	900	1,081	181	994
Interest Income	-	45	40	30	(10)	30
Membership	-	5	-	-	-	-
Town of Montgomery	1,500	1,500	3,000	3,000	-	8,000
Total Operating Revenue:	1,500	2,894	4,940	5,979	1,039	10,524
OPERATING EXPENSES:						
Bank Service Charge	-	36	36	20	(16)	-
Book Discussion/Programming	-	145	750	-	750	750
Book Purchases	150	72	807	650	(157)	990
Computer:						
Equipment	-	-	400	426	26	-
Repairs	-	-	-	245	245	250
Supplies	-	218	200	348	148	350
Donation	-	100	-	-	-	-
Garbage Removal	-	5	75	41	(34)	75
Library Expense - Misc.	-	324	300	136	(164)	200
Library Supplies	200	295	175	406	231	400
Mileage Reimbursement	-	-	250	191	(59)	200
Photocopier - Cartridge	-	-	158	139	(19)	150
Postal Service:						
Box Rental	-	32	44	44	-	44
Stamps	-	118	450	434	(16)	450
Printing	-	-	100	483	383	600
Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Shelving	-	326	-	296	296	-
Subscriptions	-	80	100	80	(20)	80
Utilities:						
DSL Internet Access	550	506	635	535	(100)	550
Telephone	600	539	420	418	(2)	360
VT On-Line Library	-	-	40	39	(1)	-
Workshops	-	-	-	75	(75)	75
Total Operating Expenses:	1,500	2,795	4,940	5,006	66	10,524
Operating Revenue less Expenses:	-	99	-	973	973	-
GRANTS & GIFTS RECEIVED:						
Grants: -						
VPLF/Freeman	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	1,000
VPLF/Freeman - 2003 carry-over	-	-	-	-	-	694
Eastman Foundation	-	500	500	500	-	500
Parent Resource	-	-	-	5,000	5,000	-
Gifts (memorial & others)	-	457	-	1,580	1,580	-
Total Grants & Gifts Rec'd:	-	957	5,500	12,080	6,580	2,194
GRANTS & GIFTS EXPENSED:						
Grants:						
VPLF-Freeman (Books, shelving, furniture, renovati	-	5,003	5,000	4,306	(694)	1,694
Eastman Foundation (Books)	-	500	500	500	-	500
Parent Resource (Books, magazines, shelving)	-	-	-	4,947	4,947	-
Gifts (memorial & others)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Grants & Gifts Exp:	-	5,503	500	5,447	4,253	2,194
Grants & Gifts Revenue less Expenses:	-	(4,546)	5,000	6,633	2,327	-

MONTGOMERY TOWN LIBRARY
Income/Expense and Budget Report

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	CHANGE	BUDGET
	2002	2002	2003	2003	Actual 03/Budget 03	2004
GRAND TOTAL REVENUE:						
Total Operating Revenue	1,500	2,894	4,940	5,979	1,039	5,524
Total Grants & Gifts Revenue	-	5,503	5,500	12,080	6,580	1,900
Total Revenue:	1,500	8,397	10,440	18,059	7,619	7,424
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES:						
Total Operating Expenses	1,500	2,795	4,940	5,006	66	5,524
Total Grants & Gifts Expensed	-	5,503	5,500	9,753	4,253	1,900
Total Expenses:	1,500	8,298	10,440	14,759	4,319	7,424
NET REVENUE - EXPENSES:	-	99	-	3,300	3,300	-
Cash on hand:						
Checking Account:	12/31/02:	(167)		12/31/03:	(3)	
Savings Account:	12/31/02:	4,839		12/31/03:	7,987	
Petty Cash Account :	12/31/02:	20		12/31/03:	8	
TOTAL CASH ON HAND:	12/31/02:	4,691		12/31/03:	7,992	

MONTGOMERY TOWN LIBRARY REPORT

The expansion of library services and the growth of the library's collection of books and other materials has resulted in a significant increase in the use of the town library.

Circulation has more than doubled over last year. Of the 754 registered patrons, over 100 have joined in the past twelve months. Many of these new patrons signed up when they attended library events such as book signings, art exhibits, author talks, and story times. We've recorded over 2,000 patron visits, with the public access computer continuing to be in high demand. Interlibrary loan activity has doubled in the last year. Thanks to the wonderful work of Tim Murphy, the children's area was expanded.

In 2003, the library succeeded in meeting the state standards for public libraries for the very first time. The final requirement was met when Micki Ledden, a certified librarian, agreed to be our librarian. She assumed this position temporarily as a volunteer, and this year we are asking the town to fund this position for 10 hours per week.

Micki's enthusiasm and knowledge were instrumental in the library's many successes this year. In addition to the second year of the Freeman Grant, the library also received a Children's Literacy Foundation Sponsorship, a Mother Goose Grant, a Parent Resource Library Enhancement and Development Grant from the Franklin County Early Childhood Advisory Council, and partial state sponsorship of our Summer Reading Program. We became part of the Vermont-On-Line (VOL) system, began publication of a quarterly newsletter, delivered books to summer day camp, and continued to seek more ways to involve the community with the library. We are very thankful to the many people who donated money, books and audio books for the library, and baked goods and books for our fundraisers.

The library is blessed with a strong volunteer staff that keeps the library open 22 hours a week. The addition of a part-time librarian will strengthen this staff by providing direction, new ideas, and a consistent flow of information. The librarian will be responsible for carrying out the policies of the Board of Trustees, will be the link to the state library system, meet monthly with the regional librarians, stay abreast of grant opportunities, provide input on collection development, and be responsible for the scheduling of adult and children's activities on a regular basis.

The Montgomery Town Library is a vital part of our community. It is a place for children to come and explore the world outside of themselves. A library requires leadership to continue to evolve and develop. Please support the proposed budget so we can continue to build on the successes of the past year and keep the momentum moving forward!

Thank you,
Library Board of Trustees

**LISTER REAPPRAISAL FUND
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 \$35,741.25

RECEIPTS

Taxes	\$15,000.00	
State of VT - Reappraisal	<u>6,748.00</u>	
		<u>\$21,748.00</u>
		\$57,489.25

EXPENSES

Data Collectors	\$18,536.21	
Training	100.00	
Office Supplies	34.49	
Consultants Fees	<u>13,560.00</u>	
		<u>\$32,230.70</u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03 \$25,258.55

**MACHINERY REPLACEMENT FUND
FINANCIAL REPORT - 2003**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 40,000.00

RECEIPTS

Taxes	\$20,000.00	
Sale of Truck	<u>\$23,000.00</u>	
		<u>\$43,000.00</u>
		\$83,000.00

EXPENSES

New Truck	80,887.00	
Plow & Attachments	<u>37,490.00</u>	
		<u>\$118,377.00</u>

		(\$35,377.00)
Amount Paid Thru Unreserved Funds		<u>\$35,377.00</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/03		\$0.00

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

**TOWN HALL
FINANCIAL REPORT - 2003**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03	
Checking	\$703.64

RECEIPTS

Town Hall Rental & Activities	\$4,934.00
	\$5,637.64

EXPENSES

Advertising	\$145.40	
Rubbish Removal	387.00	
Supplies	700.90	
Building Repairs & Maint	3,443.62	
		\$4,676.92
		\$960.72

Ending Balance 12/31/03	
Checking	\$960.72 *

Respectfully submitted,
Renee J Patterson

**FLOOD LOAN ACCOUNT
FINANCIAL REPORT - 2003**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03	
Savings Account	\$3,946.32

RECEIPTS

Interest	\$20.72
	\$3,967.04

EXPENSES

Dept of Housing & Community Affairs Program	\$826.37
	\$3,140.67

Ending Balance 12/31/03	
Savings Account	\$3,140.67 *

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

* These accounts will be closed and combined in the General Fund

MONTGOMERY CENTER CEMETERY ASSOC.
FINANCIAL REPORT - 2003
1/1/2003 to 12/31/2003

Beginning balance 1/1/2003

Checking	\$1,404.14	
Savings	113.15	
CD's	63,517.93	
Alpha Dix Fund	2,332.35	
Charles Lumbra Fund	410.25	
Gertrude Marcy Fund	1,045.48	
Morgan Stanley/Money Market	25,755.58	
		\$94,578.88

RECEIPTS

Interest Income	\$3,490.26	
Lots Purchased	800.00	
Gyneth Lumbra - Perpetual Care donation	1,000.00	
		\$5,290.26
		\$99,869.14

EXPENSES

Grounds Maintenance	\$2,795.00	
Bank Fees	104.00	
		\$2,899.00
		\$96,970.14

Ending Balance 12/31/2003

Checking	\$2,071.84	
Savings Transferred to Checking	0.00	
CD's	65,107.95	
Alpha Dix Fund	2,341.69	
Charles Lumbra Fund	411.80	
Gertrude Marcy Fund	1,055.95	
Morgan Stanley/Money Market	25,780.91	
General Fund	200.00	
Total		\$96,970.14

Respectfully submitted,
 Lynda Cluba, Treasurer

MONTGOMERY VILLAGE CEMETERY ASSOC.
FINANCIAL REPORT - 2003
1/1/2003 to 12/31/2003

Beginning balance 1/1/2003			
CD Value	20,300.00		
Checking	1,318.24		
			\$21,618.24
RECEIPTS			
CD Interest	1,076.98		
Perpetual Care	100.00		
Sale of Lots	100.00		
Dues	15.00		
Gift in Memory	50.00		
			\$1,341.98
EXPENSES			
Mowings	1,225.00		
Trash removal	70.00		
Insurance	100.00		
			\$1,395.00
			<u>\$21,565.22</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/2003			
CD Value	20,300.00		
Checking	1,265.22		
			<u>\$21,565.22</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Lumbra, Treasurer

JOHN L. CLAPP ESTATE
Financial Report - 1/1/03 to 12/31/03

Balance as of 1/1/2003			
Saxton Ind Stock	2,940.00		
Certificates - Banknorth	11,273.80		
Checking Acct. - Merchants Bank	342.07		
			\$14,555.87
INCOME			
Interest from Certificates	133.73		
			\$133.73
DISBURSEMENTS			
Care of Old Cemetery	108.00		
Probate Court	25.00		
Bond	30.00		
Bank Service Charges	52.00		
			\$215.00
			<u>\$14,474.60</u>
Assets as of 12/31/2003			
Saxon Ind Stock	2,940.00		
Certificates - Banknorth	11,273.80		
Checking - Merchants Bank	260.80		
			<u>\$14,474.60</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine St. Onge, Treasurer

MONTGOMERY WATER DEPT #1
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03

Beginning Balance 1/1/03

Checking	\$7,207.21	
Savings	27,329.91	
Cash on Hand	<u>134.00</u>	
		\$34,671.12

RECEIPTS

Water Rents & Late Charges	\$26,733.71	
Reimbursement SCI	1,000.00	
Interest on Savings	<u>261.43</u>	
		<u>\$27,995.14</u>
		\$62,666.26

EXPENSES

Electricity	2,742.23	
Labor	\$6,851.94	
Parts & Labor	4,091.10	
Board Members	\$900.00	
Northeast Rural Dues	\$125.00	
Water Tax State of VT	\$142.22	
Enosburg Water Dept	284.83	
Propane	648.84	
Chlorine	276.00	
Permit	50.00	
Dept of Health Sampling	514.00	
Office Supplies	336.12	
Bad Check fee	<u>6.00</u>	
		<u>\$16,968.28</u>
		<u><u>\$45,697.98</u></u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03

Checking	\$4,106.64	
Savings	<u>41,591.34</u>	
		<u><u>\$45,697.98</u></u>

Respectfully submitted
 Rita Tatro, Treasurer

**MONTGOMERY WATER DEPT #2
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03	
Checking	\$11,635.13

RECEIPTS

Water Rents & Late Charges	\$28,976.01
Reimbursement SCI	8,795.12
Reimbursement D&H	212.50
Town of Montgomery	<u>13,737.00</u>
	<u>\$51,720.63</u>
	\$63,355.76

EXPENSES

Labor	\$11,728.47
Electricity	2,366.99
Office Expense	142.87
Thawing Water	2,085.00
Supplies	3,015.98
Enosburg Water	611.45
State of VT Water Tax	142.20
Lead & Copper Test	100.00
Refund to Randi Hacker	62.00
Bond Payment	<u>28,766.00</u>
	<u>\$49,020.96</u>
	<u><u>\$14,334.80</u></u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03	
Checking	\$14,284.80
Cash on Hand	<u>50.00</u>
	<u><u>\$14,334.80</u></u>

Respectfully submitted
Rita Tatro, Treasurer

**MONTGOMERY VILLAGE WATER PROJECT
FINANCIAL REPORT- 2003
From 1/1/03 to 12/31/03**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 \$343,756.04

RECEIPTS

USDA Grant	\$188,374.00	
Interest	<u>18,840.82</u>	
		<u>\$207,214.82</u>
		<u>\$550,970.86</u>

EXPENSES

Well site expense	\$19,928.38	
Office expense	1,087.20	
Engineering Costs	63,759.17	
Permit Fee	250.00	
Reimbursement for Repairs	83.00	
Option Agreement	500.00	
Loan Interest	<u>14,709.59</u>	
		<u>\$100,317.34</u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03 \$450,653.52

Outstanding Loan balance - \$500,000.00

Maturity date - 11/11/2004

Loan Interest Rate - 2.88%

MMkt Earned Interest Rate - 3.45%

Respectfully Submitted

Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

**MONTGOMERY SCHOOL COMMUNITY TEAM
LOUNGE ACCOUNT
Financial Report-1/1/03 to12/31/03**

Beginning Balance 1/1/03 \$1,479.70

RECEIPTS

School Community Team Acct	\$2,223.51	
VKAT Grant	<u>1,000.00</u>	
		<u>\$3,223.51</u>
		<u>\$4,703.21</u>

EXPENSES

Lounge Telephone	\$305.86	
Meeting Supplies	20.33	
VKAT Coordinator	500.00	
VKAT Supplies	140.00	
Activities Expense	<u>254.10</u>	
		<u>\$1,220.29</u>
		<u><u>\$3,482.92</u></u>

Ending Balance 12/31/03

Respectfully Submitted
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
JANUARY 1, 2003 - DECEMBER 31, 2003**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TAX DUE</u>	<u>TAXES COLLECTED</u>	<u>TAX AMENDED</u>	<u>TAX ABATED</u>	<u>BALANCE DUE</u>
2001	\$ 5,624.68	\$ 5,146.35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 478.33
2002	\$ 42,131.81	\$ 40,051.27	\$ -	\$ 23.99	\$ 2,056.55
2003	\$ 130,384.46	\$ 93,786.49	\$ 54.60	\$ -	\$ 36,543.37
TOTAL	\$ 178,140.95	\$ 138,873.63	\$ 54.60	\$ 23.99	\$ 39,188.73

Taxes Collected:	\$ 138,873.63
8% Penalties Collected:	\$ 11,109.91
Interest Collected:	<u>\$ 5,035.29</u>

