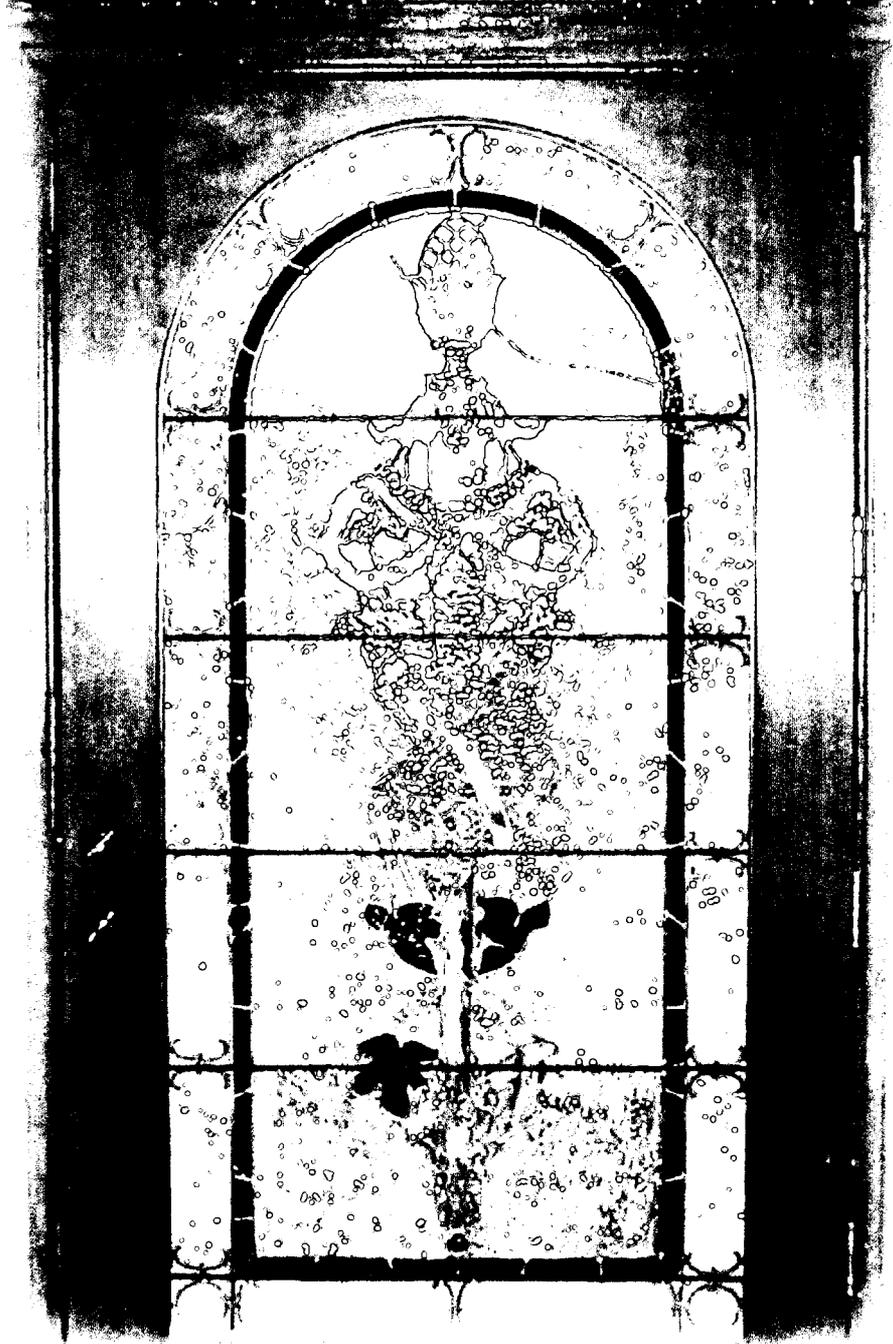


*Town of
Springfield, Vermont*



Annual Report Fiscal Year 2003

ABOUT THE COVER:

The Springfield Town Library re-dedicated this historic stained glass window in its new location in the Library's Flinn Room on September 17, 2002. Part of Springfield's original Library building constructed in 1895, this beautiful 88" x 42" stained glass panel was framed in a large window at the back of the Library, in what is now the Children's Room. Many patrons fondly remember studying in a quiet corner near the window with the afternoon sun shining through from the west to illuminate its stunning colors.

Little is known about the window or the artisan who crafted it. It features a scepter topped by a welcoming pineapple and adorned with a book, a scroll, ribbons and ivy symbolizing wisdom and knowledge reflecting the motto carved above the entrance, "Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of the nation".

The window was removed in 1966 to create an emergency exit when the Library was expanded and renovated, and it was kept in storage for 35 years. With funding from the Friends of Springfield Town Library and the Library Trust Funds, the 107 year old stained glass panel was painstakingly restored and a custom door frame was constructed to mount the panel in the doorway to the Flinn Room alcove. The September, 2002 dedication and reception celebrated the return of this beautiful, historic piece to the original part of the Springfield Town Library building.

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TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD DIRECTORY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Population: 9,078
 Size: 31,552 Acres
 47 Square Miles
 Altitude: 410 Feet

MEETING SCHEDULES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meetings held second and fourth Mondays at 7:00 p.m., Selectmen's Meeting Room, Municipal Office

SCHOOL BOARD

Meeting held second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the High School Library.

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the library.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., Selectmen's Meeting Room, Municipal Office.

SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Meeting held the second Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m., Huber Building, 80 Main Street.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 1, 2004** - Monday Evening Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m., Springfield High School Auditorium.
- March 2, 2004** - Town Meeting Australian Ballot Voting at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium. Polls open at 8:00 a.m.
- April 1, 2004** - Dogs must be licensed.
- April 8, 2004** - Fourth and final property tax Installment due.
- April 10, 2004** - Trout Season opens.
- August, 2004** - First property tax installment due. Date determined (State formula).
- September 14, 2004** - Primary Election
- October 2-24, 2004** - Deer Archery Season.
- October 5, 2004** - Second property tax installment Due.
- November 2, 2004** - General Election
- November 6-7, 2004** - Vermont Youth Deer Weekend.
- November 13-28, 2004** - Deer Firearm Season.
- January 5, 2005** - Third property tax installment due.
- April 1, 2005** - Dogs must be licensed.
- April 5, 2005** - Fourth & final property tax installment due.

TOWN

Municipal Offices:

96 Main Street
 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Monday - Friday
 Tel. No 885-2104

Department of Public Works:

Fairground Road
 Business Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Monday - Friday
 Tel. No 886-2208

Springfield Police Department:

Tel. No. 885-2113

Springfield Fire Department:

Hartness Avenue
Fire and Ambulance Emergency
Tel. No. 885-4545

Fire and Ambulance Non-Emergency
 Tel. No. 885-4546

Springfield Town Library

43 Main Street
 Business Hours:
 Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Tel. No. 885-3108

Parks & Recreation Department:

139 Main Street
 Tel. No. 885-2727

Senior Citizen's Center:

139 Main Street
 Business Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Monday - Friday
 Tel. No. 885-3933

Sewage Disposal Plant:

Clinton Street
 Business Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 Monday - Friday
 Tel. No. 885-2854

Transfer Station & Recycling Center:

Fairground Road
 Business Hours:
 Monday 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 pm.
 Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Tel. No. 885-5827

SCHOOLS

Central Offices 885-5141
 Athletic Director 885-7905
 Elm Hill School 885-5154
 Gateway Program 885-3477
 Union Street School 885-5155
 Park Street School 885-4774
 Riverside Middle School 885-8490
 Springfield High School 885-7900
 Technical Center 885-8300

ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR		TOWN AGENT	
Patrick M. Ankuda	2004	Stephen S. Ankuda	2004
SELECTMEN		FIRST CONSTABLE	
John E. Follett	2004	Richard Ripchick	2003
Marie B. Gelineau	2006		
Mary Helen Hawthorne*	2005	JUSTICES OF THE PEACE	
Douglas Richards	2006	2/1/03-2/1/05	
Christina Tetrault **	2005	Peter Andrews	
SCHOOL DIRECTORS		Alice M. Emmons	
Ruth Cody	2004	John E. Follett	
Dan Gray	2004	Merton J. Graham	
George McNaughton	2006	Dan Gray	
Roger Ward*	2005	Mark J. Greenvall	
Jean Willard	2006	Eugene Guy	
LISTERS		Michael J. Knoras	
Arnold J. Lashua	2003	Ernest Lamphere	
Richard A. Moore	2005	Clint Martin	
LIBRARY TRUSTEES		Patricia Martin	
Alan Fusonie **	2006	Franklin Poole	
Fredda Kischko	2004	Linda J. Richards	
Bill Mattoon	2007	Steven J. Sysko	
Ellen Pinter *	2005	Robert D. Yoder	
Alice S. Lohutko	2008		
TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS			
Ernest C. Lamphere	2006		
Jane Waysville	2005		
Lawrence Woolson	2004		
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS			
John N. Swanson	2006		
Scott Page	2007		
Joan Robison	2004		
Tami Thomas	2005		
William Young *	2008		
Bonnie L. Reynolds, Ex-Officio			

* Chair
** Vice-Chair

APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION	PRECISION VALLEY DEVELOPMENT CORP.
Ronald Bacon (Deceased)	Gary Holt
Donald Barrett *	Clinton Martin
Ronald W. Higgins	
Wilbur Horton, Jr.	HOUSING AUTHORITY
Open Position	Peter Andrews
Steven Kraft	Beverly Corey
Donald Napsey	Cynthia Gagnier
Molly Sinclair	Frederic P. Koledo *
Susan Space	Alan Pinders
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT	William F. Morlock, III
David Crawford	Executive Director
Open Position (2005)	* Chair
Wayne Griffin	
Bruce Johnson *	SOUTHERN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE
Keith Stern	John Bond
AIRPORT COMMISSION	Richard Cederholm
Thomas Hiltley	Jeanice Garfield
Peter MacGillivray	Barbara Higgins
Floyd Roberts	Jeff Lavin*
Loretta Sparks	Lee Soucy
CITIZENS' BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE	Kurt Staudter
Roger Marshall	Bob Flint, EX-OFFICIO
Paul Stagner, Sr.	Bob Forguites, EX-OFFICIO
Robert Lewis	Mark Fountain, EX-OFFICIO
Richard Andrews	Christina Tetrault, EX-OFFICIO
Kenneth Vandenburg	Dave Bovat, STAFF
Christopher A. Fauver	Rita Corliss, STAFF
Terri Benton	Carl Roof, STAFF
William C. Salati	Keith Tallon, STAFF
Agnes Hughes	* Chair
* Chair	

APPOINTED OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

TOWN MANAGER	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	PARKS, RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES DIRECTOR
Robert J. Forguites	Linda T. Rousse	Andrew Bladyka
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER	POLICE CHIEF	LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Bonnie L. Reynolds, CMC	Douglas Johnston	Russell S. Moore
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	FIRE CHIEF	CHIEF ASSESSOR
Bonnie L. Reynolds	Ernest C. Lamphere	Peter S. Clark
FINANCE DIRECTOR	PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR	SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER DIRECTOR
Jeffrey A. Mobus	Harry Henderson	Terri Emerson

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN

During the past year, the Town of Springfield continued the recovery from the loss of several businesses in the previous year. Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) was the successful bidder to purchase the former Jones and Lamson Plant #1 on Clinton Street. SRDC sold the sheet metal shop portion of the building to NBC Solid Surfaces, a fabricator of counter tops. NBC Solid Surfaces has established a very successful business in that space and is a good employer for the town. SRDC is working on plans for the development of the remainder of the Plant #1 property, either through demolition and rebuilding or rehabilitation of the present building. Development of this property is the key to the rejuvenation of Clinton Street.

As of the end of the year, the former Bryant Grinder building was still being held by the bankruptcy court but it appeared that there was a good possibility that it might be sold and put back into productivity. This would also be a boost for Clinton Street.

Construction of the Southern State Correctional Facility was completed, and the facility was opened in 2003. There was much local controversy concerning the location of the facility in Springfield. In return for location of the facility in town, approximately 125 jobs were created and a benefit package of nearly \$7 million was received.

Ellsworth Ice Cream, headquartered in Saratoga Springs, New York purchased the former Ben & Jerry's plant in North Springfield and has continued the manufacturing of ice cream at that location. Most of the jobs lost in the closing of Ben & Jerry's have been restored by Ellsworth.

An agreement was reached between the Town of Springfield and the Southern Vermont Recreation Center Foundation allowing the Foundation to receive the earnings from the \$3 million "civic improvement funds" received from the State of Vermont as part of the correctional facility benefit package. The Foundation is finalizing plans for a recreation center and will use the earnings for recreation center scholarships for Springfield residents and to help offset the cost of operation of the facility.

Infrastructure work (water, waste water and combined sewer overflow) continued during the past year, either in planning or construction. The Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project (Springfield's version of "The Big Dig" is over half completed and is scheduled to be finished by September of 2004. It is anticipated that construction work on the Water System Improvement Project and Phase Two of the Combined Sewer Overflow Project will start by Summer of 2004.

In addition, all of the Town Departments are busy on a daily basis, doing their jobs, serving the citizens and making Springfield a better town. We thank them all for their dedicated service.

At the March 2003 Town Meeting new Select Board members were elected to replace retiring members Paul Ruse and John Hall. Paul Ruse has served the Town of Springfield in various capacities over the past thirty five years, and he felt it was time to take a break. John Hall had served on the Budget

Advisory Committee prior to his three year term on the Select Board and needed some time to work on other interests. The Town of Springfield is indebted to both of them for their service. Elected to replace them were Select Board and School Board veteran Douglas Richards and Springfield native Marie Gelineau.

As usual, we acknowledge all of the many citizens who volunteer their time to serve on the various town committees. Volunteering of their time provides a great service to the town. We would invite other citizens to contact the Town Office if they have an interest on serving on any of the committees.

Robert J. Forguites, *Town Manager*
For the Board of Selectmen

Mary Helen Hawthorne, *Chair*
Christina M. Tetrault, *Vice Chair*
John E. Follett
Marie M. Gelineau
Douglas Richards

MAJOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

- 0-03-1 An ordinance to amend the Administrative Code; Article: II. Boards, Commission, Committees; Division 2. Library Board of Trustees; Section 2-42. MEMBERSHIP; QUORUM, and Section 2-43. TERMS OF MEMBERS; VACANCIES
- 0-03-2 An ordinance to amend the Administrative Code; Article: II. Boards, Commission, Committees; Division 2. Library Board of Trustees; Section 2-49. UTILIZATION OF TRUST FUNDS AND GIFTS
- 0-03-3 An ordinance to amend the Springfield Zoning Regulation 0-86-2 - The Zoning Map
- 0-03-4 To create a Residential/Commercial (RC) zoning district along a portion of Chester Road

TOWN CLERK

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The staff of the Town Clerk's Office provided many services to the residents of Springfield during FY'02-03.

All documents pertaining to property in the Town of Springfield are recorded in this office. The past several years have shown a marked increase in the number of documents received for recording, due in part, to the low interest rates being offered. A major project took place in the vault during the past year. With the large number of new documents being housed in the vault over the past two years, the existing shelving was quickly filled, leaving no space to house all the new records being received. As a result of this need, much of the existing shelving was removed from the vault and new track shelving was added. The track shelving allows for two rows of shelving where previously there was only one. The new shelving should allow for sufficient space for many years.

During the year, many people interested in genealogy visited our office to research their ancestors. We prepared many certified copies of our vital records during the year for persons who were applying for Social Security; for youngsters registering for kindergarten; for job applicants; etc.

We continue to work with the Department of Motor Vehicles. The services we provide include the renewal of motor vehicles, snowmobiles, trailers and boats. The office receives \$3.00 for each renewal processed. If you wish to renew your registration at the Town Clerk's Office, you must have a check or money order made payable to VT DMV in the amount shown on your registration renewal form. We are not allowed to accept cash for the renewal. The \$3.00 processing fee, however, may be cash.

A new service being offered is "Express Renewal." We may also assist you if you did not receive your renewal or lost it. Express Renewals can be done by phone and on-line. The busiest time appears to be the last few days of each month, as people realize that they have forgotten to send the renewal in.

Passport applications are processed by the Town Clerk from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. The number of applications processed continues to increase as people in the area learn that we provide this service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen for their continued support of this office. A special thanks to my dedicated Assistant, Jennifer Hasenbuhler. Jennifer's loyalty to this office contributes greatly to the success of the daily operation of the town clerk's office.

Bonnie L. Reynolds
Town Clerk

PASSPORT APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

SPRINGFIELD TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
96 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156
Phone: 885-2104 Fax: 885-1617

HOURS FOR EXECUTION OF APPLICATIONS

Monday thru Friday (except Holidays)

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

YOU MUST HAVE:

1. COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM

To be signed in the presence of the passport agent at the Town Clerk's office. Applicants under 18 years of age must have a parent sign the application in the presence of the passport agent also. Applicants under 14 must have both parents' signatures.

2. PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP

We can accept ONLY a CERTIFIED COPY of your birth certificate issued by the Town or City in which you were born. It must have a *raised seal* from the issuing office. (If you need addresses or telephone numbers to obtain a proper birth certificate, call 885-2104.)

Your OLD PASSPORT also can be used as proof of citizenship.

NATURALIZED CITIZENS MUST bring the ORIGINAL Naturalization Certificate.

3. TWO PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHS

See back of application for size specifications.

4. ADDITIONAL IDENTIFICATION

A VALID driver's license or a student ID with picture and signature.

PASSPORT FEES

16 Years Or Older (Adult)*10-Year Passport	\$55.00
15 Years Or Under *5-Year Passport	\$40.00

FOR EACH PASSPORT submitted, please make a SEPARATE check made payable to "U.S. Department of State". A check or money order is required for this fee.

EXECUTION FEE FOR EACH PASSPORT

The execution fee of \$30.00 may be paid with *cash* or *separate check* made payable to Town of Springfield. If Naturalization papers are included, please add additional \$2.65 for certified mail. If you wish to receive your passport by express mail, please submit an Express Mail Envelope with a postage stamp on it.

PROCESS TIME IS 6 WEEKS

THERE IS AN EXPEDITE FEE OF \$60.00 IF THE PASSPORT IS NEEDED WITHIN THAT PERIOD OF TIME. If needed within two weeks, applicant must go to Boston and stand in line, pay expedite fee and document travel plans.

RENEWAL BY MAIL

Applications for renewal by mail (Form DS-82) may be used if the expiration date on the passport is 15 years or less from the date of issuance, if the applicant was age 16 or older when the passport was issued, and if the applicant's name is the same.

All documents submitted with your application will be returned to you with your passport.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department is located on the second floor of the Town Office Building. In addition to preparing the billings and processing the payments for taxes, water/sewer, and ambulance, the department is responsible for processing payroll and accounts payable and the selling of transfer station tickets. Our normal office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, with extended hours on "tax days."

Property Tax bills are prepared and mailed no later than July 15th. If you have not received your bill by August 1st, please contact us immediately for a new bill. The tax bills are sent to the property owner(s) as recorded in the land records. The tax bills are printed on two part forms. If you must send copies of your bill to others (your mortgage company, the IRS, etc.), please remember to always keep the original for your records. The Town does have to purchase the blank bills, so each duplicate bill that we must produce increases the cost of running the town. However, if you do misplace your tax bill, contact our office to obtain a duplicate bill. Note that it may take a few days to process your request, especially if you are requesting the bill for a previous tax year.

There is an important change in the tax rate for this coming fiscal year. The tax rate for the statewide education tax will be less for residents than it is for non-residents. People who are Vermont residents as of January 1, 2004 and who own and plan to occupy their homestead on April 1, 2004 must complete a Declaration of Vermont Homestead (Form HS-131). All you need to complete this form is the SPAN number for your property and the school tax code. This information is located on your property tax bill. You can also obtain this information by calling the Finance Department. If you do not have this Homestead Declaration form, it is also included in the Vermont income tax booklet as well as at the Town Clerk's Office.

Water/Sewer bills are prepared twice a year. The billings are done by "books." With very few exceptions, you can determine which book you are in by looking at the first two digits of your account number.

Books 1 through 5 are billed in June and January, with payments due in July and February. Books 6 through 12 and 25 are billed in August and February, with the payments due in September and March. Books 13 through 20 are billed in October and April, with the payments due in November and May. Books 21 through 24 and Books 26 and 27 are billed in November and May, with payments due in December and June.

Ambulance bills are processed as they are received. The Town first bills the primary insurance company and then, if applicable, the secondary insurance companies. If there is a balance due on the account after all insurance companies have paid, a bill is sent to the patient. Please note that as it often takes time to deal with the insurance companies, the patient may not receive the bill for several months after the service.

In closing, I want to thank the employees of the Finance Department for all their assistance throughout the year. Jayne Streeter, Jan Rogers, and Lois Smith are wonderfully dedicated to the Town of Springfield. I feel privileged to be able to work with them each day.

Jeff Mobus, *Comptroller*

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Following the final tax due date in April, letters were mailed to delinquent taxpayers, requesting that their delinquent taxes be paid in full, or that an agreement be made with the collector for timely payment of these delinquent taxes.

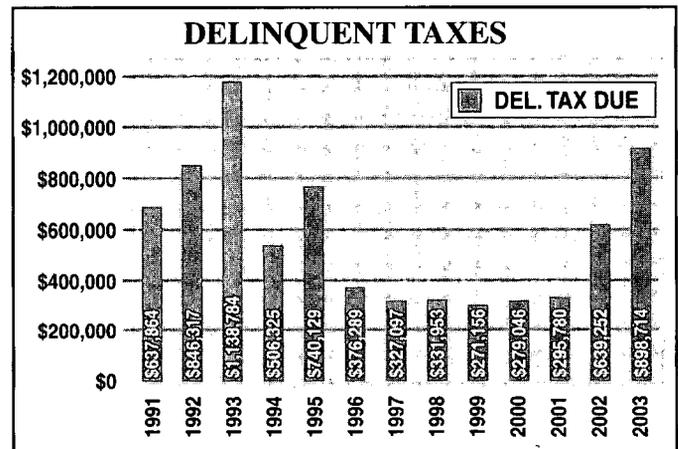
Failure by the property owner to either pay the delinquent taxes, or to set up an agreement to pay the delinquency owed in a timely manner, would lead to the sale of the property at tax sale.

Once a property has been sold at tax sale, the property owner has one year to redeem the property by paying to the purchaser the purchase price plus interest at the rate of 1% per month. If the property is not redeemed during this period, a Collector's Deed will be given to the purchaser at sale.

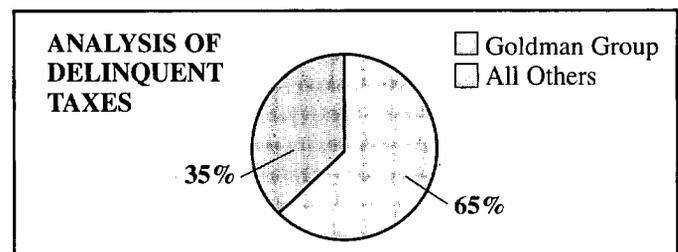
A tax sale was held on June 27, 2003. There were fourteen properties sold at this sale.

The fourth and final tax due date for the current year's taxes is April 8, 2004. Taxpayers should make every effort to pay as much of their property taxes as possible prior to this date. On April 9, 2004, an 8% collector's fee will be assessed to any property tax unpaid on this date.

Bonnie L. Reynolds
Delinquent Tax Collector



Total Delinquent Taxes June 2003	\$898,714.28
Goldman Group	\$583,880.00
All Others	\$314,834.28



TOWN ATTORNEY

I submit my review of Springfield's significant legal matters for inclusion in the Town Report. I include those matters which are in active litigation, as well as those which may have a potential for future litigation and are appropriate for public disclosure.

This report does not include any review of routine matters nor the numerous opinions rendered to the Selectboard and Administration concerning the issues that arise during the course of any given year. This report does not address the status of personnel matters or various interaction within Town employee labor organizations.

1. A suit remains pending by Donald Coon regarding some alleged wrongful activity by the Town Constable. This matter is being defended through the Vermont League of Cities and Towns PACIF Program. The exposure to the Town should be limited to the \$500.00 deductible.

2. The Town was named as a Defendant in a suit filed in Windsor County Superior Court entitled Peter John Korbet, Susan Curran Korbet v. Town of Springfield, Terrance G. Litchfield, Pamela J. Batchelder, Francis X. Berube, Jr. and Pamela J. Kimball to determine the status of an old road that intersects Carley Road that accesses land owned by Korbet. The Town is party due to the old road being a Town road. Evidence is closed and we await Judge Cook's decision.

Given the size of the Town of Springfield, it is inevitable that disputes will arise as part of the policing and public works functions. As is evident from the brevity of this report, the Town Manager along with the Select Board have been greatly successful in dealing with the many controversies that arise each year in a straight-forward and non-litigious manner.

Stephen S. Ankuda
Town Attorney

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

Each year presents a new set of challenges regarding personnel. A workforce never stands still and the laws passed on behalf of working citizens is ever changing. The workforce expands and contracts responding to any number of influences.

The Administrative positions experienced no change during 2003. The continued dedication of Department Heads keeps administrative and other services moving smoothly to the public.

The Police Department is understaffed, and they are currently seeking experienced, full time, certified officers to fill Sergeant and Corporal positions.

Public Works, Fire, Water & Sewer, Parks and Recreation, Seniors and the Library experienced very little change in personnel during 2003.

If you are interested in a position with the Town, you can pick up an application at the Town Hall, 96 Main Street, Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Linda T. Rousse
Personnel Director

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

The Board of Civil Authority for the Town of Springfield consists of the Justices of the Peace, the Selectboard, and the Town Clerk. In addition to administering all elections in the Town of Springfield, this Board serves as the Board of Tax Appeals and Board of Abatement for the Town.

During Fiscal Year 02-03, a Primary Election, General Election, the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting and a Special School District Meeting were held under the direction of the "BCA".

The Board of Civil Authority has been extremely fortunate to have very dedicated, talented people serve as Election Officials. The professionalism they exhibit during the polling hours is greatly appreciated.

It is with much regret that I report that there will be a very familiar face missing from the polling place as we go into the 2004 elections. After serving almost 40 years as an election official, many of those spent guarding the ballot box, Caroline Aiken has decided to retire. She will be missed by all.

The Board of Tax appeals did not receive any requests in FY 03-04.

The Board of Tax Abatement responded to two requests for tax abatement.

Bonnie L. Reynolds, *Clerk*
Board of Civil Authority

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Another year and more surprises for the Assessment Department and taxpayers. The listers need two Grand Lists and a resident must file a homestead declaration to be taxed at the proper rate. You must file this declaration between now and April 15th. If you have any questions about the declaration, call or visit our office on the third floor. We cannot file for you, you must do it individually. Incidentally, there is a severe penalty if you fail to file or file wrongly.

It has been an active year in the real estate market and 440 transfers of property have had to be processed. The average price paid for property in town has risen in the past two years which has resulted in the state saying that our level of listed value is 82% of Fair Market Value. The Zoning Administrator issued 160 permits for the year. These all require the attention of the listers.

Our office is open to all who have questions and/or problems so feel free to visit us, and we will endeavor to be of assistance.

Arnold J. Lashua, *Lister*
Richard A. Moore, *Lister*
Peter S. Clark, *Chief Assessor*
Mary Perkins, *Secretary*

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTURES AND PROMOTIONS

Departures:

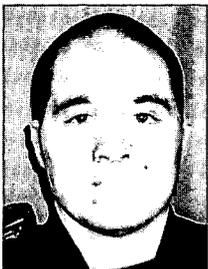
Corporal Charles Newton resigned to accept a patrolman's position with the Lebanon, New Hampshire Police Department, and Officer Michael Gilderdale resigned to accept a patrolman's position with the Chester Vermont Police Department.

Promotions

Officer Chris Norton was promoted to the Corporal's position in 2003.

We currently have four vacancies within the department. The vacancies are as follows: Two Sergeant positions, one Corporal position and a Juvenile Detective position. These vacancies cannot be filled internally at this time, and we are trying to fill them by advertising them outside the department. The police administration will continue to attempt to fill them, if possible.

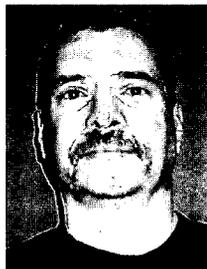
We would like to introduce some of the new police employees hired in 2003.



*Officer
Andrew Brothers*



*Dispatcher
Richard Stillings*



*Dispatcher
David Parmenter*

TRAINING

Police officers and dispatchers have mandatory training that they must attend each year. Full-time officers must attend 25 hours of training, and part-time officers must attend 30 hours of training. Officers must have mandatory training in firearms, Hazardous Materials Awareness, First Aid, and Blood Borne Pathogens.

Full-time and Part-time dispatchers must attend 16 hours of training and are required to have additional training in CPR and Hazardous Materials.

Other courses of instruction taken by officers and dispatchers include: Sexual Assault and Abuse Fundamentals, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Firearms Instructors Course, Risk Management, Criminal Interdiction, First Line Supervisor Course, Field Training Officer, Laser Training, School Violence and Crisis Intervention.

POLICE DEPARTMENT FUTURE NEEDS

The police department needs to be relocated sometime in the near future. The current police facility is not large enough and hinders the efficient operation of the department. Every piece of available floor space is taken up by something or someone. We have needs for an interview room and training

room. In most cases, officers are forced to use our break room or someone's office. Additionally, due to the design of the current facility, we are unable to segregate juvenile offenders from adult offenders, as required by Federal Law. Also, the holding cell does not have a toilet within it. Therefore, the police employees are forced to share the same bathroom with offenders.

GRANTS

Bullet Proof Vest Grant:

This year the department purchased 4 new ballistic vests. We have applied for reimbursement to the Federal Government for 50% of the cost. It is recommended by the manufacturer that each vest be replaced every five years. We will continue to apply for reimbursement as long as the Federal Government continues to offer the program.

Governor's Highway Safety Grant:

We applied for the 2002 Drunk Driving Enforcement Grant and received \$8,000 for officers to work this detail. The department was forced to surrender these funds back to the Vermont Governor's Highway Safety Program due to lack of manpower issues.

