

Town Report

Year Ending June 30, 2003



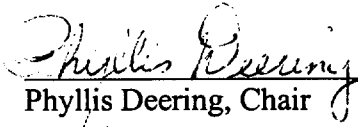
Rochester, Vermont

**Town of Rochester
Auditor's Report ~ Year Ending 2003**


With material provided to us in the short time allowed for review, we believe all records to be in order.

We wish to thank everyone for their assistance in making the Town Report possible.

Auditors


Phyllis Deering, Chair


Albert MacDonnell


Homer Brown

Cover Photo

Looking west over Rochester from inside the Summit House, Mt. Cushman.

Rochester Mountain was renamed Mt. Cushman in a ceremony on August 15, 1879, in honor of Major General Artemus Cushman who owned land near the summit. Long a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts, the summit once held a 35' x 45' mountain house and later a fire tower, both since removed. Today, trails for hiking, biking, skiing and snowshoeing still lead to the summit where on more than one occasion, celebrations of over 1000 people were held. Take time and stop at your Historical Society to learn more about Mt. Cushman, and how to get there.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Auditors	Inside Front Cover
Table of Contents	1
Minutes of March 3, 2003 Town Meeting	2-7
Minutes of April 28, 2003 WasteWater Information Meeting.....	8
Results of April 29, 2003 Special WasteWater Vote	9
Town of Rochester Warning 2004 Meeting	10-12
Elected Officials; Appointed Officials; Dates to Remember	13-15
Inventory of Equipment & Property.....	16
Treasurer's Report/Taxes Raised.....	17-21
Working Accounts/Restricted Account.....	22-24
Delinquent Property Taxes	25
Delinquent Water Fees	26
Delinquent Sewer Fees.....	26
Selectboard Annual Report.....	27
Road Commissioner's Report.....	28
Selectboard Budget	29-33
Highway Budget.....	34-35
Water Budget	36
Sewer Budget.....	37
Trustees of Public Funds	38
Cemetery Commissioners.....	39
Constable	40
Lister's	41
Rochester Public Library	42-43
Volunteer Fire Department.....	44
Park House	45
Recreation.....	46
Rochester Historical Society	47
Vermont League of Cities & Towns	48
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission.....	49
Vermont Department of Health.....	50
George D. Aiken Resource Conservation & Development Council.....	51
Valley Rescue Squad.....	52-53
Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont & New Hampshire.....	54
Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens	55
Center for Valley Youth	56-57
Clara Martin Center.....	58
White River Partnership	59
Stagecoach	60
Central Vermont Council on Aging	61
Windsor County Court Diversion	62
Central Vermont Community Action Council	63
Windsor County Partners	64
WomenSafe.....	65
Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation.....	66
Vital Records	67
The Alliance Solid Waste Management	68
Recycling.....	Inside Back Cover

TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2003
7PM

Meeting called to order by moderator Ethan Bowen. Marvin Harvey was called upon to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Rev. Bill Daniels read a Prayer for Peace. Moderator Bowen then recognized Rep. Carroll Ketchum. Carroll believes something will be done on Act 60.

Article 1. **To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.** Marvin Harvey and a second nominated Ethan Bowen. Motion was made and seconded that nominations cease. Voice vote in the affirmative that nominations cease. Voice vote elected Ethan Bowen moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2 **To elect all town officers as required by law:**