Total paid to the Treasurer by A. Woodward: \$ 155,018.83

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TAX AMOUNT</u>
2001 PROPERTY TAXES	
Collins, Christopher and Stark, Judith	\$ 412.62
Primestar	\$ 65.71
TOTAL 2001	\$ 478.33
2002 PROPERTY TAXES	
Collins, Christopher and Stark, Judith	\$ 877.56
Domina, Kenneth and Pudvah, Kathie	\$ 794.49
Farrar, Lee	\$ 97.98
Noel, Richard	\$ 226.88
Sylvester, Nicole	\$ 59.64
TOTAL 2002	\$ 2,056.55
2003 PROPERTY TAXES	
Barnes, Clayton, Jr., Barnes, Carlton & Laflame, Audrey	\$ 342.45
* Barnes, Maria Hill and Hill, Susan	\$ 245.47
Bergeron, Anita and Bergeron, Laurie	\$ 968.10
Bradley, Keith, Jr. & Bradley, Janice	\$ 1,965.60
Brouillette, Mark	\$ 4,008.90
Brunton, Stuart	\$ 1,155.00
Camire, Raymond and Thompson, Ken	\$ 42.00
Collins, Christopher and Stark, Judith	\$ 865.20
Domina, Kenneth and Pudvah, Kathie	\$ 783.30
Farrar, Glendora	\$ 1,509.90
Farrar, Lee	\$ 441.00
Farrar, Lee	\$ 42.00
Gadpaille, Eric	\$ 1,369.20
Gadpaille, Eric	\$ 630.00
Godfrey, Luke	\$ 1,560.30
* Hathaway, Patricia and Simrill, Stuart and Simrill, Spenser	\$ 21.58
Hathaway, Philip and Hathaway, Andrew	\$ 1,873.20
* Karnes, Steven and Karnes, Vickie	\$ 372.59
Levandusky, Linda and Chaput, Sandra	\$ 1,997.10
* Lumbra, Dale	\$ 919.80
Malaussena, William	\$ 1,033.20
Malaussena, William	\$ 2,251.20
McGovern, James c/o Hill, Craig	\$ 950.56
Mendoza, Margaret	\$ 499.80
Mercy, Duane	\$ 497.00
Nemo, Fred	\$ 1,058.40
Noel, Richard	\$ 993.30
* Northeast Land & Trading Co. Ltd.	\$ 430.50

Delinquent Property Taxes - Continued

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TAX AMOUNT</u>
Ovitt, Robert	\$ 672.00
* Remmers, Erik and Haase, Bethany	\$ 15.24
Robitaille, Jacques and Robitaille, Jill	\$ 2,677.50
* Simrill, Spenser and Simrill, Stuart	\$ 714.00
Smith, James and Smith, Doris	\$ 1,098.43
Sylvester, Jill & Sylvester, Paul Sr.	\$ 600.60
* Sylvester, Margaret	\$ 1,115.10
Sylvester, Nicole	\$ 58.80
Wilson, Peter & Wilson, Michelle	\$ 848.40
* Young, Jeffrey	\$ 27.13
TOTAL 2003	\$ 36,653.85
TOTAL DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF 12/31/03	\$ 39,188.73

* Paid in full or in part as of January 31, 2004

DOG LICENSE ACCOUNT - 2003

<u>Sex</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Fees</u>	<u>State Fees</u>	<u>Kennel Fees</u>	<u>Late Fees</u>	<u>Total Fees</u>
Spayed	75	4.00	300.00	75.00	0.00	52.00	427.00
Neutered	94	4.00	376.00	94.00	0.00	64.00	534.00
Male	12	8.00	96.00	12.00	0.00	16.00	124.00
Female	16	8.00	128.00	16.00	0.00	20.00	164.00
Spayed	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Male	2	2.00	4.00	2.00	10.00	0.00	16.00
Female	16	2.00	32.00	16.00	10.00	0.00	58.00
Female	1	3.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Spayed	5	2.00	10.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
Male	1	4.00	4.00	1.00	0.00	2.00	7.00
Neutered	3	2.00	6.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	9.00
Totals	226		\$959.00	\$225.00	\$20.00	\$154.00	\$1,358.00

**Dog licenses are due April 1st each year.
There is a 50% penalty fee added thereafter.**

	<u>By April 1</u>	<u>After April 1</u>
Neutered Male or Spayed Female	\$5.00	\$7.00
Unneutered Male or Unspayed Female	9.00	13.00

There is only one Rabies Clinic scheduled in Montgomery this year due to low turn-out last year.

Rabies Clinic is serviced by Dr David Stevenson of ANIMAL MEDICAL HOSPITAL of Hyde Park VT. The clinic will be held at the Montgomery Town Garage in Montgomery Village on : FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2004@ 4:30PM TO 5:30PM

Fees Charged at the Clinic:

Rabies	\$10.00
Rabies & Distemper	20.00
Feline Leukemia	15.00

Dog licenses can be purchased at that time with proof of current rabies certificate and proof of spay or neuter, if one is not already on file.

Montgomery Planning Commission

In August, 2003, the Planning Commission applied for and was granted Village Center Designation for a district in Montgomery Village and one in Montgomery Center. This designation, awarded by the Vermont Downtown Development Board, enables commercial buildings in the districts to apply for Vermont Income Tax Credits for code improvements. The program is designed to support continued commercial activity in the village centers.

Planning Commission members have also spent the past year reviewing the Zoning By-laws, and developing a few amendments. Last fall, a public meeting indicated some concerns regarding the existing by-laws pertaining to parking restrictions, and also the need for clarification of 'change of use' situations. Some changes in state statute have also necessitated changes in our by-laws. A public meeting will be held in the near future to review the proposed changes and answer questions.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

During the year 75 applications for zoning permits and 50 compliance letters were submitted to be approved, denied or referred by the Zoning Administrator to the Development Review Board. Of the 75 permits 11 were for new dwellings, 4 new camps, and 1 replacement dwelling. This total also includes 12 subdivisions of land.

The fee for a Zoning/Building permit to be used for new construction over 150 square feet or subdivisions is \$50.00 plus \$7.00 recording fee. Permits for new construction under 150 square feet are \$10.00 plus \$7.00 recording fee. The fee for a Zoning Compliance Letter is \$15.00. Anyone can receive an application from the Town Office in person or by mail.

The Zoning Administrator is in the Town Office on Monday's from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. if you require assistance. A zoning answering service has been set up to leave a message on the days that the Zoning Administrator is not in the office. Leave a message at (802) 326-9001 for a return call.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Marrier
Zoning Administrator

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD'S REPORT

The Development Review Board received 9 applications to be set for hearings. There were 2 requests for Conditional Use Permits, 6 requests for Variances and 1 appeal of the Zoning Administrator's decision. The Board upheld the decision of the Zoning Administrator and the remaining 8 applications were approved some with conditions.

The fee for an application for a hearing with the Development Review Board is \$50.00. Anyone can receive an application from the Town Office in person or by mail.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Marrier
Clerk of the DRB

Dear Fellow Montgomerians,

The Town of Montgomery now has a Municipal Web Site:
<http://www.vermont-towns.org/montgomery>. Our intent is to improve communication between local government and citizens, and increase the convenience of getting some of this information.

This letter is to inform you of how we may be of assistance and how you may be able to help us.

First, if you are a **Town Civic Group, Non Profit Group, or Church**, we will be willing to host your site for free as long as it meets certain requirements. At the very least, we will provide a listing (name and contact information) or link to your site for free.

Second, we are soliciting those interested in underwriting certain pages, like the Town's home page, or the Library or Recreation Dept home pages. An underwriter will be able to place their logo or image (no ads), about the size of a business card, on the lower left of the page. A statement thanking the underwriter for their support will be under the graphic as well as their link if they have one. The fee for underwriting the home page is \$50.00 per quarter. The fee for underwriting the other pages is \$25.00 per quarter. This will be on a first come first serve basis.

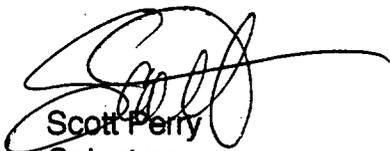
Third, there is a page of "**Area Artists/Craftspeople, Area Businesses, and Area Attractions**" This is an alphabetical listing by categories. A listing consists of a name and contact information, while a link would then take the user to that entity's home page or email address. The following fees would apply:

Listing - In Town -	Free
- Out of Town -	\$10.00 per year
Link - In Town -	\$10.00 per year
- Out of Town	\$20.00 per year

The Town's web site can be reviewed for examples of each of the above.

Finally if you know of any events you want listed or have any other suggestions for content you can send me an email by clicking the "email the webmaster" link, or you can contact me at 326-3135 or the Town Clerk at 326-4719.

Thanks for your support.


Scott Perry
Selectman
Town Of Montgomery

Report from the Covered Bridges Garden Club.....

When the CBGC was formed with 25 Charter Members in 2001, it was agreed that "Civic Beautification" would be one of our most important goals. Today, we are 79 members strong and more than ever committed to this goal. We started with our Barrel Program. Thanks to the enthusiastic support of the people who "adopted" barrels, we were able to plant and maintain 44 barrels in the Village and the Center. Our Junior Gardener's Program began when we helped the student's plant their 9/11 Memorial Garden. Under Lisa Perry's leadership, the program continues to grow..students, staff and members planted over 200 bulbs on the school grounds..and they will continue to add programs that will help the children develop gardening skills. The Library Garden will be completed this summer. Joan Spindler and her committee have done wonders with the barren land in front of the library.

This year we are planning to replace the broken barrels and add new barrels, so once again, there will be barrels available for adoption. We also plan to plant shrubs in front of the Town Hall (Grange). In addition, we are proud to announce that the CBGC has won a National Garden Club Grant to create a garden on the Montgomery Village Green ("the Common"). This national grant program for "the restoration and creation of national historic sites" was sponsored by the Principal Financial Group and open to garden clubs throughout the country. The CBGC project, one of 3 winners in Vermont, was the unanimous choice of the judges and we were awarded \$1500, the largest amount given. This two year project will include planting flowering trees, perennial gardens and spring bulbs. The focal point will be the Veteran's Memorial which will be enhanced by updated lighting. We owe thanks to Alison Osborne and her committee, who wrote the grant and planned the gardens, as well as to the Town of Montgomery, and the local businesses and organizations who provided the matching funds.

As we look forward to spring and summer, we hope that everyone will join us in welcoming Charlie Nardoizzi on April 24. Charlie is a well known gardener, author, and lecturer who will speak about "Vegetable Gardening Techniques". Then, on July 17, don't miss our Home and Garden Tour. On August 28, we will celebrate Harvest Day on the Montgomery Village Green. These are not only an important fund raisers, but exciting events that bring many visitors to Montgomery.

None of this would be possible without the enthusiastic support of all of our members. We are a team..as anyone who saw all the people who faithfully watered the barrels last summer, will attest. We hope that everyone who lives in Montgomery, as well as those who visit, will enjoy the results of our projects. We encourage everyone to join us, come to our meetings, participate in our events, help with our projects.

For more information:

General: JoAnn Giroir 326-3299

Events: Mary Ann Wood 326-2187

Adopt-a-Barrel: Anne Bataille 527-0440

Harvest Day: Sharon Zecchinelli 933-6709

Montgomery Village Green Project: Alison Osborne 933-2711

WEIGHER OF COAL REPORT

Well it's been quite a year for me! You know, when Tosca asked me to take on the responsibility of Weigher of Coal for the Town of Montgomery, I had to take a few deep breaths before I could even speak! The thought of the challenge, the stress and all that dust made my head swim. But there comes a time in every citizen's life when you have to step forward, acknowledge the esteem and confidence that your community has for you and take on some civic responsibility, no matter how daunting.

I said yes. I read up on the statutes and I'll confess, I was momentarily seduced by the fees. "Ten cents for the first ton and four cents for each additional ton" (32 V.S.A.1677) can add up to a second home in Richford pretty darn fast! But I'm not in it for the money. It's all about community service... and the right equipment.

I crossed the Village green to Joe Sherman's house and tested his vintage 1964 bathroom scale. Worked just fine. I got a couple of boxes of those surgical gloves, a stash of contractor plastic bags and a nice hefty shovel. Next step: a pager and a CB for the vehicle. Didn't want to be out of reach in case one of my constituents needs me. Coal 1 -- that's me, on the air and alert at all times. My biggest moment came when one of the Briquettes (my dedicated cadre of support volunteers) radioed that a shipment of coal was headed east on 118! I fired up the trusty laptop and punched in the code to initiate tracking sequence at CoalSat, the orbiting information station only Weighers of Coal in Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire are cleared to use. My pulse raced as the screen glowed like, well, like warm coal in a furnace and then cleared to show me exactly where this truck was going. My adrenaline rush was wasted when the load of coal passed through our fine town and went on to Peacham. But I share this with you today to show that your faith in me is well placed.

I am vigilant. I am strong. I am ready to "serve as the referee in determining the weights of contested loads of coal" (24 V.S.A. 1032) 24/7.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Kaufman
Weigher of Coal
Town of Montgomery

Northwest Vermont Solid Waste Management District Supervisor's Report

In 2003, The Northwest Vermont Solid Waste District continued to increase its direct services to the residents, organizations and businesses within member communities. NWSWD provides collections for hazardous waste, tires, bulky items and other special wastes. In 2002, the events were expanded to include extra days for special collection events and hazardous waste events, and in 2003, this event list was again expanded. New in 2003 were a one-day spring and a two-day fall collection for used and obsolete computers, an additional hazardous waste collection event, and a special two-day hazardous waste collection event for small businesses and organizations. NWSWD also continues to offer ongoing collections of fluorescent light tubes and rechargeable batteries in the District office.

NWSWD continued its program of active enforcement of the Illegal Dumping and Burning Ordinance. The program's capacity was increased as an enforcement officer was hired for the Grand Isle County area. A survey was completed that showed that of the 400 or so known burning barrels or pits located in Franklin County during 2001, approximately 80% of them have been removed or are no longer in use. Therefore, the active enforcement work has been very successful in greatly reducing the amount of illegal trash burning that occurs locally.

Below is a brief outline of the major activities that NWSWD provided to member communities. While this is not an all-inclusive list of our programs and services, it does provide the reader with a good background into what NWSWD does. Please take a moment to review this report and if you have any questions or comments or would like to help NWSWD in the future to provide even more services please contact us at (802) 524-5986.

Household Hazardous Waste Collections: NWSWD provided a greatly expanded program for the collection of hazardous wastes in 2003. The total number of collection days increased from 12 to 15 including a special two-day small business waste event in which 30 local businesses participated. Below is a summary of the number events completed, the number of participants and the total costs.

Number of actual collections days:	15
Number of Towns with in-town collections:	11
Number of Towns that participated:	14
Total Small Businesses (CEGs):	30

Plans for 2004: NWSWD again provide a two-day event specifically for local small businesses and organizations. The event in 2003 was successful and by offering this type of yearly event, participation should increase annually. NWSWD also hopes to provide more ongoing events such as rover style collections for oil, batteries, bulbs, and propane tanks. Finally, NWSWD still hopes to purchase and utilize a permanent hazardous waste storage facility.