US Department of Justice Block Grant:

The department received a \$11,907 grant towards the purchase of equipment. There is a 10% match by the town, which was taken from our budget. A considerable amount of the grant was used on our vehicle fleet. We purchased four reinforced trunk kits recommended by Ford Motor Company to reduce the hazard of gas tank fires from rear end collisions; we purchased side window bars for all marked cruisers, which prevent violent offenders from kicking out the cruiser windows. In addition to this, we also purchased stationary cross walk signs to assist pedestrians in crossing the roadways more safely.

A committee of persons oversaw the expenditure of this grant money from agencies mandated by the agreement of the grant.

Homeland Security Grant:

The police department applied for federal monies in order to replace all of our cruiser and portable radios, which were outdated. Furthermore, we also requested funding to do building security enhancements. The department subsequently received \$32,000 to use towards the purchase of new radio equipment and \$4,500 towards building security enhancements.

Since receiving the aforementioned monies, we have purchased 7 brand new mobile band radio units for all of the department's cruisers and 16 new portable radios. These radio purchases helped to modernize our communications equipment.

SUMMARY

Our officers continue to be very busy in their daily responses to calls for police service. The following is a list of some of the types of calls that officers respond to and investigate:

	2001	2002	2003
Total complaints	8,398	6,394	5,888
Total Motor Vehicle Contacts	3,016	3,669	3,453
Totals	11,414	10,063	9,341
Assaults	105	98	143
Sex Assaults	27	0	5
Child Abuse	12	2	8
Sex Offenses	13	18	23
Burglary	74	53	60
Theft	263	184	223
Auto Theft	25	4	6
Fraud	22	61	28
Embezzlement	4	1	0
Motor Vehicle Complaints	351	170	214
Unlawful Mischief	262	160	264
Family Domestic	179	137	86
Alarms	314	263	231
Animal Noise	91	33	58
Animal Problem	275	338	289
Assist-Agency	932	781	597
Assist Medical	195	141	140
Citizens' Assist	1063	719	718
Citizens' Dispute	208	116	194
Lockouts	226	217	142
Bomb Threats	1	1	3
Property Watch	766	300	67
Welfare Check	209	152	155
Vin Verifications	319	232	221
Traffic Accidents-Damage	287	281	276
Traffic-Injuries	61	34	26
Traffic-Fatal	1	0	0
Bad Checks			23

ARRESTS

2001 Adult	378	Juvenile	74
2002 Adult	544	Juvenile	69
2003 Adult	539	Juvenile	70

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Family Members:

I want to express my appreciation to all of the family members of the police department. The officers and dispatchers were required to work many extra hours in order to provide the necessary police services to the community of Springfield. Due to the nature of law enforcement, many people do not realize the sacrifices that police professionals are subjected to, especially the family members. Thank you for your patience and tolerance.

To the Men and Women of the Department:

Each one of you has helped to maintain professional police services within the Town of Springfield. I am proud of each one of you for the job that you have done and continue to do. You have worked hard throughout the year, and I truly appreciate your efforts. I look forward to working with each one of you in the coming year.

Fire Department:

Thanks to Chief "Puggy" Lamphere and Deputy Russ Thompson for your flexibility in allowing us to use your facility to perform cruiser maintenance and for making your training classroom available for our own use. The members of your department are true professionals and we enjoy the professional working relationship we share with each of them.

Special thanks to Captain Scott Richardson for working on all of our cruiser radio installations and associated problems. Your efforts are especially appreciated by me and are not taken for granted.

Highway Department:

Thank you to Harry Henderson and his employees for all of their help in plowing the municipal parking lot, assisting the department with the annual Alumni Day Parade, and for addressing the repairs that need to be made within the police facility throughout the year.

Special thanks to Dave and Randy in the garage for the work that you do on the cruisers.

Town Hall Employees:

Thanks to the members of the accounting department for your willingness to help and answer countless questions. Special thanks to Jeff Mobus for helping to process a large volume of Homeland Security grant reimbursement requests.

To Bonnie and Jennifer, thanks for always being so friendly and most importantly for always greeting everyone with a smile.

Town Manager and Personnel Director:

I want to thank Bob Forguites and Linda Rouse for the countless hours you spent addressing police department issues. Your help and guidance were very much appreciated by me.

Selectboard Members:

Thank you for supporting the police department budget and for always considering the department's needs.

Administrative Secretary:

I want to express my true appreciation to Dave Glidden. David, the last 6 months have been extremely challenging and especially trying at times. You spent countless extra hours at the police department in order to make sure that deadlines were met and paperwork was filed in a timely manner. Your efforts are especially appreciated by me, since I could not have done it without you.

Barbara Higgins:

Thank you for agreeing to return to the police department as an Administrative Assistant. You have done an excellent job in handling all of the investigations assigned to you, which have been difficult at times to investigate. I am grateful to you for the job that you have done. Your efforts were not taken for granted by me, and you helped to ensure the functionality of the police department. It could not have been accomplished without your efforts.

Mark A. Fountain
Lieutenant
Acting Chief of Police

SPRINGFIELD POLICE ASSOCIATION

The Springfield Police Association collected \$3,050.00 through the generous donations of local businesses and local residents during a joint fundraiser with the Springfield Fire Department for the Donkey Basketball event.

In a sole fundraiser for the SPA, the police association collected \$7,686.00 for the event with the New England Patriots Alumni Football Team. These monies and donations were again given through the generosity of local businesses and the residents of Springfield.

The Springfield Police Association spent \$2,000.00 towards donations and giveaways for the Springfield Home Show in April of 2003.

The Association made the following contributions to the following charitable organizations:

- \$1,000.00 Windsor County Partners
- \$700.00 Springfield YMCA
- \$500.00 Money towards an educational trip for high school student
- \$500.00 TRAIL, small business/high school
- \$850.00 Santa Claus Club
- \$500.00 Springfield Family Center
- \$400.00 Local Cub Scouts
- \$250.00 Riverside Middle School/Jeopardy Game
- \$250.00 Springfield Field Hockey Team
- \$250.00 Springfield High School/Post Prom Party
- \$750.00 Local Student toward educational competition
- \$35.00 Springfield High School/Sophomore Class
- \$250.00 US Troops-Operation Baby Wipes Campaign
- \$700.00 Springfield Police Department/Office Chairs
- \$500.00 Three River Valley Business
- \$520.00 Remembrance/Congratulations/Birth Flowers
- \$25.00 Windsor DARE Program
- \$200.00 Local Springfield Student

The Springfield Police Association spent approximately \$1,770.00 on operational costs, flowers, insurance and office supplies.

As President of the Springfield Police Association, I would like to take this time to thank all of the Springfield area businesses and local residents for their continued support and contributions. This has allowed our organization to make donations toward the Springfield area to benefit our community.

Robert A. Simmons
President, Springfield Police Association



Lt. Mark Fountain speaking to 6th and 7th grade students about drug and alcohol issues.

SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

As I write this year's report it dawns on me that I have been doing this for 24 years, and every year it gets harder to write. The year 2003 was a very exciting and good year for the department. This year we really tried to accommodate you, the public, since we do realize that you are our customer. Without you we would not have a department. This year we had 423 fire runs and 1,605 ambulance runs. This last year saw a lot of new equipment come to the department with the help of grants. We were able to receive over \$100,000 from Homeland Security and the Federal Fire Act Grant. Just to list a few of the items:

- (1) Heavy Duty Washer and Dryer for Turn-out gear
- (2) Thirty (30) sets of Turn-out gear
- (3) Imaging Camera
- (4) Thirty (30) Pairs of Turn-out gear boots
- (5) Twenty (20) Lengths of 1-3/4" hose
- (6) Portable Radios
- (7) Rope that is needed for the R.I.P. team
- (8) Five Hundred (500) gallon-a-minute Portable pump
- (9) Repeater for our Radio System

Deputy Thompson put in a lot of research and time assembling the different grants, and we also got a lot of support and help from the men as we were preparing the grants. The community can feel proud of what the men do by writing grants. This saves us from putting these items into the Town budget. Without these grants the department would not be as efficient or as functional as it is.

TRAINING

This was another year when training was stressed. The regulars, as well as the call department, spent many hours training to keep up their skill level. Again, I want to thank the training committee for putting in the extra time to set up monthly training. The ambulance training has been very good, thanks to John Claflin and James Benton for putting in extra time and effort.

COMMUNITY

We want to thank all of you for your loyalty and support because without it we would not be the department that we are. We also want to encourage you to come to the department and see what we have for equipment. While you are there have your blood pressure taken. If you need a smoke detector, don't hesitate to ask for one. They are free. If you are thinking about installing a wood stove, ask the men for the pamphlet "Installing Wood Stoves."

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

We want to thank the Highway Department for all of their assistance and help during the year, and a special thanks to Davey Hall and Randy Wallace for keeping our vehicles in excellent working condition.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Every town should have a front office staff as good as Springfield does. Our Town Clerk, Bonnie Reynolds, and her assistant, Jennifer Hasenbuhler, are always ready to help you in any way they can. Jan Rogers and Jane Streeter will always

help us with a smile on insurance matters or help with line items in our budget. Lois Smith makes sure our ambulance bills are sent out and revenues are coming in. Jeff Mobus oversees and makes sure that his department runs smoothly. He is always available to answer our questions regarding our budget. I really appreciate all of you, especially for all that you do for the department. Linda Rouse, thank you for all the help that you have given me over the years. Let's hope we see each other while antiquing. Bob Forguites, you certainly have helped me and the department in many ways. Your support and help were always there for us at budget time, and we appreciate it. May God bless both of you and your families. Arnie Lashua and Mary Perkins, thank you both for all the help you have given to us through the year. Without your help, we would have had a hard time finding out who owns the different buildings in town. Thank you and God bless you both.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

All the men really appreciate the help that you give during any of our emergencies. Your dedication to the community is very evident with your willingness to help out whenever asked. To the dispatcher, your expertise in getting the right information when dealing with emergencies has proven invaluable to us when giving assistance or care to people in need. Again, thank you for all your help.

MUTUAL AID DEPARTMENTS

This last year is the same as other years; when we needed help you were there. It is a good feeling knowing that if we need help all we have to do is call. For the many times you left your families to come and help us, we want to say thank you and God bless you and your department.

TO THE MEN OF THE DEPARTMENT

Since this is the last time I will be writing this report, I want to say thanks for all of your support and help through the years. Without your dedication and love for the department, we would not be known as one of the best in the State. I will always remember you and your families. You have made me very proud to be the chief of this department. Money could never buy the loyalty and love that you men have given to this department. Again, thank you for all that you have done for me and may God Bless all of you and your families. Tom Hiltley, I thank you for being my friend and a guide and helper to the department. The many hours that you have spent with the men and their families will never be forgotten. Betty Ellis and Gerald Bradway from the Experience Works Program have been invaluable to us. Betty answers the phones for us while the men are working on the trucks. She also does a lot of our office work. Brad is our computer man. He does entries and provides us with the technical help on the computers. Again, I appreciate all that you both do. May God bless both of you.

WIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT

This is the last time I will be able to thank you. I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you. Your dedication to your husbands and the department has always been shown and noticed. Your willingness to pitch in and help has made this

department stronger. Since our paths will cross after I leave, may we always take the time to talk and share with each other. Lastly, I want to thank my wife Hallie for always being beside me through the good times and the bad. You certainly have been the "wind beneath my wings." Your loyalty, trust and faith in me over the years have helped me make it as chief for 25 years.

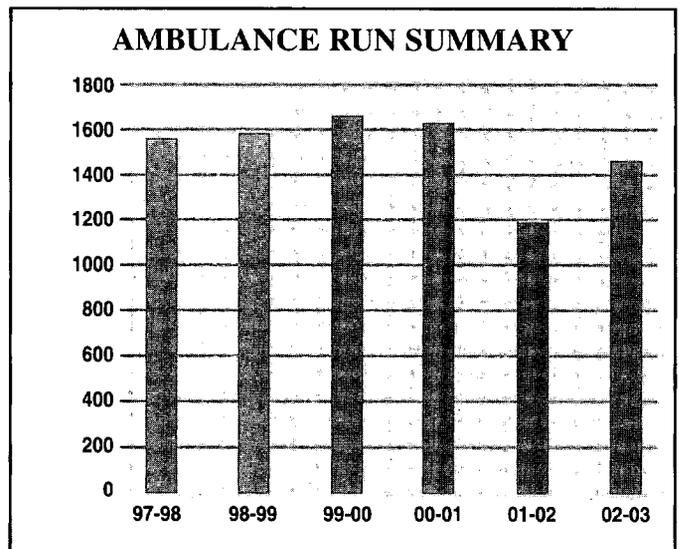
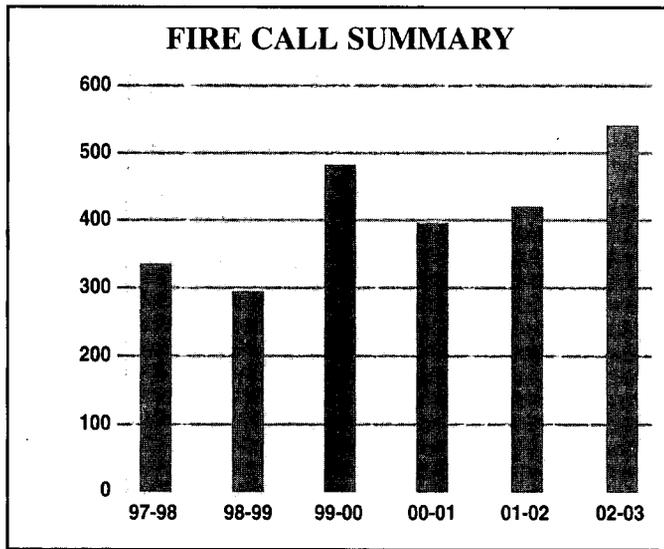
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

For over 20 years you have put up with me, and I appreciate your patience and tolerance. Though we some times have

not agreed, you have been fair and honest with me and the department. Christina, I want to thank you for years of service to the Town and your support for the Fire Department. I pray that you have a long and happy life with your family.

John, again I want to thank you for all your years of service to the Town and now relax and enjoy your life. Again, I want to thank all of you selectmen for supporting me and the department. May God bless each of you and your families.

Ernest Puggy Lamphere
Chief



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The 2002/3 winter was one of those years to remember! Numerous large and small snow, sleet and foul weather events taxed the physical and financial resources of our Department. But, for the most part our Town continued to operate in as normal a fashion as possible. Nearly 4000 hours of overtime and twice the average amount of materials were used to combat road conditions.

The Department of Public Works has been involved in the following variety of tasks over the 2003 year.

Paving, Resurfacing and Reconstruction

About .6 mile of French Meadow Rd. and 1.8 miles of Old Connecticut River Rd. were ground in place, provided with new drainage, culverts and a pavement base relayed. We continue to attempt to repair the most critical conditions subject to our annual funding capability. We did not receive Class 2 State paving financial assistance this year, since most of the Town's class 2 roads have been treated in the past 5 years.

About 1000 cubic yards of gravel was added to roads at various needed locations.

An updated Capital Road Improvement Plan was developed and delivered to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Commission and Budget Committee. Over the past 5 years we



Photo: Courtesy of John Johnson

Old Connecticut River Road was ground up and new base applied (August) *Note ice jam of 12/19/03.

have invested about \$1.35 million in town roads. Springfield has about 125 miles of Town roads, about one half paved and one half gravel, and an additional 28 miles of State roads. This means the Department of Public Works maintains approximately 250 lane miles of town roads, second largest in the State of Vermont. The Town of Hartford has about 1 mile more.

The plan indicates a continuing need for upgrade and surface maintenance. We intend that the next priorities will be to

begin some improvements on in-town roads and streets again, subject to our funding limitations. The administration and Boards will review the Plan as the annual budget process continues.

Bridges

We began various improvements on 7 bridges and completed 4 of them at the end of the construction season. In the spring we will complete the 3 remaining bridge improvement projects. Completed are the Maple St. and Main St. bridge in North Springfield, the Tarbell Rd. bridge and the Rt. 143 bridge on Skitchewaug Trail. We intend to complete some minor repairs to 2 bridges on Church St. and one on Seavers Brook Rd.

We continue to monitor the Harry Hill's Bridge for ultimate State funded reconstruction, the Plaza Bridge and the Community Center bridge, all in severe need of major work, needing significant State assistance.

Communications and Emergency Improvements

We installed a complete new radio communications system in all town vehicles replacing an old system that was very unreliable. Our communications system has, and will continue, to pay huge dividends in efficiency and safety.

Soon a new emergency generator will be installed at the town's garage that will also upgrade our capability to respond in emergency situations.



Photo: Courtesy of John Johnson

Salt shed being erected.

Materials Storage

At this writing, our new salt storage cover structure is being installed replacing a failing roof structure. For the beginning of the winter season 2003/4 we were severely handicapped by the lack of adequate materials storage capability, but with the resourcefulness of suppliers and town crew we have successfully dealt with an avalanche of storms throughout December.

New Equipment

Late this fall we had 2 new dump/plow trucks delivered, replacing older units. Both are equipped with state of the art materials delivery systems, automatic transmissions and side dump bodies. This extends the individual capability of the

operators and significantly improves our efficiency of service delivery. We continue to seek new and improved ways of adding equipment that makes our jobs easier, safer and more efficient.

We are also researching the use of global positioning systems (GPS) to give us even better capabilities in allocating service and direct resources to needed locations and to more efficiently route our equipment. As technology becomes cheaper and more sophisticated, we benefit by employing the best, most efficient, and affordable means of service delivery.

Combined Sewer Overflow and Water and Wastewater Improvements

There was no activity this summer with exception to continuing wastewater treatment plant projects, however we will enter phase 2 CSO in 2004 continuing to provide improved storm drainage in the Summer Hill area. By the end of 2005 we should have completed the phase 2 improvements.

Low-pressure water improvements are also scheduled to proceed in the summer of 2004. These include a new storage tank, transmission mains and pressure reduction stations. With any good luck, we hope that at the end of 2005 we will have completed most of our 1998/9 plans.

The wastewater treatment facility upgrade is continuing. This should be completed in late 2004, providing increased capacity and efficiencies.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB 34)

We have nearly completed a required inventory of all fixed assets of the Department. The audit requirements of GASB are to have complete depreciable inventory of all streets, sidewalks, drainage facilities, water, sewer lines, basins, culverts, public buildings and other major assets of your community. This is a monumental task taken on by the finance office, the department's administrative assistant and other key administrative staff. When finally completed, this will be the complete inventory of all streets, and infrastructure that the public owns. It is huge; literally hundreds of millions of dollars of assets. The intent of the requirement is to better understand the depreciation, values and capital replacement costs of these assets, as practiced by private sector business.



Photo: Courtesy of John Johnson

Ice from driveways can be hazardous.

Drainage Issues

Because we feel that it warrants special attention, drainage issues need to be reviewed. This year we have experienced significant drainage issues into town roads and streets due to the unusually high ground water condition. This is compounded by the unique geography and springs conditions in "Springfield".

Freezing has and continues to be a severe problem requiring many hours of overtime and costs of materials to assure safe travel. Property owners are encouraged to contact us to find the best resolutions to eliminating surface runoff into traveled ways.

My sincere thanks go out to all Public Works employees. Your continued passion and efforts to make Springfield safe and travelable are often unheralded.

To the public, I thank you for your continuing support of our budgets and initiatives.

To the Manager and administrative staff, I thank you for your continuing patience and support.

And to the Boards responsible for the policy, I too thank you for the many hours of meetings and debate involved in making this Town work.

Harry Henderson
Director

HELPFUL HINTS FOR WINTER SNOW REMOVAL AND TRAVEL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Winter is with us! As a public service agency responsible for highway snow removal, the Springfield Department of Public Works offers these helpful hints to residents to make our job and yours more efficient during and after storms. Each year we encounter many small situations that when compounded require considerable extra effort and time during snow operations. We regularly get many calls during a storm inquiring, "when will they plow my street?" Remember that we are required to plow, sand and salt about 125 miles of Town roads and streets. Each route is done to maximize our efficiency. Typically, it takes about 3 to 4 hours to clear each route. With sanding and salting, this could take an additional 3 to 4 hours. Larger storms take even longer, perhaps 6 hours on some routes. Everyone can't be first. Our first priorities are main thoroughfares, emergency routes, school routes, and major hills. We will operate as quickly and safely as possible to assure your convenience and safety. Every storm is different. We try to employ the most efficient application to each storm. Please let your snow fighters do their jobs. Remember, too, that often our operators have been engaged in operations for many overtime hours. Sometimes these operators are on shifts over 30 hours straight. Be courteous to them. We have not had any serious accidents during snow operations in recent years. Let's all try to keep it that way.

These hints are offered as a courtesy so that we can better serve you.

RULE: BE CONSTANTLY AWARE OF PROJECTED AND PREVAILING WEATHER CONDITIONS AND TRAVEL ADVISORIES FROM NOVEMBER THROUGH MARCH.

- When shoveling driveways, pile as much of the snow as possible to the right hand side of your drive as you face the street. This will minimize the amount of snow pushed back into your drive.
- Do not blow or shovel snow into the street or sidewalk. It is against Town and State law and can create a safety hazard for motoring and pedestrian traffic.
- Do not attempt to pass or pull out in front of a snow plow; it is operating as an emergency vehicle while engaged in plowing, sanding and salting operations. Stay at least 75 feet back from the rear of plows and snow removal equipment for your safety. Visibility is very often restricted to operators. Be particularly cautious at intersections.

- When possible, keep your vehicles off streets during and up to 36 hours after a storm. If you have no other alternative to parking off the street, coordinate with your neighbors so that you do not park so as to cause a bottleneck.
- It is unsafe to be in the streets when plowing is in progress. Avoid jogging or walking until streets and sidewalks are cleared. Watch for pedestrians and school children who do use public ways during winter months. Often snow banks can restrict vision of pedestrian traffic.
- Be sure that any vehicles parked on or close to streets have all windows closed. This may sound silly, but we do fill at least one or two cars per year.
- Check your mailboxes. Be sure they are located so that they are not in the direct path of the plow or wing. Make sure they are securely attached to posts. Check with your postal carrier to arrange appropriate convenient access. They are not hit on purpose.
- Keep obstructions clear of roadway edges, such as fences and garbage containers. When planting hedges or trees, remember that possible damage can result if placed too close to snow storage areas in the right of way.
- If you live at a dead end or plow turn around area, keep vehicles, dumpsters and other obstructions clear of the turn area.
- If you have any special considerations that should be brought to the route operator's attention, let us know prior to the snow season.
- Put your snow tires on early!
- If you do find yourself stuck on a hill, incline or at other locations, try to get as far out of the traveled way as possible to allow for plows and sanders to clear the route. Arrange for alternate routing to your home or destination if you do encounter foul weather conditions.
- Help others such as elderly or handicapped persons with their snow removal.
- Be patient. It may take a little more time to get to your destination. Leave in adequate time.
- Thank you for your considerations. If you do have any comments, suggestions or concerns, call us at (802) 886-2208, the Springfield Department of Public Works.

SPRINGFIELD-CHESTER RECYCLING CENTER & TRANSFER STATION

This past year brought several long-awaited improvements to the Springfield-Chester Recycling Transfer Station. Most conspicuous, and undoubtedly most appreciated by the public, was the paving of our entrance area and the two lanes that move along either side of the trash compactor. After years of contending with unnerving, car-wrecking pot-holes that would open up erratically after each rain to trap the unsuspecting, or provide at least a reasonably challenging obstacle course for the better initiated, we can now offer a relatively serene and uneventful entry to our site.

Not so obvious to patrons, but of equally welcome value to our crew, was the placement of a concrete floor in the "shed" area which extends the length along the backside of our baler barn (the building where cardboard and plastics are collected). This area was previously unavailable as significant storage space because we could not roll our pallet jack over the gravel surface. Now we have room to store 16 - 20 bales, (which is sometimes necessary), barrels of aluminum waiting for baling, fluorescent light bulbs, and other sundry items. Like every improvement that finally comes to fruition at our site after long anticipation, we wonder how we managed without it.

This new floor came with a special bonus. It was paid for with a community service contribution by a local business and not with our tax dollars. We were fortunate to be approached as a possible recipient of these funds and have gratefully benefited as a result.

Maintaining efficiency and keeping quality service are challenges posed by the continuing growth that we experience at our facility. Though tonnage figures for recyclables remained similar for years 2001 and 2002 at just over 800 tons, it seems quite likely that figures for 2003 (not yet complete) will show an increase. We do not need tonnage figures to verify the recent upsurge in use of our site, especially in the

last few months. Lengthy lines and frequent Saturdays requiring us to move into overflow mode because the trash compactor has been filled (sometimes by 2pm) only too clearly manifest this growth. The bottleneck of this increased traffic comes on Saturdays at the trash compactor, which does not have the capacity to efficiently meet the new demand.

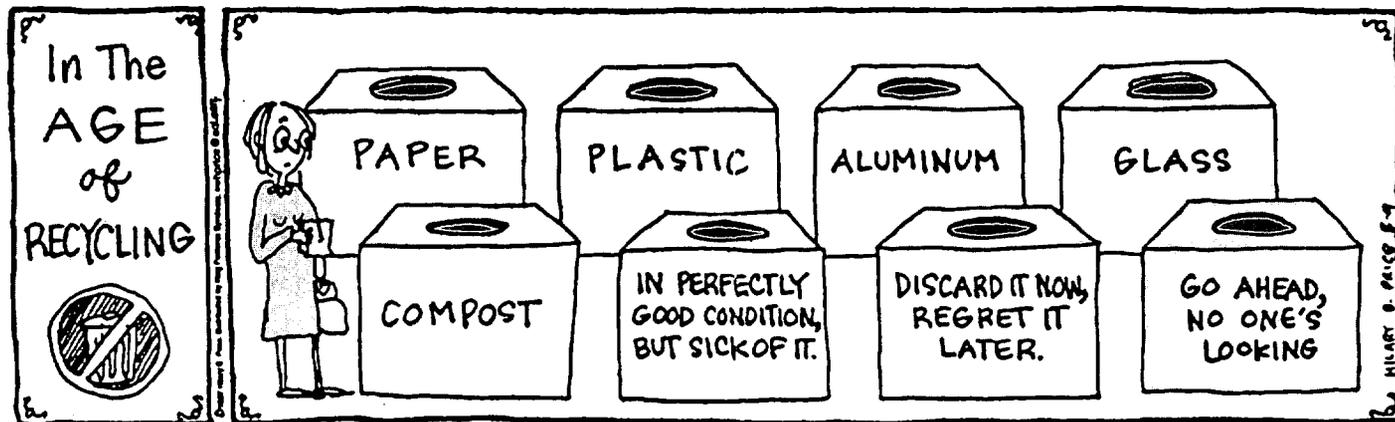
Brainstorming to figure out how to improve this situation is in process and will be on-going for awhile. A second compactor may finally be the inevitable answer but this poses logistical problems of location and traffic flow, not to mention the issue of cost.

If one works at the trash compactor site, it is obvious that many people do little or no recycling. Valuable materials are being tossed out because people "can't be bothered," despite the fact that trash loads could be reduced significantly with resulting cost savings. If everyone who comes through the gate would recycle even a few basic items (metal, glass jars, newspapers and magazines) there is no doubt long lines at the compactor could be reduced and the present overload on the compactor diminished.

As ever, we encourage folks to save money personally, and resources generally, by availing themselves of the recycling side of our facility. The other suggestion we offer, to help relieve the increased Saturday congestion, is to come during the week if possible. (Mondays 12:30 to 4:30; Wednesdays 8:30 to 4:30). Someone recently asked why we did not open on more days. The main reason is that Mondays and Wednesdays are still quite underutilized.

We will be considering various options as we try to meet the present challenges and move into the future. As always, we appreciate your help and thoughtful suggestions.

Hallie Whitcomb
Seeley Morton
Co-Directors



SPRINGFIELD PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Springfield Parks and Recreation Department continues to strive to provide a diverse variety of programs and activities for all members of the community.

From kindergarten soccer and tot's gymnastics to partnering with the senior citizens to host the Green Mountain Senior games, our goal is to literally offer something for everyone in the way of recreation and leisure activities.

In the springtime, youth baseball and softball programs dominate the Parks and Recreation landscape, while residents of all ages begin to enjoy the tennis courts, the parks, and the Toonerville Trail bike and walking path. The skate park and outdoor basketball courts at Riverside also spring back to life, as do the playgrounds at Riverside and the Commons.

We are currently working to repair and reopen the back two tennis courts at Riverside. The surface of these courts has cracked and deteriorated and must be rebuilt. We will find a way to get this done. We would like to thank NBC Countertops for another reclamation project in town. NBC employees spent September 11, 2003 removing trash, clearing trails, and resetting the sign at Hartness Park, another beautiful walking trail in Springfield.

In the summer, Riverside Park continues to be the hub of the community in terms of recreation. Parks and Rec. offers summer camps for our youth that include basketball, soccer, field hockey, crafts, theater, karate, tennis and gymnastics. Baseball and softball programs continue as we host several youth tournaments, and all our parks are open for general family recreation.

The municipal swimming pool is the other main attraction during the summer months. From mid-June until late August, our talented lifeguard staff offers three sessions of swim lessons to all ability levels, the swim team practices daily, and the pool is open to the public afternoons and evenings each day.

The recreation dept. took on two large special events this past summer in addition to its normal schedule. On July 15, we partnered with the Springfield Senior Citizens to host the Green Mountain Senior games for southeastern Vermont. Springfield hadn't hosted this event in many years, and it was a very successful, enjoyable day as over 60 seniors participated in the games. Events included a mile walk, softball throw, softball hitting, Frisbee throw, golf chipping, cribbage, basketball shooting, and shuffleboard. We may host the event again in the near future.

We also hosted the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association (VRPA) state track meet later in July. Using the track at Green Mt. High School in Chester, many volunteers from Springfield worked hard to make this huge track meet a success. Meet Director John Swanson and the rest of our staff hosted over 300 children aged 6 - 13 in this all-day event. The meet had been held in Northern Vermont for many years, and it was great to bring it south for a year. Many thanks to all who helped!

Our fall offerings include soccer and flag football programs for the youth, and many of our indoor adult programs start back up at the Community Center. Another Community Service project was also completed at the center this fall. Vermont Soapstone offered to restore and refinish the beautiful

soapstone sink in the kitchen. Years of use and abuse were sanded away, and when refinished and oiled, the difference was amazing.