- a. **town clerk for a three-year term**-Martha Slater and second nominated Frances Guilmette. Richard Harvey and second moved that nominations cease. Voice vote in the affirmative. Voice vote elected Frances Guilmette town clerk for a three year term.
- b. **town treasurer for a three-year term**-David Marmor and Sandra Haas nominated Frances Guilmette. Motion made and seconded that nominations cease. Voice vote in the affirmative. Voice vote elected Frances Guilmette town treasurer for a three-year term.
- c. **selectman for a three-year term**-Kathryn Schenkman and second nominated Charlie Biederman. Harland McKirryher and second nominated Marvin Harvey. Paper ballot vote Charlie Biederman received 78 votes and Marvin Harvey received 53. Charlie Biederman elected selectman for a three year term.
- d. **lister for a three-year term**-Louis Donnet and Sandra Haas nominated Herbert Campbell. Motion made and seconded that nominations cease. Town clerk instructed to cast one ballot for Herbert Campbell. Herbert Campbell elected lister for a three year term.
- e. **auditor for a three-year term**-Royce Gage and second nominated Albert MacDonnell. No other nominations. Town clerk instructed to cast one ballot for Albert MacDonnell. Albert MacDonnell elected auditor for a three year term.
- f. **collector of delinquent taxes for ensuing year**-Martha Slater and Sandra Haas nominated Frances Guilmette. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Frances Guilmette collector of delinquent taxes for the ensuing year.
- g. **library trustee for a five-year term**-Edith Artz and second nominated Nancy Oliver. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Nancy Oliver library trustee for a five year term.
- h. **grand juror for a one-year term**-Marvin Harvey and Carol Biederman nominated Sandra Haas. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Sandra Haas grand juror for the ensuing year.
- i. **grand juror for a one-year term**-Carol Biederman and second nominated Peter Riley. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Peter Riley grand juror for the ensuing year.
- j. **agent to prosecute and defend suits for a one-year term**-Nomination and second nominated Susan Disbrow. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Susan Disbrow agent to prosecute and defend suits for the ensuing year.

- k. **trustee of public funds for a three-year term**-Sandra Haas and Carol Biederman nominated Barbara DeHart. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Barbara DeHart trustee of public funds for three years.
- l. **cemetery commissioner for a term of five years**-Richard White and second nominated Tom Paquette. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Tom Paquette cemetery commissioner for five years.
- m. **agent to convey real estate for a one-year term**-Edith Artz and second nominated Donald Jones. No other nominations. Voice vote elected Donald Jones agent to convey real estate for the ensuing year.

Article 3. To hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers. Richard Harvey and Marvin Harvey moved the article. Marvin Harvey would like the auditors to add comments beyond what was in the town report. Homer Brown responded that they are going to ask they receive figures 10 days before report goes to print. Homer Brown reported that according to 24 VSA 2804 reserve fund money cannot be spent without the vote of the town. Homer Brown would like to see any surplus in the highway department be spent on gravel on the roads. Mary O. Davis asked if the \$22,000 will be paid back to the sewer fund. Answer was yes it had already been repaid. The bond will be paid by the whole town not just the users. Motion and second to call the question. Voice vote accepted the reports of the town officers.

Article 4. To hear and act on the report of the Board of Auditors. Alan Bond and Herbert Campbell moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote accepted the report of the board of auditors.

Article 5. To see if the voters will agree to pay all taxes for fiscal year July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004 to the Town Treasurer as provided by law. Marvin Harvey and Herbert Campbell moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote agreed to pay all taxes for fiscal year July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004 to the town treasurer.

Article 6. To see if the voters will vote to continue the quarterly tax payment schedule, with payments due August 15, 2003, November 15, 2003, February 14, 2004 and May 15, 2004. Lois Bond and Marvin Harvey moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote to continue the tax payment schedule of August 5, 2003, November 15, 2003, February 14, 2004 and May 15, 2004.

Article 7. To see if the voters will authorize the Town Clerk, as provided in 17 VSA 2144(b), to approve additions to the voter checklist. Lois Bond and second moved the article. Question why. Frances Guilmette answered that it would speed up the process for signing petitions. Voice vote authorized the town clerk to approve additions to the checklist.

Article 8. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$10,000 to be added to an existing reappraisal reserve fund to be used for the State-mandated reappraisal which started in Summer 2002. Barbara Harvey and Sandra Haas moved the article. Bill Biederman asked what happens if we do not approve it? Charlie Biederman responded that the town would be \$10,000 short on paying the appraiser's contract. Marvin Harvey asked if this will pay for the contract. Answer was yes. No further discussion Voice vote approved adding \$10,000 to the existing reappraisal reserve fund.

Article 9. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$10,000 to continue funding the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department Building Fund. John Allen and Richard White moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote approved \$10,000 to continue funding the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department building fund.