Special Collections or Bulky Item days were held six times during Year 2002.

Sites were located throughout the entire District so that we could reach as many residents as possible with these important and mostly free collections. Items taken at these sites were tires, appliances, scrap metal, furniture, and other large hard to dispose of items. As always, the collections were very successful and well attended. Below is the calendar from 2003:

- May 3- Enosburg and Sheldon
- May 31- South Hero
- June 7- St. Albans City, Richford, and Alburg
- August 2- Montgomery, Isle La Motte, and North Hero
- September 6- South Hero
- October 4- St. Albans City, Bakersfield, and Alburg

Plans for 2003: NWSWD plans to perform more regular tire collections and collections for appliances at a central location so that we may be able to reach more residents and receive a better disposal price. NWSWD will increase its use of the roll-off truck that was purchased in February of 2003. This increase will result in lower costs and more capacity during existing collections.

School Recycling: NWSWD continues to provide recycling services to eight (8) schools. During 2003 NWSWD collected over 300,000 pounds of material from schools in Enosburg, Berkshire, Bakersfield, Richford and Montgomery.

Computer Collections: During 2003 NWSWD conducted two large computer collection events. 7,475 pounds of computers and electronics were collected during these events. NWSWD hopes to create a permanent computer collection in the future.

Educational Outreach: NWSWD contracts with the Association of Vermont Recyclers, an environmental education association, to provide theater programs and in-class programs to interested member schools. The programs provided cover a number of solid waste issues ranging from waste reduction to trash burning. During 2003 nine shows were presented to nine different schools within the District. NWSWD also worked with St. Albans Elementary school to help establish a new recycling program and is working with Isle La Motte Elementary school for this purpose as well. NWSWD also provides a quarterly newsletter to the schools and another for residential and business use throughout the District and publishes numerous articles throughout the year on different solid waste reduction topics.

NWSWD continued its **Illegal Burning and Dumping** enforcement program throughout 2003. An enforcement officer was hired for the Grand Isle County area and his work had an immediate effect on the reduction of illegal burning. Additionally a survey was completed on the original work performed by the NWSWD Enforcement Officer for Franklin County and the survey shows that over 80% of the known burning barrels and pits in this area have been removed or are no longer in use. Illegal dumping issues continue to plague our rural area; however, over 40 small dump sites have been investigated and cleaned up due to the efforts of the NWSWD Enforcement Officer. NWSWD will continue this work in 2004 and will increase its efforts to have more illegal dump sites monitored and cleaned up.

Barry Kade, Supervisor

BIRTHS

	<u>CHILDS NAME</u>	<u>FATHER</u>	<u>MOTHER</u>
(Missing from 2002 report) December 22, 2002	Caleb William Beckwith	Nathan William Beckwith	Lillianne Letitia Beckwith
January 18	Samuel MacGregor Lyons	Christopher Todd Lyons	Shawna Marie Lyons
February 4	Sawyer James Gratton	Alphonse James Gratton	Angela Lee Gratton
September 5	Wonder Grace Bilodeau	Brian Michael Bilodeau	Jacqueline Beth Bilodeau
September 7	Mariah Lynn Lahue	Tyler L Lahue	Miranda P Lahue
September 27	Bracken Eve Worthington	Travis Robert Worthington	Alexys Eileen Worthington
September 30	Kaya Celeste Giroux	Cyrus Lee Giroux	Rebecca Lee Harrocks Giroux
October 1	Connor Trevor Walker	Trevor Jon Walker	Jodi Kathleen Walker
October 11	Shiloh Kristine McAllister	Craig Carson McAllister	Mia Cara McAllister
October 13	Zephyr Greene Hill Barnes	Benjamin Nelson Barnes	Maria Hill Barnes
November 14	Jacob Dean Hulbert		Amy Lyn Hulbert
December 11	Olivia Joyce Deuso Johnson	Jamie Lee Johnson	Shelley Jean Deuso

MARRIAGES

	<u>GROOM</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>BRIDE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
February 22	Kevin A Ostrout	Montgomery VT	Linda R Handy	Montgomery VT
April 26	Theodore Matthew Bruckner	Westfield VT	Elaine Cecile Fagan	Westfield VT
June 6	Roger Allen Ryea	Milford NH	Lee Ann Pimantel	Milford NH
June 28	Kenneth Savario Greco	Montgomery VT	Lisa Christine Lague	Montgomery VT
July 30	George D Sherman	Montgomery VT	Geraldine M Theriault	Portland ME
September 27	Luke Zachary Parsons	New York NY	Shani May Tow	New York NY
October 4	Bradley James Roberts	Montgomery VT	Heather Lynn Plattner	Montgomery VT
October 4	Louis Charles St Germain Jr	Montgomery Center VT	Claire Marie Tougas	St Albans VT
October 11	Ronald Douglas Hathaway	Montgomery VT	Eileen Ruth Jackman	Montgomery VT
December 27	David E Capsey	Montgomery Center VT	Barbara E Coleman	Montgomery Center
December 30	Jacob Amos Racusin	Montgomery VT	Mary Chapman Walker Niles	Montgomery VT

CIVIL UNIONS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
February 12	Elise Joy Birn	Barbara Joseph Sierra	Bronx NY
March 19	David Charles Vining	Ronald Phillip Glazier	Phoenix AZ
July 17	Jade Kelly Dixon-Boles	Christy Ryan Dixon-Boles	Montgomery Center VT
September 30	Julie Ann Pappalardo	Deborah L Barnett	Batavia NY
October 9	Mary Elizabeth Scherer	Cynthia Dawn Kirk	Dallas TX
November 15	Kathryn Jean Gillingham	Suzanne Maire MacDonald	Orlando FL
November 28	Rosalyn Marie Tolliver	Cheryl Denise Kelly	St Louis MO
December 1	Jozsef Konrad Schwager	David Gerald Harrigan	Rocky Hill CT

DEATHS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>
Daniel Clark Whedon	87	February 2	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Olive C Deuso	93	February 12	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Martha Louise Ploof	87	February 16	St Albans VT	Montgomery Center
Grace Wilson Stutz	81	February 19	Newport VT	Montgomery Center
Grace B LaFlam	88	February 23	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Martin F Saborowski	92	March 6	St Albans VT	Montgomery Center
Gyneth Mae Lumbra	78	March 6	Burlington VT	Montgomery Center
Richard S Elkins	91	May 7	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Robert E Goodchild	69	June 7	Montgomery Center VT	Montgomery Center
Allen F Bowman	57	June 29	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Katherine Lynn Baker	34	August 20	Williston VT	Montgomery Center
Pearl Helen Williams	88	August 20	St Albans VT	Montgomery
Phyllis J Tatro	77	November 14	Montgomery Center VT	Montgomery Center
Alan G Phillips Jr	47	November 15	Montgomery Center VT	Montgomery Center
Stephen Ralph Bosley	54	December 14	Morrisville VT	Montgomery

ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE OFFICERS

OF THE

**MONTGOMERY TOWN
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

2003

MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MONTGOMERY SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS

Moderator

Timothy Murphy

School Directors

Charles Purrier, Jr.
Bruce Mercy
Marijke Dollois
Morgan Daybell
Thomas Smith

Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2004
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2005
Term Expires 2006

In accordance with Vermont Statutes, the Montgomery Town Auditors and the Montgomery School Directors have agreed that the town auditors need not conduct an audit of school district accounts for fiscal year 2003, as the books were audited by the C.P.A. firm of R. F. Lavigne & Company. A summary of the audit is contained in this annual report. A complete copy of the audit is available for inspection and copying, at cost, from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union, Richford, Vermont.

**MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES - 2003
ANNUAL MEETING**

Conformably to the Warning, the legal voters of the Town School District, Montgomery, Vermont, met at the Montgomery Elementary School Gym in the said Town, County of Franklin, State of Vermont, on Monday the 10th day of March A.D., 2003 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.. to act on the following business:

The meeting came to order at 7:31 P.M.

Moderator Tim Murphy recognized Charles Purrier, School Board Chair. Charlie ask that in recognition of Gyneth Lumbra, whom recently passed away, we observe a moment of silence for her many years of dedicated service to the Town and School of Montgomery.

Article

- I To elect a Moderator.
Brent Godin nominated Tim Murphy.
Tim Murphy was elected by voice vote.

Article

- II To elect one School Director for a term of two years, by ballot.
Beth Crane nominated Morgan Daybell. Ruth Little nominated Samantha Thompson.
Stephne Batten nominated John Batten. Each nominee spoke to the voters. Morgan Daybell received 49 votes. Samantha Thompson received 9 votes and John Batten received 17 votes. Morgan Daybell was elected.

Article

- III To elect one School Director for a term of three years, by ballot.
Stephne Batten nominated John Batten, Lynda Cluba nominated Samantha Thompson, and Brien Frederich nominated Thomas Smith.
1st Vote with 75 ballots cast a majority of 38 needed to elect. 23 - Sam Thompson, 16 - John Batten, and 36 - Tom Smith. No majority, a second vote was called.
2nd Vote with 76 ballots cast a majority of 39 needed to elect. 27 - Sam Thompson, 10 - John Batten, 38 - Tom Smith. No majority, a third vote was called.
3rd Vote with 76 ballots cast. 24 - Sam Thompson, 11 - John Batten, and 41 - Tom Smith.
Tom Smith was elected.

Article

- IV To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers.
Erin St Onge made a motion and was seconded to accept the reports as written.
The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

- V Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District appropriate \$1,592,021 necessary for the support of schools for the year beginning July 1, 2003?
Erin St Onge made a motion and was seconded to appropriate \$1,592,021.
Discussion regarding unreserved fund balance on the Auditor's Report. Bill Samuelson,

FNESU Business Manager, gave an explanation. Discussion regarding teachers portion of health insurance cost. The teachers pay 10% of the cost of their health insurance premiums. Lynda Cluba made a motion to hold the vote by ballot. More than 7 voters stood to hold a vote by ballot on the appropriation of funds of \$1,592,021. With a total of 78 ballots cast, 56 - Yes, 21 - No, 1 - spoiled.

The motion passed to appropriate \$1,592,021.

Article

VI Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District authorize the School Directors to receive and expend for school purposes any additional grants, gifts, or other revenue in excess of those calculated in determining the proposed budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2002?

Erin St Onge made a motion and was seconded by to accept the Article as written.

The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

VII Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District authorize the School Directors to borrow money by the issuance of bonds or notes, not in excess of anticipated revenue for the year beginning July 1, 2002?

Laurie Murphy made a made a motion and was seconded to accept the Article as written.

The motion passed by voice vote.

Article

VIII To transact any other non-binding business thought proper.

Discussion began with concerns of overcrowding of the school. The trend appears that vacation homes or retirement homes are being sold to families increasing the future enrollment of our school. The school is approved by the State of Vermont for 125 students, the septic system and core areas of the school(gym, cafeteria, library) approved for a maximum of 160 students. A committee is to be formed to review options to address potential need for more classroom space.

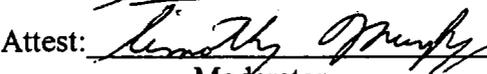
Discussion regarding the scoring of the New Standard Reference Exam.

Motion was made and was seconded to adjourn at 9:41 P.M. So moved.

The meeting adjourned.

A true record this 14th day of March, A.D., 2003.

Attest: 
Town Clerk

Attest: 
Moderator

Attest: 
School Director

WARNING
MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, March 8, 2004, 7:30 P.M.

The legal voters of the Montgomery Town School District, Montgomery, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Montgomery Elementary School, Montgomery, Vermont, on Monday, March 8, 2004, at 7:30 p.m. to transact the following business, viz:

- ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator.
- ARTICLE 2. To elect one School Director for a term of two years, by ballot; (Bruce Mercy's term expires).
- ARTICLE 3. To elect one School Director for a term of three years, by ballot; (Charles Purrier's term expires).
- ARTICLE 4. To act on the reports of the Town School District Officers.
- ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District appropriate \$1,891,547 necessary for the support of schools for the school year beginning July 1, 2004?
- ARTICLE 6. Shall the Voters authorize the School Directors to utilize the Capital Reserve fund to purchase professional consulting services (architectural and engineering) to make recommendations and provide preliminary designs for an addition to Montgomery Elementary School.
- ARTICLE 7. Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District authorize the School Directors to receive and expend for school purposes any additional grants, gifts, or other revenue in excess of those calculated in determining the proposed budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2004?
- ARTICLE 8. Shall the voters of the Montgomery Town School District authorize the School Directors to borrow money by the issuance of bonds or notes, not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year beginning July 1, 2004?
- ARTICLE 9. To transact any other nonbinding business thought proper.

Dated this 21st day of January, 2004.

School Directors:

Charles Purrier Jr., Chair
Marijke Dollois, Vice-Chair
Bruce Mercy
Thomas Smith
Morgan Daybell

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

This year the Montgomery School Board is presenting a budget to voters showing an increase of $\pm 18\%$. This is a large increase compared to other years, but our school and educational costs have changed dramatically over the past two years.

The main drivers of this increase are first: high school tuition payments (due primarily to increased tuition rates), second: special education costs (due to the addition of SPED staff, necessitated by an increase in the special needs population), and third: instructor salaries and wages (primarily due to an additional instructor, and increases in health insurance costs). The budget is discussed in more detail in the Business Manager's report.

Our school population has also grown at an unexpected rate. At last year's meeting the anticipated school population for 2003-2004 was 127 students; actual enrollment as of September 30 was 131, and at this writing the population is 137, a number projected for the school year 2005-06! In Vermont overall, enrollment is going down by $\pm 4.5\%$; but that is not the case in Montgomery. More families with children are moving into our town; more vacation homes are becoming primary homes. In 1999 there were 278 residential homes (29.8% of town properties) and 299 vacation homes (32.1%); in 2003 there were 349 residential homes (36.6%) and 264 vacation homes (27.7%). This represents an increase of $\pm 25\%$ in residential homes and a decrease of $\pm 12\%$ in vacation homes. Furthermore, the town's population has been steadily increasing since 1970. The 2000 population of 992 was 15% greater than projected! The projections now suggest that the K-8 population will be at 200 by 2008.

This increase in population of adults and children is to some extent due to the excellent reputation of the Montgomery Elementary School - it is known for its caring staff and outstanding educational environment.

As reported in last year's School Board Report, the increase in student population has resulted in cramped quarters. The Principal and staff have made every effort to accommodate the larger classes without sacrificing the educational standards. One of the results was the move of the kindergarten from morning instruction to afternoon instruction.

At last year's Meeting the Board asked for volunteers to form a facilities committee to address the overcrowding problem. This committee first analyzed the projection numbers, and then explored three possibilities: 1) an addition to the school; 2) tuitioning-out some students; and 3) using another building in town. The groups have recently submitted their findings to the Board, which is now in the process of preparing a recommendation to the Town. The committee rejected using another building as a long-term solution (although we are currently doing that to deal with some immediate space needs), and presented a list of pros and cons to the other two options. The Board and members of the committee will be moving ahead in the coming months to further clarify the costs and benefits of the first two options. In Article 6 the Board is asking to allow the Capital Reserve fund to be used on an engineering study for an addition to the school, in order to get cost and space estimates specific to our site. The committee has done an excellent job in their research. We're now at a point where professional input is required to come to a well thought-out recommendation to the Town.