Rounding out the year, we move inside to run most of our winter programs. We offer many youth basketball programs, as well as wrestling and gymnastics for the kids. We also host many adult programs in the wintertime. Several aerobics classes, line dancing, men's basketball, Tae Kwon-Do and Tai-Chi are all available to the public.

The Parks and Rec. Dept. also developed a new relationship with the Boys and Girls Club this year. The Club is now leasing space in the Community Center and offering programs of its own that add diversity of available activities. The Boys and Girls Club oversees the game room at the center from 3 - 6:00 pm each day and also has office space.

Many other groups fill up the schedule at the Community Center. The Apple Blossom Cotillion rehearses on Sunday afternoons and many families rent the gym for children's birthday parties on Friday and Saturday nights. School groups often come in to roller-skate, and in-town agencies such as HCRS and the LEAP programs are frequent visitors.

We are always open to new ideas and requests, and we're always looking to expand our program offerings. Stop in and visit us at the Springfield Parks and Recreation Dept. The door is open!

Andrew Bladyka
Director

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

The Springfield Senior Center is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our goal is to provide meaningful activities for people 50 years and older. We strive to provide information and programs to enhance the dignity, support the independence and encourage community involvement for seniors. For people of all ages, the companionship of peers is important and companionship is what the Senior Center is all about!

The Center is operated under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager with the advice and assistance of an Advisory Committee. The paid staff consists of a director (35 hours weekly) and a part-time ceramics instructor (15 hours weekly during sessions). The dedicated efforts, capable leadership and unfailing interest of many senior volunteers are largely responsible for the success of the Center.

The Springfield Senior Center celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a gala celebration in September commemorating 40 years of cooperative efforts to improve community life for seniors. A "Senior Center History Forty Years" booklet was dedicated to founder and first director, Eleanor Hilliard. The first copy of the booklet and corsage were given to Eleanor by 1977 Senior of the Year Dorothy Benham. The history booklet was composed by Dorothy Benham, Linda Kingsbury, Polly Blais and typed by Joan Frazier. The gift committee consisting

of Dick Gorton, Ellie Johnson, Pat Brochu, Gert Bean and Evelyn Cleveland used the monies raised (or earned through bazaars) to carpet the reception room and office. Karen Adnams, Charlie Phelps, Polly Goings and Marge Constantine served as the program committee and hired Paul Ippolito to entertain at the party. Refreshments and a fabulous 40th anniversary cake (with our Senior Center flag emblazoned on it) were served by Kay Mitchell, Muriel Rowland, Hazel Gorsky, Patricia Mitchell, Shirley Farrar and Polly Ellison. Special guests were Robert Forguites, Town Manager and Mary Helen Hawthorne, Chairman of the Select Board. Our party was televised on SAPA-TV for members who were unable to attend.

This year brought another big event to Springfield - the Green Mountain Senior Games for southeastern Vermont. These games have not been played in Springfield for over 15 years. This year the Senior Center and Parks and Recreation worked together to host the annual event. Over 60 people participated - some as far away as New York State. Ardis Smith, Green Mountain Senior Games Coordinator, stated it's the best turnout she has seen in southeastern Vermont. Many Springfield members participated and won medals at the games. Some went on to Green Mountain College in September to participate in the state-wide competition. Two of our members, Bob and Muriel Rowland, brought home the Ray Sparks Athletes of the Year Awards.

We work to bring programs of interest to seniors of all ages from strength training classes to cribbage and bridge. We look forward to beginning an exercise class in the spring that will complement our on-going strength training classes and walking club. We continue to work with Health Unlimited and the Springfield Hospital to bring seniors up-to-date medical information through presentations at the Senior Center by certified medical personnel.



Senior of the Year, Ellie Johnson (sitting), runner-up Flossie Cook Court - Bob Mitchell, Joan Kempf, Shirley Farrer, Stanley Farrar.



40th Anniversary September 3, 2003. History dedicated to Eleanor Hilliard. Shown: Kay Martin, Eleanor Hilliard, Terri Emerson, Directors from 1963 to present.

Our "big seller" continues to be our trips! This past year we took a fantastic 12-day charter bus trip to Branson, Memphis, Nashville, Wheeling, W. VA and Lancaster, PA. In November we brought in the Christmas season with an overnight trip to NYC to see the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular. A 9-day Pacific Northwest and California trip is planned for 2004 and in November we will journey to Lancaster, PA to see the "Miracle of Christmas" show. We will also be attending more shows as yet unscheduled with that trip! Our seven 1-day trips will start in April. People interested in our trips should call the Center for more information.

It is through the supportive efforts and talents of the seniors and the continuing support of the Town of Springfield, that the Senior Center remains an enthusiastic and vital asset of the community. We appreciate this support and look forward to another exciting year.

Charles Phelps, Sr., *Chairman*
 Eleanor Johnson, *Vice-Chairman*
 Polly Blais, *Secretary*
 Katherine Mitchell
 Earl Bonneau
 Linda Kingsbury
 Andy Bladyka
 Marlene Eddy
Advisory Committee

Terri L. Emerson, *Director*



Halloween Prize Winners - Bev Abbott, Lena Kazak, Kay Young, Stanley Farrar and Charlie Rice.



The 50s Family Reunion - some came addressed in "proper attire"! Ellie Johnson, Dick Gorton, Stanley Farrar, Shirley Farrar, Nancy Glynn, Dot Berham, Hazel Gorskey, Wally Farrar.

SPRINGFIELD TOWN LIBRARY

Hours:

Monday through Thursday	9:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Library Board of Trustees

Ellen Pinter, <i>Chair</i>	Alice Lohutko
Alan Fusonie, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Joan Ziemba
Fredda Kischko	Jean Middleton
C. William Mattoon	

Library Trustees meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Library.

Compared to the tremendous excitement and wide array of changes generated by a major grant from the Vermont Public Library Foundation in FY2002, this year's Library report may lack the blockbuster news of the previous year, but it was marked by a massive and continuing, behind-the-scenes effort to bring the enormous promise of that grant to fruition next year, the completion of an historic restoration project, and an on-going dedication to providing this community with exceptional public library services.

The highlight of the year was the installation and re-dedication of the Library's beautiful and historic stained glass window in its new location in the Flinn Room. The window was part of the original Library building constructed in 1895 and located in the rear wall in what is now the Children's Room. It was removed in 1966 to create an emergency exit when the Library was expanded and renovated, and it was stored in a wooden crate for 35 years. With funding from the Friends of Springfield Town Library and the Library Trust Funds, the stained glass panel was carefully restored by Greg Gorman from Lyme, NH while cabinetmaker Dave Richard of Corinth, VT constructed a custom door frame to mount the panel in the doorway to the Flinn Room alcove. Greg and Dave installed the glass panel in the door frame and it was re-dedicated in its new location in the original Springfield Town Library building during a reception in September, 2002.

Less glamorous but perhaps more significant in its impact on library services was the on-going work to build a computerized database for an integrated library automation system. Library staff and volunteers completed a detailed and comprehensive inventory, discarded old, outdated, worn, and unused books, added essential information that was missing from some catalog records (Library of Congress Control Number and International Standard Book Number), and began sending those records to a company in Texas that is creating the Library's bibliographic database. This "Retrospective Conversion" process has been an enormous task using many, many hours of staff and volunteer time coordinated by Technical Services Librarian Jo Coleman. The last of the catalog records was sent off in the Fall of 2003, and the new computer system will be installed in the Spring of 2004.

This computerized library system will transform the way the Library serves our community. Gone will be the familiar old card catalog, replaced by an on-line, web-based catalog integrating existing library materials with new acquisitions, full-text periodicals and electronic resources in one combined catalog. This computerized catalog will allow patrons to locate everything the Library offers in one search. They will use it in the Library or from home, school, work or even over their web-

enabled portable devices. With keyword searching you'll be able to find that book you need even though you don't quite remember the exact title or author, and you can read a review or see the cover art. Patrons will also check out Library materials by computer, download magazine articles, send and receive e-mail messages for reserves and overdues, and set up their own individualized accounts to keep track of new releases and what they have borrowed.

Along with this new computer system, the Library itself will get a new look inside. The Library is preparing for its first overall interior renovations since the newest addition opened in 1978. There will be a new Public Service Desk combining the existing Reference and Circulation Desks in a new location, along with new lighting, flooring and window treatments in the Lobby. The New Books area, Audio and Video materials, Large Print Books and public access computers will all find new locations, the elevator, restrooms and front door will be updated for ADA compliance, and the entire interior will be repainted. Altogether, the Library will take on a whole new look and a new way of serving the community.

The library automation and interior renovations are both major projects demanding lots of time and money. The Vermont Public Library Foundation grant awarded in 2002 is funding the entire automation cost (along with increased staffing and other improvements completed in the previous year) while the majority of the renovations will be paid from Library Trust Funds and capital funding accrued over the past two years. But the Library staff and volunteers are due a special thank you for the tremendous efforts they devoted to these projects this year. Despite the extra work load, they continued to provide exceptional library service to the community.

That remains the primary goal at the Library. The staff is committed to excellence in public service and strives to make each visit to the Library a positive and rewarding experience. The Library received a total of 38,905 visits in FY2002-2003. 3,641 people hold current Library cards, including 705 new cards and 786 updated cards issued this year. During the 12 months covered in this report (July 2002 to June, 2003), they borrowed 48,128 books and other materials with those cards, an increase of 10.7% over the previous year. The Library recorded 10,854 separate log-ins on six public access computers offering free, high-speed Internet access, word processing and office productivity software, and educational games. The staff fielded over 1,400 reference transactions, in person or over the phone, assisting patrons in using the Library or finding answers to their questions. And when the Library's resources were unable to provide the materials needed, we borrowed 731 items from other Libraries through the Inter-Library Loan

network. Springfield Town Library also loaned 219 to other libraries through the same resource-sharing system. The Library added 1,921 new books and 228 non-print items to the collection, and received subscriptions to 430 periodicals.

The Library experimented with new hours this year in an effort to determine which might best serve the community needs. Grant funding enabled the Library to open on Mondays for the first time in 20 years, and to add an extra hour four days a week. Initially the Library remained open later in the evening, closing at 9 pm Monday through Thursday instead of 8 pm. In October 2002 the Library tried an early morning opening with its "Fridays for Early Birds" starting at 7:00 am. In January 2003, hours shifted to a 9:00 am opening Monday through Friday and returned to its regular 8:00 pm closing. In the six months from January to June, 2003, the number of visitors from 9 - 10 am was 32% greater than the number of visitors from 8 - 9 pm in the same six months of 2002, prompting the Library to adopt the 9:00 am opening permanently. The popularity of the Library's new and expanded hours of service was confirmed when the Town voted to fund the additional hours when grant funding ended in June, 2003.

The Library also offers a tremendous wealth and variety of programs to the community, from book discussion groups for adults to story times and craft programs for children. Attendance at 226 programs in FY2002-2003 totalled 5,109. The Summer Reading Club signed up about 200 young readers with its "Travel Far, Pay No Fare" theme. It featured a visit from Vermont children's author Reeve Lindbergh, who helped them celebrate the 75th anniversary of her father's famous trans-Atlantic flight aboard "The Spirit of St. Louis" with a screening of the film taken during Charles Lindbergh's only Vermont stop, right here in Springfield. Other children's program highlights include a performance of "Junk Music" by Donald "The Junkman" Knaack, presentations by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, the Fleming Museum, Outreach for Earth Stewardship and the Nature Museum at Grafton, a show by Judy the Clown, and a wonderful program with renowned Vermont author Karen Hesse. The Library offered regular story times for toddlers and pre-school children and Discovery Hours for elementary school children. A new Teen Advisory Council organized by Children's Librarian Cheryl Cox began planning programs and recommending books for middle & high school students. Cheryl also introduced evening story times for families and organized Library activities for the first Downtown Summer Festival and the Kid's Fair.

Adult programs included book discussion groups on "Coming of Age on the Homefront in WWII" featuring Tom Brokaw's *The Greatest Generation* and *No Ordinary Time* by Doris Kearns Goodwin, and a spring series on Robertson Davies' Deptford trilogy. Adult program coordinator Miranda Bogardus organized and presented informal, afternoon discussion programs on *When We Were Orphans* and *Ruined by Reading* held across the street at the MorningStar Cafe. Vermont's premier ghoststory writer Joe Citro spoke before a full house in the Flinn Room for Halloween, the Nature Museum did a program on Bats, Dr. William Tortolano gave a multimedia presentation on "A Vermont Musical Sampler," and the Vermont Earth Institute held a program on "Simple Living." The Library hosted three Citizen Forums sponsored by the Springfield Regional Chamber

of Commerce and broadcast live on Springfield Area Public Access Television and WNBX/Talk Radio.

The majority of the Library's programming is funded by the Friends of Springfield Town Library (FOSTL). The annual book sale is their primary fund raising activity, generating nearly \$5,000 in July 2002, its first year at the Riverside Middle School location. Membership contributions and other donations along with smaller fund raising activities make up the rest of FOSTL's income which is then spent on improvements to the Library. In addition to the \$4,700 spent on Library programs in 2002, FOSTL funded the Book Lease service and other Library materials, landscaping, furniture repairs, a newsletter and the installation of the stained glass panel in the Flinn Room. Following the Friends' annual meeting in March 2003, antiquarian book dealer John Waite spoke about old and rare books and what makes them valuable or not. People lined up for his informal appraisal of their treasured books.

Beyond fundraising, FOSTL provides tremendous support to the Library in many ways, from volunteering to speaking up for the Library or suggesting ways to improve it. Led by President Linda Mattoon, the FOSTL Board of Directors spends countless hours sorting, moving and setting up books for the annual sale, planning and hosting Library events, and much more. Many thanks to them and to all the FOSTL members whose generosity and hard work help make the Library the outstanding community resource it is.

The Library experienced a number of personnel changes this year. Library Technical Assistant and Adult Program Coordinator Miranda Bogardus left the Library in May, 2003 to devote her attention to a thriving equestrian business. Her duties were temporarily re-assigned to other staff pending a larger staff reorganization. Library Page Darren Harned also left and Kevin Coen was hired to fill that position. He and Heather Cox worked together as a team and did an outstanding job, far beyond the usual Page duties of re-shelving books. They remained with the Library over the summer before heading off to college in the Fall, 2003. Kay Ward and Donna Keith both held temporary positions at the Library during the year before moving on, while Tracey Pratt joined the staff in January, 2003. Children's Librarians Rosemarie Ratti and



"Junkman" Donald Knaack makes music on recycled "junk" in the Children's Room.

LIBRARY STATISTICS FOR FY2002-2003

HOLDINGS

Books	Adult	Juvenile	Total
July 1, 2002	27,961	12,262	40,223
Added	+ 1,092	+ 829	+ 1,921
Withdrawn	- 2,336	- 312	- 2,648
June 30, 2003	26,717	12,779	39,496

Audio Materials

July 1, 2002	2,666	708	3,374
Added	+ 89	+ 87	+ 176
Withdrawn	- 34	- 27	- 61
June 30, 2003	2,721	768	3,489

Video Materials

July 1, 2002	253	136	389
Added	+ 15	+ 14	+ 29
Withdrawn	- 1	- 5	- 6
June 30, 2003	253	145	412

Electronic Materials

July 1, 2002	62	49	111
Added	+ 10	+ 13	+ 23
Withdrawn	- 9	- 6	- 15
June 30, 2002	63	56	119

Periodical Subscriptions

Print Format	117	14	131
Electronic Format	289	10	299
(Not Duplicated)			
Total	406	24	430

CIRCULATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Printed Materials	24,531	17,049	41,580
Non-Print Materials	5,378	1,170	6,548
Total	29,909	18,219	48,128

PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTER LOG-INS

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
	5,873	4,981	10,854

REGISTERED BORROWERS

	Adult	Juvenile	Non-Resident	Total
July 1, 2002	2,483	1,426	299	4,286
Added	+ 490	+ 156	+ 57	+ 687
Withdrawn	- 816	- 218	- 35	- 805
June 30, 2002	2,157	1,364	321	4,168
Renewed	449	218	69	786

INTER-LIBRARY LOANS

	Borrowed	Loaned	Not-Filled	Total
	731	219	67	1,017



Children learned about owls from this visitor, accompanied by Eveleen Cecchini, Director of Outreach for Earth Stewardship.

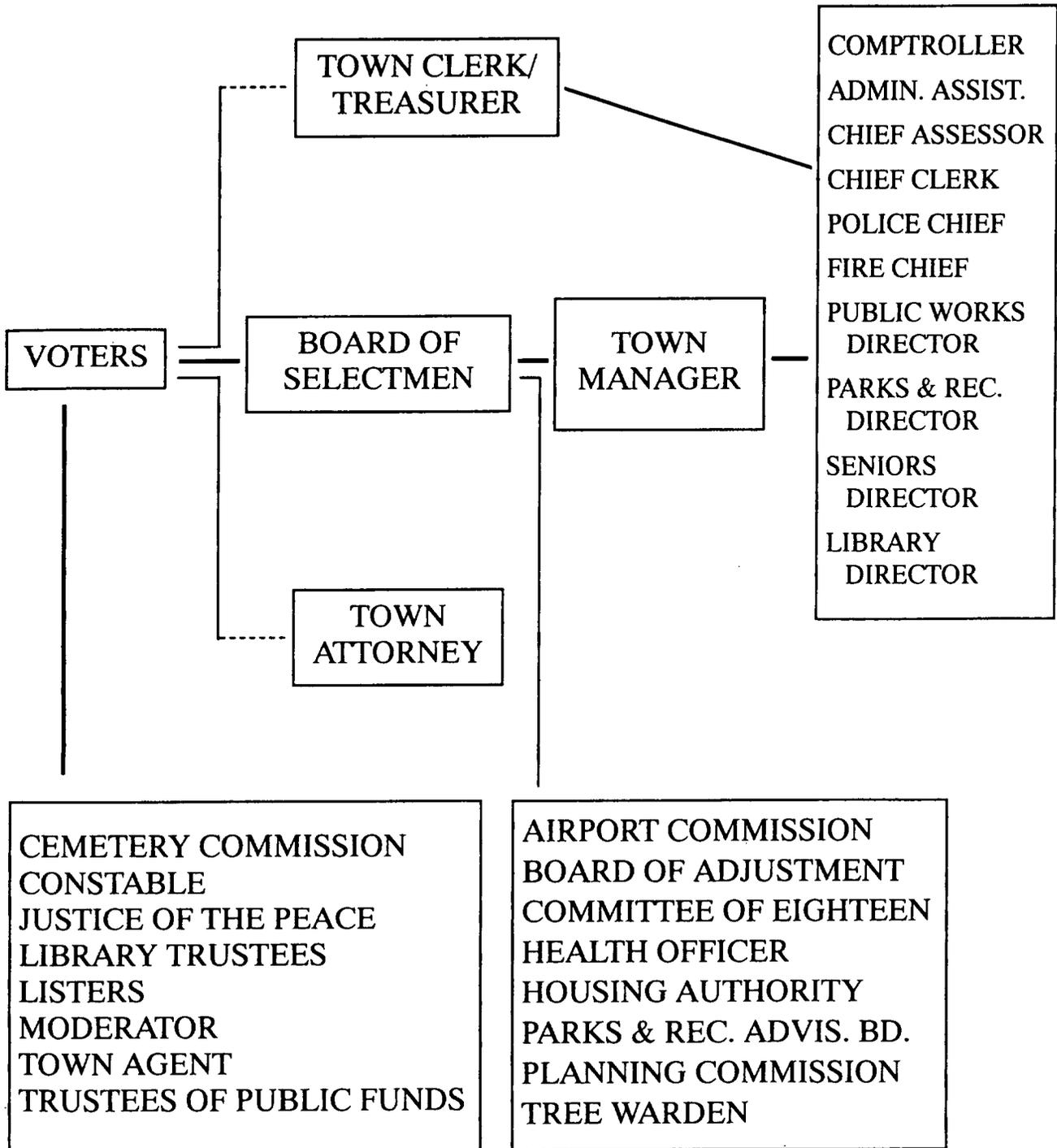
Cheryl Cox, Technical Services Librarian Jo Coleman, Library Technicians Chris Bloomfield and Tammy Snide, Library Clerks Tracy Obremski and Diane Henry, and Library Aide Ellen Morgan make up the rest of an outstanding Library staff. They are joined by DJ Fusonie, formerly with the Library of Congress, who does a great job substituting for staff on short notice and assisting with inventory and cataloging, and by a dedicated core of volunteers. Retired Library staff members Patricia Colteryahn, Patricia Day and Patricia Hayden ("The Three Pats"), Janet Tessier and Judy Torney have been regular volunteers nearly every week while many others have helped out as well.

Rounding out the "Library Family" is the Board of Trustees. They are an advisory board elected by the community to ensure the Library serves the needs of its citizens. Library Trustees establish goals to meet those needs and policies that govern Library operations. In March, 2003 the Board was expanded from five members to seven members and the term of office was reduced from five years to three years. Joan Ziembra and Jean Middleton were appointed to fill the two new positions, with Joan's term expiring in March 2004 and Jean's term expiring in March, 2005. Ellen Pinter (Chair), Alan Fusonie (Vice-Chair), Bill Mattoon, Fredda Kischko and Alice Lohutko are the other Library Trustees.

With the hard work and dedication of everyone in the "Library Family," and the tremendous support of the entire community, Springfield Town Library continues its great tradition of providing the best in library services and looks forward to a promising future.

Russell S. Moore
Library Director

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE



REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

SPRINGFIELD PLANNING COMMISSION

The Springfield Planning Commission meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month. This nine member Commission hears requests for site plan approval, subdivision classification and approval, amendments to the Zoning Regulations, and acts as the Design Review Board for changes to properties in the Downtown Design Review District. If you are interested in serving on this Commission, application for appointment may be acquired by calling the Town Manager's office at 885-2104.

In 2003, the Commission considered fifteen requests for site plan approval as compared to thirty three last year. Substantial changes included:

1. The addition of 12,000 square feet to a structure owned by Todd and Belinda Morse on River Street
2. The establishment of a wood processing operation on Charlestown Road by Charles Fairbanks
3. Town of Springfield Water Distribution System Improvements at a number of locations in Springfield
4. An addition to the Blish Building on River Street
5. An additional storage facility building by Arthur Taft on Route 106

The Commission sat as the Design Review Board and reviewed twelve requests for changes in the Downtown Design Review District as compared to five last year. One request was denied by the Commission, the establishment of a satellite dish on the roof of the State Office building at 100 Mineral Street. Walter and Aida Pluss requested a number of changes to 105 Main Street. Rockingham Area Community Land Trust and Housing Vermont purchased the Brookline Apartment Building and received approval for exterior changes to the building along with a complete interior renovation. The balance of the approvals were for signs.

The Commission approved nine subdivisions for a total of sixteen new parcels. This compares to four subdivisions in 2002 for a total of four new parcels. Most notable was a request from Stalker Enterprises to create a subdivision of seven new parcels off Sunny Hill Road. A new road and on site utilities were proposed. A very rainy Spring and Summer raised havoc with the construction of the Road.

The Commission forwarded three changes to the Zoning Regulations to the Board of Selectmen:

1. An amendment to change a number of properties located on Fairground Heights from the General Business zoning district to Medium Density Residential. Approved by the Board of Selectmen.
2. An amendment to change a number of properties located on the Chester Road from their current Residential/Agricultural and Medium Density Residential zoning district to a Residential/ Commercial mixed use zoning district. Approved by the Board of Selectmen.
3. An amendment to change the Zoning Regulations to have the Board of Selectmen appoint a separate Design

Review Board. The Commission has acted as the DRB for the past three years, and feels it is time to separate the duties.

The Commission completed a comprehensive revision to the Town Plan at the end of 2003. The Plan will be received by the Board of Selectmen for their review process during 2004. This process of two years meant that the Planning Commission members met for an additional meeting each month. Over the past three years, the Commission received three planning grants:

1. to revise the Town Plan;
2. new maps for the Town Plan; and
3. a grant in 2003 to prepare a Capital Plan for the Town.

The Regional Planning Commission has worked hand-in-hand with the Commission to attain the goals outlined in the Grant applications, and the Commission appreciates their dedication to this process.

Regretfully, the Commission will begin the year 2004 without the presence of Ronald L. Bacon who died on January 4, 2004. Ron served from 1986, and as Chairman from 1996 - 2000. Ron was generous with his time and his tremendous knowledge in the field of permitting, engineering and human nature. He will be truly missed for his humor, common touch and sense of reality.

Donald Barrett
Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Zoning Board of Adjustment meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month. This five member Board hears requests for conditional use permits, variances, alteration of non-conforming structures and uses and appeals of actions of the Administrative Officer. If you are interested in serving on this Board, application for appointment may be acquired by calling the Town Manager's office at 885-2104.

During 2003, the Zoning Board of Adjustment received fifteen requests for conditional use permits. Two of the requests were withdrawn, and the remaining thirteen were approved with conditions. Twenty CUP requests were considered in 2002.

Ten requests for variances were filed with the Zoning Board in 2003. One request was withdrawn, one request was denied, and eight were granted with conditions. Thirteen variances were requested in 2002.

The Zoning Board heard one request for appeal of a decision of the Administrative Officer. Following tabling of the question on a stockade fence, and the completion of a survey, the Board found for the Administrative Officer.

Bruce Johnson
Chairman

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

During the year 2003, there was an increase in local zoning permits. One Hundred Sixty permits were issued as compared to one hundred forty in 2002 and one hundred fifteen in 2001. Sixteen of those permits were granted for new single family dwellings. This office was extremely busy with questions concerning available land for construction of new homes during the last year. An eight lot subdivision off Sunny Hill Road promises to make 2004 an excellent year for the start of new homes.

SELLING OR REFINANCING? - If you plan to sell your property or refinance during 2004, remember to have your permits in place. Replacement of septic systems, other than replacing a tank, require a permit from the Town through the year 2007. After 2007, changes will be handled by the State. If you have elected to rebuild or construct a new disposal area for your septic without a permit, you will most likely delay your closing. For most sales or refinances, a request is made to the Town for a copy of all permits issued on a property since 1973. Your disclosure of information regarding your property will automatically lead to permit questions for septic systems, additions, accessory structures, etc. Protect yourself from delays in closing or loss of a sale by acquiring your permits as needed.

The office is open Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please call 802-885-2104 for information. I will be glad to answer any questions you have regarding permits, planning and zoning issues, septic systems and E-911 addresses.

Linda T. Rousse
Administrative Officer

SOUTHERN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

The Southern State Correctional Facility Community Liaison Board was formed in August of 2003 prior to the facility's opening in the fall. The committee consists of town residents, both volunteers and ex-officio members, as well as members of the facility administration and staff. The board meets monthly to consider issues of concern to the citizens of Springfield regarding policies, programs and conditions at the facility, and acts as the official liaison between the facility and the Town of Springfield. Residents of the Town of Springfield are encouraged to contact board members with any issue in which the facility may impact the community.

Jeff Lavin
Chairman

SPRINGFIELD REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Springfield region saw tremendous economic development activity and effort in 2003.

SRDC worked hard to retain the Goldman Industrial Group Companies. Transactions were finalized in 2003 to retain J&L Metrology and Bryant Grinder business for Springfield. SRDC has also facilitated the purchase of the Bryant Grinder facility from the Bankruptcy court by a manufacturer from Florida. The new Fellows plant in N. Springfield is now an important focus for SRDC, as we work with the property's listing broker to develop a coordinated and well thoughtout sales strategy. This plan seeks to identify sale prospects with an aim at the highest and best use for the property and maximization of job creation.

Also, in 2003 Ellsworth Ice Cream made their final purchase of the Ben & Jerry's facility in N. Springfield. The operation, expected initially to yield 50+ jobs, now has added a third shift for a total of 78 jobs.

The redevelopment of Jones and Lamson Plant I took some important steps in 2003. SRDC's construction committee initiated the sites master plan process while also contractive for architect renderings. These plans and drawings assisted us greatly in imaging an exciting and meaningful "new life" for the Jones & Lamson Plant I. These plans have also served as a critical tool to interested prospects in the sited potential. Historic Preservation, permitting and development costs are important considerations in moving the development forward; however challenging the effort, our vision moves us forward undaunted. We're committed to establishing the kind of redevelopment for J&L Plant I that will make the community proud.

The Springfield Regional Economic Development Plan was completed in Springtime 2003. This plan successfully established ten strategic goals and many related initiatives in building the economic foundation for our region. This "road map" set specific strategies to grow and recruit businesses to the region to grow our economy. SRDC and regional partners are now hard at work implementing the plan's strategies. The involvement of community residents continues to be important in the Plan's implementation. Please visit our Website at www.springfielddevelopment.org or contact us directly for more information.

The New Year holds a lot of promise and excitement since our focus is set on achieving important goals for the Town of Springfield and our region. SRDC very much appreciates the continued partnership with the Town of Springfield and its citizens. We can only be successful together.

Please contact us with any of your comments or questions.

Carol Lighthall
Executive Director
14 Clinton St. Suite 7
Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-3061

carol@springfielddevelopment.org

Thanks again for your support.

SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

The Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission is an organization that serves the ten towns in the southern Windsor County Region. Member towns are comprised of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Reading, Springfield, Weathersfield, West Windsor and Windsor. SWCRPC's mission includes two major activities: assisting member towns with their planning and other community related activities, and promoting cooperation and coordination among towns.

During FY 2003, member towns contributed 4% to the Regional Planning Commission's annual budget of \$555,565. Town dues assessment was based on \$1.00 per person using 2000 census data, which for the Town of Springfield was \$9,078.00. The remaining revenues were derived from federal and state funding sources: Federal funding supported transportation planning activities, the administration of Community Development Block Grants, and the Southern Windsor County Brownfields Reuse Project; State Funds were derived from the Agency of Natural Resources for environmental planning, and the agency of Commerce and Community Development for land use planning and other related activities.

The Southern Windsor County Transportation Advisory Committee (SWCTAC) is an advisory committee of the Regional Planning Commission. The SWCTAC's primary responsibilities are to make recommendations on regional transportation policies, review and provide comment on VT Agency of Transportation projects, identify and rank town/regional transportation improvements for submission to VAOT, and provide input on regional transportation studies.