Article 10. To see if the voters will vote an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to purchase from the United States Forest Service that property (4+/- acres) which abuts the Town's wellhead so as to preserve for the future the integrity of the wellhead area. Barbara DeHart and Mary O. Davis moved the article. David Marmor asked if it was the intention of the selectboard to tear down the house. Charlie Biederman responded the board had not made that

decision. Marvin Harvey commented that we don't need to put out the money until we know what the forest service plans are. Diane White suggested swapping that lot for the Woolley, Pierce, Pierce lot. Charlie Biederman responded that the forest service is not doing swaps at the moment. Tucker Cruikshank questioned if we were setting aside \$10,000 for a sale that could possibly be for free. Brion McFarlin asked if there isn't a precedent of eminent domain to protect the wellhead. Herbert Campbell asked if there are restrictions in place what is the need to buy the land. Charlie Biederman responded that the forest service is willing to sell. Question was called. Vote voice was too close to call. Standing up was also too close. Paper ballot 63 YES 70 NO. Voted not to approve an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to purchase the Forest Service land next to the wellhead.

Article 11. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$8,000 to fund an additional amount due on the Talcville Bridge #36 resulting from a State overrun of \$90,000. Richard Harvey and Homer Brown moved the article. Marvin Harvey asked if this was an overrun or a change order. Danny McIntyre responded it was for the abutment on Route 100 side. Bill Biederman mentioned that the State has been putting off doing the work for a number of years. What happens if we vote this down? Danny McIntyre replied the town is responsible for its' 10 percent. No further discussion. Voice vote the voters approved \$8,000 to fund an additional amount due on the Talcville Bridge.

Article 12. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$5,500 for electric work at the Rochester school to enable use of the town's generator when the school is needed as an emergency shelter. Vivian Valtri and second moved the article. Barbara DeHart asked if this had gone out to bid. Charlie Biederman responded no, just an estimate, not going out to bid until have the money. Vivian Valtri asked if there is a flood isn't the school flooded? Charlie Biederman responded that a flood is not the only thing. There could be a power outage. Andrew West asked if the school is designated as our emergency site. Charlie Biederman responded that it is one of several sites. Susan Smereka wondered if there had been any record of the town needing emergency site? Mason Wade wondered if the money was enough. Danny McIntyre commented that the generator is mobile and the \$5,500 is an estimate for the electrical wiring. Tom Paquette asked if the generator would be used for sewerage pumping. Danny McIntyre commented it would be a back up. No further discussion. Voice vote approved \$5,500 for electric work at the Rochester school to enable use of the town's Generator when the school is used as an emergency site.

Article 13. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$42,214.55 for expenses of the Valley Rescue Squad, Inc. Richard Harvey and second moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$42,214.55 for the expenses of the Valley Rescue Squad, Inc.

Article 14. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$3,540.00 to support the home care and hospice care of patients without health insurance and with limited incomes in their homes by staff and volunteers of the Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc. Barbara DeHart and second moved the article. Robin Fiske commented that his uncle-in-law needs these services very much. Marvin Harvey commented that the article reads like they only help people without insurance. They help everyone. Donna Soltura from Gifford Medical commented that they help everyone. No further discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$3,540 to support Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire.

Article 15. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for continuation of the Center for Valley Youth program, a teen center serving middle and high school students since 1990. Vivian Valtri and Robin Fiske moved the article. Melissa Severy asked if other towns using this service are contributing. Nancy Sanz responded yes we do ask from Hancock and Granville. No further discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$3000 to Center for Valley Youth.

Article 16. To see if the voters will vote the sum of \$3,000.00 to Tri-Town Sports for a new ballfield. Richard White and Richard Harvey moved the article. Ross Laffan asked if other towns had been asked to pitch in. Danny McIntyre replied yes. Granville has \$1000 on their warning. Vivian Valtri wondered what was wrong with the present field. Danny McIntyre replied they have more kids than the field will accommodate. Cynthia Huard asked where the new field would be located. Danny McIntyre replied near the soccer field. No further discussion. Voice vote approved \$3,000 to Tri-Town Sports.