We ask all voters to come to the Meeting and vote on the budget. Whether you're a parent, have grown children or no children, our school is the steppingstone to provide the next generation in our community with the best possible education by the best possible staff. Please be involved and have an impact with your vote.

Thank you.
School Board
Montgomery Town School District

MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Joint Report of School Directors and Office of Superintendent of Schools

Enrollment as of September, 2003

Grades	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Totals
Elementary	14	18	19	16	11	10	16	14	13					131
Enosburg Falls Middle & High School										2	4	3	4	13
Richford Jr.-Sr. High School										11	5	5	2	23
North Country Union High School										3	0	4	1	8
St. Johnsbury Academy										0	1	1	2	4
BFA, St. Albans										2	2	2	3	9
Lamoille Union High School										0	0	0	1	1
Westover School										0	0	0	1	1
Stanstead College										1	0	0	1	2
New American School										0	1	0	3	4
MVU										0	0	0	0	0
Essex High School										0	1	0	0	1
Rockpoint										1	0	0	0	1
														198

Student-Centered, Standards-Based Education

The Vision:

What the FNESU Learning Community Will Look Like in 2007

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- Student interests, needs, and strengths drive instruction.
- Students have multiple opportunities to meet the standards through:
 - Instruction that corresponds to the learning opportunities described in the standards adopted by FNESU and responds to the individual interests, strengths, and needs of students;
 - Extended learning opportunities including accommodations, modifications, and interventions that are clearly articulated and available to help all students achieve the standards. Opportunities for advanced achievement, beyond the standards, are also provided. All teachers know what's available and who to go to to get help.
 - IEPs that are consistent with the standards and evidence in the *FNESU Standards-Based Curriculum*.

Data

- Data from the FNESU comprehensive assessment system are used to make informed decisions about planning, instructional and school improvement, and decisions about individual students (e.g., referrals, opportunities to learn, graduation.)

School Climate

- The social and emotional welfare of our students is the foundation of their learning.
- Families and community members share with faculty, staff, and administration the collective responsibility for student well being and improved student learning.
- Each school strives to be a safe, nurturing environment characterized by respect and is free from harassment, bullying, and violence in any form. Diversity is embraced in the FNESU learning community.

Professional Development, Supervision and Evaluation

- A Professional Development Council creates, coordinates, and communicates information about a long-term professional development plan that balances individual school needs, all schools' needs, and supervisory

union opportunities and meets criteria for high quality professional development, including identification of staff needs through needs assessment.

Community Partnerships/Communication With Students, Families, Staff, Community and School Board Members

- Each student is known well by at least one adult in the school.
- Students receive regular feedback on their learning and on their progress toward meeting the standards.

District and School Resources for Continuous Improvement

- Two-year action plans and district strategic plans are reviewed and revised annually based on student results data (student performance data and other indicators, such as dropout rates), data about programs and practices, and data about resources.
- The FNESU administrative team functions as a learning community focused on continuous improvement in the school district. Team members support each other by regularly sharing expertise and experience. The team actively explores and reflects upon new information, research and best practices particularly as those relate to curriculum, instruction, and assessment of student learning within the unified FNESU Goals.
- The FNESU Central Office will support school districts (schools, boards, employees, teachers, paraeducators, and administrators) and one another effectively and in a friendly manner. People in Central Office will maintain fiscal responsibility, respond to all questions, communicate and clarify information, produce accurate work, and maintain common direction across the district. At all times, Central Office personnel will maintain confidentiality.

Superintendent's Report Conversations About Education

A new Federal law, No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA), is having an incredible impact on education. This complicated legislation has caused more conversations about education than has any previous law during my forty plus years in the field.

Conversations range from praise for the focus on student achievement, teacher quality and quality professional development, to grave concern related to insufficient funding, punitive aspects of the law, and extraordinarily rigorous reporting requirements.

As for the positives, the focus on student achievement is truly welcome. The need to look at specific groups of students (English as second language learners, students receiving special education services, minority students, students on free and reduced lunch, etc.) to ensure success for all students is an excellent focus. This analysis of test results forces educational leaders to look at student results from different perspectives, determine needed interventions or changes in programs, and provide supplementary materials.

In order to analyze data, Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union is participating in a Student Information System Consortium. This system is a data warehousing that allows the user to ask the system specific questions and receive immediate analysis. For example, if an action planning team wishes to learn how the school's special education population is performing in math problem solving, the system will provide the information quickly. Likewise, if a team is interested in knowing whether or not a homework club makes a difference, the question can be asked to determine results for all students taking advantage of the homework club. Comparisons between groups of learners can be made. Results for a specific student or groups of students over time can also be studied. Leadership teams at both the building levels and district level can focus on student learning frequently during a school year so adjustments in teaching, programs, and materials can be made throughout the year. With constant review and scrutiny and instructional adjustments, student learning will be increased.

Just as student achievement will be closely monitored, so will teachers' and paraeducators' credentials. To have a teaching license and a specific endorsement may not be sufficient. The Department of Education will review all teaching licenses matching the endorsements to actual job assignments. In some cases, teachers may require more than one endorsement to be able to continue performing present teaching responsibilities.

Likewise, paraeducators are expected to meet certain quality standards. The expectation is that Title I schools hire only people with Associate degrees to serve as paraeducators. People presently employed will be required to have earned Associate degrees by January, 2005, or be able to demonstrate skills equivalent to those held by people with Associate degrees. The paraeducators will demonstrate that they possess forty-eight to sixty credits or provide a quality portfolio to be reviewed by a local professional development board consisting of representatives including administrators, teachers, paraeducators, and a college/university professor.

In order to increase skills of all personnel, staff development will be ongoing rather than be comprised of daylong workshops and short conferences. Unless there is follow up and support at the building level, the short-term activities will not be allowable through Federal grant dollars.

In contrast to the demanding positive aspects of NCLBA, educators are also struggling with some negative thrusts of the legislation, including insufficient funding, punitive aspects, and cumbersome reporting requirements. As stated, this Federal law is clearly under funded. Like so many mandates, schools are expected to provide more and more services without sufficient funds to support the demands. This thrust puts more and more responsibility back on the local taxpayers. For example, the law requires that schools not making adequate yearly progress, as set by the State, must provide supplementary services for students. Many of these services must be provided at local expense. If progress is still not adequate over four years, the State Board of Education will review the case and decide the outcome.

As for unrealistic reporting requirements, it is my opinion that personnel in small schools, in particular, will be stretched to breaking levels to produce massive reports to meet the requirements of NCLBA. With the many functions principals already perform, this added assignment may well result in fewer professionals remaining in the job or causing local districts to hire people to assist the principal in meeting the reporting demands.

Regardless of these challenges, the good news is that whether conversations are directed toward the positives or negatives of NCLBA, our schools are receiving much attention. Over time, this attention, coupled with continuous scrutiny from within, will, in my opinion, produce positive change for all students.

Curriculum

The vision for a student-centered, standards-based education has been developed by our school administrators and supported by our school boards. Evidence for this support is seen in the adoption of the Franklin NE Supervisory Union (FNESU) Standards-Based Curriculum. It is seen when educators ensure that students are central to the planning of instruction and assessment. It is seen when time is planned for educators to work together to improve their practice by providing instruction and assessing learning in new ways. While this vision includes much more than curriculum, instruction and assessment, these are key to the foundation of the vision and its achievement. This vision continues to be refined and provides an intentional focus for our work.

Much progress has been made over the past years in the area of curriculum. A pre-kindergarten through grade 8 Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union Standards-Based Curriculum notebook is available in all schools describing the standards and learning expectations for students by grade level. Standards-based course descriptions have been developed by high school teachers and are also included in the notebook along with other resources such as the Vermont School Quality Standards and "The Parent's Guide to Understanding Standards." Please stop by your local school or the superintendent's office if you wish to review this book. This curriculum may also be viewed on line at <http://enosburg.k12.vt.us/fnesu/curriculum.htm>.

Because of the federal reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now called No Child Left Behind, the Vermont State Department of Education will soon be disseminating information about grade level expectations. The federal law requires annual testing of students in grades 3 through 8, and once in grades 9 through 11. Because of this, the state is working on defining the learning at each grade level. The work teachers in FNESU have done in defining our curriculum will undoubtedly serve us well in this regard. First, our work is being used as a reference for the state work. And second, teachers are learning to teach and assess students relative to standards and learning expectations, and not relative to how other students are doing.

New FNESU report cards have been developed and are being used in Berkshire, Bakersfield, Enosburg, Montgomery, and Richford Elementary Schools this year. All teachers of grades kindergarten through 8 are using these new report cards. Parents and students will learn about progress toward achievement of standards that are clearly identified for each grade level in the curriculum. Parents are encouraged to talk with teachers about the new report cards so that they have a clear understanding of what the changes mean about their student's learning. Although some standards remain the same throughout their school careers, students will be learning more about these standards at each grade level as the learning becomes more complex. Standards-based learning emphasizes depth of learning rather than a broader knowledge of facts. We want our students to be creative thinkers and problem-solvers, and be prepared for dealing with all sorts of challenges once they leave our schools.

Now that the curriculum has been clearly defined, our next work will include developing a system to determine when students are meeting these standards. Teachers have begun working together reviewing student work as evidence of achieving standards. This is very different from the way achievement has been decided in the past. Once levels of achievement have been defined by examples of student work, a data collection system will need to be implemented to collect information about each student and the standards achieved during the student's school career. This will be a determining factor for graduation in years to come.

As parents become more familiar with new programs and curriculums, comments about how these changes have affected their child's learning would be appreciated. Please take time to make suggestions to us at the superintendent's office, as well as directly to school staff.

Federal Grants

The Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA) provides for most federal grant funds allocated to Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union (FNESU). Our grants from NCLBA, totaling \$1,424,377, include Title I, Title II Parts A and D, Title IV, and Title V. In addition, several grants from other sources are described below. While these grant funds cannot replace local responsibility for providing education resources, they may be utilized to fund a variety of educational activities and initiatives within our supervisory union. Most importantly, funds are being used to support achievement of our local goals. Local school plans have been developed which include measurable goals related to improving student achievement. An advisory group, the Consolidated Grants Planning Committee, which includes representation from the community in addition to educators, provided input about what was important to support with our federal funds within the boundaries of the federal guidelines.

Additional federal grants and resources have been approved for school districts in FNESU. The Early and Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) reinvestment plan, is in partnership with the Vermont Department of Health in the amount of \$67,498. These funds are used to plan prevention and health promotion activities. Examples of expenditures this year include support of summer/after-school health-related activities, increased time for guidance counselors or other health-related personnel, a student mentoring program, tooth tutor programs, and professional development for school social work and food service personnel. In its third year is the School-Based Tobacco Use Prevention grant for all schools to provide curriculum and activities that will prevent student use of tobacco. This grant, amounting to \$10,464 for FNESU, is expected to last for several years as part of the tobacco companies' settlement with Vermont. Success By Six grants totaling \$17,955, are being utilized in all five towns to provide early literacy and social experiences to our young children. The Family Center in St. Albans is overseeing a grant awarded to Franklin County, the Early Learning Opportunities grant, in the amount of \$900,000, with the goal of improving the early learning and family services in our area. New this year, is the Reading First grant that provides additional personnel and reading support to Bakersfield, Berkshire, Enosburg, and Richford Elementary Schools. It also supports professional development for teachers in all five FNESU elementary schools, including Montgomery. The Reading First grant award totals \$840,733 over three years, with the possibility of extending the grant to six years.

Please contact Mary Helen Hart if you would like to participate in the Consolidated Grants Planning Committee or for further information about any of these grants.

Title I and Title II Part A

Most of the FNESU Title I and Title II Part A funds provide personnel to support student learning needs in each of the elementary schools and the Early Childhood Program. Twenty-two teachers and ten paraeducators are working in our schools to provide additional support for students. The goals in every school are to help students

succeed in regular classroom programs and become academically proficient at their grade levels. Parents are invited and encouraged to be part of the planning of individual student programs. One way of achieving this is through Parent/School Compacts in which agreement is reached by parents, students, and teachers about what needs to happen for students to be successful in school. The process of working together to support student achievement through discussion and program planning is a critical part of Title I.

In Berkshire, Bakersfield, Montgomery, Enosburg and Richford Elementary Schools, the Title I programs are schoolwide models. This means that Title I resources may be used to support schoolwide programs such as Success For All Reading Program, Mathland, and the Responsive Classroom Program.

FNESU Title I and Title II Part A funds are used to support four teachers and one paraeducator in Berkshire Elementary School, three teachers and three paraeducators in Bakersfield Elementary School, and four teachers in Richford Elementary School. In Enosburg Elementary School, FNESU employs five teachers and four paraeducators. In Montgomery, three teachers are partially funded, and one paraeducator is employed through this grant. In the Early Childhood Program, Title I employs one part-time teacher and one part-time paraeducator.

In all schools, Title I funds provide resources for Parent Literacy and Math gatherings and resources for parent libraries. Local portfolio scoring of student work is also supported through Title I.

Title II Part A

In addition to the personnel described above, Title II Part A funds are used for professional development which focuses on improving academic instruction to students so they better achieve the standards described in the Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities and our local curriculum. Educators plan to use funds to support activities such as conferences, courses, and workshops that will enhance their teaching, and provide them with new information and activities to share in the classroom. Many of our inservice activities and presenters are funded through this grant. Funds are also used to support teachers and paraeducators in meeting the new requirements in NCLB for becoming "highly qualified." NCLBA requires that all teachers not only be licensed in their subject areas and for the grade levels in which they teach, but also meet further content area requirements through coursework and other types of professional development. In addition, paraeducators must hold an Associate's degree or its equivalent or pass a state or local test by 2005. Funds from this grant and from Title I are being used to support our staff in their pursuit of these requirements. FNESU activities funded through this grant have included specific education and content area courses, literacy and math training, curriculum development work, and various behavior management trainings.

Title II Part D

Title II Part D provides grant funds to support technology in all FNESU schools. Each school has funds that are being used to support their school's technology plan. Through this grant, \$56,229 is available to the schools.

In addition to these non-competitive funds, there were also funds available on a competitive basis. Individual schools, including Richford Elementary and Jr.-Sr. High Schools, and Bakersfield, Berkshire, and Enosburg Elementary Schools have each applied for \$15,000 for improving the use of technology for student instruction in classrooms. Word has not yet been received on whether these funds will be awarded to our schools.

Title V

Title V continues to fund innovative projects and staff development activities in our schools. District-wide activities such as the oration contest and an art and a music festival will all receive support from this grant. FNESU curriculum work is partially supported with Title V funds. The new standards-based report cards have been designed using funds from this grant. Most of the funds expended by schools this year have been for instructional materials. Schools are continuing the process of planning how to best use available funds in a way that supports their local school action plan goals and improves student achievement. The amount available to FNESU during the 2003-2004 school year is \$61,911.