In addition to providing ongoing technical assistance to member towns in the last year, the Regional Planning Commission assisted the Town of Springfield with applying for grant funds for infrastructure improvements in the downtown. The SWCRPC is working with the Planning Commission on amending its Town Plan. The Regional Planning Commission continues grant writing and grant administration support to the Town. The Regional Planning Commission continues to assist the Springfield Regional Development Corporation and the Springfield Chamber of Commerce in their efforts to support existing businesses and to facilitate attracting new businesses to Springfield. The Regional Planning Commission is assisting the Town with the assessment and remediation of brownfield sites located in Springfield. The Regional Planning Commission continues to assist the Town with the Riverwalk Pedestrian Project.

Annually, the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Springfield appoints a representative and an alternate to the Regional Planning Commission. The RPC board is responsible for developing regional policies, providing Act 200 review of town plans, and facilitating cooperation amongst member towns. In FY 2003, Ronald Bacon represented the Town to the Regional Planning Commission, and Roger Marshall was the representative to the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission
Ascutney Professional Building
P.O. Box 320, Ascutney, VT 05030
Web site: www.swcrpc.org

PRECISION VALLEY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

As 2003 came to a close so did twenty years of operation for Precision Valley Development Corporation. In October an EDA grant of \$850,000.00 matured and was discharged significantly reducing the corporation's liabilities. Originally formed in 1983 to provide space for incubator businesses at a reasonable rate, PVDC has been an important element in the economic development delivery system in Springfield and the region. PVDC has had a number of successful graduates over the years proving the success of the building is important as a place to start and grow new businesses. The community and Town government have been very supportive of our operations in the past, and we look forward to the relationship continuing. Over the past twenty years we have had over seventy businesses lease space within the facility, and they have provided jobs for approximately 1,000 people. The nature of the business is to have tenant turn-over and to that end we have accomplished our mission quite successfully.

Presently the facility has 85% of its manufacturing space leased and 50% of its offices are occupied. Active tenants presently within the complex are: Acrylic Design, Inc., Microcut Laser, Adult Basic Education, Dance Factory, Design Workshop, Lincoln Street, Inc., Matrixchem, Northeast Rebuild, Profile Engineering, Vermont Green Mountain Guide, Equinox Research and Recovery and Vermont Machine Tool, along with several outside storage tenants.

The current slate of officers of the Corporation are: Ralph Jacobs, President; Matthew Alldredge, Vice President; James Hennessey, Treasurer; and Bruce Pirnie, Treasurer. Other Directors include: John Graves, Mary Helen Hawthorne, Forrest Randall, Thomas Bishop, John Hall, Jean Willard, David Choiniere, along with Town Manager Robert Forguites and Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bob Flint. The operating staff consists of Gary Holt, Business Manager; Russ Comstock and Geoffrey Adnams, Maintenance.

Looking ahead, we look forward to the approval and completion of the proposed River Walk Project along River Street which will further enhance the efforts in creating a more inviting downtown. With the support of such organizations as the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce and Springfield Regional Development Corporation, along with town government and community leaders, we will continue to provide the community with a means and a facility to attract new jobs for up and coming businesses to the area. Although we have some long term tenants within the facility, we have never lost sight of our mission which is to provide space for incubator businesses.

Ralph Jacobs, *President*
Gary Holt, *Business Manager*

SPRINGFIELD ON THE MOVE

Springfield On the Move marked a busy year filled with many changes.

At Town Meeting, manager Forguites announced that our congressional delegation had been successful in getting Springfield a million dollars in federal transportation funds to improve sidewalks, replace the traffic lights and add other amenities such as improved signage, benches, bike racks etc. in downtown. SOM with the Town had developed a wish list and advocated for the award.

The \$300,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant award for the River Walk, written by SOM on behalf of the Town, is still at 85% plans. Difficulties in gaining an easement from PVDC slowed the project almost to a stalemate. Renewed efforts are underway to move forward in 2004.

A downtown property owner received 25% tax credits amounting to nearly \$25,000 for building rehabilitation of the properties at 1 and 3 Main Street. This program is available to property owners as an incentive through Downtown Designation benefits to improve their properties.

SOM continues to collaborate with other organizations:

- SOM provided support and acted as the Treasurer for the second Springfield Summer Festival held downtown in mid July. Additionally, it handled the proceeds from the Corvette Raffle Fundraiser in support of a spectacular fireworks display at the Hartness State Airport and distributed the prize money after the drawing on the 4th of July. SOM is again acting as the Treasurer for the 2004 Fireworks event.
- Again this year SOM co-sponsored Christmas decorating with the Chamber of Commerce. Door wreaths for all downtown properties again were our gift. In conjunction with the Springfield Garden Club's Festival of Trees our downtown looked like a magical place as we opened the holiday season.
- In a joint project with the Garden Club, seven wrought iron planters were purchased for Main Street. This coming summer, plans are underway to add four more planters to complete this project.
- Three new black iron trash receptacles were placed downtown with plans to expand the number.
- We continue to work with the Art & Historical Society, the Garden Club, and with the Tree Committee on downtown projects.
- We are always ready to consult with both downtown property owners and with the Planning Commission — more specifically with the Design Review Board when issues surrounding changes to properties or signage in the designated downtown arise. An amendment to the zoning by-laws that established the Design Review Board will change the makeup of that board's membership. It is believed that this change will make the work of that board more effective.
- SOM provided input at hearings and workshops on revising the Town Plan.

As our major fundraiser, our fifth historic calendar was produced and sold. This project has uncovered many sources of historic pictures and information about our Town.

Visit Springfield On the Move's website www.springfieldonthemove.org and take our surveys, volunteer,

get business information or facts about Springfield. The site also links to the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce site.

We continue our efforts to beautify our downtown by the removal or rehabilitation of run-down properties. This requires much negotiation and planning. In late November, SOM became the owner of the Cannistraci property at 10 River Street (the old Barber Shop building). Plans are in process as to the future disposition of that property. There is movement on several other dilapidated properties as well.

SOM is an active participant in the Vermont Downtown Program. Our organization prepared the application for Downtown Designation Renewal for Springfield and it is expected that we will receive word of our re-certification in January 2004.

Our interested and active broad-based membership was expanded again with another successful membership drive. Active membership is key to the successful revitalization of downtown Springfield because with only a half-time employee much of our work is done by our dedicated volunteers.

Springfield on the Move's efforts to revitalize downtown are made possible by an annual allocation from the Town of Springfield, through membership dues, grants and fundraising. Last year our allocation leveraged additional funds many times greater than the Town's annual investment for downtown Springfield. Selectwoman Marie Gelineau succeeded Christina Tetrault as the selectboard designee. Without a good partnership with the Town and a generous donation of volunteer time, SOM would not be the viable, energetic organization that is needed to spearhead revitalization efforts in our downtown.

Mary Helen Hawthorne, *Executive Director*

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Overall operations of the town's cemeteries have continued to run quite smoothly during the past year. The sale of new lots in both Oakland and Pine Grove Cemeteries was average for the past year. The surveying of new lots in Oakland was started several years ago, and we currently have plenty of lots available in both of the town cemeteries, as well as St. Mary's Cemetery.

The cemetery crew constantly keeps working on cleaning brush on the banks and edges of all the cemeteries, as well as removing dead trees that could be endangering.

The full time cemetery crew consists of 2 men during the operating months of April through November, with some additional part time help during the summer months. They are constantly doing their best to keep up with the mowing and trimming of all the town's cemeteries, as well as the general maintenance and burials. As the sale of new lots and the erection of new monuments keeps the workload increasing each year, we hope that everyone understands the situation. We are constantly attempting to keep the cemetery budget in line without the cost of hiring extra men to perform these tasks.

Anyone who is interested in purchasing a cemetery lot in any of the town's cemeteries or St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery should contact William Young at the Davis Memorial Chapel at 885-3322. Feel free to call anytime.

William F. Young, *Chairman*

GEORGE D. AIKEN RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (RC&D) COUNCIL REPORT

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

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

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

SPRINGFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

The public housing units at the Whitcomb and Huber Buildings were almost fully occupied throughout the year, since the occupancy rate was 99.18%. This was exceptional due to the fact that the Authority had 25 units turnover this past year. The current waiting list shows 52 applicants.

This past year, the Authority scored 98.0 out of 100 in the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS). This makes the Authority a High Performer per HUD guidelines.

The Authority was awarded another Capital Fund Grant (CFG) for \$164,321. These funds will be used for the following projects:

- Finishing the expansion of the parking lot for the Whitcomb Building
- Installing new computers for the main office
- Repairing all the handicapped accessible showers at the Whitcomb Building

During the past year, capital funds were used to modernize the elevators at the Huber Building and begin the construction of the new parking lot for the Whitcomb Building.

The Authority also manages 61 section 8 certificates and vouchers. Last year, \$255,071 was paid to local landlords for our section 8 tenants. The lease-up rate for this program was 99.04%. Currently, there are 97 families on the waiting list. The waiting period for local residents is about 5 months.

The Maples, the Rural Development project on South Street, is fully occupied, and there are 26 people on the waiting list. During this past year, the occupancy rate was 98.51%. Two capital projects were also completed. First, the common areas were all repainted. Second, the recommendations from the energy audit were implemented. This included installation of energy efficient refrigerators, laundry equipment, and lighting.

The following two properties are owned by partnerships in which Springfield Housing Unlimited (SHU), the Authority created non-profit, is a co-general partner. The Springfield Housing Authority manages each property but has no ownership interest.

The Mountain View Apartments had an occupancy rate of 97.15% in 2003, and a waiting list of 33 families. This past year, new heating systems were installed in all the buildings. In addition, SEVCA and several private contractors completed a number of energy saving projects, which were identified by their energy audit.

Westview Terrace Apartments had an occupancy rate of 94.24% in 2003. These 58 units of family housing are a part of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program. They service families which can earn up to 60% of the median income for Windsor County. This project continues to be a valuable asset to the Town by providing people of limited income access to safe, clean, and reasonably priced rental housing. During the past year, the property installed new energy efficient washers and dryers, and began the construction of back porch roofs.

William F. Morlock, III, *Executive Director*
Frederic P. Koledo, *Chairman*
Peter Andrews, *Vice-Chairman*
Alan Pinders
Cynthia Gagnier
Beverly Corey

NH/VT SOLID WASTE PROJECT

The Town of Springfield delivered about 6,400 tons of solid waste to the incinerator during 2003. Springfield is one of fourteen (14) member towns that make up the Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District. In the early 1980s the "Vermont District" joined with fifteen (15) towns in the Sullivan County Solid Waste District of NH to form the NH/VT Solid Waste Project which has an office in Claremont, NH. Representatives and Alternates are appointed by each member town to participate in directing the Project. The Representatives of each district elect members to an Executive Committee which is responsible for basic operations.

The "Joint Project" is under contract with Wheelabrator Claremont Company, L.P. which incinerates the solid waste and utilizes the energy produced to generate electricity. The resulting ash is disposed in a landfill located in Shrewsbury, MA. This contract with Wheelabrator expires in July of 2007 and will not likely be renewed by the Project due to disagreement among the member towns as to the desired system of solid waste disposal.

Work is underway by the representatives to plan for the dissolution of the NH/VT Solid Waste Project by July 2007. Issues being discussed and which must be resolved during the planning process include: disposal or management of Project assets and/or liabilities which include a closed ash landfill on 92 acres in Newport, NH; 57 acres of land in Claremont, NH on which the incinerator is sited (including a lease between the Districts and Wheelabrator); equipment and furniture. Municipalities in both NH and VT have statutory obligations for solid waste planning and for providing access to solid waste disposal for their residents.

The member towns of the Southern Windsor/Windham Counties Solid Waste Management District (which includes Springfield) remain united and have initiated action in anticipation of the Joint Projects' dissolution. We have written a revised Solid Waste Implementation Plan which is currently being reviewed and awaiting approval by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. We have applied for and received a grant of \$46,000 from the USDA to fund a Waste Management Program Coordinator. The objective of this position, which will be implemented in 2004, is to assist all member towns in coordinated solid waste management planning which will include recycling and marketing of recyclables, public education, and solid waste program development.

The 2004 budget for the NH/VT Solid Waste Project is \$4,191,000 for 48,000 projected tons which results in keeping the tipping fee at \$87.00/ton. Springfield's share is about 12% or \$503,000. Springfield residents pay tipping fee money through user fees (prepaid coupons at the transfer center) or direct hauler charges. Citizens can reduce their solid waste disposal costs by recycling many items such as tin, aluminum, plastic, paper, and glass. Two or three times each year opportunities for household hazardous waste disposal is sponsored by the District thereby providing citizens with a chance to dispose of fluorescent bulbs, mercury switches, oil based paints, pesticides, cleaners and chemicals which should not be incinerated. Citizen input and involvement in our solid waste disposal programs is welcomed.

Forest B. Randall, *Representative*
Hallie Whitcomb, *Alternate Representative*
Mary Helen Hawthorne, *Alternate Representative*

SPRINGFIELD HUMANE SOCIETY

This past year was very busy for the Springfield Humane Society. We took in 95 abandoned/stray dogs and puppies, 158 stray/abandoned cats and kittens and nearly 200 more cats and dogs given up by their owners. Additionally, we took in 16 rabbits and 4 guinea pigs making a total of more than 400 animals for the year. Our adoptions have increased by about 40% when compared to last year's rate, whereas our average stay for an animal has decreased considerably.

In March 2003 we began temperament testing all dogs and cats. This test allows us to have a great deal of insight regarding the animal's reaction to stress and thus allows us to better assess the proper home placement for the animal.

B.O.N.E.S., our in house canine behavioral program, is something of which we are very proud. This program addresses the number one reason dogs are surrendered to an animal shelter: their behavior. Our program covers basic obedience and simple behavior modification, allowing a foundation of training on which the adopter can build.

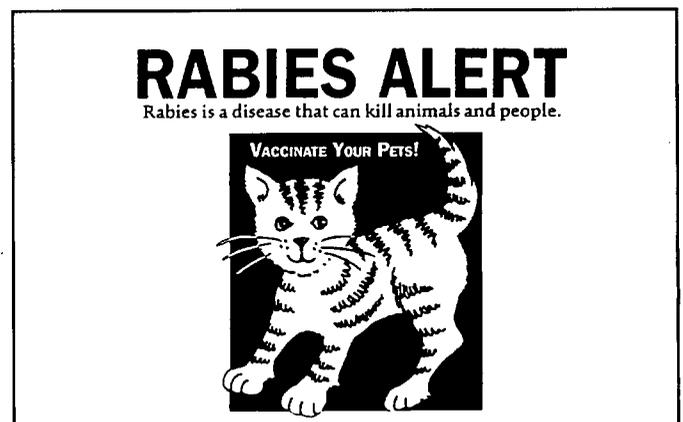
Our Spay and Neuter program is going well with all animals adopted out from our shelter being spayed or neutered before they go to their adoptive home. Because Rabies continues to be a problem, all animals are now given their rabies shots before they leave our shelter. We ask that everyone please remember to have his or her own pets vaccinated for rabies. We also remind all dog owners that their dogs need to be licensed with the town before April 1st.

We have a dedicated staff at the Springfield Humane Society with a large group of volunteers who truly make all that we do for the animals possible. We wish to thank all of those who have supported us this past year.

We now have our very own "Petfinder" website (www.shs.petfinder.org). Additionally, there is currently a new website under construction which will be available in the spring of 2004.

Visitors are welcome at the shelter during regular business hours, which are: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 11 am until 6 pm and Saturday 11 am until 4 pm. The shelter is closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Holidays. The Springfield Humane Society has served the communities of southern Windsor County since 1941.

Lisa M. Lovell
President, Board of Trustees



SOUTHERN VERMONT RECREATION CENTER FOUNDATION

The Southern Vermont Recreation Center indoor Walking Track is open for the second winter. Daily hours, except Monday, are from 8 AM to 7 PM. Use of the track is increasing as more people learn of its availability.

The Center has been used this past year for several community meetings and as the site for a region-wide art contest where 140 elementary school students submitted their ideas for a poster depicting future Center activities.

The Center is serving as the training site for a diverse group of local and state programs. These include:

1. Community service for youth in the Springfield Juvenile Restorative Boards Program and youth assigned to do community service by the Windsor County Diversion program.
2. A retraining program in masonry for unemployed machine tool workers is using the building for its hands-on training. They are repairing brick walls at the building. This program is a partnership between the Vermont Chamber of Commerce and the Vermont Department of Employment & Training.
3. The Recreation Center has signed an agreement with the Vermont Department of Corrections to provide work and training opportunities for a Work & Training Team from the Women's facility in Windsor. This fall the first team provided high quality work for the Center.

Statement of Income and Expenses

Endowment Fund as established by the Town of Springfield Year ending December 31, 2003

Income:	
Interest from Endowment Fund:	\$38,000.00
Interest accrued:	394.91
Subtotal:	\$38,394.91
Expenses:	
Springfield Town Taxes:	991.76
Insurance:	718.00
Utilities:	307.64
Maintenance:	2,159.10
Bank Service Charges:	11.00
Office supplies:	133.64
Postage and Delivery:	46.00
Printing and Reproduction:	88.13
Administration:	1,000.00
Subtotal:	\$5,455.27
Balance:	\$32,939.64

Edgar May, *Chairman*
Board of Directors

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Budget Advisory Committee, established by the Select Board in 1979, was originally intended to consist of up to eighteen members representing the town's voters from all aspects of life. While the number of the committee's members has not nearly reached this goal, the Committee has attended all the Town and School Department Budget Hearings and Workshops, has discussed and made recommendations to the Select Board and the School Board; has met with various representatives of the Town Departments; and will make recommendations on the various Warrant items to the Voters at Town Meeting. These duties subject each Committee member to a commitment of approximately 40 hours for about 15 meetings in the November-March time frame.

Three members, Robert E. Lewis, Roger Marshall and Paul Stagner, Sr., who had completed their three year terms last year, were reappointed for this one year to assure an active Committee. Last year's new members, Bill Salati and Ken Vandenburg, were joined this year by Dick Andrews, Terri Benton and Agnes Hughes. We are looking for at least three or four new members to join the Budget Advisory Committee for the next Budget Cycle.

Roger Marshall, *Chair*
Robert E. Lewis, *Co-Chair*

**DON'T FORGET
THE
ANNUAL
TOWN MEETING
ON MONDAY NIGHT
MARCH 1, 2004
AT 7:30 P.M.
WILL BE HELD AT
THE
SPRINGFIELD
HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM!**

CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS

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

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

With the support of the four US Senators from NH and VT, the Commissions were able to provide \$85,000 in Partnership Program grants for locally-inspired projects, including grants for a study of riparian buffers and Impervious Surfaces along the Black River, a major conference on storm water management, a bi-state Milk Marketing Study Group, several historic restoration projects, and the Connecticut River Birding Trail.

CRJC support efforts to safeguard natural, agricultural, and historic assets of the valley and are working with businesses and the states to strengthen the local base for tourism through visitor centers in ten "waypoint communities" along the Connecticut River Byway. This year we worked to provide signage for each of them, and provided staff and coordination for the Byway effort. Visit the Byway at www.ctrivertourism.net. We welcome the public to our meetings on the last Monday of each month. Visit our web site at www.crjc.org for a calendar of meetings, useful information and links, and our newsletter, River Valley News.

Ken Bishop,
Connecticut River Commissioner

MOUNT ASCUTNEY REGION RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE *CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS*

This year the Mt. Ascutney Subcommittee began to update our *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan* with a close look at water quality and water-related issues in our region, particularly the need for more complete information on the safety of the river for swimming, fishing, and boating. The towns of Rockingham, Windsor, Cornish, and Plainfield have sent new representatives to the Subcommittee, bringing new ideas and interests to ensure that discussions continue to be well balanced.

The Subcommittee has continued to carry out our legal obligation to provide information and assistance to the states, towns, and local landowners on projects near the river, advising the two states on a proposed major project at Hoyt's Landing, and informing ourselves of issues involved with locating landfills close to the river. We have also begun to work closely with the Black River Watershed Action Team, understanding how this major tributary affects the mainstem.

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

The Mt. Ascutney River Subcommittee is advisory and has no regulatory authority. The public is welcome to participate in our meetings, on the second Tuesday evening of every other month, at Windsor House. More information, including a calendar, advice on bank erosion and obtaining permits for work in or near the river, and a summary of the *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan*, is on the web at www.crgc.org/localaction.htm.

Roger Marshall, *Subcommittee Chair*, and
Kurt Staudter, *Springfield Representatives*



APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS ON TOWN BOARDS

The Town frequently looks for qualified individuals to serve on Boards and Commissions. In addition, there are other positions, as well as special committees which may be appointed by the Board of Selectmen periodically to study specific topics.

If interested, please fill out and detach. Send to Town Manager's Office, 96 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156

Name: _____

Address: _____

Present Employer: _____

Address: (Street) _____

(Town) _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Interested in serving on:

- Planning Commission
- Fence Viewer
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Surveyor of Wood & Lumber
- Citizens Budget Advisory Committee
- Weigher of Coal
- Airport Commission
- Housing Authority
- Other

VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

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

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

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

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

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

REPORTS OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

VNA AND HOSPICE OF VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.

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

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

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

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

Skilled Nursing	6,949	<i>Family Support Services</i>	
Physical Therapy	1,058	Families served	1
Speech Therapy	373	Individuals served	2
Occupational Therapy	368	<i>Clinic attendance</i>	
Medical Social Worker	100	Flu	190
Home Health Aide	9,642	Blood Pressure	138
Homemaker	850	<i>MCH</i>	
Total Visits	19,340	Children	100
<i>Hospice VNH</i>		Home Visits	653
Patient Families served	9		
Volunteer Hours	275		
Volunteer Visits	164		

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

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

Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT and NH, Inc.
 46 S. Main Street, White River Junction, VT 05001

PRECISION VALLEY FREE CLINIC

The Precision Valley Free Clinic (PVFC) is located at 268 River Street, Springfield, Vermont and became incorporated in the State of Vermont on January 21, 2000.

MISSION:

The mission of the Precision Valley Free Clinic is to remove the barriers and facilitate access to health care for uninsured and underinsured people. Goals are to provide quality episodic health care, preventive health care, health education, referrals to providers of regular ongoing health care, and assistance in enrollment in programs that pay for health care.

A weekly clinic staffed by volunteer nurses and a grant funded physician assistant is held on Thursday evenings. Although cases are assessed on an individual basis, care is provided to those who are at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Level. Patients unable to attend weekly clinics, or who are in need of specialized care, are referred to area providers through an agreement with the local practice management group, Network Management, and other local providers. Through a partnership with Springfield Hospital and Path Lab, patients in need of basic laboratory services are provided free services. Springfield Hospital provides basic radiology services free of charge. Patients in need of more extensive care are referred to Springfield Hospital's financial assistance program. The clinic office serves as a resource and referral source for the community.

In year 2003, the Precision Valley Free Clinic's 32 volunteer nurses, doctors, physical therapists and participating medical practices donated 325 hours of free medical care to area residents. Patient visits for medical, dental, pharmaceutical assistance, and social service referrals totaled 1,231. A total of \$20,500 of free medications was procured for patients and \$13,613 was provided in pharmacy vouchers. Funds in the amount of \$18,657 were raised to assist in obtaining dental services. Of the 42 towns served, 617 of the services were supplied to residents of Springfield.

The staff and Board of Directors of the Precision Valley Free Clinic wish to thank the Springfield voters for supporting their efforts to improve the health care of town residents who are without the ability to pay for health care.

HEALTH CARE AND REHABILITATION SERVICES OF SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont requests an appropriation of \$10,000.00 from the Town of Springfield at the 2004 Town Meeting to help defray the cost of services to its residents for the Mental Health Walk-In-Clinic. In the year ending June 30, 2003, our agency provided a comprehensive range of community based services to 4,424 residents of Windsor and Windham counties. The services that are available to the residents of your community are as follows:

Outpatient Mental Health Services: The mission is to provide caring, high quality, cost-effective mental health care for our community at every level of need. Our highly trained staff of professional therapists, social workers, and psychiatrists help individuals and families cope with stress and anxiety, develop their full potential and maximize control of their lives. We make it our paramount goal to ensure that children, adolescents, and adults who come to us receive appropriate, timely care. We are now offering walk-in clinics to any resident who has an urgent need to see a mental health counselor for support and more effective coordination of services.

Alcohol & Drug Treatment Services: For adults and family members who are adversely affected by the use of alcohol or drugs, we offer a comprehensive program of assessment, inpatient referral, outreach, outpatient treatment and aftercare dedicated to aiding the recovery from chemical dependency and its effects.

Community Rehabilitation & Treatment Program: The CRT program provides comprehensive services to adults over the age of 18 who are suffering from a mental illness so serious that it interferes with that person's capacity to function in the community. We provide help and information to concerned family members and help clients regain stability and learn how to manage their mental illness, either in a hospital setting or as outpatients.

Community Services Division: The CSD provides services to people with developmental disabilities and their families. Services are available to people of all ages who have been found eligible, and each person being served receives an individually written program to meet his or her needs.

The Alternatives Program: A short-term alternative to hospitalization, the Alternatives Program provides crisis stabilization, respite and support to clients with psychiatric disabilities or to any adult experiencing an acute mental health crisis. We also provide a transitional residence for those stepping down from an inpatient setting. Our program provides a very desirable alternative to hospitalization in being less costly and less structured, while at the same time providing individualized attention in a more homelike, community based setting.

Emergency Services: The Emergency Services Team has a very specific mission to act quickly in critical situations. Specially trained mental health professionals are available 24 hours a day for emergencies. Anyone may use this service when an emergency arises including individuals of any age, family or friends of an individual in crisis; hospitals and nurs-

ing homes; police; schools; clergy; businesses and other community agencies.

We thank the board and the citizens of Springfield for your past support and for your continued interest in Health Care & Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- **Bioterrorism and Emergency Preparedness:** The Vermont Department of Health is actively working with local, state and federal agencies to assure a rapid and effective response to bioterrorism and other public health threats or emergencies. Local health department response may include finding and identifying disease, investigating the source of the disease, providing accurate and timely information to the public and health professionals, and collaborating with other agencies during biological, environmental or weather events. Recent local efforts have included participation in hospital committees, smallpox vaccination clinics, and membership on the District 3 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC #3).
- **Special Supplemental Food & Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** WIC improves the health of eligible pregnant and postpartum women, infants and young children through access to health care, nutrition education and individually designed nutritious food packages. In 2002, 535 women, infants and young children living in Springfield received health and nutrition screening, education and nutritious foods through this program. Participation in this program has been steadily increasing in this area. The average value of foods provided is \$35.00 per person each month.
- **Reportable Disease Investigations:** Infectious diseases continue to be a major source of illness, disability and death in the U.S., accounting for 25% of all doctor visits each year. The Department of Health investigates all reportable diseases, such as hepatitis, meningitis, measles or food borne illness. When these illnesses occur, we strive to determine their source and recommend measures to control and prevent further spread of disease. In 2002, Windsor County had 219 cases of disease investigated.
- **Vaccine-Preventable Diseases:** Proper vaccination protects children and adults against many diseases, saves health care costs, and minimizes sick leave from school or work. Immunization has reduced reportable cases of preventable diseases in Vermont to record low levels. Still, total annual hospital costs from vaccine-preventable disease in Vermont are \$2.6 million, and each year up to 200 Vermonters die of pneumonia or influenza. In 2002, the Department of Health distributed 12,054 doses of vaccine to health care providers in Windsor County, at a value of \$153,342 to these communities.

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. (COASEV, Inc.) fosters and supports successful aging of seniors in the Springfield community and throughout Windham and Windsor Counties. COASEV staff, along with seniors and other community members, develop, advocate, coordinate and assure access to services which enhance the quality of their lives in Springfield. To accomplish this mission in Springfield we provide direct services as those listed below, as well as work collaboratively with other organizations in Springfield.

FY 2003 Activity Summary – Springfield

Service	Served
Meals on Wheels	24,109
Estimate of case management cost for Springfield seniors	\$221,023

- **Food Establishment Inspections:** Public health sanitarians inspect eating establishments (restaurants, schools and fairs) to decrease the risk of food borne disease outbreak. The five greatest risks for food borne outbreaks are storing food at improper temperatures, inadequate cooking, contaminated equipment, unsafe food sources, and poor personal hygiene among food handlers. Inspections include a 44-item review to evaluate food storage, preparation and handling, as well as to identify potential risks. Of the 45 establishments in your area, there were 65 inspections in 2002. For the most recent inspection scores and results in your area, please go to www.healthyvermonters.info and select "Program List." Then scroll down to "Division of Health Protection" and select "Restaurant Inspection Scores."
- **Town Health Officer (THO) Program:** Every town in Vermont has a THO who is nominated by the Select Board and appointed by the Commissioner of Health. THOs work on a variety of environmental and health issues, and respond to calls on public health concerns as varied as animal bites, West Nile Virus, rental code complaints and septic systems. The Department of Health supports THOs with training, information and technical assistance. Your THO's report describes the calls received for Springfield.
- **West Nile Virus (WNV) Surveillance:** WNV first appeared in the U. S. in 1999. Birds and mammals (including people) can get WNV from the bite of an infected mosquito. The Vermont Departments of Health and Agriculture conduct surveillance for WNV each year from June until cold weather limits mosquito activity. In 2003, five THOs throughout the state also participated in this program by assisting with mosquito trapping. As of September 19, 2003, there have been 450 mosquito samples tested, with nine positive for WNV. In Windsor County from June – September 19, 2003, 110 dead birds were reported, 56 were tested, and 5 were found to be infected with WNV.

The Vermont Department of Health works to protect and promote the public's health. Current challenges include emergency preparedness and response to disease threats such as SARS or potential acts of bioterrorism; expansion of substance abuse prevention and treatment; and improving health care for people with chronic conditions like diabetes, asthma and cardiovascular disease. If you would like to learn more about these or other efforts, or if you have a public health concern, please call the Health Department's Springfield District Office at (802) 885-5778. Please visit our website at www.healthyvermonters.info for recent publications, new updates, and other current information about public health.