Article 17. To see if the voters will vote the sum of \$2,160.00 for the support of the services of the Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens. Lois Bond and second moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote voted \$2,160 for the support of Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens.

Article 18. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$2,066.00 to support the Clara Martin Center. Article was moved and seconded. No discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$2,066 to support Clara Martin Center.

Article 19. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to supplement the funds already raised to erect Welcome to Rochester signs at either end of Rochester village. Richard Harvey and Marvin Harvey moved the article. Alan Bond asked that Daley Crowley stand and she was given round of applause for undertaking this project. There was no discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$1,000 to supplement the Welcome to Rochester sign fund.

Article 20. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$875.00 to continue supporting the upper river streambank restoration (White River Partnership) projects and water quality monitoring of the White River. Marvin Harvey and second moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$875 to continue supporting the upper river streambank restoration and water quality monitoring of the White River.

Article 21. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$800.00 in support of services that the Stagecoach provides to the residents of Rochester. Alan Bond and Richard Harvey moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$800 in support of Stagecoach.

Article 22. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$400.00 to support the Central Vermont Council on Aging. The article was moved and seconded. No discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$400 in support of Central Vermont Council on Aging.

Article 23. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$300.00 to support programs of the Central Vermont Community Action Council. Article was moved and seconded. Lisa Thomas asked what they did. Kathryn Schenkman replied they administer funds for crisis fuel and help people with shut off notices for electric bills. No further discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$300 to support Central Vermont Community Action Council.

Article 24. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$250.00 to Windsor County Partners for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. Vivian Valtri and second moved the article. Mary Beth Heiskell responded that Windsor County Partners would like more children served and more mentors from Rochester. No further discussion. Voice vote appropriated \$250 to Windsor County Partners.

Article 25. To see if the voters will approve a budget of \$600,532.00 with \$366,542.00 to be raised from property taxes, to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Rochester. Richard Harvey and Richard White moved the article. Question asked how much did we add with the appropriations. Charlie Biederman replied \$93,105. Marvin Harvey mentioned that solid waste already spent \$8,000. David Marmor asked what we were paying for. Danny McIntyre responded to participate and use the facility at Bethel. Sandra Haas asked where the \$600,532 come from. The general fund of \$329,987 and the highway of \$300,100 add to \$630,087. Mary Davis asked what the auditors think. Homer Brown replied that all the auditors can do is examine and adjust. Martha Slater asked why the budget was higher and to be raised by taxes lower. Alvina Harvey would clarify how came up with the figures on the warning. Bill

Thraillkill proposed this question be recessed until next selectboard meeting. Ethan Bowen replied cannot be done at a selectboard meeting. It would have to be a warned town meeting. Burma Cassidy suggested tabling the article and warn as a Yes or No (Australian Ballot) so every voter could vote. Barbara Harvey and second amended the article to see if the voters will approve a budget of \$630,087 with \$351,097 to be raised by taxes. Louis Donnet asked if the selectboard was comfortable with this. The selectboard said yes. Brion McFarlin asked if this is enough to be raised. Heather Masterton responded that the board is comfortable with those figures. Voice vote approved the amended figures. Voted a budget of \$630,087 with \$351,097 to be raised by taxes.

Article 26. Be it resolved that the citizens of the town of Rochester urgently call upon our municipal leaders, 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. Abe Collins and second moved the article. No discussion. Voice vote the citizens of the Town of Rochester were in favor of this article.

Article 27. The voters of Rochester hereby endorse the Earth Charter. We recommend that the Town of Rochester, the State of Vermont, the United State of America, and the United Nations use the Earth Charter to guide decision-making on issues of local, state, national, and international importance. Article was moved and seconded. No discussion. Voice vote was too close. Stand up vote 50 YES 27 NO. The voters endorse the Earth Charter.