Title IV – Safe & Drug Free Schools And Communities/Related Grants & Programs

The '03-'04 school year arrived, I am pleased to report, with level funding for Title IV (S&DFS&C) under the No Child Left Behind Act. This funding will allow FNESU to continue providing a variety of quality prevention programs to all students. These include strong research-based programs: Second Step (a violence prevention program), Life Skills, Project Alert, Know Your Body, and Responsive Classrooms. Title IV also funds some "locally tailored" programs that have shown continued success. Mentoring, Educational Support Teams, which participate in the Annual Statewide Conference (BEST), as well as local events and presentations aimed at prevention education and promoting healthy life styles continue to be offered. Also funded are Student Assistance Programs (SAP), including a SAP counselor at EFMHS, and student participation in statewide activities such as the Governor's Youth Leadership Conference. Often programs are replicated in two or more of our towns, and some are specific to a single school based on needs. I encourage residents to inquire about programs, in your town, that are provided all, or in part, with Title IV (S&DFS&C) funding.

Another related source of funding is received through Title IV Subpart 2. This money (part of S&DFC&C) is being used to help fund Truancy/Dropout Prevention and related efforts. As I have previously reported, Enosburg is one of five pilot sites chosen in Vermont. The project continues to gain momentum and has led, this year, to the establishment of a new "Community Based Learning" course at the Enosburg Falls Middle & High School (EFMHS). Further, a local task force made up of students, parents, community members and educators has been formed to continue working on solutions to issues, which contribute to truancy and dropping out. To further help fund these efforts, a Vermont Children's Trust Fund Grant was applied for and awarded for this school year. There is the possibility of receiving two additional years of funding from this source. Although this project is presently taking place at EFMHS, information is being compiled and will be shared throughout the FNESU. Since EFMHS receives tuition students from other FNESU towns, it is expected that this project will have positive effects throughout the Supervisory Union. FNESU administrators meet regularly, and information relative to successes and findings are shared and made available for district-wide replication.

Part of the Safe Schools effort and Act 51 includes a requirement that Vermont educators complete a 15-hour drug/alcohol awareness program, "Drugs in Perspective." This year I was able to work with a new consultant, in the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, and offer the training here in FNESU. The first day took place in November, and the second day is scheduled for May. Providing in-district training offers three major advantages. First, the group is made up of all FNESU educators who can share experiences and ideas from their respective schools. Second, participants do not have to travel long distances to other training sites. Third, costs are substantially reduced. Based on this year's positive participant input, I plan to continue in-district Act 51 training in future years.

I would also like to mention that Alcohol Drug Addiction Prevention Program (ADAP) makes small grants available for various prevention and healthy choice programs. They are presently working with some of FNESU schools and communities around these efforts.

The "School Based Tobacco Prevention Grant" was once again funded for the '03-'04 school year. This grant provides funding for a variety of tobacco prevention/reduction activities and initiatives throughout FNESU.

I have previously noted our active partnership with the Franklin-Grand Isle Workforce Investment Board (WIB) as it relates to Truancy/Dropout Prevention efforts. The WIB is committed to the education and future success of all of our students. I am pleased to report that the WIB is taking the lead in attempting to secure a "Career Start" grant, which would greatly increase the effective transition of many students from school to employment. At this point, we are only in the planning stage; but as a member the WIB Steering Committee (and student employment contact in FNESU), I can report that we plan to do everything possible to secure this resource.

In closing, I want to thank everyone (students, parents, community members, educators, and members of FGI regional organizations) for their continued energy, effort and plain old hard work. Together we have developed, and continue to strengthen, school/community/business partnerships, which lead to quality education and help to insure success for all students in FNESU.

Contact Jake Schuler at 933-5608 Ext. 37 for additional information.

Special Education Funding in Vermont Schools **Michelle Jewett, Director of Special Programs**

We receive state and federal funding in Vermont to support the provision of special education to students with handicapping conditions. Vermont uses a reimbursement system to support local school districts in the provision of eligible special education services. This reimbursement system works in a three-pronged formula, with a mainstream block grant, extraordinary cost reimbursement, and actual special education expenditures reimbursement.

The **mainstream block grant** is a predictable amount for each town, is based on the number of students in each district, and is computed on state average for special education salaries. The state pays 60% of the cost and the school districts must expend or match the remaining 40% of the cost.

Extraordinary reimbursement is designed to protect districts from completely absorbing the burden of high cost programs for individual students. Once a student's program reaches a threshold of \$50,000, the state will reimburse the district for 90% of the additional cost. For example, if a district has a student in a residential program that costs \$97,000, the school district pays the first \$50,000 from local dollars. They then submit a report to the state for the remaining \$47,000, of which they will receive \$42,300 back from the Department of Education, leaving a total local cost of \$54,700. The \$50,000 deductible, however, is also figured into the actual expenditures reimbursement and will be reimbursed at a rate of between 50%-57% depending upon the Department of Education receipts and expenditures.

The actual **expenditures reimbursement** reimburses town districts for eligible special education expenditures not covered by federal funds, state block grants and local match, and extraordinary reimbursement and applies the reimbursement rate to the remaining funds. The same rate applies to each town, and the reimbursement rate is adjusted annually to assure that the state's share across all sections of the formula is 60%. In FY03, the reimbursement rate was 55.315%.

In addition to state funds that contribute to the cost of providing special education programs, we receive federal funds (IDEA-B) that are allowed to be used for the provision of special education eligible aides and services. Typically, this money is used to provide services such as speech and language services, special education administration, in-service training for teachers and paraeducators, and counseling. The rules governing IDEA-B require that towns have a maintenance of effort, which means that federal funds must be used to supplement the provision of services, not supplant local taxpayers' dollars. Last year in Franklin Northeast, we received \$189,610 from the federal government for such services.

In addition to receiving reimbursement for expenditures to be used to provide special education services, we participate in the Medicaid Reinvestment program. This program allows school districts to submit claims to Medicaid for medically necessary special education services such as personal care services, remediation of a medical disability (physical, cognitive or academic in nature), speech and language services, etc. The money generated by those claims is split with the Department of Education, and is intended for prevention and intervention programs to help all students achieve high standards. Although this money CANNOT be used to pay for special education services at the local level, it is being used to provide support services to other students. The intent is to prevent the need for special education for some students by providing intensive supports early. Over the past few years, towns have collected as much as \$60,000 from Medicaid Reinvestment Program. Activities supported with these funds include increased guidance counselor time, nursing time, counseling services, etc.

Despite many challenges and obstacles, we strive to improve our ability to provide supports and services in cost-effective, time efficient, and meaningful ways. Special Education funding in Vermont is a complex system, involving many different sources of funds, and many different public and government agencies. I would be happy to provide clarification or further information upon request.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AVAILABLE

The Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union assures that all school-aged children who are handicapped, regardless of the severity of their handicaps and who are 504 eligible or in need of special education, shall be entitled to free and appropriate public education.

Contact:

Michelle Jewett, Director of Special Programs/504 Coordinator
Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union
P. O. Box 130
Richford, Vermont 05476
Telephone: 802-848-7661, Ext. 6

Principal's Report

Over the past five years, the enrollment at Montgomery Elementary School has increased at a dramatic rate, showing a nearly forty percent growth. As is common with any rapid growth, a certain amount of growing pains can be expected. Our growing pains center around the fact that needs are growing at a much faster rate than resources. For the past several years, we have been able to meet student needs with current resources; however, we have reached the saturation point.

Not only has the total number of students increased, but also the intensity and number of students eligible for Special Education has grown at a disproportionate rate. Five years ago, when I assumed the role of principal, there were less than ten students on Individualized Educational Plans (i.e. - in Special Education). We currently have a caseload of twenty-six students. Individual needs have also become more intense recently, which translates into the need for increased resources in the form of personnel and individualized space.

Our current facility is eleven years old and was built with the needs of the student population at that point in time, following a construction funding formula used by the state. The instructional space at that time included four classrooms, a Science Lab and two office spaces for small group instruction for K-8 (nine grades). To meet the needs of our growing and changing population, we have reorganized space so we currently have six classrooms and four office spaces that are used for small group instruction. We have accomplished these changes by adding walls and changing storage space into small group instructional space.

In the primary grades, we have used various multiage configurations over the past decade. The teachers in those grades strongly believe in the multiage philosophy, which is fortunate because this helped us to utilize the given space effectively. Many of these teachers still firmly believe in multiage instruction, but realize that break out space is needed for reading and math instruction when the number of students in the room reaches a certain level. For example, it is very difficult to teach Reading effectively to thirty-eight students with a wide range of needs and abilities (e.g., some do not know letters and sounds and others can read chapter books) in one classroom no matter how many adults are in the room.

The faculty and staff have done a phenomenal job of meeting the needs of the evolving and growing population. They are extremely flexible and dedicated; they do more with less than any other staff I know. This means that Montgomery is much less likely to hire paraeducators for individual students than other schools. In the near future, you are going to be asked to help alleviate some of these growing pains in a couple of different ways. Soon you will be asked to decide if you want to add on to this facility or tuition out seventh and eighth graders. We also hope you will support the increase in elementary budget to help us acquire the resources to meet the growing needs of our students. Thank you for working with us to provide the best education possible for the children of Montgomery.

Business Manager's Update

Last year, the State Legislature again changed Vermont's education funding laws. With the passage of Act 68, significant changes have been made in how school districts are funded beginning with the 2004-2005 school year (FY05). Some of the major funding changes are: the creation of two separate grand lists, the elimination of the General State Support Grant (GSSG), the creation of a residential education tax rate, the creation of a non-homestead education tax rate, the funding of technical education, and the standardization of budget reporting for all Vermont School Districts. Local property tax rate projections provided in the annual report are based upon Act 68, the Governor's recommendation to the State Legislature, and pending legislation. Therefore, tax rate projections may

change prior to the annual school district meeting. An update on these issues and the impact on tax rates will be provided during the meeting.

Act 68 creates an equalized residential education tax rate and an equalized non-homestead education tax rate. Only one of these tax rates will be applied to each parcel of property. Current law establishes these rates at \$1.10 for residential property and \$1.59 for non-homestead property. Governor Douglas has recommended that these rates be lowered by \$.05 for FY05. The annual report and budget reflect these lowered rates. An update on the status of the Governor's recommendation, any new legislation affecting education funding and the impact on tax rates will be provided during the annual school district meeting. As was available with Act 60, and now with Act 68, qualifying taxpayers with household incomes of less than \$75,000 will be able to reduce their homestead property taxes by applying for a prebate when filing their state income taxes. A handout will be available during the annual meeting to help estimate property taxes based upon household income and homestead values.

Act 68 eliminates the GSSG and "sharing pool" established by Act 60. In their place, the State will provide every school district Education Spending Revenue (ESR) based upon each district's spending and anticipated revenues. ESR is computed by subtracting anticipated revenues from anticipated expenses. ESR plus Technical Center Tuition Revenue equals education spending, which is the root for computing the equalized residential education tax rate.

Act 68 changes the method of computing the equalized residential education property tax rate. Residential tax rates will now be computed by taking the spending level approved by taxpayers and subtracting anticipated local and state revenues to obtain the education spending. Education spending is divided by the district's equalized pupils to derive education spending per equalized pupil. The definition of equalized pupils is the same under Act 68 as Act 60. Equalized pupils is a weighted average of the number of resident students of a school district. Education spending per equalized pupil is divided by the state's per pupil base education amount, \$6,800 for FY05, to obtain the above base education payment spending rate. This rate is multiplied by the State education tax rate to produce the equalized residential education tax rate. Therefore, the residential education tax rate is based upon each school district's budget. Based upon the proposed budget of \$1,891,547, and anticipated state and local revenues of \$351,874, Montgomery's education spending is \$1,539,673. Dividing education spending by 183.81 equalized pupils produces the education spending per equalized pupil amount of \$8,376. This amount is 123.18% of the state base education amount of \$6,800. Multiplying the state education tax rate of \$1.05 by 123.18% generates Montgomery's FY05 equalized residential tax rate of \$1.293.

It is anticipated that Montgomery's equalized non-homestead education tax rate will be \$1.54 for FY05. *The non-homestead rate is not based upon education spending and will not change regardless of the local budget approved by taxpayers.*

As the state education tax rates are "equalized" rates, they need to be adjusted by the town's common level of appraisal (CLA) to determine local tax rates. Montgomery's CLA has dropped from 87.56% to 83.37%. A falling CLA increases the local education tax rates in a community and is a reflection of increasing property values. Under pending legislation, local tax rates are computed by dividing the equalized tax rates by the CLA. Based upon the new CLA and the anticipated equalized tax rates, we anticipate Montgomery's local residential education tax rate to be \$1.551 and the local non-homestead education tax rate to be \$1.847. *This increase in the equalized educational tax rates due to the CLA will occur regardless of the level of spending approved by Montgomery voters.* Again, an update of the anticipated rates will be provided during the annual meeting.

Montgomery is currently undergoing a reappraisal. If the reappraisal is completed this year and the grand list logged with the state reflects the new property values, then the local residential and non-homestead tax rates will be computed using the results of the reappraisal. Under pending legislation, the CLA will be computed by dividing the new local education grand list by the most recent state equalized education grand list. This new CLA will be used to determine local tax rates. In general, if the new grand list increases, local tax rates will decrease.

Under Act 68, a homestead is the principal dwelling owned and occupied by a resident individual in which the individual claims residence, and all contiguous land. Homesteads will be taxed using the residential education tax rate. All non-homestead property will be taxed using the non-homestead tax rate.

The method of funding Vermont's technical education centers has also changed under Act 68. Previously under Act 60, the state withheld a portion of a district's GSSG and sent it directly to the supporting technical center.

Technical centers used this payment to reduce tuition rates. Therefore, the actual cost of technical education was not reflected in school budgets under Act 60. Under Act 68, anticipated revenues will include technical education center tuition revenue; and the full cost of the supporting technical center tuition must be reflected in budgets. This results in the appearance that technical education tuition is drastically increasing, when, in actuality, the increase is a result of showing full technical center revenue and expenses.

Act 68 also establishes a standardized state budget report format that must be used by all Vermont Public School Districts and be distributed to taxpayers in advance of annual meetings. This state report provides three years of historical financial data and FY05 projections based upon the proposed budget. The standardized format cannot be changed by local districts and can, therefore, be utilized to compare different school districts' finances using similar formulas. The tax projection in the state report is based solely on current law and does not reflect the Governor's recommendation to lower rates. This report, titled "Three Year Comparisons," is included in the annual report.

Montgomery Budget Highlights

The elementary school portion of the budget has increased by \$185,992. The increase is primarily due to increases in the cost of salaries, wages, and benefits, staff increases due to increased enrollment, and increased special education (SPED) costs. Health insurance premiums are increasing by 9.75%. Faculty and staff changes include: adding a full time elementary teacher, adding a second SPED teacher, increasing the nurse's position from .3 FTE to .5 FTE, changing the Principal's position from .5 FTE teaching/.5 FTE Principal to .25 teaching/.75 Principal, and adding two SPED paraeducators. These changes are necessary due to the continuing increase in enrollment and the increase in students requiring SPED services.