- **Information and Assistance:** through the Senior Helpline at (800) 642-5119 - Providing resources, tips, applications for benefits, and assistance with health insurance information.
- **Senior Nutrition:** Home delivered meals are currently provided through a contract with Meals and Wheels of Greater Springfield Inc.
- **Transportation:** Providing door to door accessible transportation in addition to special arrangements made for non-Medicaid seniors requiring medical transportation.
- **Case Management:** Providing one on one case management to those wishing to stay in their community and by managing the Medicaid Waiver program, which provides nursing home-like care. With self-neglect referrals we assist the individual to become aware of and access services thus regaining control of their lives.
- **Advocacy:** Assisting with accessing a wide array of benefits such as VHAP pharmacy, fuel assistance, food stamps, telephone lifeline, tax rebates, and Supplemental Security Income. These services are provided through home visits.
- **Care Giver Respite:** Through grants we are able to provide respite assistance for caregivers of those diagnosed with dementia and other chronic diseases.
- **Senior Companion Program:** Providing friendly visiting as well as a stipend employment opportunity for older, limited income workers.
- **Planning:** for seniors is accomplished by working with legislators, other agencies, and the communities we serve.
- **Successful Aging Initiatives:** Providing a series of small community grants for groups and organizations to create and expand their programs.

Your town contribution of \$7,500 generates \$42,500 in Federal matching funds. Services are provided at no cost, but participants are encouraged to make anonymous, voluntary contributions. The support of Springfield citizens as well as that of the hundreds of volunteers and dedicated staff make these services possible.

Marie Saunders
Executive Director

SPRINGFIELD FAMILY CENTER

Having completed one full year in our new expanded quarters, we can honestly say that the move was made just in time. Since moving we have had an increase in every aspect of our services.

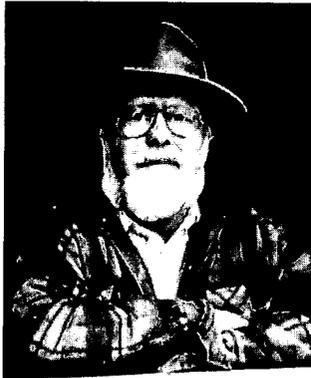
In order to demonstrate just how much the need has grown in the community and how much we have been able to expand the services we provide, the following is an overview of our client profile for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 (please see attached Service Statistics).

Offsetting the increased need in the community, we have been successful in our search for new grant income. USDA Rural Development awarded us two grants; one to install a new heating system and the second to continue necessary renovations on the building. Our participation in the Holt Fund, along with the Vermont Department of Health, Springfield School District and a local physician's office, will allow the community to provide services toward the prevention of childhood obesity.

Although we still have three offices that we need to fill, our tenant base is stable. Tenants frequently join us for the mid-day meal and this enhances the positive sense of community and sharing throughout the building.

We were particularly blessed this year with the friendship of Ron Bacon who stepped forward from the community to help us. He took on the crucial responsibilities of overseeing the completion of our renovation project. Our time with him was far too short, but we continue to benefit from his wisdom, his skill, his integrity, and we will always be grateful for having had him as a friend.

Deborah Luse,
Executive Director



SERVICE STATISTICS

	2001	2002	2003
Households Served (unduplicated)	510	579	1036
Individual Adults Served (unduplicated)	1534	1745	1940
Children Served (unduplicated)	601	680	934
% Veterans	3	6	8
% Disabled	46	44	44
% Employed Part or Full Time	36	34	30
% Has Health Insurance	79	73	67
% Has Phone/Access to Phone	68	73	70
% Has Car/or Ride	56	60	58
% Receives Food Stamps	44	72	49
% Has NO Income	21	19	20
Homeless Households (duplicated)	201	239	264
Individuals	490	584	601
% Children	45	47	44
% Adults	55	53	56
% Recidivism	23	25	27
Food Shelves (duplicated)			
# Issued	1030	1244	1463
# Individuals	2628	3181	3947
% Children	45	40	39
% Adults	50	55	56
% Seniors	5	5	5
Meals Served	7800	9115	9353
Commodities to Senior/Disabled	899	989	1001
Family Center Food Club (dup)	2979	1956	1994
Average served per order	125	82	84

WINDSOR COUNTY PARTNERS

Mentors For Youths

Windsor County Partners' youth mentoring program provides at-risk youth aged 10 through 17 with positive, healthy, and supportive adult role models who help improve their self-esteem, direction, and leadership potential. The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services has recognized us as "an outstanding instance of what can be done with limited resources and a great personal commitment."

Last year we supported 39 Partnerships and 13 Springfield residents. We also took steps to begin to build our capacity to serve more youth, and to plan for future growth of our program. We instituted new policies in regard to our volunteers and their Partnerships to better ensure the safety of children in our program, including the requirement of an F.B.I. criminal background check for all mentors. We also sponsored several work-

shops, organized new special events, and helped youngsters attend camp or classes in which they had a special interest.

It is the long-term support of the community that has helped our organization to grow and succeed over the last three decades as a vibrant leader in youth mentoring in our community. Our long track record and well-established program continue to positively influence our children so they can improve their school grades, as well as peer and family relationships; avoid the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; and seek to achieve higher goals in life.

For more information about our services, please contact our Executive Director, Mary Beth Heiskell, at (802) 674-5101 or (800) 491-5101 or windsor.county.partners@valley.net.

NEW BEGINNINGS, INC.

New Beginnings, Inc. is a non-profit agency providing services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. Staff and volunteers provide support and information to clients in the office, at police stations and Springfield and Mount Ascutney Hospital after hours, on weekends, and holidays. We offer a 24-hour hotline 365 days a year, assistance and support for client safety, assistance with relief from abuse complaints, court education in the final relief from abuse hearing, safe housing, social service advocacy, referrals, and community education, as well as peer support groups.

This year the staff of New Beginnings, Inc. would like to recognize the amazing types of support by many amazing human beings throughout Windsor County, Vermont, including residents of Springfield.

Thanks to:

- Every resident who voted to support town allocations....
- Every dollar donated, raised, or granted...
- Every one of the 219 individuals who wrote out a check or spent a day with us...
- Every donation of stuffed animals or books...
- Every monthly meeting attended by our FY2003 members of our directors...
- Every weekly trip to the office by our Board Treasurer or Secretary...
- Every trip to an area business to request support...
- Every business owner who offered support...
- Every horse and rider in our Ride-A-Thon...
- Every note from a musician at our Country Jamboree and Klezmer Concert...
- Every pot of chili stewed, hot dog steamed, cookie baked...
- Every individual willing to carry a pager attached somewhere to their clothing...
- Every individual willing to wake up at 2:30 a.m. to support a victim...
- Every gardening session in our front "yard"...
- Every pamphlet and poster distributed...
- Every Thanksgiving basket of food and Christmas present donated....

We were able to provide:

- To a population of approximately 34,000 individuals...
- Over 475 square miles...
- In 14 towns, and at times, beyond...
- At 4 full-time police departments
- In 2 hospital emergency rooms...
- 8760 hours of hotline and in-person crisis services...
- 48 trips to Family Court...
- 1250 + pre-crisis, crisis, and post-crisis services...
- 9462 hours of volunteer crisis services to:
- 346 victimized women...
- 51 victimized men...
- 11 physically or sexually victimized children...
- 479 children exposed to domestic and sexual violence in home...
- 394 domestic violence victims...
- 40 sexual violence victims

Thank you to the many located "behind the scenes" for ensuring that there will continue to be someone to provide support, education and advocacy to those who suffer abuse and for creating a foundation on which New Beginnings builds its services.

Clearly, people of Springfield recognize that domestic violence or sexual assault will touch someone in their community, and they wish to ensure there is someone available to meet the victims' needs.

Pamela S. Burns
Terri A. Fisk
Co-Directors

SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY BAND

The Springfield Community Band was under the direction of Tom Heintzelman for our 57th season. We played 13 concerts; 10 in Springfield, one in Ludlow, one in Walpole, NH and one in Sunapee, NH. Our approximately 50 members were made up from area residents and students from Riverside Middle School and Springfield High School. Also new this year is the addition of a web site for the band. The band can be found on the web at www.springfieldband.org. Unlike past years where we have made donations to local programs, we are saving our pennies for the much needed purchase of a new equipment trailer. We thank the town of Springfield for their many years of support. Rehearsals for the coming season start at the end of April. New members are always welcome.

January 1, 2003

Cash on hand: \$2,292.27

INCOME:

Springfield, VT - 10 concerts	\$2,000.00
Other - 3 concerts	\$1,300.00
	\$3,300.00

EXPENSES:

Director	\$830.00
Officer's Salaries	\$250.00
Hired Players	\$300.00
Music	\$197.62
Post Office Box	\$ 70.00
Equipment (Trailer, speakers)	\$163.95
Flags w/mounting hardware	\$ 75.97
Misc expenses	\$269.03
Donation - Riverside Middle School	\$200.00
	\$2,356.57

December 31, 2003

Cash on hand \$3,235.70

Karen Brooks
Secretary/Treasurer

WINDSOR COUNTY RSVP

Windsor County RSVP provides opportunities for people primarily 55 and older to address community needs through volunteer service. The relationships that develop as a result of these activities benefit volunteers, communities, non-profit agencies and individuals. RSVP volunteers help increase the capacity of local organizations and improve the quality of life for people of all ages. Volunteers learn new skills, meet new people, and are positive role models in the community. In the past year in southern Windsor County, 244 RSVP volunteers put in over 32,000 hours doing 163 different jobs for 75 non-profit organizations, schools, and state agencies.

Last year in Springfield, 142 RSVP volunteers contributed over 15,000 hours of service to local organizations. Whether for an occasional event or for on-going activities RSVP volunteers work throughout the community. Area non-profit organizations, schools, and state agencies that utilize RSVP volunteers include the elementary, middle, and high schools, Pine Street Preschool, Springfield Town Library, Springfield Hospital, Springfield Adult Day Care, Springfield Family Center, Council on Aging for Southeast Vermont, Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Springfield Chamber of Commerce, Santa Claus Club, Springfield Area Public Access, Green Mountain Chapter of the American Red Cross, Department of PATH, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, and Springfield Health and Rehabilitation.

Not only do RSVP volunteers read to children, teach decision-making skills to inmates in the correctional facilities, mentor children and their families, make presentations about disaster preparedness, help manage our public lands, and lend a hand with mailings and book sales. They also assist senior citizens' efforts to remain independent through friendly visiting, transportation services, telephone reassurance, needlework, letter writing and by leading osteoporosis prevention exercise classes. Volunteers work behind the scenes at special community activities and at the newly formed Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Would you like to join the ranks of people engaged in community service? Do you have one free hour a week? RSVP can match your interest, talents and skills with a wide variety of important community activities. Volunteers, by cultivating good will and fellowship, receive as much as they give. Check out our web site at <http://www.vtrsvp.org/> for more information. The Springfield office phone number is 885-2083, email: rsvp@hcrs.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

Wendy Regier
Director, Windsor County RSVP

WINDSOR COUNTY RSVP BUDGET FY 2004 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Revenue	
Federal Grant	\$101,502
State Funding	20,126
Towns	4,900
United Way	3,500
Local Donations	2,000
Interest Income	1,500
Other Income	11,780
In Kind	30,500
Total Anticipated Revenue	\$175,808

Expenses

A. Salaries	\$ 93,174
B. Fringe	29,492
C. Staff Travel	
Local	3,000
Long Distance (includes conferences)	3,000
E. Supplies	
Office supplies, equipment maintenance	3,500
F. Contractual Services	
VT \$ to Upper Valley RSVP	4,964
Computer service contracts	1,150
Sponsor Administrative fees (IK)	16,316
G. Other Volunteer Support	
Postage	2,050
Telephone	2,350
Printing: stationery, newsletters	2,000
Rent	4,980
Dues	260
Subscriptions	24
Use of conference room (IK)	1,250
H. Volunteer Expenses	
Training	
American Reads, PFU, T/D	2,000
Meals	500
Recognition	
Loosely based on \$10@volunteer (\$700 IK)	3,500
Travel	
Mileage reimbursement	300
Supplies	
For volunteers	750
Insurance	1,248
Total Expenses for FY 2004	\$175,808

MEALS & WHEELS OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD, INC.

For the last 17 years, Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield has been delivering a hot noon meal to our elderly and home bound neighbors. With our staff of 60 volunteers and 3 part-time paid employees, 26,942 meals were delivered to private homes and 9,686 meals were served at the Congregational Church in Springfield for the past year. In addition to providing a well-balanced meal to those who may be unable to cook for themselves, delivery volunteers are a daily "visitor" who extend a caring hand and cheerful greeting with each visit.

The average meal costs \$4.27. However, no one is denied service. Recipients are asked to make a donation to help defray costs, but many cannot afford to donate anything for these meals. Meal recipient donations average \$1.21 per meal in the greater Springfield community. In addition, federal and state programs subsidize approximately 60% of our costs. The balance must be raised locally. We hope that the town of Springfield will continue to help us provide this service to our elderly and handicapped population. Therefore, we ask the town to consider granting funding of \$7,800.00 for this fiscal year. Your donation will be appreciated by the 160 recipients of home delivered meals in the greater Springfield area, as well as over 100 residents and neighbors who enjoy a meal at the meal site each day.

Raymond Nymalm, *Chairman*
Board of Directors

SPRINGFIELD BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

OUR MISSION

To inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

The Springfield Boys & Girls Club is a free after-school program for any area youth aged 11 - 18. We have daily drop in hours for youth to play games, do homework, meet with friends and with trained staff. We also offer a number of structured programs that help build their educational, technical, and social skills.

This year has been full of great growth and positive changes for us. The greatest change is that we have moved into the Community Center on Main Street. Our offices are on the 2nd floor, shared with the Just Now Program, and our programming space includes the game room on the main floor. This has been a tremendous boost to our programming options, allowing a very kid friendly space to be utilized for both drop-in activities and structured programming. Our programs this year have included:

- A guerrilla theater program who performed last year at schools and this summer at the summer festival;
 - Two drama programs for middle and high school age students;
 - A leadership program for high school age youth called the Keystone Club;
 - A Leadership Program for middle school age youth called Torch Club;
- These two clubs are connected to the national Boys & Girls Club of America and will make available scholarship, conference, regional and national training opportunities to our local youth!
- A chess club run by volunteers;
 - Homework help run by high school honors society youth;
 - An environmental studies group;
 - A weekly pool tournament.

We also sponsored a number of events this year:

- National Kids Day in August where we provided free meals, drink and activities to over 100 community members;
- A concert in November attended by over 150 youth;
- A Halloween Celebration at the community center with a haunted house, free food and drink, games, and free pumpkins serving over 100 local youth and their families;

Our membership totals are over 125 young people, a three fold increase over this past year and continuing to grow. We have served over 1000 other youth and community members at events and programs that we have run. We just got approved for a grant from the Henderson Foundation which, combined with some other grant sources, will allow us to hire a full time education director. This person will work closely with the local middle and high school to make sure our after-school activities support and enhance the education curriculum at the schools. This person will also work to institutionalize our drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs into all of the programs we offer.

The support we have received from the citizens of

Springfield has been critical to our success this year. All of our programs are free to our members, thus we rely heavily on local business, community and foundation support. Every successful grantor that we have dealt with has indicated that community financial support has been a key ingredient in their willingness to dole out their scarce resources towards Springfield youth. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you have, or if you are interested in becoming involved with us. Thank you for your continued support!

John Everest
Director

SPRINGFIELD FRIENDS OF TREES

Springfield Friends of Trees is a volunteer group that came together in 2001 as part of the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry program. Its mission is to help enhance the town landscape by fostering the appreciation, protection and improvement of the community's trees. Many projects are carried out in partnership with other town organizations. In Spring 2003, the group's Main Street Tree Maintenance Plan was the basis for pruning and hazard removal work performed in downtown Springfield by River Valley Technical horticulture students. Town employees provided traffic control and clean-up assistance. The students also helped Springfield Housing Authority in selecting and planting a tree in front of the High Rise residence. Public outreach and education programs during the year included a video shown on Springfield Area public Access TV in May, an exhibit at the Windsor County Fair, and the town's first annual Awesome Tree contest, co-sponsored by the Junior Garden Club and the Chamber of Commerce. Four contest winners received prizes at the Apple Festival in October.

The Friends welcome new members. For information, call 885-1753.

Susan Space



INTERNAL AND AUDIT FINANCIAL REPORTS

BONDED DEBT REDEMPTION CHART (FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005)

Obligations	Maturity	Interest	Original Bonded Amount	Current Balance Outstanding July 1, 2004	Payment Fiscal 2005	Payment Fiscal 2006	Payment Fiscal 2007	Payment Fiscal 2008	Payment Fiscal 2009	Payment Fiscal 2010	Payment After Fiscal 2010	Fiscal 2004-2005 Interest
SCHOOL BONDS												
Building Projects	12/01/04	6.613	\$1,230,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 2,680
Renovation Projects	12/01/07	4.526	\$1,585,000	\$625,000	\$160,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,040
TOTAL SCHOOL BONDS			\$2,815,000	\$705,000	\$240,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$28,720
Balance of Bonded Debt School				\$705,000								
Payment Schedule School					\$240,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$155,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$28,720
Interest on Bonded Debt 2004-05 School												
TOWN BONDS												
Chlorine Contact	10/01/21	3.000	\$ 325,669	\$301,065	\$ 12,858	\$13,244	\$13,641	\$14,050	\$14,472	\$14,906	\$217,894	\$ 9,032
Other Debt	12/01/04	5.240	\$ 900,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Dewatering & Composting	12/01/04	5.240	\$ 670,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Aerial Fire Truck	12/01/16	4.422	\$ 600,000	\$520,000	\$ 40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$280,000	\$21,732
TOTAL TOWN BONDS			\$2,495,669	\$976,065	\$207,858	\$53,244	\$53,641	\$54,050	\$54,472	\$54,906	\$497,894	\$30,764
Balance of Bonded Debt Town				\$976,065								
Payment Schedule Town					\$207,858	\$207,858	\$53,641	\$54,050	\$54,472	\$54,906	\$497,894	
Interest on Bonded Debt 2004-05 Town												\$30,764
TOTAL BONDED INDEBTEDNESS												
Total School and Town			\$5,310,669									
Balance of Bonded Debt School and Town				\$1,681,065								
Payment Schedule School and Town					\$435,000	\$362,858	\$208,641	\$209,050	\$54,472	\$54,906	\$497,894	
Interest School and Town					\$59,484							\$59,484
TOTAL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYMENTS 2004-2005 FOR SCHOOL AND TOWN BONDED AND LONG TERM DEBT					\$494,484							

SYNOPSIS OF GRAND LIST

	Real Estate	% of G.L.	Inventory	% of G.L.	Machinery Equipment	% of G.L.	Total
1997	323,861,807	89.43%	23,666,950	6.54%	14,624,730	4.04%	362,153,487
1998	326,435,807	90.39%	17,828,650	4.94%	16,895,100	4.68%	361,159,557
1999	327,442,662	91.81%	11,632,200	3.26%	17,595,100	4.93%	356,669,962
2000	330,287,370	93.03%	6,490,100	1.83%	18,266,900	5.14%	355,044,370
2001	331,437,815	94.68%	0	0.00%	18,617,000	5.32%	350,054,815
2002	334,142,394	95.06%	0	0.00%	17,353,900	4.94%	351,496,294
2003	332,178,800	95.12%	0	0.00%	17,029,200	4.88%	349,208,000

FIGURES FROM THE PAST

Year	Grand List	Total Tax Rate	Town Tax Rate*	Town Tax Levy	School Tax Rate	School Tax Levy
1997	Res	2,537,428	2.840	1.146	2,907,892	1.694
	Com	1,084,106	2.955	1.194	1,294,423	1.761
1998	Res	2,555,490	2.820	1.297	3,314,471	
	Com	1,056,106	2.961	1.438	1,518,680	
1999	Educ	3,269,298				1.523
	Res	2,565,110	2.910	1.375	3,527,026	
	Com	1,001,589	3.083	1.548	1,550,460	
2000	Educ	3,278,289				1.535
	Res	2,573,888	3.090	1.466	3,773,320	
	Com	976,555	3.317	1.693	1,653,308	
2001	Educ	3,306,195				1.624
	Res	2,589,048	3.160	1.464	3,790,366	
	Com	911,500	3.507	1.811	1,650,726	
2002	Educ	3,321,237				1.696
	Res	2,610,583	3.350	1.531	3,996,803	
	Com	904,380	3.728	1.909	1,726,461	
2003	Educ	3,348,283				1.819
	Res	2,618,800	3.590	1.575	4,124,610	
	Com	873,280	4.048	2.033	1,775,378	
	Educ	3,330,238				2.015

* Includes Special Appropriations and County Tax

STATEMENT OF TAXES – FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003

TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED:

	Assessed Value	Grand List (1% of Assessed)	Tax Rate	Total Taxes Assessed and Billed
Residential: Real Estate	\$261,058,294	\$2,610,582.94	1.531	\$ 3,996,802.48
Commercial: Real Estate	\$ 73,084,100	\$ 730,841.00	1.909	\$ 1,395,175.47
Machinery & Equipment	\$ 17,353,900	\$ 173,539.00	1.909	\$ 331,285.95
Total Town Taxes				\$ 5,723,263.90
Education	\$334,828,294	\$3,348,282.94	1.819	\$ 6,090,526.67
TOTAL TAXES ASSESSED AND BILLED:				\$11,813,790.57
TAXES ACCOUNTED FOR:	Current year taxes collected			\$11,282,157.60
	Current year taxes delinquent June 30, 2003			\$ 531,632.97
				\$11,813,790.57

TAX COMPUTATION TABLE

BASED ON GRAND LIST OF \$3,492,080

\$0.01 will raise	\$34,920.80
\$0.02 will raise	69,841.60
\$0.03 will raise	104,762.40
\$0.04 will raise	139,683.20
\$0.05 will raise	174,604.00
\$0.06 will raise	209,524.80
\$0.07 will raise	244,445.60
\$0.08 will raise	279,366.40
\$0.09 will raise	314,287.20
\$0.10 will raise	349,208.00
\$1.00 will raise	\$3,492,080.00
Total listed valuation of Real Estate and Personal Property for Taxation	\$349,208,000
One Percent of Total Listed Valuation	\$3,492,080

DELINQUENT TAX CHART

TAX YEAR	Due as of 6/30/03	Due as of 6/30/02	Due as of 6/30/01	Due as of 6/30/00
1989	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 135.62	\$ 530.64
1990	135.62	135.62	1,327.94	1,327.94
1991	470.36	470.36	884.36	2,153.96
1992	977.51	1,407.71	1,407.71	2,726.99
1993	312.00	312.00	411.59	3,304.80
1994	2,250.00	2,250.00	2,250.00	3,630.00
1995	1,840.88	1,840.88	1,840.88	3,337.35
1996	5,397.35	5,422.59	7,436.82	11,638.52
1997	3,784.31	4,214.44	4,946.51	7,542.98
1998	10,295.16	10,472.15	11,400.83	16,690.16
1999	9,079.22	9,548.72	14,622.87	32,355.78
2000	11,527.24	12,888.68	48,715.55	193,806.89
2001	10,528.27	50,178.25	201,727.72	0.00
2002	310,483.39	540,110.68	0.00	0.00
2003	531,632.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	\$898,714.28	\$639,252.08	\$295,780.46	\$279,046.01

2002-2003 BUDGET TO ACTUAL AT A GLANCE

Revenue Budgeted:	\$6,858,121
Revenue Received:	\$7,083,283
Variance:	\$225,162
Expenditures Budgeted:	\$6,858,121
Expenditures Paid:	\$6,977,751
Variance:	\$119,630
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures:	\$105,532

To figure your property tax: multiply your listed valuation by 1%; multiply the result by the tax rate.

Example: \$75,000 x .01 = \$750 x \$3.59 = \$2,692.50

Listed Valuation	Grand List	Tax Rate	Total Tax Due
------------------	------------	----------	---------------

TAX ANALYSIS PER HUNDRED ASSESSED TAX DOLLARS

	'03-'04	'02-'03	'01-'02	'00-'01	'99-'00
School					
State	\$1.265	\$1.190	\$1.179	\$1.162	\$1.174
Local	0.750	0.629	0.517	0.462	0.361
Town & Highway	1.524	1.477	1.414	1.421	1.331
Special					
Appropriations	0.039	0.041	0.039	0.033	0.033
County Tax	0.012	0.013	0.011	0.012	0.011
	<u>\$3.590</u>	<u>\$3.350</u>	<u>\$3.160</u>	<u>\$3.090</u>	<u>\$2.910</u>

**BUDGET SUMMARY
FISCAL 2004-2005**

OPERATING BUDGETS	01-02 Expended	02-03 Expended	03-04 Budget	04-05 Dept. Head	04-05 Manager	Diff. From 03-04
ADMINISTRATION	\$473,688	\$498,065	\$539,476	\$542,881	\$542,881	\$ 3,405
POLICE	912,413	998,800	1,092,101	1,097,101	1,099,101	7,000
FIRE/AMBULANCE	765,739	830,945	813,234	835,234	823,734	10,500
PUBLIC WORKS	1,329,722	1,425,106	1,448,649	1,498,079	1,483,079	34,430
PARKS & RECREATION	206,341	217,223	232,446	229,856	230,906	(1,540)
SENIORS	30,434	32,205	35,117	35,198	35,117	0
LIBRARY	296,820	325,361	345,213	358,607	346,048	835
FIXED	1,898,467	1,894,987	1,843,898	1,998,840	2,031,340	187,442
REIMBURSABLE	194,984	194,035	185,000	150,000	150,000	(35,000)
TOTAL OPERATING	\$6,108,608	\$6,416,727	\$6,535,134	\$6,745,796	\$6,742,206	\$207,072
TOTAL CAPITAL BUDGET	\$608,932	\$416,000	\$685,300	\$822,500	\$825,500	\$140,200
GRAND TOTAL GROSS APPROPRIATION BUDGET			\$7,220,434	\$7,568,296	\$7,567,706	\$347,272

RECAP

	03-04	04-05	Difference	% Difference
Operating Budget	\$6,535,134	\$6,742,206	\$207,072	3.17%
Capital Budget	<u>685,300</u>	<u>825,500</u>	<u>140,200</u>	20.46%
Subtotal	\$7,220,434	\$7,567,706	\$347,272	4.81%
Revenue other than taxes	<u>-\$1,529,250</u>	<u>-\$1,707,200</u>	<u>-\$177,950</u>	11.64%
To be raised by taxes	\$5,691,184	\$5,860,506	\$169,322	2.98%

BUDGETED REVENUES

(other than taxes)

FISCAL 2004-2005

GENERAL	02-03	03-04	04-05
Fees and interest	125,000	100,000	100,000
Legal fees on tax sales	6,000	6,000	6,000
Payments in lieu of taxes	75,000	110,000	110,000
Readiness to serve	0	60,000	60,000
TOTAL	206,000	276,000	276,000
<hr/>			
TOWN CLERK			
Licenses, fees and permits	53,000	78,000	75,000
Dog licenses	6,500	6,000	7,500
Liquor licenses	2,500	2,500	2,500
Town licenses	650	700	650
Marriage licenses	400	500	600
Hunting and Fishing licenses	650	950	950
Impound fees	1,000	1,000	1,000
Motor Vehicle Registration	2,000	2,300	2,500
Passports	1,500	3,000	4,500
TOTAL	68,200	94,950	95,200
<hr/>			
PUBLIC WORKS			
Lots sold	3,000	3,000	3,000
Burials	11,000	11,000	11,000
Interest public funds	20,000	15,000	15,000
Class I highways	30,000	30,000	30,000
Class II highways	76,000	76,000	76,000
Class III highways	140,000	140,000	140,000
Recycling	15,000	25,000	25,000
Transfer Station	107,000	140,000	160,000
Chester re-imbursement	15,000	20,000	20,000
TOTAL	417,000	460,000	480,000

BUDGETED REVENUES

(other than taxes)

FISCAL 2004-2005

Continued

	02-03	03-04	04-05
POLICE			
Police reports	2,000	2,000	2,000
State/local fines	20,000	25,000	25,000
Alarms and escort fees	1,500	1,000	1,000
Parking fines and rentals	9,500	11,500	11,500
Contractual services	10,000	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	43,000	49,500	49,500
FIRE/AMBULANCE			
Ambulance stand-by/dispatching	7,000	7,000	7,200
EMS/CD	13,500	0	0
Ambulance	225,000	225,000	240,000
Fire reports	100	100	100
Rental of hall	50	200	300
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,100
Alarm boxes	12,500	12,500	13,000
Hazardous waste reimbursement	500	500	800
TOTAL	259,650	246,300	262,500
PARKS & RECREATION			
Receipts	5,000	5,000	5,000
TOTAL	5,000	5,000	5,000
LIBRARY			
Fines etc.	3,000	2,000	2,300
VSAC	1,000	1,000	1,000
Non-resident Borrowers fees	2,500	2,700	2,700
TOTAL	6,500	5,700	6,000

BUDGETED REVENUES

(other than taxes)

FISCAL 2004-2005

Continued

REIMBURSEMENTS & OTHER

	02-03	03-04	04-05
Insurance reimbursement	0	0	0
School Treasurer	5,000	5,000	5,000
Unclassified	12,000	12,000	12,000
Invested fund interest	15,000	15,000	15,000
Equipment fund reimbursement	100,500	234,800	366,000
Hydro generation	15,000	10,000	10,000
Retaining Walls	0	75,000	75,000
Tennis Court reimbursement	0	0	50,000
COPS-School Grant	0	40,000	0
TOTAL	147,500	391,800	533,000
GRAND TOTALS			
	\$1,152,850	\$1,529,250	\$1,707,200

PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

THE TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE JULY 1, 2004-JUNE 30, 2005
FISCAL YEAR IS:

FIRST QUARTER: TO BE DETERMINED
(STATE FORMULA)

SECOND QUARTER: OCTOBER 5, 2004

THIRD QUARTER: JANUARY 5, 2005

FOURTH QUARTER: APRIL 5, 2005

ANY PAYMENT NOT RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY THE DUE DATE
WILL BE SUBJECT TO AN INTEREST CHARGE. ANY 2004-2005 TAX
BALANCE UNPAID ON APRIL 5, 2005, WILL BE ASSESSED A PENALTY OF
8%.