Article 28. Whereas genetically engineered (GE) foods have been shown to cause long-term damage to the environment, the integrity of rural, family farm economies, and can have serious impacts on human health; whereas GE crops have been found to contaminate other crops through cross-pollination, and are stringently regulated in more than 30 countries; and whereas citizens throughout the United States are taking steps to address the problem of GE foods at the state and local levels, in response to the failure of Congress and federal regulatory agencies to adequately address this issue, the residents of Rochester: (1) call upon our elected officials, including Vermont legislators, Congressional representative and U.S. Senators, to support the mandatory labeling by manufactures and processors of all genetically engineered food and seeds, as well as a moratorium on the further growing of GE crops until there is a credible and independent scientific evidence that these products are not harmful to our health, the environment, and the survival of family farms, and (2) declare our support for legislation at the state and federal levels that will shift all liability from farmers to the commercial developers of GE technology for any damages resulting from the growing of GE crops, and (3) declare a moratorium on the planting of genetically engineered seeds in the Town, as a step toward making Vermont a GE-free planting zone by the 2004 growing season. Article was moved and seconded. Abe Collins thought most of the article was reasonable but moved to amend the article by striking number 3. Burma Cassidy seconded the amendment. Cari Burkard felt that approval of the article was a way of telling big corporations can't tell Vermonters what to plant or eat. Voice vote was too close on the amendment. Stand up vote the amendment was voted down. David Kennett had talked with the Department of Agriculture and Secretary of State's office, and feels should vote this article down. Original question the voice vote was too close. Stand up was 47 YES 34 NO. The article was passed.

Article 29. To transact any other legal and proper business to be brought before said meeting. Bill Thraillkill mentioned the buying out process of down town properties and would like the planning commission to put a stop to this or slow down. Sandra Haas responded the planning commission will discuss. Mary O. Davis asked that Sandra Haas be given a standing vote of thanks for her 15 years as Trustee of Public Funds. Marvin Harvey asked about the

approved \$35,000 for feasibility study from the State revolving loan fund. Have the selectboard borrowed beyond that. Charlie Biederman reported have gone through the feasibility study, the preliminary study. The \$35,000 was for flow meters. Who authorized the borrowing from the revolving loan. Heather Masterton responded that Article 6 last year, there were two parts to the article.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26PM.

Frances Guilmette, Town Clerk

**WasteWater Information Meeting
Monday, April 28, 2003
6:00 PM ~ Town Office Conference Room**

Present: Twenty-six people, including Lance Phelps and John Kiernan, and Selectboard Members Charlie Biederman, Danny McIntyre, Heather Masterton

Heather representing the Board gave background history of the need for a new WasteWater system, and discussed funding and capital improvement for the future.

Question raised on prior meeting when decentralized systems in the Town were discussed. Lance indicated that at the beginning of talks on the WasteWater problem there was discussion on the possibility of decentralizing 1/3 of the Town. Building for growth of the village, but not to consider sprawl.

Consequences of a negative vote: The State says Rochester has no choice but to build a new system. In addition, there can be no expansion of housing or businesses.

Tim Crowley thanked the Board for their hard work and keeping the public informed.

Frances Guilmette, Clerk

OFFICIAL BALLOT

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
SPECIAL MEETING APRIL 29, 2003

Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Rochester in an amount not to exceed One Million Nine Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$1,968,000) subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid and other sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of financing the Town's estimated share of \$703,000 of the cost of making certain public sewer system improvements, viz:

Enhancement of the wastewater treatment facility:

If in favor of the bond issue,

Make a cross (X) in this square:

163

If opposed to the bond issue,

Make a cross (X) in this square:

81

244 Votes Cast

ATTEST: Frances Guilmette
Town Clerk

NOTICE to the LEGAL VOTERS of ROCHESTER, VERMONT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING to be held

Monday Night ~ March 1, 2004 ~ 7:00 pm

The legal voters of the Town of Rochester, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Rochester High School Auditorium in said town Monday, March 1, 2004, at 7:00 pm to transact the following business.