The FY04 budget anticipated there would be 67 high school students. The proposed FY05 budget anticipates there will be 68 tuition students. The increase in tuition students, changing tuition rates, and the new method for funding technical centers means the total anticipated payments to other school districts will be \$113,533 higher in FY05, which is an increase of 21.5%. Therefore, the total anticipated budget increase is \$299,525, or 19.72% more than FY04.

Local revenues are anticipated to increase by \$4,945 primarily due to lower interest rates and to not receiving a prior year tuition refund as has occurred in the past. As interest rates have remained at a historical low, the estimate of anticipated interest to be earned is \$7,000 lower than the FY04 budget. With the implementation of Act 68, State Revenues are anticipated to increase by \$567,176. The increase is primarily due to the elimination of the GSSG and the creation of ESR, and a \$50,207 increase in SPED reimbursement due to the increase in SPED expenses.

Montgomery's education spending per equalized pupil for FY05 is anticipated to be \$8,376. This represents the average kindergarten through 12th grade spending per equalized pupil. In the future, data will be available to compare Montgomery's per pupil spending with other Vermont School Districts.

Act 68 is a fundamental change to how public education is funded in Vermont. Anyone who would like additional information concerning Act 68, the proposed budget, and the impact on local school property taxes should contact any Montgomery School Board Director; Beth O'Brien, Montgomery Elementary School Principal; or Bill Samuelson, the District's Business Manager.

Respectfully submitted,

Montgomery School Directors

Charles Purrier, Jr., Chair
Marijke Dollois, Vice-Chair, Clerk
Tom Smith
Bruce Mercy
Morgan Daybell

Administration

Mary Sherrer, Ed.D., Superintendent
Mary Helen Hart, Curriculum/Grants Coord.
Edward Schuler, Employment Specialist/
Drug & Alcohol Grant Coordinator
Michelle Jewett, Director of Special Programs
Beth O'Brien, Principal
William Samuelson, Business Manager

**MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT
July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003**

Beginning balance as of 7/1/02

Checking	(\$13,801.65)	
Merchants Money Market	111,217.43	
Banknorth Money Market	133,624.31	
Capital Reserve Lyndonville	17,259.87	
		248,299.96

RECEIPTS

State of Vermont	265,106.66	
Enosburg Tuition Reimbursement	2,849.71	
Property Taxes	1,142,479.00	
Medicaid reimbursements	5,065.03	
Insurance reimbursements	18,191.76	
Interest	5,819.46	
Use of School	798.70	
Miscellaneous reimbursements	13,243.46	
Success by Six	9,070.00	
Homework	84.77	
		1,462,708.55
		1,711,008.51

EXPENSES

Disbursements	1,474,097.30	
Transfer to Hot Lunch	4,400.85	
Bank Charges	36.44	
		1,478,534.59

Ending balance as of 6/30/03

		232,473.92
Checking	(16,067.46)	
Merchants Money Market	112,691.99	
Banknorth Money Market	118,402.44	
Capital Reserve Acct	17,446.95	
		232,473.92

Respectfully submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

**MONTGOMERY FOOD SERVICE
TREASURER'S REPORT
July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003**

Beginning balance as of 7/1/02
Checking \$1,806.47

RECEIPTS

State of Vermont	18,863.56	
Student & Adult Meals	21,803.21	
Interest	0.00	
MTSD Support	3,050.00	
Miscellaneous	1,799.21	
	<u>45,515.98</u>	
		<u>47,322.45</u>

EXPENSES

Disbursements	48,883.80	
Bank Charges	24.95	
	<u>48,908.75</u>	

Ending balance as of 6/30/03 (1,586.30)

Respectfully Submitted,
Renee J Patterson, Treasurer

2002-03 SALARIES AND WAGES

PRINCIPAL	
Beth O'Brien	\$26,000

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	
Jeffrey Ward	\$5,000

TEACHERS	
Anne Ouellette	\$44,977
Matthew Kandel	\$19,787
Jeffrey Ward	\$44,823
Beth O'Brien	\$26,000
Susan Zeineth-Collins	\$36,385
Crystal Johnson	\$31,815
Pamela Krout-Voss	\$15,011
Roberta Cota	\$20,358
Lynn Caforia	\$15,643
Jeremy Sanborn	\$7,132
Stacey Moulton	\$9,731
Matthew Marino	\$4,569
Robert Atherton	\$40,262
Total	\$316,493

CUSTODIANS	
Barry Domina	\$28,402
Roger Lavalley Jr.	\$21
Brian Frederich	\$698
Lawrence Letourneau	\$7,752
Total	\$36,873

TREASURERS	
Renee Patterson	\$808
Lynda Cluba	\$2,534
Total	\$3,342

SECRETARY	
Ruthanne Little	\$15,493

FOOD SERVICE	
Marilyn Baker	\$9,266
Brian Frederich	\$525
Laurie Murphy	\$42
Penelope Newton	\$41
Jean Trautner	\$13,445
Delores Cumbie	\$100
Total	\$23,419

TRUANT OFFICER	
Barry Domina	\$100

GUIDANCE	
Elaine Archambault	\$10,899

NURSE	
Loretta Tyler	\$10,573

COACHES	
Jeffrey Ward	\$900
Robert Barnard	\$450
Susan Zeineth-Collins	\$450
Nicholas Frey	\$450
Lynn Caforia	\$450
Samantha Daberer	\$450
Total	\$3,150

PARAEDUCATORS	
Robin Pelkey	\$11,811
Joan Ramey	\$9,764
Tammy Adamczak	\$7,291
Annie Purrier	\$9,806
Carol Clokey	\$30
Penelope Newton	\$1,011
John Newton	\$3,093
Total	\$42,806

SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTORS	
Shirley Carlson	\$200
Richard Daybell	\$400
Marijke Dollois	\$600
Charles Purrier Jr.	\$600
Bruce Mercy	\$600
Stuart Pratt	\$600
Total	\$3,000

LIBRARIAN	
Rebecca Wright	\$13,183

2002-03 SALARIES AND WAGES

SUBSTITUTES

Robin Pelkey	\$180
Jeremy Sanborn	\$60
Joan Ramey	\$60
Annie Purrier	\$210
Carol Clokey	\$30
Karen Houghtaling	\$60
Frances Mayhew	\$936
John Newton	\$30
Penelope Newton	\$2,475
Christine Fichman	\$30
Lawrence Letourneau	\$60
Rhonda Greenway	\$90
Kathryn Kuba	\$270
Megan Martinson	\$240
Total	\$4,731

2002-03 TUITION PAYMENTS

Lamoille Valley Union High School	\$15,914
Missisquoi Valley Union High School	\$693
Enosburg Falls Middle & High School	\$82,359
North Country Union High School	\$51,750
American Schools	\$979
Cold Hollow Career Center	\$5,000
Bellows Free Academy	\$82,432
St. Johnsbury Academy	\$34,620
Stanstead College	\$15,514
Westover School	\$7,757
Richford High School	\$148,979
Total	\$445,997

MONTGOMERY TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT FY05 BUDGET				
		2003-2004	2004-2005	Change
		Budget	Anticipated	
Anticipated Local Revenue				
1	Use of Fund Balance *	\$71,306	\$86,101	\$14,795
2	Prior Year H.S. Tuition Refund	\$2,850	\$0	(\$2,850)
3	Use of School / Other	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
4	Anticipated FY05 Interest	\$11,500	\$4,500	(\$7,000)
5	Total Local Revenue	\$86,656	\$91,601	\$4,945
6				
7	Anticipated State Revenue			
8	General State Support Grant	\$1,023,114	\$0	(\$1,023,114)
9	Special Education State Aid	\$95,649	\$145,856	\$50,207
10	State Transportation Aid	\$31,861	\$32,245	\$384
11	Small Schools Grant	\$70,355	\$65,372	(\$4,983)
12	Early Essential Education Grant	\$6,906	\$9,433	\$2,527
13	Medicaid Funds	\$3,886	\$6,367	\$2,482
14	EPSDT Funds	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
15	Capital Debt Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0
16	Total State Revenue	\$1,232,770	\$260,273	(\$972,497)
17				
18	Anticipated Education Spending Revenue			
19	Education Spending Revenue	\$0	\$1,521,663	\$1,521,663
20	Technical Center Tuition Revenue	\$0	\$18,010	\$18,010
21	Total Ed Spending Revenue	\$0	\$1,539,673	\$1,539,673
22				
23	Total Anticipated Revenue	\$1,319,426	\$1,891,547	\$572,121
24				
25	Anticipated Expenses			
26	Elementary Expenses	\$1,004,681	\$1,190,673	\$185,992
27	High School Expenses	\$587,341	\$700,874	\$113,533
28	Total Anticipated Expenses	\$1,592,021	\$1,891,547	\$299,525
29				
30	Education Spending		\$1,539,673	
31	Equalized Pupils		183.81	
32	Per Pupil Education Spending		\$8,376	
33				
34	Anticipated Education Tax Rates			
35		FY04 **	FY05	Change
36	State Education Tax Rate	\$1.100	\$1.050	(\$0.050)
37	Above Base Ed Payment Spending Rate	N/A	123.18%	N/A
38	Equalized Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.401	\$1.293	(\$0.108)
39	Common Level of Appraisal	87.56%	83.37%	-4.19%
40	Local Residential Education Tax Rate	\$1.600	\$1.551	(\$0.049)
41				
42	Equalized Non-Homestead Education Tax Rate	\$1.401	\$1.540	\$0.139
43	Common Level of Appraisal	87.56%	83.37%	-4.19%
44	Local Non-Homestead Education Tax Rate	\$1.600	\$1.847	\$0.247
45				
46	*2001-02 School Year Surplus \$71,306			
47	*2002-03 School Year Surplus \$86,101			
48	** FY04 tax rates were calculated under Act 60. FY04 rates shown above have been estimated as if Act 68 was in effect in FY04 only for comparison to anticipated FY05 rates.			

Montgomery Town School District FY05 Spending Plan					
	DESCRIPTION	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	04 to 05
		Actual	Budget	Anticipated	Change
K-8 Instructional					
1	Salaries / Elementary	\$211,115	\$224,694	\$257,247	\$32,553
2	Salaries / Secondary	\$67,666	\$71,765	\$75,302	\$3,537
3	Salaries / Substitutes	\$3,516	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
4	Employee Ins / Elementary	\$30,384	\$36,157	\$57,722	\$21,565
5	Employee Ins / Secondary	\$10,376	\$12,252	\$17,438	\$5,186
6	FICA / Elementary	\$15,402	\$17,189	\$19,679	\$2,490
7	FICA / Secondary	\$4,937	\$5,490	\$5,761	\$271
8	FICA / Substitutes	\$257	\$383	\$383	\$0
9	Life Ins / Elementary	\$248	\$510	\$714	\$204
10	Life Ins / Secondary	\$79	\$136	\$136	\$0
11	Worker's Comp Ins Elementary	\$550	\$962	\$1,348	\$386
12	Worker's Comp Ins Secondary	\$176	\$323	\$413	\$90
13	Worker's Comp Ins Subs	\$9	\$23	\$27	\$5
14	Unemp Ins Elementary	\$123	\$53	\$86	\$34
15	Unemp Ins Secondary	\$51	\$23	\$34	\$12
16	Long Term Disability Ins Elem	\$0	\$0	\$1,343	\$1,343
17	Long Term Disability Ins Sec	\$0	\$0	\$379	\$379
18	Cafeteria 125 Plan Elementary	\$219	\$266	\$540	\$274
19	Cafeteria 125 Plan Secondary	\$66	\$90	\$270	\$181
20	Tuition Reimbursement	\$2,661	\$8,286	\$9,864	\$1,578
21	In-service	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
22	Dental Ins / Elementary	\$2,638	\$2,821	\$3,716	\$896
23	Dental Ins / Secondary	\$770	\$793	\$817	\$24
24	Staff Development	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
25	Copier Service	\$2,218	\$4,450	\$4,450	\$0
26	Mileage Reimbursement	\$901	\$250	\$1,000	\$750
27	Tech. Ed / Home Economics	\$305	\$300	\$300	\$0
28	Dues & Fees	\$629	\$0	\$750	\$750
29	Supplies	\$10,966	\$10,000	\$11,500	\$1,500
30	Textbooks	\$2,376	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
31	Equipment	\$1,675	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
32	Total K-8 Instructional	\$370,312	\$408,215	\$482,221	\$74,006
33					
34	Special Education				
35	Salary / Teacher	\$40,250	\$41,850	\$72,720	\$30,870
36	Salaries / Paraeducators	\$33,052	\$35,067	\$66,477	\$31,410
37	Salaries / Subs	\$705	\$635	\$750	\$115
38	Summer Instruction	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
39	Employee Insurance	\$6,358	\$7,533	\$19,774	\$12,241
40	FICA / Teacher	\$5,561	\$3,202	\$5,563	\$2,362
41	FICA / Paraeducators	\$0	\$2,759	\$5,315	\$2,556
42	Life Insurance	\$40	\$68	\$136	\$68
43	Municipal Retirement / Paraed	\$480	\$1,678	\$2,724	\$1,045
44	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$224	\$351	\$779	\$428
45	Unemployment Insurance	\$75	\$26	\$77	\$50
46	Long Term Disability Ins	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400
47	Cafeteria 125 Plan	\$45	\$45	\$90	\$45
48	Tuition Reimbursement	\$276	\$1,049	\$2,281	\$1,232
49	In-service & Conferences	\$80	\$500	\$500	\$0

Montgomery Town School District FY05 Spending Plan					
	DESCRIPTION	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	04 to 05
		Actual	Budget	Anticipated	Change
50	Dental Insurance	\$428	\$441	\$907	\$467
51	Purchased Professional Svcs	\$466	\$2,650	\$5,000	\$2,350
52	Psychological Services	\$1,550	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
53	Early Education Program	\$8,582	\$12,771	\$22,189	\$9,418
54	Mileage & Transportation	\$8,052	\$590	\$2,555	\$1,965
55	District Programs	\$26,789	\$27,872	\$30,565	\$2,693
56	Books	\$30	\$0	\$0	\$0
57	Supplies & Equipment	\$3,448	\$800	\$2,000	\$1,200
58	Total Special Education	\$136,490	\$144,887	\$247,802	\$102,915
59					
60	Paraeducators				
61	Salary	\$9,764	\$10,637	\$11,177	\$540
62	FICA	\$747	\$814	\$855	\$41
63	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$25	\$48	\$61	\$13
64	Unemployment Insurance	\$14	\$6	\$10	\$4
65	Total Paraeducators	\$10,550	\$11,505	\$12,103	\$598
66					
67	Co-Curricular Activities				
68	Salaries	\$3,150	\$3,150	\$6,650	\$3,500
69	FICA	\$241	\$241	\$509	\$268
70	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$9	\$14	\$39	\$25
71	Referees & Officials	\$240	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$0
72	Transportation & Field Trips	\$3,400	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
73	Supplies	\$48	\$250	\$250	\$0
74	Washington D.C. Trip	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
75	Total Co-Curricular	\$8,088	\$9,955	\$13,748	\$3,793
76					
77	Guidance Services				
78	Salary	\$11,040	\$11,680	\$11,700	\$20
79	Employee Insurance	\$3,628	\$4,018	\$4,520	\$502
80	FICA	\$618	\$894	\$895	\$2
81	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$25	\$53	\$64	\$12
82	Unemployment Insurance	\$10	\$5	\$7	\$2
83	Long Term Disability Ins	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
84	Cafeteria 125 Plan	\$30	\$18	\$45	\$27
85	Tuition Reimbursement	\$195	\$420	\$456	\$37
86	Dental Insurance	\$219	\$176	\$181	\$5
87	Staff Development	\$65	\$0	\$0	\$0
88	Supplies	\$75	\$200	\$200	\$0
89	Total Guidance	\$15,906	\$17,462	\$18,069	\$607
90					
91	Health Services				
92	Salary	\$10,695	\$11,335	\$12,900	\$1,565
93	Substitute Nurse	\$90	\$0	\$0	\$0
94	Employee Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$5,650	\$5,650
95	FICA	\$825	\$867	\$987	\$120
96	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$25	\$51	\$71	\$20
97	Unemployment Insurance	\$10	\$5	\$7	\$2
98	Long Term Disability Ins	\$0	\$0	\$71	\$71
99	Cafeteria 125 Plan	\$0	\$18	\$45	\$27