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

		Springfield Improvement Fund
<u>REVENUES:</u>		
Interest & Dividends	\$	3,142
Donations		7,836
Capital Gains		-
Unrealized & Realized Gain (loss) on Investments		867
Total Revenues		11,845
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>		
Principal Distributed		-
Accounting Expense		349
Taxes		-
Miscellaneous Expense		25
Total Expenditures		374
<u>NET INCOME (LOSS)</u>		11,471
Fund Balance - July 1, 2002		99,512
Fund Balance - June 30, 2003	\$	110,983

See Independent Auditors' Report and Notes to Financial Statements

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD TRUST FUND
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET – ALL TRUST FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2003**

	Expendable Trust Fund Springfield Improvement Fund	Nonexpendable Trust Funds							Total (Memo Only)
		Parker Fund	Cemetery Fund	Library Fund	Campbell/ Woolson Fund	Stetson Fund	Eureka Fund	Doty Fund	
ASSETS									
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 47,375	\$ 77,898	\$ 133,821	\$ 94,342	\$ 7,151	\$ 4,869	\$ 5,228	\$ 1,507	\$ 372,191
Investments	63,608	136,330	224,800	153,541	12,517	7,920	8,517	2,445	609,678
Total Assets	\$ 110,983	\$ 214,228	\$ 358,621	\$ 247,883	\$ 19,668	\$ 12,789	\$ 13,745	\$ 3,952	\$ 981,869

LIABILITIES

None

FUND EQUITY

Fund Balance:

Reserved	\$ -	\$ 214,228	\$ 357,685	\$ 214,817	\$ 19,668	\$ 8,257	\$ 12,938	\$ 2,833	\$ 830,426
Restricted For Fund Purposes	110,983	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110,983
Unrestricted	-	-	936	33,066	-	4,532	807	1,119	40,460
Total Fund Balance	\$ 110,983	\$ 214,228	\$ 358,621	\$ 247,883	\$ 19,668	\$ 12,789	\$ 13,745	\$ 3,952	\$ 981,869

See Independent Auditors' Report and Notes to Financial Statements

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD TRUST FUND
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

	Parker Fund	Cemetery Fund	Library Fund	Campbell/ Woolson Fund	Stetson Fund	Eureka Fund	Doty Fund	Total (Memo Only)
REVENUE:								
Interest & Dividends	\$ 6,438	\$ 10,686	\$ 7,312	\$ 596	\$ 377	\$ 405	\$ 117	\$ 25,931
Contributions & Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Gains	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	6,438	10,686	7,312	596	377	405	117	25,931
EXPENSES:								
Accounting Expense	706	1,178	803	65	41	45	13	2,851
Relief of Indigents	5,742	-	-	540	-	-	-	6,282
Trustee Compensation	450	-	-	-	-	-	-	450
Miscellaneous Expense	49	82	57	5	3	3	1	200
Total Expenses	6,947	1,260	860	610	44	48	14	9,783
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(509)	9,426	6,452	(14)	333	357	103	16,148
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES):								
Realized & Unrealized								
Gain on Investments	798	1,648	1,230	101	64	68	19	3,928
Operating Transfers-(In)	-	6,500	-	-	-	-	-	6,500
Operating Transfers-(Out)	-	(10,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(10,000)
NET INCOME (LOSS)	289	7,574	7,682	87	397	425	122	16,576
Fund Balance - July 1, 2002	213,939	351,047	240,201	19,581	12,392	13,320	3,830	854,310
Fund Balance - June 30, 2003	\$ 214,228	\$ 358,621	\$ 247,883	\$ 19,668	\$ 12,789	\$ 13,745	\$ 3,952	\$ 870,886

See Independent Auditors' Report and Notes to Financial Statements

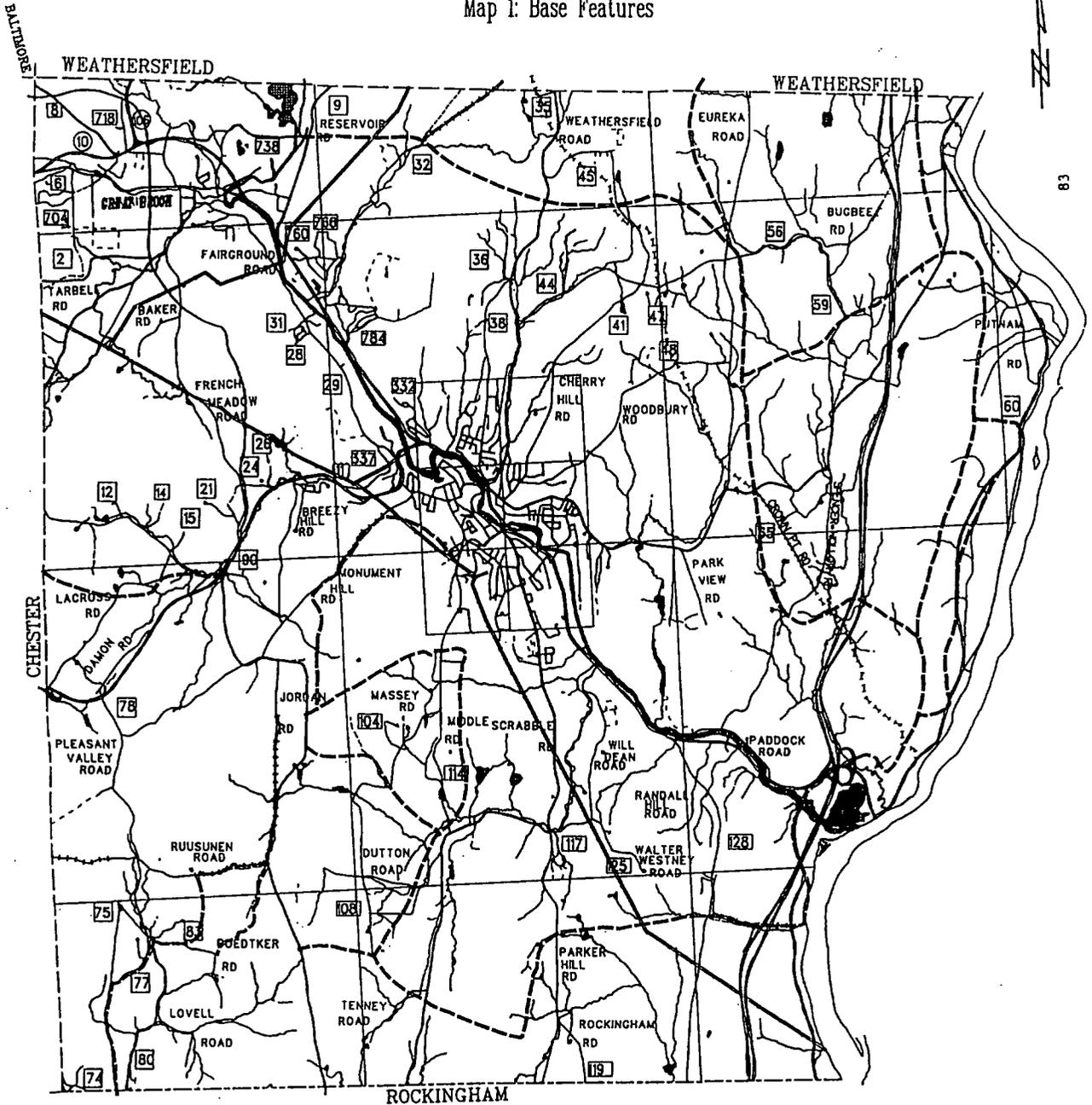
**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS – NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003**

	<u>Parker Fund</u>	<u>Cemetery Fund</u>	<u>Library Fund</u>	<u>Campbell/ Woolson Fund</u>	<u>Stetson Fund</u>	<u>Eureka Fund</u>	<u>Doty Fund</u>	<u>Total (Memo Only)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:								
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 289	\$ 7,574	\$ 7,682	\$ 87	\$ 397	\$ 425	\$ 122	\$ 16,576
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Cash Provided by Operating Activities:								
Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	<u>798</u>	<u>1,648</u>	<u>1,230</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>3,928</u>
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>1,087</u>	<u>9,222</u>	<u>8,912</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>461</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>20,504</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:								
None								
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:								
Purchase of Investments	(9,285)	(12,898)	(26,733)	(831)	(880)	(1,345)	(272)	(52,244)
Proceeds from Sales of Investments	<u>49,169</u>	<u>81,077</u>	<u>55,377</u>	<u>4,514</u>	<u>2,856</u>	<u>3,072</u>	<u>882</u>	<u>196,947</u>
Net Cash Provided by (Used In) Investing Activities:	<u>39,884</u>	<u>68,179</u>	<u>28,644</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>1,976</u>	<u>1,727</u>	<u>610</u>	<u>144,703</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) In Cash:	40,971	77,401	37,556	3,871	2,437	2,220	751	165,207
Cash - July 1, 2002	\$ <u>36,927</u>	\$ <u>56,420</u>	\$ <u>56,786</u>	\$ <u>3,280</u>	\$ <u>2,432</u>	\$ <u>3,008</u>	\$ <u>756</u>	\$ <u>159,609</u>
Cash- June 30, 2003	<u>\$ 77,898</u>	<u>\$ 133,821</u>	<u>\$ 94,342</u>	<u>\$ 7,151</u>	<u>\$ 4,869</u>	<u>\$ 5,228</u>	<u>\$ 1,507</u>	<u>\$ 324,816</u>

See Independent Auditors' Report and Notes to Financial Statements

Town of SPRINGFIELD, Vermont

Map 1: Base Features



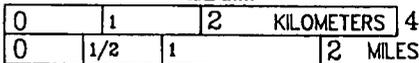
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	

SPRINGFIELD SHEET INDEX



MICRODATA

SCALE 1:50,000



ROADS & RAILROADS: Vermont AOT (Aerial Road Centerline) Project
SURFACE WATERS: As shown on USGS 7-1/2" quads and those added and confirmed from 1:25,000 infrared photos and 1:50,000 orthophotos.
TOWN BOUNDARIES: Extracted from digitized parcel maps.

All above features were located from 1975-78 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 Vermont Orthophotos with review by the Planning Commission and other town officials. Features not present at time of photography were placed as best possible in relation to other visible facilities.

Extreme care was used during the compilation of this map to insure accuracy. However, due to changing conditions, varied source map scales and the need for reliance on many outside sources, MicroData and the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions. There are no warranties which accompany this material.

The information depicted on this map is suitable for planning purposes only. It may not be adequate for legal boundary definition or regulatory interpretation.

UTILITY/FACILITY KEY

- ELECTRIC LINES
- Corridor Snow Mobile Trail
- Secondary Snow Mobile Trail
- Green Point Road
- Hiking Trail

TRANSPORTATION KEY

- Class 1 Town
- Class 2 Town
- Class 3 Town
- Class 4 Town
- State/U.S. Highway
- Interstate/Controlled Access
- Private Road
- Other Roads
- > Town Highway Number

SURFACE WATER

- Rivers, Brooks, Ponds & Lakes
- Small Brooks and Streams

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Springfield
Springfield, Vermont

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Springfield, Vermont as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Springfield, Vermont's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental 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 general fixed assets account group, which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effects on the general purpose financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Springfield, Vermont as of June 30, 2003, and the results of its operations and cash flows of its proprietary fund types for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

offices

57 Farmvu Drive
P.O. Box 707
White River Jct., VT 05001
(802) 295-9349

106 High Point Center
Suite 400
Colchester, VT 05446
(802) 654-7255

27 Center Street
P.O. Box 326
Rutland, VT 05702
(802) 773-2721

1020 Memorial Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
(802) 748-5654

181 North Main Street
St. Albans, VT 05478
(802) 527-0505

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Springfield
Page Two

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The combining financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Springfield, Vermont. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements, and, in our opinion, such information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 20, 2003, on our consideration of Town of Springfield, Vermont's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

November 20, 2003
Rutland, Vermont
VT Reg. No. 92-0000102

A. M. Peisch & Company, LLP

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
ALL FUND TYPES AND GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT ACCOUNT GROUP
June 30, 2003**

	-----Governmental Fund Types-----			Proprietary ----Fund Type---- Enterprise Funds	Account Group General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects			
ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 660,611	\$ 1,461,793	\$ 151,862	\$ 341,221	\$ -	\$ 2,615,487
Cash - Weathersfield Dam	131,440	-	-	-	-	131,440
Cash - Certificates of deposit	150,079	3,015,254	-	-	-	3,165,333
Delinquent property taxes	898,714	-	-	-	-	898,714
Accounts receivable, net	47,874	14,839	-	550,750	-	613,463
Interest and collector's fees receivable	230,033	51,936	-	-	-	281,969
Due from State of Vermont	1,005	3,623	-	-	-	4,628
Inventory	-	-	-	82,595	-	82,595
Due from other funds	149,046	-	-	11,110	-	160,156
Tax sale real estate	26,203	-	-	-	-	26,203
Long-term receivables, net	-	2,932,461	-	-	-	2,932,461
Property, plant and equipment, net	-	-	-	12,144,041	-	12,144,041
Amounts to be provided for retirement of long-term debt	-	-	-	-	1,432,890	1,432,890
Total assets	\$ 2,295,005	\$ 7,479,906	\$ 151,862	\$ 13,129,717	\$ 1,432,890	\$ 24,489,380

	LIABILITIES	LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY
Accounts payable	\$ 41,433	\$ -
Accrued payroll and related taxes	85,216	-
Accrued interest payable	-	515,208
Notes payable	-	2,365
Deferred revenues	-	9,884
Due to other funds	1,313,112	4,250,000
Accrued vacation pay	-	1,097,883
Accrued compensated absences	238,439	58,883
Long-term debt	-	25,240
		83,819
		1,190,076
Total liabilities	1,678,200	7,233,358
		1,432,890
		1,432,890

	COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES	FUND EQUITY
Contributions in aid of construction	-	-
Retained earnings	-	4,495,893
Fund balances:		1,400,466
Reserved for long-term receivables	-	-
Reserved for encumbrances	-	-
Reserved for special purposes	-	-
Designated for special purposes	-	-
Undesignated (deficit)	-	101,984
		400,454
Total fund equity	616,805	6,379,915
		101,984
		5,896,359
Total liabilities and fund equity	\$ 2,295,005	\$ 13,129,717
		1,432,890
		24,489,380

See accompanying notes.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
Year Ended June 30, 2003

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Total (Memorandum Only)
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 11,652,643	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,652,643
Less payments to School District	6,090,514	-	-	6,090,514
Net taxes	5,562,129	-	-	5,562,129
Payments in lieu of taxes	172,039	-	-	172,039
Intergovernmental revenue	364,371	3,923,535	-	4,287,906
Collector's fees and interest	136,312	-	-	136,312
Licenses, fees and permits	121,994	67,188	-	189,182
Charges for services	611,345	-	-	611,345
Interest on invested funds	23,374	77,243	-	100,617
Trails and greenways	-	2,624	-	2,624
Hydrogeneration revenue	4,671	-	-	4,671
Miscellaneous	25,207	18,097	-	43,304
Other reimbursements	11,954	-	-	11,954
Total revenues	7,033,396	4,088,687	-	11,122,083
EXPENDITURES				
Current operations:				
Finance and administration	491,276	-	-	491,276
Police	1,008,862	197	-	1,009,059
Fire and ambulance	780,945	-	-	780,945
Public Works	1,295,106	-	-	1,295,106
Parks and recreation	207,223	61,422	-	268,645
Senior Citizens	32,205	-	-	32,205
Library	325,361	-	-	325,361
Fixed costs	1,613,695	-	-	1,613,695
Other	194,035	32,000	-	226,035
Special appropriations	144,665	-	-	144,665
Windsor County Tax	47,375	-	-	47,375
Grant expenditures	-	3,453,458	-	3,453,458
Trails and greenways	-	7,149	-	7,149
Capital expenditures	381,913	-	-	381,913
Debt service:				
Interest	41,292	-	-	41,292
Principal	240,000	-	-	240,000
Total expenditures	6,803,953	3,554,226	-	10,358,179
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	229,443	534,461	-	763,904
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Proceeds of long term debt	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	-
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	229,443	534,461	-	763,904
Fund balances, beginning of year	387,362	5,845,454	101,984	6,334,800
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 616,805	\$ 6,379,915	\$ 101,984	\$ 7,098,704

See accompanying notes.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
GENERAL FUND - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS
Year Ended June 30, 2003

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES			
Local:			
Property taxes	\$ 5,505,731	\$ 5,361,533	\$ (144,198)
Payments in lieu of taxes	75,000	172,039	97,039
Collector's fees and interest	131,000	136,115	5,115
Licenses, fees and permits	68,200	110,741	42,541
Cemetaries	14,000	14,685	685
Public works	383,000	480,298	97,298
Police	43,000	101,880	58,880
Fire and ambulance	259,650	311,773	52,123
Parks and recreation	5,000	5,475	475
Library	6,500	5,446	(1,054)
Interest on invested funds	35,000	23,374	(11,626)
Other reimbursements	-	11,954	11,954
Hydro generation revenues	15,000	4,671	(10,329)
Equipment reimbursement	100,500	123,190	22,690
Miscellaneous revenue	17,000	20,569	3,569
	<u>6,658,581</u>	<u>6,883,743</u>	<u>225,162</u>
Total local			
Other appropriations raised by taxes:			
Special appropriations	152,165	152,165	-
Windsor County Tax	47,375	47,375	-
	<u>6,858,121</u>	<u>7,083,283</u>	<u>225,162</u>
Total revenues			
EXPENDITURES			
Finance and administration	518,935	481,623	37,312
Police	1,025,919	985,569	40,350
Fire and ambulance	757,935	830,567	(72,632)
Public Works	1,385,220	1,403,460	(18,240)
Parks and recreation	225,627	216,222	9,405
Senior Citizens	34,313	32,659	1,654
Library	308,654	324,013	(15,359)
Fixed costs	1,860,478	1,890,870	(30,392)
Reimbursable services - Other	125,500	189,994	(64,494)
Capital expenditures	416,000	430,734	(14,734)
	<u>6,658,581</u>	<u>6,785,711</u>	<u>(127,130)</u>
Total budget subtotal			
Other appropriations:			
Special appropriations	152,165	144,665	7,500
Windsor County Tax	47,375	47,375	-
	<u>6,858,121</u>	<u>6,977,751</u>	<u>(119,630)</u>
Total expenditures			
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 105,532</u>	<u>\$ 105,532</u>

See accompanying notes.

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
 COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES
 AND CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS - PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
 Year ended June 30, 2003**

	Proprietary Fund Type Enterprise Funds
OPERATING REVENUES	
Usage fees	\$ 1,436,618
Reimbursements	<u>21,725</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>1,458,343</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES	
Wages	539,853
Depreciation	278,950
Other operating expenses	<u>778,395</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>1,597,198</u>
Operating loss	<u>(138,855)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	
Interest income	23,286
Interest expense	<u>(25,654)</u>
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	<u>(2,368)</u>
Net loss	(141,223)
Retained earnings, beginning of year	<u>1,541,689</u>
Retained earnings, end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,400,466</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE
Year ended June 30, 2003

	Proprietary Fund Type Enterprise Funds
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash received from customers	\$ 1,455,959
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(531,758)
Cash payments to employees for services	(424,130)
	<u>500,071</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Increase in due from/due to other funds	71,638
Proceeds of short-term debt issued	1,000,000
Decrease in deferred revenues	647,455
	<u>1,719,093</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(3,920,876)
Interest capitalized on construction of assets	(75,514)
Contributed capital from State of Vermont	251,057
Principal paid	(77,120)
Interest paid	(18,957)
	<u>(3,841,410)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Interest on investments	<u>23,286</u>
	<u>23,286</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,598,960)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>1,940,181</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u><u>\$ 341,221</u></u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating loss	\$ (138,855)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	278,950
Provision for loss on receivables	39,000
Change in assets and liabilities:	
Increase in receivables	(2,384)
Increase in inventory	(13,509)
Increase in accounts payable	328,737
Increase in accrued liabilities	8,132
	<u>500,071</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u><u>\$ 500,071</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Town of Springfield is an incorporated municipality operating under "The Comprehensive Revision of the Charter of the Town of Springfield, Vermont" approved by the voters May 21, 1985. The Town receives the majority of its revenues from taxes assessed upon the real and personal property located within its borders. As described in Note 3, these property tax revenues are billed in installments and, by doing such the Town grants secured credit to its property owners, substantially all of whom are local residents.

The accounting policies of the Town of Springfield, Vermont conform to U. S. generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

Reporting entity

In evaluating how to define the government for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include a potential component unit in the reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in U. S. generally accepted accounting principles.

The basic, but not the only, criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to influence operations significantly, and accountability for fiscal matters.

A second criterion used to evaluate potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the government and/or its citizens and whether the activity is conducted within the geographic boundaries of the government and is generally available to its citizens.

A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the government is able to exercise oversight responsibilities.

Based on the application of these three criteria, the following is a brief review of each potential component unit addressed in defining the government's reporting entity.

Excluded from the reporting entity:

- Springfield School District
- Trustees of Public Funds
- Springfield Housing Authority
- NH/VT Solid Waste Project

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund accounting

The accounts of the Town are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for using a separate set of self balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate.

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 and account groups are grouped, in the general purpose financial statements in this report, into four generic fund types and three broad fund categories as follows:

Governmental funds

General fund - The general fund is the general operating fund of the Town. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Special revenue fund - Special revenue fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trusts or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. The special revenue fund of the Town consists of state and federal grants and is also used to account for the financing of public improvements or services deemed to benefit the properties against which special assessments are levied.

Capital project fund - The capital project fund is used to account for activities relating to a major paving and sidewalk project.

Proprietary funds

Enterprise funds - Enterprise funds are used to account for operations: (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes. Included in this fund type are the water and sewer fund and the solid waste utility fund.

General fixed asset account group

The Town has not established a record of its general fixed assets. Therefore, all asset additions are charged to current operations and are not controlled through general fixed asset records. If U. S. generally accepted accounting principles were applied, fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) would be accounted for in the general fixed assets account group.

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

General fixed asset account group (Continued)

Public domain ("infrastructure") general fixed assets consisting of roads, bridges, curbs and gutters, streets and sidewalks, drainage systems and lighting systems are not capitalized, as these assets are immovable and of value only to the government.

General long-term debt account group

Long-term liabilities expected to be financed from governmental funds are accounted for in the general long-term debt account group, not in the governmental funds. The long-term debt account group is not a "fund". It is concerned only with the measurement of financial position. It is not involved with measurement of results of operations.

Total columns on combined statements

Total columns on the combined statements are captioned "Memorandum only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations or changes in financial position in conformity with 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.

Basis of accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the general purpose financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurement made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

All governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Anticipated refunds of such taxes are recorded as liabilities and reductions of revenue when they are measurable and their validity seems certain. The Town considers property taxes as available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end.

Expenditures, other than interest on long-term debt, are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

All proprietary funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they are earned, and their expenses are recognized when they are incurred. The government applies all applicable FASB pronouncements issued before December 1, 1989 in accounting and reporting for its proprietary operations in accordance with Statement No. 20 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The Town Water and Sewer Department bills on a cyclical basis monthly resulting in each customer receiving a bill semi-annually. This billing method does not capture all amounts receivable by the Town at the end of each fiscal year. The estimated unbilled water and sewer fund utility service receivables are recorded at year end. The Solid Waste Utility Fund is inactive and does no billings.

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Basis of accounting (Continued)

The Town reports deferred revenue on its combined balance sheet. Deferred revenues arise when a potential revenue does not meet both the "measurable" and "available" criteria for recognition in the current period. The Town's management had defined "available" as received within 60 days. Deferred revenues also arise when resources are received by the government before it has a legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures or when property taxes are paid before they are due. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, or when the government has a legal claim to the resources, the liability for deferred revenue is removed from the combined balance sheet and revenue is recognized.

Intergovernmental revenues received as reimbursements for specific purposes or projects are recognized at the time of receipt or earlier if measurable and available. Intergovernmental grants which are restricted for certain purposes are recognized at the same time the related expenditures are recognized. Any excess of revenues or expenditures as of the fiscal year end is recognized as deferred revenue or accounts receivable, respectively.

Budgets and budgetary accounting

The Town follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the general purpose financial statements:

1. Prior to June 30, the Town Manager submits to the Board of Selectmen, a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
3. At the Town Meeting, the first Tuesday in March, the budget is legally enacted by vote of the taxpayers.
4. The Town Manager is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund; however, any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the Board of Selectmen. The budget is shown as originally passed.
5. Budgetary integration - Formal budgetary integration is used as a management control device during the year for the general fund.

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Budgets and budgetary accounting (Continued)

6. Basis of accounting for budgets - Budgets are adopted on the budgetary basis of accounting. This differs from U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in several respects. The following is a summary of the major adjustments necessary to convert from GAAP basis to the budgetary basis for the governmental fund types.

General Fund

Excess of revenues over expenditures, GAAP basis	\$229,443
Adjustments:	
Net change in encumbrances	(54,821)
Equipment fund contributions	(185,000)
Equipment fund reimbursement	76,475
Change in accruals	70,511
Records restoration contribution	(12,032)
Records restoration expense	4,212
Reappraisal fund contribution	(<u>23,256</u>)
Excess of revenues over expenditures, budgetary basis	<u>\$105,532</u>

In addition to the above adjustments, certain reclassifications have been made to show the original budget format.

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 as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the general and special revenue funds. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reported as reservations of fund balances since they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities. Appropriations lapse at year end.

Fund balance - Reserved for special purposes

As of June 30, 2003, the reserved for special purposes fund balance represents cash segregated for special purposes:

Weathersfield Dam	<u>\$131,440</u>
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Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Fund balance - Designated for special purposes

As of June 30, 2003, the general fund designated for special purposes fund balance represents the following funds:

Ambulance equipment fund	\$ 65,146
Fire equipment fund	93,283
Highway equipment fund	78,016
Parks and recreation equipment fund	47,792
Re-appraisal	150,079
Records restoration	<u>45,921</u>
	<u>\$480,237</u>

The special revenue fund – designated for special purposes represents funds reserved for civic improvements

Contribution in aid of construction

Contributed capital is recorded in proprietary funds that have received capital grants or contributions from grants, developers, customers or other funds. Reserves represent those portions of fund equity not appropriable for expenditure or legally segregated for a specific future use.

Cash flows

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the proprietary fund considers all highly liquid investments (including restricted assets) with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Inventory

Inventory is valued at weighted average cost in the proprietary fund. Other funds use the purchase method of accounting for inventory which records inventory as an expenditure when purchased rather than when used.

Compensated absences

Vested or accumulated vacation leave that is expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as an expenditure and a fund liability of the governmental fund that will pay it. Amounts of vested or accumulated vacation leave that are not expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources are reported in the general long-term debt account group. No expenditure is reported for these amounts.

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Compensated absences (Continued)

Accumulated sick pay estimated to be paid on retirement is reported in the general long-term debt account group.

Vested or accumulated vacation leave of proprietary funds is recorded as an expense and liability of those funds as the benefits accrue to employees. In accordance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 16, no liability is recorded for nonvesting accumulated rights to receive sick pay benefits. However, a liability is recognized for that portion of accumulated sick leave benefits that it is estimated will be taken as "terminal leave" prior to retirement.

Long-term assets

Noncurrent portions of long-term receivables due to governmental funds are reported on their balance sheet. However, special reporting treatments are used to indicate that they should not be considered "available spendable resources", since they do not represent net current assets. Accordingly, noncurrent portions of long-term note receivable are offset by fund balance reserve accounts.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets in the proprietary funds are valued at historical cost. Donated fixed assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date donated. The Town's policy is to capitalize interest costs incurred during the construction of fixed assets. Interest capitalized in the Water and Sewer Fund totalled \$75,514 during the current fiscal year.

Depreciation of all exhaustible fixed assets used by proprietary funds is charged as an expense against their operations. Accumulated depreciation is reported on proprietary fund balance sheets. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives used are as follows:

	Years
Wellfields, reservoirs, mains and pipe	67
Treatment plants and pump stations	40
Meters and hydrants	10 - 67
Chlorinating and pumping facilities	50
Equipment	5 - 20

Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash belonging to the Town is placed in the custody of the Town Treasurer who is appointed. The Town periodically reviews the relative strength of the financial institutions with which it has a deposit relationship. Based upon ratings provided by independent research groups, management determines when collateral is required to secure Town deposit accounts.

Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents (Continued)

There are three categories of credit risk that apply to the Town's bank balance:

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

Balances held in each category at June 30, 2003 were as follows:

	Carrying Amount	Bank Balance
Insured (FDIC)	\$ 543,490	\$ 626,263
Uninsured:		
Collateral held by Manufacturers and Traders Trust in Town and Bank's names	3,562,765	4,243,665
Uncollateralized	<u>1,806,005</u>	<u>1,862,518</u>
 Total deposits	 <u>\$5,912,260</u>	 <u>\$6,732,446</u>

Due to higher cash flows during certain times of the year, the Town's uninsured and uncollateralized deposits in banks were substantially higher than at year-end. The Town has entered into a repurchase agreement with one of its banks. The value of the Town's interest in the securities pool was \$776,740 at June 30, 2003.

Note 3. Receivables

Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of July 1. Taxes were levied on June 30 and were payable in installments on August 15, October 5, January 5, and April 5. The Town bills and collects its own property taxes and also collects taxes for the Springfield School District. Collections of school taxes and their remittance to the Town School District are accounted for in the General Fund. The state sets both the state and local school tax rates. Town property tax revenues are recognized when levied to the extent that they result in current receivables.