Article 1. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2. To elect all Town Officers required by law:

1. a Selectman ~ 3-year term
2. a Lister ~ 3-year term
3. an Auditor ~ 3-year term
4. a Collector of Delinquent Taxes ~ 1-year term
5. a Library Trustee to fill remaining term of L. Hamberlin ~ 4-years
6. a Library Trustee ~ 5-year term
7. a Grand Juror ~ 1-year term
8. a second Grand Juror ~ 1-year term
9. an Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits ~ 1-year term
10. a Trustee of Public Funds ~ 3-year term
11. a Cemetery Commissioner ~ 5-year term
12. an Agent to Convey Real Estate ~ 1-year term

Article 3. To hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers.

Article 4. To hear and act on the report of the Board of Auditors.

Article 5. To see if the voters will agree to pay all taxes for fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 to the Town Treasurer as provided by law.

Article 6. To see if the voters will vote to continue the quarterly tax payment schedule, with payments due August 15, 2004, November 15, 2004, February 14, 2005 and May 15, 2005.

Article 7. To see if the voters will vote to designate the Saturday prior to the first Tuesday in March at 10:00 a.m. as Rochester Town Meeting Day.

Article 8. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$10,000 to continue funding the Rochester Volunteer Fire Department building fund.

- Article 9. To see if the voters will vote an amount of \$5,500 for generator-associated expenses to enable use of generators when public buildings are needed as emergency shelters.
- Article 10. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 86,140.00 for expenses of the *Valley Rescue Squad, Inc.* (by petition)
- Article 11. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 4,000.00 for completion of *SKATESPACE* facility and equipment.
- Article 12. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 3,700.00 to support the home care and hospice care of patients without health insurance and with limited incomes in their homes by staff and volunteers of the *Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc.*
..... (by petition)
- Article 13. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 3,000.00 for continuation of the *Center for Valley Youth* program, a teen center serving middle and high school students since 1990. (by petition)
- Article 14. To see if the voters will vote the sum of \$ 2,592.00 for the support of the services of the *Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens.*
..... (by petition)
- Article 15. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 2,066.00 to support the *Clara Martin Center*..... (by petition)
- Article 16. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$875.00 to continue supporting the upper river streambank restoration (*White River Partnership*) projects and water quality monitoring of the White River.
..... (by petition)
- Article 17. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$850.00 in support of services that the *Stagecoach* provides to residents of Rochester.
..... (by petition)
- Article 18. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 500.00 to *Windsor County Partners* for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County..... (by petition)
- Article 19. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 400.00 to support the *Central Vermont Council on Aging*... .. (by petition)
- Article 20. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 345.00 for the *Windsor County Court Diversion* program, a program which provides offenders an opportunity to reconcile with victims and the community.

Article 21. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 300.00 to support programs of the *Central Vermont Community Action Council*.

..... (by petition)

Article 22. To see if the voters will appropriate the sum of \$ 200.00 to support the mission of *WomenSafe, Inc.*, which works toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children.

..... (by petition)

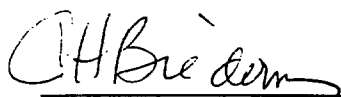
Article 23. To see if the voters will approve a budget of \$ \$683,450.00 with \$457,585.00 to be raised from property taxes, to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Rochester.

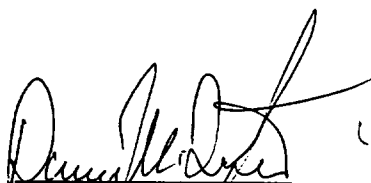
Article 24. To transact any other legal and proper business to be brought before said meeting.

Adjournment:

Dated at Rochester Vermont this 1st day of February, 2004.

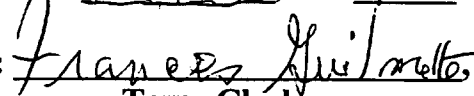
ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD


Charles H. Biederman


Danny McIntyre


Heather Masterton

Received at 9 AM, this 1st day of February, 2004 for Recording

Attest:  Frances G. Guilmette, Rochester
Town Clerk

Town of Rochester Elected Officials

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Moderator	Ethan Bowen	2004
Town Clerk	Frances Guilmette	2006
Town Treasurer	Frances Guilmette	2006
Selectboard:	Danny McIntyre	2004
	Heather Masterton	2005
	Charles Biederman	2006
Listers:	Sine Allyn	2004 (resigned)
	Louis Donnet	2005
	Herbert Campbell	2006
Auditors:	Homer Brown	2004
	Phyllis Deering	2005
	Albert MacDonnell	2006
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Frances Guilmette	2004
Library Trustees:	Ann Mills	2004
	Jane H. Duval	2004 (appointed)
	Lori Borden	2005
	Constance Breu	2006
	Larry Hamberlin	2007 (resigned)
	Nancy Oliver	2008
Grand Jurors:	Sandra J. Haas	2004
	Peter L. Riley	2004
Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits	Susan McCune Disbrow	2004
Trustees of Public Funds:	Ann Pierce	2004
	Michael Harvey	2005
	Barbara DeHart	2006
Cemetery Commissioners:	Richard White	2004
	Marvin C. Harvey	2005
	Sue Flewelling	2006
	Joan K. Hubbard	2007
	Thomas Paquette	2008
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Donald Jones	2004
Justices of the Peace	Kevin Dougherty	Feb. 2, 2005
	Richard Harvey	Feb. 2, 2005
	Java Hubbard	Feb. 2, 2005
	Ross Laffan	Feb. 2, 2005
	Stanley Parrish	Feb. 2, 2005
Rutland/Windsor 1 Rep.	Carroll F. Ketchum	
Windsor County Senators	John F. Campbell	
	Matthew Dunne	
	Peter Welch	

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Valley Rescue Squad Rep.	Melissa Severy	2004
Emergency Management Dir.	Walter Wells	2004
Recreation Committee:	Terry Paquette	2004
	John Allen	2004
	Tucker Cruikshank	2004
	Cynthia Fowles - Tennis	2004
	Siobhan Hybl	2004 (resigned)
	Dean Mendell - Winter Fest	2004
	Joe Schenkman, Concerts	2004
	Charles H. Biederman	ex officio
Recycling Coordinator	Danny McIntyre	2004
Town Attorney		
Housekeeper	Doris Billings	
Librarian	Sandra Lincoln	
Kirkpatrick Scholarship		
Bethel/Royalton Solid		
Waste Advisory Comm.	Heather Masterton	2004
E-911 Maintenance	Frances Guilmette	2004
Official Newspaper	<i>The Herald of Randolph</i>	2004

Dates To Remember

Selectboard Meeting	Second & Fourth Monday of month at Town Office Friday at Town Office as warned	6:00 PM 8:30 AM
Planning Commission	First Tuesday of month at Town Office	7:00 PM
Recreation Committee	Fourth Wednesday every other month at Town Office January, March, May, July, September, November	7:00 PM
Dog Licenses (State Mandated)	On or before April 1: Rabies shots good for 2 years. Male & Female: \$9.00; altered: \$5.00 After April 1, the fee is increased 50%: Male & Female \$13.00; altered \$7.00 A leash law applies to the entire Town, not just the village area.	
Recycling	Third Monday of month	
Property Taxes	1/4 due on/before August 15, 2004 ; 1/4 due on/before November 15, 2004 ; 1/4 due on/before February 14, 2005 ; 1/4 due on/before May 15, 2005 . Interest at rate of 1% per month for 3 months, and 1 ½% per month thereafter added. 8% collection fee added May 16, 2005.	
Water & Sewer User Fees	½ due January 31 ; ¼ due April 30 ; ¼ due July 31 ; ¼ due October 31 ; Quarterly, due no later than the effective date. Interest at rate of 1% per month for 3 months; and 1 ½% per month thereafter added.	