Montgomery Town School District FY05 Spending Plan					
	DESCRIPTION	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	04 to 05
		Actual	Budget	Anticipated	Change
100	Tuition Reimbursement	\$0	\$420	\$570	\$151
101	Dental Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$227	\$227
102	Supplies	\$865	\$400	\$400	\$0
103	Total Health	\$12,510	\$13,095	\$20,927	\$7,832
104					
105	Standardized Testing	\$0	\$655	\$655	\$0
106					
107	Library Services				
108	Salary	\$13,340	\$13,980	\$14,460	\$480
109	Substitute	\$120	\$0	\$0	\$0
110	Employee Insurance	\$1,281	\$1,527	\$1,718	\$191
111	FICA	\$1,030	\$1,069	\$1,106	\$37
112	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$37	\$63	\$79	\$16
113	Unemployment Insurance	\$10	\$5	\$7	\$2
114	Long Term Disability Ins	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
115	Cafeteria 125 Plan	\$0	\$18	\$45	\$27
116	Tuition Reimbursement	\$0	\$420	\$456	\$37
117	Dental Insurance	\$171	\$176	\$181	\$5
118	Supplies	\$64	\$400	\$400	\$0
119	Books	\$3,017	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
120	Total Library Services	\$19,071	\$20,158	\$20,953	\$795
121					
122	Technology				
123	Coordinator	\$900	\$900	\$1,000	\$100
124	FICA	\$69	\$69	\$77	\$8
125	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$4	\$4	\$5	\$1
126	Unemployment Insurance	\$3	\$1	\$1	\$0
127	DSL Internet Service	\$4,300	\$4,300	\$2,500	(\$1,800)
128	Supplies	\$683	\$0	\$0	\$0
129	Equipment	\$205	\$3,300	\$3,300	\$0
130	Total Technology	\$6,164	\$8,573	\$6,883	(\$1,691)
131					
132	School Directors				
133	Salaries / Directors	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
134	Salary / Treasurer	\$3,342	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
135	Wages / Board Secretary	\$233	\$652	\$682	\$30
136	FICA	\$511	\$509	\$511	\$2
137	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$25	\$30	\$37	\$7
138	Truant Officer	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0
139	Legal Service	\$564	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
140	Audit	\$2,700	\$2,375	\$3,500	\$1,125
141	Errors & Omissions Insurance	\$696	\$833	\$768	(\$65)
142	Bonds	\$581	\$639	\$581	(\$58)
143	Advertising	\$1,996	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$1,500
144	Supplies		\$250	\$250	\$0
145	Dues & Fees	\$1,050	\$1,045	\$1,045	\$0
146	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$2,094	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
147	School Directors' Training	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
148	Total School Directors	\$16,891	\$18,432	\$20,973	\$2,541

Montgomery Town School District FY05 Spending Plan					
	DESCRIPTION	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	04 to 05
		Actual	Budget	Anticipated	Change
149					
150	Supervisory Union				
151	FNESU Assessment	\$26,349	\$27,616	\$31,906	\$4,290
152					
153	School Administration				
154	Salary / Principal	\$26,000	\$27,000	\$43,500	\$16,500
155	Salary / Assistant Principal	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$1,500	(\$3,500)
156	Salary / Secretary	\$15,586	\$16,507	\$17,267	\$760
157	Substitute Secretary	\$180	\$0	\$0	\$0
158	Employee Insurance	\$4,689	\$5,522	\$9,916	\$4,394
159	FICA	\$3,578	\$3,749	\$4,802	\$1,053
160	Life Insurance	\$59	\$136	\$204	\$68
161	Municipal Ret / Secretary	\$763	\$825	\$863	\$38
162	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$137	\$218	\$341	\$123
163	Unemployment Insurance	\$24	\$10	\$14	\$4
164	Long Term Disability Ins	\$270	\$270	\$290	\$20
165	Cafeteria 125 Plan	\$0	\$23	\$45	\$23
166	Tuition Reimbursement	\$0	\$524	\$855	\$331
167	Admin Development	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0
168	Mileage	\$400	\$260	\$260	\$0
169	Dental Insurance	\$686	\$706	\$1,059	\$353
170	Supplies & Postage	\$920	\$825	\$825	\$0
171	Equipment	\$92	\$200	\$200	\$0
172	Dues / Fees / Graduation	\$678	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
173	Total School Admin	\$59,061	\$63,476	\$83,642	\$20,166
174					
175	Operation of Plant				
176	Salaries / Custodians	\$36,873	\$37,512	\$34,766	(\$2,747)
177	Employee Insurance	\$9,378	\$10,044	\$1,500	(\$8,544)
178	FICA	\$2,821	\$2,870	\$2,774	(\$95)
179	Municipal Retirement	\$1,425	\$1,435	\$702	(\$733)
180	Worker's Comp Insurance	\$1,116	\$1,981	\$2,115	\$134
181	Unemployment Insurance	\$21	\$10	\$20	\$10
182	Dental Insurance	\$439	\$441	\$0	(\$441)
183	Water	\$880	\$880	\$880	\$0
184	Rubbish Removal	\$1,985	\$3,000	\$2,500	(\$500)
185	Repairs Build & Grounds	\$36,773	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
186	Service Contracts	\$1,087	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$0
187	Property & Liability Ins	\$4,650	\$5,950	\$5,897	(\$53)
188	Communications	\$2,514	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
189	Supplies	\$3,754	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
190	Electricity	\$10,037	\$11,518	\$11,964	\$446
191	Fuel	\$4,071	\$7,433	\$6,762	(\$671)
192	Equipment	\$3,758	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
193	Total Operation of Plant	\$121,622	\$101,373	\$88,180	(\$13,194)
194					
195	Success By Six Grant	\$9,300	\$0	\$0	\$0
196					
197	Food Service Program	\$4,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0

Montgomery Town School District FY05 Spending Plan					
	DESCRIPTION	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	04 to 05
		Actual	Budget	Anticipated	Change
198					
199	Transportation	\$67,177	\$70,177	\$75,575	\$5,398
200					
201	Payment to State Ed Fund	\$40,936	\$0	\$0	\$0
202					
203	Debt Service				
204	Long Term				
205	Principal	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$0
206	Interest	\$34,318	\$31,601	\$28,828	(\$2,773)
207	One Time Bond Refunding	\$0	\$0	(\$19,292)	(\$19,292)
208	Total Debt Service	\$89,318	\$86,601	\$64,536	(\$22,065)
209					
210	Total Elementary	\$1,014,246	\$1,004,681	\$1,190,673	\$185,992
211					
212	High School				
213	SPED Transportation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
214	H.S. Tuition	\$440,025	\$536,780	\$632,486	\$95,706
215	Technical Education Tuition	\$5,972	\$7,304	\$32,526	\$25,222
216	SPED Excess Costs	\$54,750	\$43,257	\$35,862	(\$7,395)
217	Total High School	\$500,746	\$587,341	\$700,874	\$113,533
218					
219	Total District Expenses	\$1,514,993	\$1,592,021	\$1,891,547	\$299,525
The 2003/2004 school year budget anticipated there would be 67 high school students.					
The 2004/2005 budget anticipates there will be 68 high school students.					

District: Montgomery
County: Franklin

LEA: 128 Franklin Northeast
S.U.:

	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Expenditures				
Budget (local budget approved in prior years)	1,369,672	1,518,816	1,592,021	\$1,891,547
82% of base payment per FTE paid to tech centers by the State on behalf of the district in FY2005	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	\$18,010
S.U. assessment (included in local budget)	21,442	26,349	27,616	\$31,906
Deficit (if included in local budget)	-	-	-	not applicable
Block grant paid by State to tech center in prior years	17,434	18,646	19,754	not applicable
1. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	not applicable
2. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	not applicable
3. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	not applicable
Act 144 Expenditures, (excluded from "Education Spending")	-	-	-	-
Act 68 local adopted budget	1,387,106	1,537,462	1,611,775	1,891,547
+ Union school or joint school district assessment	-	-	-	-
+ Deficit if not included in budget or revenues	-	-	-	-
+ Special programs expenditures (if not included in local budget)	-	-	-	-
Gross Act 68 Budget	1,387,106	1,537,462	1,611,775	1,891,547
Act 144 expenditures (if any - excluded from "Education Spending")	-	-	-	-

	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Revenues				
+ Local revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including Capital debt aid)	298,280	311,781	296,312	\$351,874
+ Special program revenues (if not included in local budget)	8,982	-	-	-
- Deficit if not included in budget or expenditures	-	-	-	-
- Act 144 revenues	307,262	311,781	296,312	351,874
Total revenues	307,262	311,781	296,312	351,874
- Fund raising (if any)	-	-	-	-
Adjusted local revenues	307,262	311,781	296,312	351,874

Education Spending (Act 68 definition)	1,079,844	1,225,681	1,315,463	1,539,673
Equalized Pupils	155.95	172.38	184.45	183.81
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	6,924	7,110	7,132	8,376
Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil (if any)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable
District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%) (\$8,376 / \$6,800)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	123.176%
Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized (123.176% x \$1.05)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	\$1,293
Household Income Percentage for income sensitivity (123.176% x 2.0%)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	2.46%

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of School Directors
Town of Montgomery School District
Montgomery, Vermont

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Montgomery School District, Montgomery, Vermont, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Montgomery School District 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 U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the financial activities of the general fixed assets account group, which should be included in order to conform with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Montgomery School District, Montgomery, Vermont, as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 4, 2003, on our consideration of the Bakersfield School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

Williston, Vermont
September 4, 2003
License #222

R. F. Lavigne & Company

Town of Montgomery School District
 Combined Balance Sheet
 All Governmental Fund Types and Account Group
 June 30, 2003

		<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Account Group</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>General</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>General Long-</u>	<u>(Memorandum</u>
		<u>Fund</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Term Debt</u>	<u>Only)</u>
			<u>Program</u>		
ASSETS					
Cash	Note 2	\$ 232,474			\$ 232,474
Accounts Receivable		8,153			8,153
Due from State of Vermont		12,184	\$ 7,506		19,690
Inventory			1,275		1,275
Amount to be Provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt				\$ 605,000	605,000
Total Assets		\$ 252,811	\$ 8,781	\$ 605,000	\$ 866,592
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities					
Cash - Overdrawn	Note 2		\$ 1,487		\$ 1,487
Accounts Payable		\$ 13,062			13,062
Accrued Salaries and Taxes		57,083			57,083
Deferred Revenue - Success by Six	Note 3		1,076		1,076
Bond Payable				\$ 605,000	605,000
Total Liabilities		71,221	1,487	605,000	677,708
Commitments and Contingencies Note 8					
Fund Balances					
Reserved for:	Note 4				
Inventory			1,275		1,275
Medicaid		3,886			3,886
Subsequent Year's Expenditures		74,156			74,156
Capital Reserve Fund		17,447			17,447
Unreserved		86,101	6,019		92,120
Total Fund Balances		181,590	7,294	-0-	188,884
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		\$ 252,811	\$ 8,781	\$ 605,000	\$ 866,592

Town of Montgomery School District
 Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
 All Governmental Fund Types
 For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Total (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Food Service Program</u>	
Revenues			
Property Taxes	\$ 1,142,479		\$ 1,142,479
State Funding	179,422	\$ 25,674	205,096
State Education Fund Grants	27,267		27,267
Special Education Grants	121,688		121,688
Interest	5,820		5,820
Charges for Services		20,097	20,097
Miscellaneous	<u>25,693</u>	<u>2,218</u>	<u>27,911</u>
Total Revenues	1,502,369	47,989	1,550,358
Expenditures			
Direct Instructional Services			
Regular Programs	816,309		816,309
Special Education Programs	200,540		200,540
Other Instructional Programs	4,688		4,688
Support Services			
Students	28,416		28,416
Instructional Staff	29,621		29,621
General Administration	43,240		43,240
School Administration	59,061		59,061
Business Administration	198,364	52,665	251,029
Debt Service	89,318		89,318
Payment to State Education Fund	<u>40,936</u>		<u>40,936</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,510,493</u>	<u>52,665</u>	<u>1,563,158</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures Before Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(8,124)	(4,676)	(12,800)
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfer to Food Service Program	(<u>4,500</u>)	<u>4,500</u>	<u>-0-</u>
(Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures and Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(12,624)	(176)	(12,800)
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	<u>194,214</u>	<u>7,470</u>	<u>201,684</u>
Fund Balances, End of Year	\$ <u>181,590</u>	\$ <u>7,294</u>	\$ <u>188,884</u>

The Accompanying Notes are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements

Town of Montgomery School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual
General Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues			
Property Taxes	Note 5 \$ 1,101,877	\$ 1,142,479	\$ 40,602
State Funding	179,088	179,422	334
State Education Fund Grants	27,267	27,267	-0-
Special Education Grants	100,168	121,688	21,520
Interest	10,418	5,820	(4,598)
Miscellaneous	<u>7,266</u>	<u>25,693</u>	<u>18,427</u>
Total Revenues	1,426,084	1,502,369	76,285
Expenditures			
Direct Instructional Services			
Regular Programs	891,019	816,309	74,710
Special Education Programs	190,072	200,540	(10,468)
Other Instructional Programs	5,952	4,688	1,264
Support Services			
Students	29,064	28,416	648
Instructional Staff	29,773	29,621	152
General Administration	44,054	43,240	814
School Administration	59,073	59,061	12
Business Administration	177,991	198,364	(20,373)
Debt Service	89,318	89,318	-0-
Payment to State Education Fund	<u>-0-</u>	<u>40,936</u>	<u>(40,936)</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>1,516,316</u>	<u>1,510,493</u>	<u>5,823</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures Before Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
	(90,232)	(8,124)	82,108
Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
Transfer to Food Service Program	<u>(2,500)</u>	<u>(4,500)</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures and Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
	\$ <u>(92,732)</u>	(12,624)	\$ <u>80,108</u>
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year		<u>194,214</u>	
Fund Balance, End of Year		\$ <u>181,590</u>	

The Accompanying Notes are an Integral Part of These Financial Statements

Town of Montgomery School District
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2003

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies of the Town of Montgomery School District:

A. FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

The School District, for financial reporting purposes, includes in this report all funds and account groups that are controlled by or dependent on the Montgomery School Board. Control by or dependence on the Montgomery School Board was determined on the basis of control over the selection of management; influence on operations; accountability for fiscal matters; and degree of financial dependence.