The combined tax rate for various general governmental services was as follows (per \$100 assessed value):

Town assessment	\$1.473
School assessment - State	1.190
School assessment- Local	.629
Special appropriations	.041
Windsor County tax	.013
Abatements and charge-offs	<u>.004</u>
 2002-03 total assessment Town and School Tax	 <u>\$3.350</u>

Note 3. Receivables (Continued)

Receivables consisted of the following as of June 30, 2003:

	Gross Receivable	Allowance for Uncollectible	Net Receivable
General fund:			
Delinquent property taxes	\$898,714	\$ -0-	\$898,714
Accounts receivable	96,874	49,000	47,874
Interest and collector's fees receivable	230,033	-0-	230,033
Due from State of Vermont	1,005	-0-	1,005
Special revenue:			
Interest receivable	51,936	-0-	51,936
Accounts receivable	14,839	-0-	14,839
Due from State of Vermont	3,623	-0-	3,623
Long-term receivable	2,979,461	47,000	2,932,461
Water and sewer fund:			
Services billed	277,845	68,000	209,845
Estimated unbilled services	332,333	-0-	332,333
Other accounts receivable	8,572	-0-	8,572

Note 4. Vermont Community Development Grants - Long-Term Receivables

The Town is a participant in the Vermont Community Development Grant Program which provides funding for acquisition and rehabilitation projects within the community. These funds have been awarded to the Town and then loaned to various local not-for-profit and business entities. Repayment of these loans established a revolving loan fund. The loans generally provide for interest ranging from 0% to 6% and are payable over varying terms, as follows:

	June 30, 2002	Addition	Repayment	June 30, 2003
Smokeshire; 4% interest annually, beginning September 1, 2001, payment to commence October 1, 2001. Interest added to principal and amortized over fifteen years beginning September 1, 2001, secured by machinery and equipment.	\$194,930	\$ -0-	\$14,357	\$180,573
Mountain View, 2% interest annually, unpaid interest to be added to principal annually, payable with principal on December 31, 2030; secured by land and buildings.	744,696	14,749	-0-	759,445

Note 4. Vermont Community Development Grants - Long-Term Receivables (Continued)

	June 30, 2002	Addition	Repayment	June 30, 2003
SouthView, original terms, \$175,000 bears interest at 2% interest accrued and deferred two years, beginning October, 1994, interest and principal amortized over 28 years; balance of \$102,368 interest free for thirty years, then loan bears interest at 6% and is repaid over the next twenty years.	243,239	-0-	5,729	237,510
Parent Child Center, 0% interest, principal repayment deferred 10 years until August, 2002, then discharged if Parent Child Center is still in business, secured by land and building.	119,000	-0-	119,000	-0-
Springfield Regional Development Corporation (Robert S. Jones Industrial Complex), 3% interest, payment of principal and interest deferred two years to March, 1997, accrued interest added to principal and amortized over eighteen years beginning March, 1997.	319,984	-0-	21,204	298,780
Springfield Housing Associates (Westview Project), \$400,000 installment note, 3% interest, payment deferred five years to January, 2001, accrued interest and principal will be amortized over fifteen years with a \$350,000 balloon payment due December, 2015. Secured by land and buildings.	450,866	-0-	6,321	444,545

Note 4. Vermont Community Development Grants - Long-Term Receivables (Continued)

	June 30, 2002	Addition	Repayment	June 30, 2003
Blair Country Inns, Inc., 9.50% interest, 59 equal monthly installments of \$261 each including principal and interest, due April 6, 1998 thru March 5, 2003. Secured by land and building.	21,052	-0-	877	20,175
Rockingham Area Community Land Trust, 6.375% interest, 84 equal monthly installments of \$296 each including principal and interest, due March 1, 2000 thru February 1, 2005. Secured by land and building.	8,434	-0-	3,110	5,324
Rockingham Area Community Land Trust, 1% interest, with no monthly payments for the first 8 years, monthly interest payments of \$137 in years 9 through 20, entire balance and interest due on June 9, 2018 unless certain conditions are met, at which point the entire loan will be forgiven. Secured by land and building.	98,647	-0-	-0-	98,647
Java Stars, Inc., 7.5% interest, monthly payments of \$237, July 2000 through June 2005, secured by subordinate interest in business equipment	17,990	-0-	505	17,485
Springfield Fence Company, 2% interest, payment deferred five years to November, 2000, no accrued interest, amortized 20 years beginning December, 2000. Secured by land and buildings.	214,952	-0-	9,752	205,200

Note 4. Vermont Community Development Grants - Long-Term Receivables (Continued)

	June 30, 2002	Addition	Repayment	June 30, 2003
Antoniewich, Byington & Westfall, 5.0% interest, 120 installments of \$237 per month beginning June 8, 2002, secured by 3rd Mortgage on real estate.	29,774	-0-	1,384	28,390
Precision Valley Development Corp., maximum of \$45,000, interest accruing from November 29, 2001, principal and interest due upon sale of Fellows Building or July 1, 2002 if sooner.	15,000	-0-	-0-	15,000
Precision Valley Development Corp., maximum of \$50,000, interest accruing from November 29, 2001, principal and interest due upon sale of Fellows Building or July 1, 2002 if sooner.	23,285	-0-	-0-	23,285
Craig Barrett & VT Machine Tool Corp. 0% interest. Maximum of \$600,000. All amounts due July 22, 2003.	350,000	250,000	600,000	-0-
Vermont Machine Tool Corp., interest at 4%, accumulated interest added to principal, monthly payments of \$4,527 to begin November 2003. All amounts due October 2018	-0-	605,523	-0-	605,523
Springfield Metallurgical Services interest at 5%, monthly payments of \$237. Balance of principal and any accrued interest due July 2009	-0-	16,800	1,881	14,919
Morning Dew Real Estate, LLC and NBC Solid Surfaces, Inc., interest at 4%, monthly payments of \$253, balance of principal and interest due April 2013.	-0-	25,000	340	24,660
	<u>\$2,851,849</u>	<u>\$912,072</u>	<u>\$784,460</u>	<u>\$2,979,461</u>

Note 5. Changes in Fixed Assets

Property, plant and equipment transactions were as follows:

	Balance June 30, 2002	Net Additions (Deletions)	Balance June 30, 2003
Water and sewer fund:			
Land	\$ 44,941	\$ -0-	\$ 44,941
Wellfields, reservoirs, mains and pipes	4,696,649	325,668	5,022,317
Treatment plants and pump stations	4,253,156	-0-	4,253,156
Meters and hydrants	264,552	(72,027)	192,525
Chlorinating and pumping facilities	305,247	(20,056)	285,191
Equipment	623,093	(117,144)	505,949
Construction in progress	3,819,395	3,670,721	7,490,116
Idle facilities - Treatment plant	128,293	-0-	128,293
	<u>14,135,326</u>	<u>3,787,162</u>	<u>17,922,488</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	(5,708,725)	(69,722)	(5,778,447)
	<u>\$8,426,601</u>	<u>\$ 3,717,440</u>	<u>\$12,144,041</u>

Note 6. Notes Payable

Short-term notes payable consisted of the following at June 30, 2003:

Water and Sewer Fund - Bond Anticipation Notes -

The Town has borrowed \$4,250,000 in anticipation of issuing bonds relating to construction projects. The notes bear interest at 1.75% and are payable on or before June 18, 2004.

Note 7. Deferred Revenues

The deferred revenue amounts are comprised of and relate to the following:

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Proprietary Fund	Total
Uncollected property taxes	\$857,045	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 857,045
Uncollected interest and fees	224,224	-0-	-0-	224,224
SEP Project	1,000	-0-	-0-	1,000
Act 200 grant	-0-	5,707	-0-	5,707
Other grants	-0-	19,352	-0-	19,352
Special assessments	-0-	14,839	-0-	14,839
Access fees	-0-	-0-	1,012,113	1,012,113
Pump station upgrade	-0-	-0-	60,770	60,770
Library grant	-0-	22,550	-0-	22,550
State of Vermont	230,843	945,940	-0-	1,176,783
Roof drains	-0-	-0-	25,000	25,000
	<u>\$1,313,112</u>	<u>\$1,008,388</u>	<u>\$1,097,883</u>	<u>\$3,419,383</u>

Note 8. General Long-Term Obligations Payable

General Long-Term Debt Account Group

	Amount of Issue	Date of Issue	Interest Rate	Date of Final Payment	Town Debt June 30, 2002	Retirements	Additions	Town Debt June 30, 2003
EPA loan	\$ 291,691	6/29/98	0.00%	7/10/04	\$ 81,759	\$ 31,087	\$ -0-	\$ 50,672
Repaving and sidewalks	550,000	7/10/97	3.70-4.40%	12/1/02	110,000	110,000	-0-	-0-
Equipment loan	100,000	6/19/02	3%	12/16/03	100,000	50,000	-0-	50,000
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank	600,000	7/26/01	2.80-4.98%	12/1/16	600,000	40,000	-0-	560,000
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank	900,000	7/27/94	3.83-5.73%	12/1/04	<u>270,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>180,000</u>
Total general obligation debt					1,161,759	321,087	-0-	840,672
Accrued compensated absences					<u>565,328</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>26,890</u>	<u>592,218</u>
					<u>\$1,727,087</u>	<u>\$321,087</u>	<u>\$26,890</u>	<u>\$1,432,890</u>

General obligation debt of the Town matures, including interest, as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total
2003 - 2004	\$ 213,303	\$ 34,902	\$ 248,205
2004 - 2005	147,369	25,358	172,727
2005 - 2006	40,000	20,322	60,322
2006 - 2007	40,000	18,840	58,840
2007 - 2008	40,000	17,288	57,288
2009 - 2013	200,000	61,105	261,105
2014 - 2018	<u>160,000</u>	<u>15,710</u>	<u>175,710</u>
	<u>\$840,672</u>	<u>\$193,525</u>	<u>\$1,034,197</u>

Interest expense on this debt amounted to \$44,761 for the year ended June 30, 2003.

Water and sewer enterprise fund

Although recorded as obligations of the water and sewer fund, in the event of default, the Town remains ultimately liable for payment of debt.

Purpose	Amount of Issue	Date of Issue	Interest Rate	Date of Final Payment	Town Debt June 30, 2002	Retire- ments	Additions	Town Debt June 30, 2003
VT Muni Bonds								
RF1-019	982,189	5/27/98	0%	10/1/22	\$ 703,347	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 703,347
RF3-034	597,700	7/10/00	3%	10/1/21	325,668	12,119	-0-	313,549
RF1-053	50,000	5/27/98	0%	10/1/16	43,180	-0-	-0-	43,180
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank	670,000	7/27/94	3.83% - 5.73%	12/1/04	<u>195,000</u>	<u>65,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>130,000</u>
					<u>\$1,267,195</u>	<u>\$77,119</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$1,190,076</u>

Note 8. General long-term obligations payable (Continued)

Long-term debt of the water and sewer department, including interest, matures as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total
2003 - 2004	\$ 124,373	\$ 15,152	\$ 139,525
2004 - 2005	124,748	10,895	135,643
2005 - 2006	60,134	8,646	68,780
2006 - 2007	70,531	8,249	78,780
2007 - 2008	70,940	7,840	78,780
2009 - 2013	334,463	32,615	367,078
2014 - 2018	323,527	20,379	343,906
2019 - 2022	<u>81,360</u>	<u>5,992</u>	<u>87,352</u>
	<u>\$ 1,190,076</u>	<u>\$109,768</u>	<u>\$1,299,844</u>

Interest expense on this debt amounted to \$25,684 for the year ended June 30, 2003.

Note 9. Interfund Accounts

A summary of interfund due from/due to accounts is as follows:

	Receivables	Payables
General	\$149,046	\$ -0-
Special revenue	-0-	51,395
Water and sewer	11,110	58,883
Capital projects	<u>-0-</u>	<u>49,878</u>
	<u>\$160,156</u>	<u>\$160,156</u>

Note 10. Municipal Employees' Retirement System

Substantially all of the employees of the Town of Springfield are covered by the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System which is a cost sharing multiple employer retirement system. Group A members contribute at a rate of 2.5%, Group B members contribute at a rate of 4.5% and Group C members contribute at rates of 9% and 10% of payroll. The retirement benefit is equal to from 1.4 percent to 2.5 percent of their final average three or five year compensation, depending on the dates of service, for each year of credited service, up to a maximum of 50 percent of the applicable average compensation. The contributions made by the Town and its participating employees were \$168,145 and \$195,107 respectively during the year ended June 30, 2003. Town contributions required and contributed for the years ended June 30, 2002 and 2001 were \$161,051 and \$156,218, respectively.

Additional information regarding the Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System is available upon request from the State of Vermont.

Note 11. Other Required Individual Fund Disclosures

U.S. Generally accepted accounting principles require disclosure as part of the combined statements of certain information concerning individual funds including:

- A. Segment information for certain individual Enterprise funds. This requirement is effectively met in this report by Note 12 and the accompanying combining balance sheet - all enterprise funds, the combining statement of revenues, expenses and changes in retained earnings - all enterprise funds, and the combining statement of cash flows - all enterprise funds.
- B. Summary disclosures of debt service requirements to maturity for all types of outstanding debt. This requirement is met by Note 8.
- C. Summary disclosures of changes in fixed assets by major asset class. This requirement is met by Note 5.
- D. Summary disclosures of changes in general long-term debt. This requirement is met by Note 8.
- E. Individual fund interfund receivable and payable balances. This requirement is met by Note 9.
- F. The general fund had an unreserved, undesignated deficit fund balance of \$340,446. This is to be liquidated through additional future tax assessments.

Note 12. Segment Information for Proprietary Fund

Segment information for the enterprise funds for the year ended June 30, 2003 follows:

	Water and Sewer	Solid Waste Utility	Totals
Operating revenues	\$ 1,458,343	\$ -0-	\$ 1,458,343
Depreciation	278,950	-0-	278,950
Operating loss	138,818	37	138,855
Net income (loss)	(141,186)	(37)	(41,223)
Net additions to fixed assets	3,787,162	-0-	3,787,162
Net working capital	(3,977,985)	2,948	(3,975,037)
Total assets	13,126,769	2,948	13,129,717
Long-term liabilities payable:			
from operating revenues	2,272,645	-0-	2,272,645
Total fund equity	5,893,411	2,948	5,896,359

Note 13. Commitments and Contingencies

Litigation

In the ordinary course of business, the Town is party to miscellaneous litigation matters which in the opinion of the Town officials will not have a material effect on the Town's general purpose financial statements.

Note 13. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

Superfund

On June 6, 1991, the Springfield Board of Selectmen voted to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a "Partial Consent Decree" with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Browning-Ferris Industries of Vermont, Inc., Emhart Industries, Inc. and Textron, Inc. The Town of Springfield voted to approve the decree on July 30, 1991.

This Partial Consent Decree serves principally to outline the legal duties and relationships of the settling defendants with regard to the "Record of Decision" (R.O.D.). The R.O.D. is the EPA decision document which sets forth the action for remediation from the seeps and known areas of groundwater contamination.

The Town will operate and maintain the pre-treatment plant(s) for 29 years following one year of operation by Textron and Emhart. The effluent from the pre-treatment plant will be treated at the sewage treatment facility. In consideration of Springfield's efforts, Emhart and Textron have paid the Town \$200,000. The Town is also responsible for oversight costs incurred by the U.S. EPA. A discounted liability of \$197,869, for past oversight costs of \$229,691, was recorded in the long-term debt account group. The costs are to be repaid over 7 years at 0% interest. At June 30, 2003 the balance owed is \$50,672.

Sewer and Water Capital Projects

The Town is involved in the following projects relating to upgrades of its water, wastewater treatment, and combined sewer overflow facilities.

	Total Estimated Cost	Capitalized To Construction In Progress
Water Improvement	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 158,584
Wastewater Treatment	10,811,000	3,222,440
Combined Sewer Overflow	8,000,000	4,109,092
	<u>\$22,811,000</u>	<u>\$7,490,116</u>

The voters have approved the issuance of \$11.5 million in bonds to cover the Town's share of these projects. Construction in progress includes \$338,731 of capitalized interest cost.

Revolving loan fund agreements

The Town of Springfield has entered into agreements with the State of Vermont Environmental Protection Agency to borrow \$3,800,000 for certain projects. The amount borrowed by the Town of Springfield can only be spent on the project for which the loan is made and any approved amendments. The Town had drawn \$1,072,195 under these agreements at June 30, 2003. Repayment has commenced on one of these loans.

Note 13. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

Revolving loan fund agreements (Continued)

The Town of Springfield has entered into agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development to borrow \$4,496,700 for Sewer and Water Capital Projects. Rural Development has also agreed to lend the Town 37.5% of the next phase of the Combined Sewer Overflow Project. The exact amount of this loan will be known when contracts are signed for this part of the project.

Grants

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount of expenditures, if any, which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the Town expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Note 14. Risk Management

The Town 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 Town maintains insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the Town. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

In addition, the Town of Springfield is a member of Vermont League of Cities and Towns Insurance Programs (VLCT). VLCT is a nonprofit corporation formed in 1967 to provide insurance and risk management programs for Vermont municipalities and is owned by the participating towns.

The Town elected to establish a self-funded health insurance program. This is administered by a third party payor. The Town has purchased a reinsurance policy and is responsible for employees' claims up to the reinsurance levels. This program is funded on a pay as you go basis. This plan ceased effective September 1, 2002. Currently the Town purchases Blue Cross-Blue Shield insurance through the Vermont league of Cities and Towns.

To provide property and casualty coverage, VLCT has established a self-funded insurance program. A portion of member contributions are used to fund a risk management pool and to purchase reinsurance. Contributions in excess of claims requirements, reserve fund requirements, reinsurance and administrative costs are returned to participants. Pooling agreement allows for additional assessments to its members when a deficit exists.

Note 14. Risk Management (Continued)

To provide unemployment coverage, VLCT has established a separate trust of funds from member contributions to pay administrative costs, and unemployment claims. Contributions are based on payroll expense and the previous two year unemployment compensation experience. In the event that total contributions assessed to and made by all members result in an actual or projected financial deficit and VLCT is unable to meet its required obligations, the Program will be allowed to assess each member their proportionate share of the deficit.

Note 15. Taxpayer Bankruptcy

Fellows Corporation, Bryant Grinder and J & L Tool have ceased operations in Springfield. At June 30, 2003 the following amounts were owed to the Town:

	Delinquent Taxes	Fees and Interest	Water and Sewer Charges
Property:			
Fellows Corporation	\$427,893	\$113,589	\$33,932
Bryant Grinder	154,305	40,403	6,433
J & L Tool	1,592	416	-0-

These taxpayers represent 10.2% of total tax revenues billed for the town during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003. The Town received a payment of \$282,931 for back taxes on the Fellows Corporation's real estate on September 10, 2003.

ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - ALL ENTERPRISE FUNDS
June 30, 2003

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Utility Fund	Total
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 338,273	\$ 2,948	\$ 341,221
Accounts receivable, net	550,750	-	550,750
Inventory	82,595	-	82,595
Due from other funds	11,110	-	11,110
	<u>982,728</u>	<u>2,948</u>	<u>985,676</u>
Total current assets			
Property, plant and equipment, net	<u>12,144,041</u>	-	<u>12,144,041</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 13,126,769</u>	<u>\$ 2,948</u>	<u>\$ 13,129,717</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$ 515,208	\$ -	\$ 515,208
Accrued payroll	2,365	-	2,365
Accrued interest payable	9,884	-	9,884
Due to other funds	58,883	-	58,883
Notes payable	4,250,000	-	4,250,000
Current portion of long-term debt	124,373	-	124,373
	<u>4,960,713</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,960,713</u>
Total current liabilities			
Deferred revenue	1,097,883	-	1,097,883
Accrued vacation pay	25,240	-	25,240
Accrued compensated absences	83,819	-	83,819
Long-term debt	1,065,703	-	1,065,703
	<u>2,272,645</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,272,645</u>
Total noncurrent liabilities			
Total liabilities	<u>7,233,358</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,233,358</u>
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES			
FUND EQUITY			
Contributions in aid of construction	4,495,893	-	4,495,893
Retained earnings	1,397,518	2,948	1,400,466
	<u>5,893,411</u>	<u>2,948</u>	<u>5,896,359</u>
Total fund equity			
Total liabilities and fund equity	<u>\$ 13,126,769</u>	<u>\$ 2,948</u>	<u>\$ 13,129,717</u>

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS - ALL ENTERPRISE FUNDS
Year ended June 30, 2003

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Utility Fund	Total
OPERATING REVENUES			
Usage fees	\$ 1,436,618	\$ -	\$ 1,436,618
Reimbursements	<u>21,725</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,725</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>1,458,343</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,458,343</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Wages	539,853	-	539,853
Depreciation	278,950	-	278,950
Other operating expenses	<u>778,358</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>778,395</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>1,597,161</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>1,597,198</u>
Operating loss	<u>(138,818)</u>	<u>(37)</u>	<u>(138,855)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)			
Interest income	23,286	-	23,286
Interest expense	<u>(25,654)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,654)</u>
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	<u>(2,368)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,368)</u>
Net income (loss)	(141,186)	(37)	(141,223)
Retained earnings, beginning of year	<u>1,538,704</u>	<u>2,985</u>	<u>1,541,689</u>
Retained earnings, end of year	<u>\$ 1,397,518</u>	<u>\$ 2,948</u>	<u>\$ 1,400,466</u>

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
COMBINING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
ALL ENTERPRISE FUNDS
Year ended June 30, 2003

	Water and Sewer Fund	Solid Waste Utility Fund	Total
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Cash received from customers	\$ 1,455,959	\$ -	\$ 1,455,959
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(531,721)	(37)	(531,758)
Cash payments to employees for services	(424,130)	-	(424,130)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	500,108	(37)	500,071
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Change in due from/due to other funds	71,638	-	71,638
Proceeds of short-term debt issued	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Increase in deferred revenues	647,455	-	647,455
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	1,719,093	-	1,719,093
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(3,920,876)	-	(3,920,876)
Interest capitalized on construction of assets	(75,514)	-	(75,514)
Contributed capital from State of Vermont	251,057	-	251,057
Principal paid	(77,120)	-	(77,120)
Interest paid	(18,957)	-	(18,957)
Net cash used in capital and related financing activities	(3,841,410)	-	(3,841,410)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Interest on investments	23,286	-	23,286
Net cash provided by investing activities	23,286	-	23,286
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,598,923)	(37)	(1,598,960)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,937,196	2,985	1,940,181
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 338,273	\$ 2,948	\$ 341,221
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Operating loss	\$ (138,818)	\$ (37)	\$ (138,855)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	278,950	-	278,950
Provision for losses on receivables	39,000	-	39,000
Change in assets and liabilities:			
Increase in receivables	(2,384)	-	(2,384)
Increase in inventory	(13,509)	-	(13,509)
Increase in accounts payable	328,737	-	328,737
Increase in accrued liabilities	8,132	-	8,132
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$ 500,108	\$ (37)	\$ 500,071

REPORTS OF SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

The Springfield School District mission statement is: "The Springfield Schools will empower individuals to think, learn, and act intelligently; to develop self-worth; and to conduct themselves with integrity and concern for others."

Thus the mission of the Springfield School District is to not only ensure that students gain appropriate education skills; but also, to ensure that they become creative, positive, intelligent, ethical and concerned members of the Springfield community. This is an extremely important concept at a time when the town of Springfield works to re-define its present and create its future.

It has been my experience that positive educational change occurs best when the local community joins with the district in an effort to improve the quality of the educational experience for the betterment of all children. Thus, I want to commend the Springfield community for its continuing interest, perceptive knowledge and total commitment to the children, staff and programs provided by the district. I have never had the good fortune of working with a community that evidenced so much concern, interest, and understanding of their schools. Clearly any systemic educational change can occur more smoothly and effectively with the support of an understanding and supportive community.

The district is involved in state and national assessment programs that help us to pinpoint areas that need continued improvement and to point out areas in which the district is excelling. These results are used by district personnel to develop in-service programs to target and eliminate these areas of concern. These assessment results are explained in a concise and clear manner in the district's 2003-2004 School Report and document the educational advances that our children are making.

The district prepares an annual School Report that provides information to the community concerning such important topics as assessment results, drop out rates, college acceptance rates, school budget, school volunteers, and program descriptions. We will be distributing copies of the 2003-2004 School Report to all interested community members. Please call the district office at 885-5141, extension 16, to request a copy of this informative report.

I want to thank the town of Springfield for its warmth, hospitality, friendliness and continuing support for education. Please remember that the district office is ready to listen to complaint or compliment and to offer help and assistance.

Dr. Rose Rooth
Superintendent

DIRECTOR OF FISCAL SERVICES

The annual audit of the financial records of the Springfield School District for the 2002-2003 school year had not yet been completed as of the due date for being printed in the Town Report. If anyone wishes to review the audit report upon its completion, they may contact Steve Hier at 885-5141, x14.

The preliminary audit report shows that, for the 2002-2003 fiscal year, the school district had a net excess of revenues over expenditures, resulting in a surplus of \$230,106. The River Valley Technical Center also had a net excess of revenues over expenditures, resulting in a surplus of \$6,323.

Steven Hier
Director of Fiscal Services

SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

The continuity of the curriculum in grades K-12 is assured by a scheduled sequence of curriculum review by a committee of teachers under the guidance of the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. The reviews ensure that expectations delineated in Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities are taught and assessed at appropriate grade levels. Necessary adjustments are made so that the curriculum reflects current research and is clearly articulated, with each year's study built upon the last. When there is a change in a curriculum area, teachers review various resources (text-books, websites, videos, primary sources, or other materials) necessary to address the variety of learning needs of our students. Before selecting any new materials, instructional effectiveness, factual accuracy, and cost are considered.

Effective instruction requires teachers to be up to date on content and instructional strategies relevant to the learning needs and styles of students. Professional development including in-service training, workshops, conferences, and classroom-based model teaching help improve student learning. In this past year, many teachers have participated in focused areas of instruction including mathematics, writing, reading and science.

Students' learning is assessed by teachers every day by reviewing homework, daily class work, tests, quizzes, and written papers. As curriculum is updated, new assessment strategies and methods for feedback to students and parents are designed, all in concert with Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities. In grades 4, 8, and 10, state-wide assessments are given to all students in order to assess their skills and knowledge in English language arts and mathematics. All grade 2 students' reading skills are assessed as well as science skills and knowledge in grades 5, 8, 9 and 11. Spring 2003 results on the Vermont State Assessments demonstrate significant improvement of student learning at Springfield High School. The following percentages of students met or exceeded the standard:

English/Language Arts:

in second grade:	79% read and retell short books with fluency
in fourth grade:	73% read with basic understanding
	59% read with analysis and interpretation
	61% write effectively
	64% write using conventions

in eighth grade: 56% read with basic understanding
36% read with analysis and interpretation
67% write effectively
42% write using conventions

in tenth grade: 47% read with basic understanding
37% read with analysis and interpretation
28% write effectively
67% write using conventions

Mathematics:

In fourth grade: 61% demonstrate mathematical skills
40% demonstrate mathematical concepts
34% demonstrate mathematical problem solving

in eighth grade: 81% demonstrate mathematical skills
44% demonstrate mathematical concepts
54% demonstrate mathematical problem solving

in tenth grade: 60% demonstrate mathematical skills
42% demonstrate mathematical concepts
41% demonstrate mathematical problem solving

Science:

in fifth grade: 50% demonstrate scientific knowledge and skills

in eighth grade: 53% demonstrate scientific knowledge and skills

in ninth grade: 54% demonstrate scientific knowledge and skills

in eleventh grade: 35% demonstrate scientific knowledge and skills

Sarah Carter
Director CIA

PARK STREET SCHOOL

This was Park Street's last year working with Linda Bourne to improve writing portfolio instruction. Our hard work with her and other state consultants has been rewarded. Park Street's New Standard Reference Exam (NSRE) scores were much higher in math, writing and reading than in previous years. Park Street's fourth graders also participated in the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP). Vermont's fourth graders scored well above the national average in writing. There were only four other states that scored higher, on average, than Vermont. In math and reading, the NAEP scores were above the national average and no state scored higher than Vermont. I am very proud of the teachers' hard work to improve instruction in all of these areas.

The faculty also worked with Dottie Finnerty and Melissa Lovell throughout the year to improve instruction. Dottie worked with teachers before, after and during school on the improvement of our reading instruction and Melissa worked on math. This was both Melissa and Dottie's last year in these positions. Since funds have decreased these positions will no longer be full time. Teachers who assume these part-time positions will be holding meetings after school next year to continue our work.

The Park Street teachers worked together on a school-wide theme of patterns. The culmination of these math, art, music

and physical education activities was a pattern night to share their work with parents and explore a number of pattern activities with their family.

In the spring, Cindy Sarles and Dennis Hagan worked with a large number of children on a theater production called, About Time, thanks to the Okemo Mountain Grant which we received. The children performed many short skits around this theme and were spectacular!

I love working at Park Street School. We have many dedicated teachers who work well together to provide the best programs and instruction for children. They are a strong team who I am very proud to work with.

Joan Nagle
Principal

ELM HILL SCHOOL

Elm Hill School continues to give multiple year experiences with teachers to their students. Our students have the same teacher for their first two years of their school career. We made this change to develop strong bonds between the family and the child's first teacher. No instructional time is lost getting to know the child during the second year of school. The families know and feel comfortable with the teacher. Then the child moves into one of two multi-age second and third grade classrooms. This allows for another multiple year relationship and some teaching and learning with youngers and older, and some diversity in classmates. They move from there to two fourth and fifth grade multi-age classrooms. We believe these multiple year experiences provide fewer transitions for our students and families. It also utilizes the knowledge the teacher has gained about that student for the second year.

Elm Hill School has developed a great relationship with Grafton Science Museum. The kindergarten through third grades are using a grant to work with museum personnel on "Exploring Our Big Back Yard". They are tying in our earth science units with them. They have utilized Elm Hill's great location, as well as using grant moneys to travel to talc mines and the Montshire Museum to study rocks and fossils. The fourth and fifth graders continue their relationship with Grafton through their grant by studying the Connecticut River Watershed. The classes camped out on the Long Island Sound to study and view the habitat at the mouth of the Connecticut. They also tied in their social studies curriculum by understanding the history of that region. They visited the Pequot Native American Museum and learned about how the Native Americans lived before and during the early colonists that explored and settled in that region. Betsy Owen has continued to help the students understand how erosion happens naturally and by manmade causes. The students will be again participating in a town meeting debate on a watershed issue. Last year's debate was on the historical issue of building the North Springfield Dam.

Technology is an everyday issue at Elm Hill. Our kindergarten and first grade students use a great computerized supplemental language arts program that is research-based called Waterford. This program gives extra individual instruction in pre-reading and early reading skills. It takes the student at his

or her pace. It uses visual, auditory, verbal and writing. Progress and the child's own reading is recorded daily. Computers are also used in all the classrooms to support instruction, for information gathering, and for presenting learned material. Terry Carter houses our computer lab in her classroom and maintains a wonderful webpage at <http://www.springfieldk12.vt.us/elm/htm>. Please check this webpage out to keep abreast of what is happening throughout our school year.

Math instruction is always presented by grade level because of the research-based instructional program that our district is using called Mathland. Students work on learning basic computation through a strong sense of number value. They learn how to manipulate numbers to help solve their equations. Mathland also uses data collecting, geometry, and a variety of problem solving skills throughout their program.

Our nurse, Linda Rinder, our physical education instructor, Doug Neet, and our guidance counselor, Karol McGee, all find multiple ways to help our students learn about making healthy choices in their lives. Students learn about conflict resolution, peer mediation, peer pressure, the importance of eating well, getting exercise, avoiding drugs and alcohol, and sleeping well. This knowledge and the good healthy habits that go with it is so important for them to learn at this young age.

Parents are an important part of their child's education. Besides being their child's first teachers, they are role models. We are fortunate to have so many involved parents in our school. We have just about 100% turnout for our Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences where we share the successes and goals of the students. Parents look forward to helping at our Thanksgiving Feast, and attending events like our All School Meetings, Craft Night, Grandparents' Days, Talent Show, Back to School Nights, Math Nights, School Reporting Night, Winter Carnival, Drama Productions, Science Fair, and much more. We have wonderful and dedicated PTA officers that help organize these events.

Our school benefits from other community members as well. We often have Riverside and Springfield High School students volunteering in our classes. The National Honor Society runs our Annual Halloween Night. Okemo Mountain is a major supporter of the arts for drama programs and this year's bookmaking residency. The Fire Department and Police Department come to support personal and home safety. Mentors come to have lunch with students. We are indeed fortunate to have such a caring and supportive community.

We are fortunate to house a before and after school program called LEAP in our school. This way, parents who work can have one place to drop their children off. The program provides enrichment activities, homework support, and more. We also have begun a wonderful after school enrichment and support program based on a grant. Students can get tutoring in subjects where they are struggling. They can also be involved in science, the arts, chess, or other enriching activities and take a late bus home. The summer program is also partially housed at Elm. The school is used throughout the year.

This year our teachers are working on improving their teaching of reading and writing. Our Action Plan supports working as a district K-5 by reading and studying together a program called Strategies That Work. By studying these suc-

cessful techniques and discussing together how we can implement them in our classrooms, we hope to have students be more connected with their reading.

This year our community will be trying to decide what to do about our elementary school buildings. This is a difficult and important decision. A society is judged by how they look after their elderly and young. I hope that people will be involved, ask questions, and come together to make a healthy choice for all of our children. Springfield is a great community and a great place to raise a family. It has been my pleasure to work here for 30 years. Thank you.

Our school welcomes visitors and questions at any time.

Gary R. Blodgett
Principal

UNION STREET SCHOOL

Last year, the Union Street School had the distinguished pleasure of being recognized by the Vermont Business Roundtable as a Medallion Quality School. Union Street was one of fourteen elementary schools recognized for outstanding achievement based on statewide assessment results. For elementary schools, students are tested in the second grade for reading, fourth grade for language arts, reading and math, and fifth grade for science. A Medallion School scores in the top fifteen percent on all four tests. The Medallion Award validates the hard work of our students and faculty.

Our Action Planning process, now in its second year, is school specific and based on data from our local and state assessment results. Teachers and support staff are involved in continuous staff development focused on improving instruction in reading comprehension, writing, math and science. Independent consultants and consultants from the State of Vermont have provided support for K-5 teachers in all three elementary schools.

Providing a safe school environment, promoting positive attitudes and behavior and high achievement for all students, continues to be a Union Street goal. Using the Responsive Classroom Model, the students and staff work together on community building, learning and practicing acceptable social behaviors and developing positive personal relationships with peers and adults. Each Monday, the week begins with an All School Meeting. Each class has the opportunity and responsibility to participate with appropriate audience skills and present their learning to the school community. An open invitation is extended to family and community members who wish to join us on any Monday morning during the school year.

In addition to the core curriculum, students receive weekly instruction in art, music, physical education, guidance and health education. The music program also includes a 3,4,5 chorus and instrumental music lessons beginning in 5th grades. During the winter months, a cross country ski program is offered to all students. Our fifth graders have the opportunity to participate in a six week alpine ski adventure at Okemo Mountain or cross country skiing at Grafton Ponds.

Union Street School was again the recipient of a generous Okemo Mountain Arts Grant. This Grant enabled us to offer drama instruction to interested students. The spring production

of "The Legend of Pocahontas" provided yet another avenue for students to exhibit their abilities and talents. This Grant also funded a residency with Samantha Moffatt, an accomplished musician and dance instructor. Activities included folk dancing, playing instruments and singing from foreign cultures. This supported our international theme for the year studying the cultures and people from around the world.

As well as our regular health instruction, the school nurse introduced a dental hygienist into our school twice during the school year. This program provides students with the opportunity to have their teeth examined and cleaned. This was also the first year of the "Girls On The Run Program" which our school nurse offered to students in grades 3, 4, and 5. The emphasis of this program was to encourage healthy exercise and fitness for our young students. The program was a huge success involving students from both Union Street School and Elm Hill School.

The Bridge Kindergarten Program is now in its sixth year. While the program is located at Union Street, it is a district wide program. The program is designed to reach students at the start of their school career, assisting them in learning the necessary skills and behaviors needed to be successful in the classroom setting. The program allows students to have a positive association with school, requires active parent involvement and participation and gives students time and individual attention in a small group setting.

Union Street School continues to have a strong partnership with parents and community members. Our active PTA, and the many volunteers who are part of the Union Street family deserve our sincere appreciation for their contributions. Their support and commitment have allowed us to enhance and enrich the learning opportunities available to the students of the Union Street School.

Cheryl Hoffman
Principal

RIVERSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Riverside Middle School had an enrollment of 338 students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 during the 2002-03 school year. Our staff is composed of dedicated teachers and paraeducators who work together to provide a quality education for our students. A variety of courses provide students with a curriculum designed to meet their needs. All students at Riverside take the following courses: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Technical Education, Family and Consumer Science, Art and Physical Education. In addition, students may choose to take French, Spanish, Band, or Chorus. Riverside also has a support team, which provides counseling services and health services. This includes mental health services, school nurse, a guidance counselor and a Student Assistance Program to provide education and intervention for Drug and Alcohol issues. Finally, our office staff, custodian and food services staff keep our school running through their dedication and hard work.

The Riverside teachers use a variety of approaches to ensure a quality education for all. Our curriculum is based on the Vermont Standards. We annually review our test scores and other data to help us find ways to improve our school. We par-

ticipate in the Action Planning process and revise our Action Plan annually. Riverside teachers also use the team approach to education. Our teachers work as teams at each grade level, meeting daily to plan and discuss ways to meet the needs of each middle school child. Education Support Teams also help in this area.

Students at Riverside Middle School have many opportunities for extra-curricular activities. In the sports arena, we have Field Hockey, Football, Soccer, Cross-Country and Cheerleading in the fall; Basketball and Cheerleading in the winter, and Baseball, Softball and Track in the spring. Music students have the opportunity to try out for District and State Band and Chorus Festivals. Math students can compete for honors through Math Counts. The Big Brother Big Sister Program, Student Council, Vermont Kids Against Tobacco and a Peer Mediation Program all provide students with leadership opportunities. We also have intramural, Special Olympics and Girls on the Run, a new program which promotes fitness and self esteem for girls through running. Our wonderful volunteers also help promote student growth through their hours of service.

Our staff has continued to focus on school climate through community building activities. Last year, we had two Community Building Days in which students participated in mini-courses ranging from ice fishing to cooking to bicycling. Students are grouped with other teachers and students from other grade levels. Through a school-wide approach, we promote different themes throughout the year which teach qualities that we would like students to reflect in their daily lives, including respect, tolerance, and responsibility.

Riverside Middle School is also the hub for many community activities. We are proud to welcome the community into our building for many activities; including the Apple Blossom Cotillion, voting, craft shows and home shows, and a whole variety of sports events. We hope that all who visit our school find it to be a community of teaching and learning where each child is important.

Judy Pullinen
Principal

SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

It has been a pleasure to come back to the Springfield Schools after seven years of working in other schools. I learned a lot as a consultant to schools in four states, but it was clear that I belonged back in the Springfield school system. Springfield High School is a great school. It is filled with talented students and teachers. It has a lot to offer the students, and many take advantage of a rich curriculum as well as the many afternoon and evening activities.

I will give you a sample of what is offered at Springfield High School. SHS offers AP English Language and Composition to 11th and 12th graders as well as Masterpieces of World Lit Advanced Placement. We also offer AP Calculus and AP Statistics. In the science department students are able to enroll in Honors Physics and AP Biology. American Studies is a double period class that challenges students to extend themselves beyond the average amount of study or work. These are rigorous courses that give students a taste of preparation for

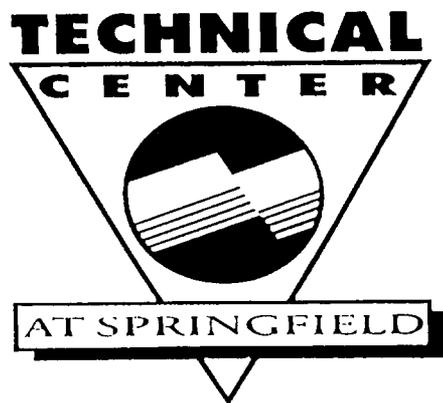
college. We also have an outstanding library to help students in researching and reporting on many historical and contemporary issues.

This year we have emphasized the need for rigorous discipline. We are teaching appropriate behavior by helping students learn self-discipline. It has done wonders to the atmosphere of respect in the building. We have a way to go, but have made great strides toward our goal of a well-run school. Our ultimate goal, of course, is to create a better atmosphere for learning.

Springfield High School has many opportunities for extracurricular activities. We are proud of our athletic teams this year, both boys and girls. Some of the sports we offer include football, cross country, cheerleading, and soccer in the fall, girls and boys basketball, cheerleading, and skiing in the winter, and baseball, track, and tennis in the spring. Our drama program is outstanding with student plays that almost seem professional in their quality. Our award winning student newspaper, *The Greenhorn*, is a delight to read. (The student reporters ask incisive questions for their articles.)

I am very glad to be back in the Springfield School District. Thank you.

Rod Tulonen
Principal



RIVER VALLEY TECHNICAL CENTER

"Educating Today's Students for Tomorrow's Careers."

Serving the schools of Springfield, Chester, Bellows Falls, and Ludlow in Vermont and the Fall Mountain region in New Hampshire, the River Valley Technical Center continues to provide technical training to high school students and adults. All programs prepare students for entry into employment and/or programs of study in post-secondary education and training. The Center continues to implement new curriculum and programs that are based upon approved industry and national standards. Programs at the Technical Center are available to traditional secondary populations and to adults in search of improving their skills.

The River Valley Technical Center is the primary occupant of the Howard Dean Education Center that includes the collocation of the University of Vermont, Community College of Vermont, Vermont Interactive Television Network, Vermont Technical College, Three River Valley Business Education Partnership, and is connected to Springfield High School and the Springfield Public Access Television studio.

The Technical Center has been identified as one of the leaders in Vermont for new and innovative delivery of Technical Education. Programs at the Center use state of the art technology, are aligned with national skill standards and in many cases award dual credit for high school and college. During the 2003-2004 school year, the River Valley Technical Center has provided programs at remote sites in the sending high schools including audio engineering, computer programming and criminal investigation. Using distance education technology and remote laboratories, the Center has provided access to an increasing number of students. The River Valley Technical Center has nearly doubled its enrollment over the past eight (8) years and as of the 2003 fall report, is serving over 340 students. Fifty-five percent (55%) of these students are from outside of Springfield.

New for 2004 is the implementation of Career Academies at some of our sending schools. These state approved technical education programs will be housed at one of the high schools in the region and be open to all students, the same as the programs housed at the Tech Center. There are many unique components of Career Academies, but one of the most important is the integration of academic and technical education. Students enrolled in a Career Academy will not only learn technical knowledge and skills, but will also have the opportunity to learn their academics through applied, contextual learning activities. The Career Academies are being developed on a college preparatory level and will provide opportunities to acquire both high school and college credit and allow completers to continue their education and training or enter the workforce. The first Career Academy to be put into place is the Health Career Academy located at Green Mountain Union High School in Chester, VT and with a start date in January 2004.

The Technical Center continues to grow and always welcomes public input in relation to our operation. The staff of the Technical Center welcomes all members of the community to visit and learn more about the opportunities we create for all. Visit the Technical Center at rvtc.org

Bob Bickford
Interim Director

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY05 PROPOSED BUDGET
Enrollment Projections**

Grade Level	FY03 Actual	FY04 Projected	FY04 Current	FY05 Projected
ELEMENTARY				
K	95	86	96	100
1	105	92	81	94
2	103	103	109	81
3	86	103	96	109
4	85	87	89	100
5	115	84	89	89
TOTAL K-5	589	555	560	573
RIVERSIDE				
6	95	116	119	91
7	95	94	88	116
8	129	95	90	87
TOTAL 6-8	319	305	297	294
HIGH SCHOOL				
9	120	139	157	99
10	144	113	133	152
11	152	136	132	124
12	124	135	142	119
TOTAL 9-12	540	523	564	494
TOTAL K-12	1448	1383	1421	1361
OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENTS	41	48	45	44
GRAND TOTAL	1489	1431	1466	1405
Date Data Collected	Oct. 02	Oct. 02	Oct. 03	Oct. 03

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT FY05 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY

Building or Department	FY04 Nov. 1st	FY05 Proposed	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
K-5	\$3,200,749	\$3,408,798	\$208,049	6.50%
Riverside	\$1,996,963	\$2,102,140	\$105,177	5.27%
High School	\$3,389,719	\$3,673,773	\$284,054	8.38%
Special Education	\$3,102,571	\$3,354,767	\$252,196	8.13%
Bldg & Grnds	\$1,692,558	\$1,816,156	\$123,598	7.30%
Capital Projects	\$245,531	\$524,500	\$278,969	113.62%
Central Offices	\$641,654	\$686,023	\$44,369	6.91%
Debt Service	\$281,400	\$268,720	-\$12,680	-4.51%
Other	\$522,578	\$670,858	\$148,280	28.37%
Technical Center	\$1,541,313	\$1,643,252	\$101,939	6.61%
ORIGINAL TOTAL	\$16,615,036	\$18,148,987	\$1,533,951	9.23%
RVTC State Aid Flow Thru (State mandated accounting change*)	\$470,610	\$456,201	-\$14,409	-3.06%
REVISED TOTAL	\$17,085,646	\$18,605,188	\$1,519,542	8.89%
Technical Education	\$1,541,313	\$1,643,252	\$101,939	6.61%
Special Education	\$3,102,571	\$3,354,767	\$252,196	8.13%
Regular Education	\$11,725,621	\$12,626,468	\$900,847	7.68%
Capital Projects	\$245,531	\$524,500	\$278,969	113.62%
RVTC State Aid Flow Thru	\$470,610	\$456,201	-\$14,409	-3.06%
TOTAL	\$17,085,646	\$18,605,188	\$1,519,542	8.89%

*The state requires that the state aid paid directly to Technical Centers be shown in town school budgets beginning in FY05. Thus we now show both revenue and an expense in the amount of the payment. These two numbers balance each other. There is no change in the tax rate as a result of this new requirement. The FY04 amount is also listed for comparative purposes.

ESTIMATED REVENUES FY05 PROPOSED BUDGET

Revenue Source	Actual FY02	Actual FY03	Current FY04	Estimated FY05	Difference
TOTAL BUDGET				\$18,605,188	
LESS OTHER REVENUES					
State Aid-RVTC	\$636,217	\$708,246	\$783,880	\$825,020	\$41,140
State Aid-Special Education	\$1,556,074	\$1,574,781	\$1,750,524	\$1,958,559	\$208,035
State Aid-Pupil Transportation	\$131,885	\$149,801	\$132,605	\$135,000	\$2,395
State Grants-RVTC	\$406,670	\$359,195	\$389,714	\$439,983	\$50,269
State Grant-Driver Education	\$8,560	\$8,750	\$11,000	\$9,000	-\$2,000
Tuitions (K-12)	\$609,364	\$780,049	\$737,974	\$714,697	-\$23,277
Tuitions (RVTC)	\$229,922	\$265,234	\$350,928	\$384,805	\$33,877
Tuitions (Special Education)	\$19,000	\$48,930	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$5,000
Tuitions (RVTC IEP Svcs)	\$68,166	\$71,890	\$75,899	\$72,504	-\$3,395
Interest Income	\$50,291	\$37,045	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0
Rentals, Other	\$18,724	\$17,998	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Athletic Gate Receipts	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
Program & Misc. Rev. (RVTC)	\$0	\$2,890	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$2,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$69,215	\$46,394	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
RVTC State Aid Flow Thru	\$400,591	\$440,159	\$470,610	\$456,201	-\$14,409
Prior Year Surplus (SSD)	\$246,103	\$0	\$4,051	\$230,106	\$226,055
Prior Year Surplus (RVTC)	\$22,219	\$20,747	\$49	\$6,323	\$6,274
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	\$4,473,001	\$4,534,609	\$4,825,734	\$5,357,698	\$531,964
Education Spending Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,247,490	
Property Taxes	\$5,481,774	\$6,090,514	\$6,710,341	\$0	
State Aid	\$5,878,646	\$5,658,658	\$5,549,571	\$0	
TOTAL	\$11,360,420	\$11,749,172	\$12,259,912	\$13,247,490	\$987,578
Estimated Equalized Pupils				1,457.11	
Education Spending Per Pupil				\$9,092	
Residential Equalized Tax Rate*			\$1.77	\$1.47	
Non-Residential Equalized Tax Rate*			\$1.77	\$1.59	
Grand List Equalization Factor			1.1384		
Actual School Tax Rate	\$1.695	\$1.819	2.015		
Change from prior year	\$0.071	\$0.124	\$0.196		
Percentage Change	4.4%	7.3%	10.8%		
Local Education Grand List	\$3,321,237	\$3,348,283	\$3,330,238	\$3,341,900	est.**

*Pending legislation would reduce these rates by five cents.

**Education Grand List estimate for FY05 came from the Town Manager on 12/9/03

**SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
FY05 PROPOSED BUDGET
ESTIMATED TAX RATES**

Item	FY04 Actual	FY05 Estimated Residential	FY05 Estimated Non-Residential
BASED ON \$1.10 BASE RATE			
Equalized TaxRate	\$1.77	\$1.47	\$1.59
Common Level of Appraisal	87.41%	82.19%	82.19%
Adjustment for Grand List Fluctuation	\$(0.01)	N/A	N/A
Actual School Tax Rate	\$2.015	\$1.789	\$1.935
Difference		\$(0.226)	\$(0.080)
BASED ON \$1.05 BASE RATE (Legislation pending at 1/29/04)			
Equalized Tax Rate	\$1.770	\$1.405	\$1.540
Common Level of Appraisal	87.41%	82.19%	82.19%
Adjustment for Grand List Fluctuation	(0.01)	N/A	N/A
Actual School Tax Rate	\$2.015	\$1.7100	\$1.874
Difference		\$(0.305)	\$(0.141)

Act 68 sets the base non-residential tax rate at \$1.59 while the residential tax rate fluctuates based on local spending from a base of \$1.10. Those rates are reflected in the first table of numbers above. As this is being prepared for the Town Report on January 29, 2004 there was legislation pending that would reduce those base rates to \$1.54 for non-residential property and \$1.05 for residential property. The second table reflects those rates.

Three Prior Years Comparisons

PRELIMINARY

District: **Springfield**
County: **Windsor**

LEA: **193**
S.U.: **Springfield**

	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005
Expenditures				
Budget (local budget approved in prior years)	15,387,172	15,727,319	16,615,036	18,605,188
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	456,201
S.U. assessment (included in local budget)	-	-	-	-
Deficit (if included in local budget)	-	-	-	-
Block grant paid by State to tech center in prior years	400,591	440,159	470,610	not applicable
1. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
2. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
3. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
Act 144 Expenditures, (excluded from "Education Spending")	-	-	-	-
Act 68 local adopted budget	15,787,763	16,167,478	17,085,646	18,605,188
+ Union school or joint school district assessment	-	-	-	-
+ Deficit if not included in budget or revenues	-	-	-	-
+ Special programs expenditures (if not included in local budget)	1,799,168	2,102,208	2,526,046	2,600,000
Gross Act 68 Budget	17,586,931	18,269,686	19,611,692	21,205,188
Act 144 expenditures (if any - excluded from "Education Spending")	-	-	-	-
Revenues				
+ Local revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, etc., including Act 144 revenues)	4,026,752	3,978,147	4,256,751	5,357,698
+ Capital debt aid	8,348	8,835	5,418	-
+ Special program revenues (if not included in local budget)	1,799,168	2,102,208	2,526,046	2,600,000
- Deficit if not included in budget or expenditures	-	-	-	-
- Act 144 revenues	5,834,268	6,089,190	6,788,215	7,957,698
Total revenues	11,752,663	12,180,496	12,823,477	13,247,490
- Fund raising (if any)	-	-	-	-
Adjusted local revenues	11,752,663	12,180,496	12,823,477	13,247,490
Equalized Pupils	1,621,48	1,564,73	1,509,96	1,457,11
Education Spending (Act 68 definition)	11,752,663	12,180,496	12,823,477	13,247,490
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	7,248	7,784	8,493	9,092
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	9,092
District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%) ($\$9,092 / \$6,800$)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	133.706%
Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized ($133.706\% \times \$1.10$)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	\$1.471
Household Income Percentage for income sensitivity ($133.706\% \times 2.0\%$)	not applicable	not applicable	not applicable	2.67%

The above information is provided in a format prescribed by the State. The Tax Rate shown on line 30 is the equalized tax rate for residential property and assumes the Common Level of Appraisal is 100%. With the actual Common Level of Appraisal at 82.19%, the actual school property tax rate for residential properties will be \$ 1.789. For non-residential properties the rate will be \$ 1.935. As this is submitted for printing there is legislation pending that would reduce these rates to \$ 1.710 for residential property and \$ 1.874 for non-residential property.

SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 3 AND 4, 2003 ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District met at the Springfield High School Auditorium in said Town on Monday, March 3, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. (7:30 o'clock in the afternoon) to act upon all matters which may be voted upon by acclamation and not otherwise to be voted by ballot and then adjourned to the Riverside Middle School Gymnasium at 9:00 a.m. (9:00 o'clock in the forenoon) on Tuesday, March 4, 2003 to vote by ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by ballot. There were 77 voters in attendance at the March 3, 2003 meeting and 1,929 voters casting ballots on March 4, 2003. There were 214 absentee ballots cast.

ARTICLE 1: Voted to set the salary of the Moderator at \$50 for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: Town Officers and Town School District Officers elected by Australian Ballot as shown in the listing in the front of the report.

ARTICLE 3: Voted to receive and act on reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees.

ARTICLE 4: Voted to pay each Selectman the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office.

ARTICLE 5: Voted to appropriate the sum of SEVEN MILLION, TWO HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,220,434.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote.

ARTICLE 6: Voted to authorize the Town Clerk, in accordance with 17 VSA, Section 2144(b), to approve additions to the voter checklist.

ARTICLE 7: Voted an allowance for each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town School District in that office.

ARTICLE 8: Voted to authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the Board of School Directors, to borrow money to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year, and also authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the approval of the Board of School Directors, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes rated to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 9: Denied a school budget appropriation of SIXTEEN MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-ONE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED TWELVE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$16,841,112.00) to support its schools for the year beginning July 1, 2003, of which SIX MILLION, NINE HUNDRED

SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED SIXTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$6,965,660.00) is anticipated to be raised through local property taxes.

ARTICLE 10: Voted to appropriate the sum of FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$53,000.00) to support the home health care and hospice care of patients in their homes by staff and volunteers of the Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc.

ARTICLE 11: Voted to appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help the work of Springfield Boys and Girls Club.

ARTICLE 12: Voted to appropriate the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) toward the support of services to Seniors and their families by the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. These include Case Management/Advocacy, Information and Assistance, Senior Van, Successful Aging Programs and other related services.

ARTICLE 13: Voted to appropriate the sum of THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$35,000.00) to help support the Springfield Family Center.

ARTICLE 14: Voted to appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to RSVP (the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Windsor County) to support recruitment and support of volunteers 55 and older, in non-profit organizations, state agencies and schools. The volunteers support local literacy programs, teach decision making skills, provide services to seniors, and assist with cultural and community activities in the community.

ARTICLE 15: Voted to appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to New Beginnings, Inc. to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

ARTICLE 16: Voted to appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to support the activities of Vermont Adult Learning in its work with adults in need of basic reading, writing, math, GED, English language and basic computer literacy skills.

ARTICLE 17: Voted to appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to help the work of Springfield Area Hospice.

ARTICLE 18: Voted to appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) to the Community Band for ten (10) outdoor concerts.

ARTICLE 19: Voted to appropriate the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals & Wheels of Greater Springfield program that provides hot and cold home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the residents of Springfield daily.

ARTICLE 20: Voted to appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

ARTICLE 21: Voted to appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to help support the Precision Valley Free Clinic.

ARTICLE 22: Voted to appropriate the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to Windsor County Partners for youth mentoring services provided to Children in Windsor County.

ARTICLE 23: Voted to appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) for the continued operation of Windsor County Court Diversion.

ARTICLE 24: Voted to request the State Legislators, Governor, and Congressional delegation to put Vermont in the forefront of a sustainable energy future. Specifically, we request immediate and ongoing action on legislative initiatives designed to promote energy efficiency in Vermont's homes, businesses, public buildings, and transportation systems, and to encourage expansion of the renewable energy industry in the state of Vermont.

ARTICLE 25: No other business was done under this Warning.

The Town Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Bonnie L. Reynolds
Town Clerk, CMC

WARRANT FOR MARCH 1 AND 2, 2004 ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Springfield High School Auditorium in said Town on Monday, March 1, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. (7:30 o'clock in the afternoon) to act upon all matters which may be voted upon by acclamation and not otherwise to be voted by ballot, following which all articles to be voted by Australian Ballot on March 2, 2004, will be discussed, and then to adjourn to the Riverside Middle School Gymnasium at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) on March 2, 2004, to vote by ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by ballot. (The Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 1: To set the salary of the Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: To elect the following Town Officers and Town School District Officers for the ensuing year:

Moderator	Trustee of Public Funds
Selectmen	Cemetery Commissioner
School Directors	Town Agent
Library Trustees	First Constable

(By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 3: To receive and act on reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town pay each Selectman the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SEVEN MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED SIX and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,567,706.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town give the Board of Selectmen the authority to spend unanticipated funds such as grants and gifts.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town School District vote a salary for each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00). (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town School District authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the Board of School Directors, to borrow money to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year, and also authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the approval of the Board of School Directors, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes rated to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town School District approve a school budget amount of EIGHTEEN MILLION, SIX HUNDRED FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$18,605,188.00) to support its schools for the year beginning July 1, 2004. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town School District recommend that the Board of School Directors pursue the construction of one consolidated school to accommodate all K-5 elementary school students (one school option). (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town School District recommend that the Board of School Directors pursue renovations of and additions to Elm Hill School and Union Street School to accommodate all K-5 elementary school students (two school option). (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town School District recommend that the Board of School Directors pursue the construction of a new elementary school to replace Park Street School, and renovations and additions to Elm Hill School and Union Street School (three school option). (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$58,000.00) to help support the home health care and hospice care of patients in their homes by staff and volunteers of the Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) toward the support of services to Seniors and their families by the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont, Inc. These include Case Management/Advocacy, Information and Assistance, Senior Van, Successful Aging Programs and other related services. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$35,000.00) to help support the Springfield Family Center. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to RSVP, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Windsor County, to develop opportunities for people - 55 and older - to positively impact the quality of life in the community through volunteer service. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to help support the work of New Beginnings, Inc. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,000.00) to the Community Band for ten (10) outdoor concerts. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,800.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels program that provides hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to qualified residents of Springfield daily. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support Health Care & Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to help support the Precision Valley Free Clinic. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to Windsor County Partners for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,300.00) for the continued operation of the Windsor County Court Diversion Program. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) to assist with the cost of operation of Connecticut River Transit, which provides FREE public transportation for the residents in the Town of Springfield. (By Australian Ballot, the Ballot Box will be open at 8:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m.)

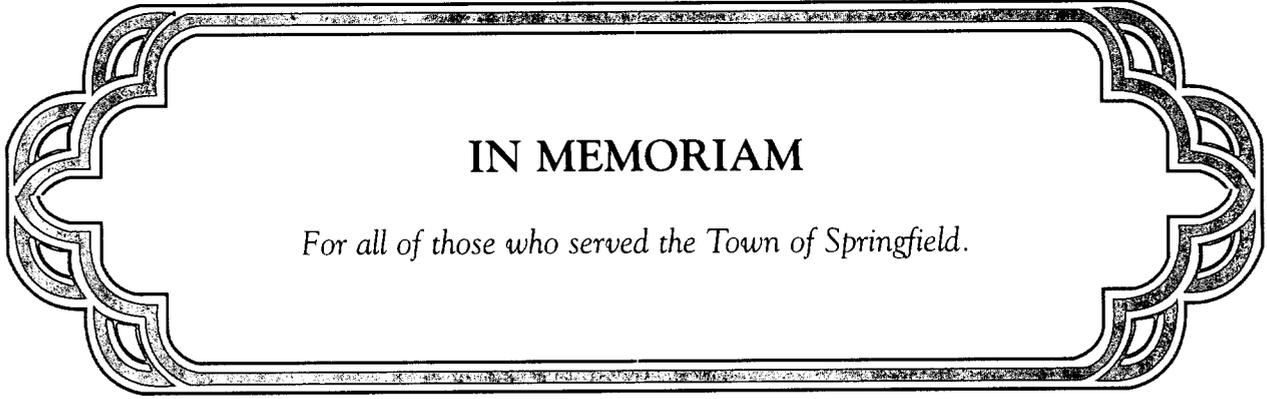
ARTICLE 25: To do any other business that can be legally done under this Warning.

Dated this 26th day of January, 2004 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont.

Mary Helen Hawthorne, Chairman
John E. Follett
Marie Gelineau
Douglas Richards
*Board of Selectmen
Town of Springfield*

Roger Ward, Chairman
Ruth Cody
Daniel P. Gray
George T. McNaughton
Jean Willard
*Board of School Directors
Springfield Town
School District*

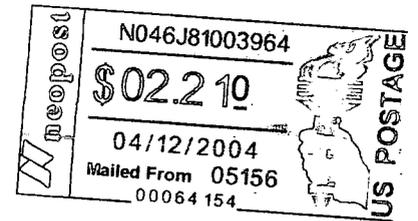
NOTES

A decorative border with a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking shapes, possibly stylized leaves or scrolls, framing the central text.

IN MEMORIAM

For all of those who served the Town of Springfield.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT 05156



State of Vermont
Department of Libraries
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