B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION - FUND ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the School District are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds are summarized by type in the financial statements. The following fund types and account group are used by the School District:

Governmental Fund Types

These are the funds through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The funds included in this category are as follows:

General Fund - This fund is the general operating fund of the School District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Food Service Program - This fund is maintained to account for hot lunch revenues and expenditures.

Account Group

In addition to the governmental funds, the School District also maintains the account group described below:

General Long-Term Debt - This is not a fund but rather an account group. It is concerned only with the measurement of financial position and is not involved with measurement of results of operations. It is used to account for the outstanding principal balances of general obligation bonds and other long-term debts of the School District. Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types is limited to exclude amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group.

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

C. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. The General Fund and Food Service Program use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they both become available and measurable. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred except expenditures for debt service, prepaid expenses, and other long-term obligations, which are recognized when paid.

D. BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The School District is required to submit annually, to the Town Meeting for approval, a proposed operating budget containing proposed expenditures and means of financing them. Formal budgetary integration was employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund.

E. DUE TO AND DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS

Interfund receivables and payables arise from interfund transactions and are recorded by all funds affected in the period in which transactions are executed.

F. FUND BALANCES

The unreserved fund balance for governmental funds represents the amount available for budgeting future operations. The reserved fund balance for governmental funds represents the amount that has been legally identified for specific purposes.

G. TOTAL COLUMNS

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns does not present financial position in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

H. ENCUMBRANCES

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed in the General Fund.

I. USE OF ESTIMATES

The process of preparing financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions regarding certain types of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, upon settlement, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

NOTE 2 CASH AND CATEGORIES OF RISK

There are three categories of credit risk that apply to a government's bank balances:

1. Insured by the FDIC or collateralized with securities held by the government or by the government's agent in the government's name.
2. Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the government's name.
3. Uncollateralized.

The School District's bank balances are categorized below to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the School District at year-end.

	<u>Book Balance</u>	<u>Bank Balance</u>
Time Deposits		
Insured	\$ 217,447	\$ 217,447
Insured by Safeco Insurance Company of America	749	43,235
Uninsured/Uncollateralized	<u>12,692</u>	<u>12,692</u>
Total Time Deposits	230,888	273,374
Cash on Hand	<u>100</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Total Deposits	\$ <u>230,988</u>	\$ <u>273,374</u>
Annual Fund Cash		\$ 232,474
Food Service Fund Cash Overdraw		(1,487)
Total Cash for Exhibit A		\$ <u>230,987</u>

Due to cash flows during certain times of the year, the School District's uninsured and uncollateralized deposits in banks may be substantially higher than at year-end.

NOTE 3 LONG-TERM DEBT

Bond Payable

Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, Interest at varying amounts from 4.99% to 5.66%, Refunding of the bond occurred on March 27, 2003, Due in installments of \$55,000, Matures December 1, 2013.

\$ 605,000

NOTE 3 LONG-TERM DEBT (Continued)

Principal, interest, and refunding savings maturities on debt are as follows:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Refunding Savings Allocation</u>	<u>Net Payment Total</u>
June 30, 2004	\$ 55,000	\$ 31,601	\$ (19,292)	\$ 67,309
June 30, 2005	55,000	28,828	(19,292)	64,536
June 30, 2006	55,000	26,000		81,000
June 30, 2007	55,000	23,117		78,117
June 30, 2008	55,000	20,180		75,180
June 30, 2009-2013	275,000	53,777		328,777
June 30, 2014	<u>55,000</u>	<u>3,116</u>		<u>58,116</u>
Total Long-Term Debt Obligations	\$ <u>605,000</u>	\$ <u>186,619</u>	\$ <u>(38,584)</u>	\$ <u>753,035</u>

As a result of March 27, 2003 refunding of the bond by the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, the Town is entitled to a savings allocation on payments for June 30, 2004 and 2005 as indicated in the schedule above.

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

During the year ended June 30, 2003, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in the general long-term debt account group:

	<u>Balance July 1, 2002</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2003</u>
General Obligation Bond	\$ <u>660,000</u>	\$ <u>-0-</u>	\$ <u>55,000</u>	\$ <u>605,000</u>

NOTE 4 FUND BALANCES

At the annual Town of Montgomery, Vermont School District Meeting on March 10, 2003, the Town of Montgomery voted to reserve \$74,156 to defray expenses of the 2003-2004 school year as follows:

Prior Year Surplus	\$ 71,306
Prior Year High School Tuition Refund	<u>2,850</u>
Total	\$ <u>74,156</u>

In addition, the School District has reserved funds of \$3,886 for the Medicaid Program, and for Capital Projects in the amount of \$17,447.

NOTE 5 PROPERTY TAXES

Members of the Town of Montgomery School District at the March 11, 2002 annual meeting approved the expenditure budget for the Montgomery Elementary School. The approved budget also included the Town School District's expected assessments for Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union. On June 1, the Town of Montgomery School Board submitted this information, along with all revenue expected to support the approved expenditures, excluding tax-generated revenue, to the Vermont Department of Education. On June 30, 2002, the Vermont Departments of Education, and the Department of Taxes notified the Town of Montgomery School Board, and the Town of Montgomery Select Board of the Town's Statewide and Local Share Tax Liabilities, respectively. The Select Board using the Town's most recent Education Grand List established the Statewide and Local Share Tax Rates required to raise the taxes necessary to meet these liabilities. The Town of Montgomery bears all costs to collect these taxes. For School Year 2002-2003 the tax liabilities to the Vermont Education Fund along with the corresponding tax rates were:

Statewide Tax Liability	\$ 835,329	Statewide Tax Rate	\$ 1.20
Local Share Liability	<u>307,150</u>	Local Share Tax Rate	<u>.44</u>
Total	\$ <u>1,142,479</u>		\$ <u>1.64</u>

NOTE 6 VOTED USE OF SURPLUS

During the Town of Montgomery School District's annual meeting on March 11, 2002, the District voted to expend \$1,518,816 necessary for the support of schools for the year beginning July 1, 2002. Budgeted revenues included \$92,732 of the June 30, 2002 unreserved fund balance to reduce property taxes.

NOTE 7 PENSIONS

The School District's non-teaching employees participate in the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System. The plan is funded by withholding from employees and contributions by the School District. All full-time employees are required to participate in the plan on the ninetieth day of employment. Two plan options are offered. The Defined Benefit Plan employees are fully vested after 5 years and the Defined Contribution Plan employees are fully vested after 1 year.

The District's retirement expense for the year ended June 30, 2003 for all municipal employees was \$2,668.

Information on the School District's employee funding status is unavailable because the system does not make separate measurements of assets and pension benefit obligations for individual employees. Additional information regarding the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System is available upon request from the State of Vermont.

NOTE 7 PENSIONS (Continued)

The School District's teachers participate in the Vermont Teachers' Retirement System. The plan is fully funded by the State of Vermont and required teacher contributions. All teachers are eligible to participate in the plan on their first day of employment and are fully vested after 10 years of creditable service. The School District incurs no expense under the plan. The plan requires an annual contribution of 3.54% of gross salary from individual teachers. Teacher contributions for the year ended June 30, 2003 were \$12,239 on salaries of \$345,745. The State of Vermont's estimated rate of contribution for the year ended June 30, 2003 was 4.54%, resulting in an estimated contribution of \$15,697 by the State of Vermont for the District's teachers.

NOTE 8 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Annually, on or before November 1, the Commissioner of Education makes a calculation of the net cost per pupil for elementary and secondary school districts. Each district receiving tuition students must then determine whether it overcharged or undercharged any sending school district for tuition charges. If the overcharge/undercharge is more than 3%, the difference must be settled by the school districts. Overcharges may be credited against tuition or refunded to the district by July 31 of the subsequent year. Undercharges are due to the receiving district by the same date.

The Montgomery School District pays tuition to other districts for its secondary students. The amount of tuition due/receivable from these districts will not be known until November 1.

NOTE 9 RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School District maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the School. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

In addition, the Town of Montgomery School District is a member of the Vermont School Boards Insurance Trust, Inc. (VSBIT) Medical Benefits Program. VSBIT is a nonprofit corporation formed in 1978 to provide insurance and risk management programs for Vermont School Districts and is owned by the participating districts.

To provide health insurance coverage, VSBIT has established a self-funded fully insured program in conjunction with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. A portion of member contributions is used to purchase reinsurance and to fund a reserve required by the reinsurance. Contributions in excess of claims requirements, reserve fund requirements, reinsurance and administrative costs are returned to participants. The pooling agreement does not permit the pool to make additional assessment to its members.

Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union FY05 Budget

		FY03	FY04	FY05	04 to 05	Montgomery
	EXPENSES	Actual	Budget	Budget	Change	Share
1	Superintendent	\$80,806	\$84,606	\$92,072	\$7,466	\$6,992
2	Business Manager	\$64,409	\$66,853	\$69,293	\$2,441	\$5,262
3	Curriculum Coordinator	\$31,424	\$32,645	\$33,704	\$1,059	\$2,560
4	Technology Services	\$7,273	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$759
5	Administrative Assistants	\$58,044	\$59,982	\$63,116	\$3,133	\$4,793
6	Bookkeepers	\$57,886	\$61,916	\$64,939	\$3,022	\$4,932
7	Health Insurance	\$36,245	\$43,244	\$48,651	\$5,406	\$3,695
8	Social Security	\$23,457	\$23,832	\$25,142	\$1,310	\$1,909
9	Life Insurance	\$924	\$952	\$952	\$0	\$72
10	Municipal Retirement	\$17,067	\$18,580	\$19,412	\$832	\$1,474
11	Workers Comp Ins.	\$763	\$1,095	\$1,566	\$471	\$119
12	Unemployment Ins.	\$514	\$612	\$612	\$0	\$46
13	Tuition Reimbursement	\$0	\$2,622	\$2,622	\$0	\$199
14	Dental Insurance	\$6,962	\$7,660	\$7,709	\$50	\$585
15	Disability Insurance	\$919	\$1,619	\$1,708	\$89	\$130
16	Service Contracts	\$2,916	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0	\$266
17	Audit	\$1,450	\$1,200	\$1,700	\$500	\$129
18	Rent	\$11,484	\$11,714	\$11,948	\$234	\$907
19	Mileage Reimbursement	\$5,710	\$6,025	\$6,025	\$0	\$458
20	Training	\$1,653	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$228
21	Property & Liability Ins.	\$3,590	\$4,486	\$4,487	\$0	\$341
22	Telephone	\$3,613	\$4,200	\$4,000	(\$200)	\$304
23	Miscellaneous	\$2,584	\$3,000	\$2,600	(\$400)	\$197
24	Legal	\$679	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$114
25	Equipment Repair	\$88	\$500	\$450	(\$50)	\$34
26	Office Supplies	\$11,901	\$9,900	\$12,000	\$2,100	\$911
27	Professional Books	\$727	\$600	\$750	\$150	\$57
28	Dues & Fees	\$3,473	\$4,090	\$4,090	\$0	\$311
29	Office Equipment	\$15,700	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$0	\$342
30	Curriculum Development	\$38	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	\$0
31	Advertising	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$38
32	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$452,298	\$475,932	\$502,546	\$26,614	\$38,164
33		\$0				
	REVENUES		FY04	FY05	Change	Montgomery
35	Transfer to SPED	\$29,338	\$28,136	\$29,673	\$1,537	\$2,253
36	Grants	\$32,324	\$32,127	\$38,669	\$6,542	\$2,937
37	Prior Year Excess	\$29,075	\$11,241	\$5,963	(\$5,278)	\$453
38	Other	\$3,244	\$9,500	\$8,100	(\$1,400)	\$615
39	TOTAL REVENUES	\$93,982	\$81,004	\$82,405	\$1,401	\$6,258
40						
41	ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	\$364,279	\$394,927	\$420,140	\$25,213	\$31,906
42						
	SCHOOL DISTRICT	FY03	FY04	FY05	04 to 05	FY05
	ASSESSMENTS	Actual	Assessment	Assessment	Change	RATE
45	Bakersfield	\$37,223	\$43,332	\$42,867	(\$465)	10.20%
46	Berkshire	\$42,241	\$41,311	\$47,007	\$5,696	11.19%
47	Enosburg	\$146,381	\$163,449	\$172,440	\$8,991	41.04%
48	Montgomery	\$26,349	\$27,616	\$31,906	\$4,291	7.59%
49	Richford	\$112,086	\$119,219	\$125,920	\$6,701	29.97%
50	TOTAL ASSESSMENTS	\$364,279	\$394,927	\$420,140	\$25,213	100.00%

Please direct questions to your School Board Members or Bill Samuelson
the FNESU Business Manager, at 802-848-7661

HELPFUL TOWN INFORMATION

2000 State of Vermont Census 992
Registered Voters 739

FIRE & RESCUE and POLICE EMERGENCIES..... 911

Please make sure your 911 address is visible from the road.

STATE POLICE..... 524-5993

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Fire & Rescue non-emergency..... 326-4555

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER'S OFFICE..... 326-4719

Fax..... 326-4939

Hours: 8am - 12 noon & 1pm - 4 pm, Mon-Tues & Thurs-Fri
9am - 12 noon on Wednesday

LIBRARY..... 326-3113

Hours: Monday 10am - 12, 3pm - 5, Tuesday 10am - 12, 4pm - 8
Wednesday 10am - 12, 6pm - 8, Thursday 10am - 12
Friday 10am - 12, Saturday 10am - 2pm, Closed on Sunday

The library is free to all Montgomery residents and 2nd home owners. All others pay a membership fee of \$5.00 per year.

FIRE WARDEN: Gary Lumbra..... 326-4861
DOG OFFICER: Amy Cochran..... 933-4836

SELECTBOARD: The Board meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Town Clerk's office conference room.

LISTER: The Board usually meets on Monday at the Town Clerk's office conference room.

TAXES: Due dates are voted at the Annual Town Meeting. All taxes must be received in the Town Clerk's office no later than 5:00pm on the last due date on October to avoid an 8% penalty and interest. **POSTMARKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORT: Vermont residents over 62 may apply for the passport at the Town Clerk's office. The fee is \$2.00.

Trash & recyclables can be brought to the Town Garage on Saturday s from 9am - 1pm.

Vehicle Registrations may be renewed at the Town Clerk's office for a \$3.00 fee. You must have your renewal certificate and a check or money order for the registration fee made payable to the Vermont Dept of Motor Vehicles.

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY
P.O. Box 356
Montgomery Center, VT 05471

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