Appointments

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Asst. Town Clerk/Treas.	Nancy N. Woolley	2004
Asst. Town Clerk/Treas.	Mary O. Davis	2004
Admin. Asst. Selectboard	Barbara Vellturo	
First Constable	Thomas A. Simpson	2005
Second Constable	Paul Frigault	2004
Planning Board & Board of Adjustment	Michael Harvey	2004 (5)
	Frank Severy	2004 (3)
	Sandra J. Haas	2005
	Cheryl Blair	2005
	Bruce Flewelling	2006
	Kevin Dougherty	2006
	Joan Pontious	2007 (5)
	Heather Masterton	ex officio
	Earl Davis	2004
Zoning Administrator & Building Inspector		
Fire Chief (elected by Fire Dept)	Terry Severy	2004
First (elected by Fire Dept)	Raymond Harvey	2004
Second (elected by Fire Dept)	Kevin Dougherty	2004
Water Commissioners	Selectboard	2004
Sewer Commissioners	Selectboard	2004
Town Service Officer	Alan S. Kidder	2004
Animal Control Officers/ Poundkeeper	Bob & Gloria Steventon	2004
Humane Officer	Mary Ann Martin	2004
Fence Viewers:	Richard Harvey	2004
	Danny McIntyre	2004
	Norman R. Smith.	2004
Surveyors of Wood:	Homer Brown	2004
	Norman R. Smith	2004
Tree Warden	Norman R. Smith	2004
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee	William F. Harvey	2004
Reg. Comm. Rep. (Transportation & Planning)	W. F. Harvey	2004
Health Officer	David Chase	Oct. 31, 2006
Road Commissioners	Selectboard (Danny McIntyre)	2004
Road Department:	Bruce Johnson	Retired
	John Champion	
	Dan Gendron	
Sewer Plant Operator	Terry Severy	2004
Assistant		2004
On-Site WasteWater Officer	Walter Wells	2004
Water Plant Operator	Terry Severy	2004
Assistant	Ray Harvey	2004
Stagecoach Representative	June Frigault	2004
Energy Coordinator	Larry Curtis	2004
Park Committee:	Ronald Brown	2004
	Sandy Brown	2004
	Martha Slater	2004
	Heather Masterton	ex officio

INVENTORY - EQUIPMENT & PROPERTY

Town

Office Building
Wood Lot
Ballfield Lot

Office Equipment
Library & Contents
Bandstand

Road Department

2002 Ford F-350 4-Wheel Drive Pickup with Plow
2002 Ford 550 One-Ton Truck with 2-way Plow and Sander
2001 International Dump Truck
1999 International Dump Truck, Body & Wing
1996 Cat 928F Loader
1995 Galion Grader with Wing
1989 Eager Beaver Wood Chipper

Grease Gun
Chain Saws (3)
1 1998 Shandania Trimmer (Grass & Weed)
2 Motorola Radios (old)
Snow Plow Blades
Grader Blades
Truck Chains
Loader (1) & Grader Chains (4)
York Rake
AC Electric Stick Welder (1)
Pressure Washer
Flink Spinner Sander (2)
Culvert Cut-Off Saw (1)
Dog Compound & Fence
Jack
Drill Press (1)
Town Garage

Viking Reversible Plows (2)
V Plow for Grader
1997 Power Pruner (1)
4 Motorola Radios 1998
Signs (26)
Small Tools
Forerunner Rock Rake
Air Compressor
Gledhill Sanders (1)
Salt House
Chloride
Shop Metal Cut-Off Saw (1)
10 Ton Floor Jack (1)
Cutting Torches (1 set)
13 Drawer Tool Box (1)
Sand Screen
Salt Sand

Water Department

Well House, Reservoir & Miscellaneous Parts

Sewer Department

3 Sites & Miscellaneous Equipment
Riverbrook Farm WasteWater Site

Fire Department

2000 Ford F550 4x4 Truck
1985 GMC Tanker
Fire Station
2 Portable Pumps
Jaws of Life

1994 International 4900 Truck
Miscellaneous Hoses, Tools & Equipment
8 Scott 2.2 Air Packs
1 Air Compressor

Constable Inventory

2001 Chevrolet S-10 Crew Cab 4 WD Cruiser
Roof Light Bar/Strobes/Siren
Traffic Director Lightbar
In-Car Camera System (GHSC)*
Dual Antenna Radar Unit (GHSC)*
Datamaster Breath Testing Machine (GHSC)*
DBL Fingerprint Board
Snow Shovel
Road Spike System

Gateway Computer/HP Printer/Scanner
Mobile Radios (UHF & VHF-HI)
2 Bullet Resistant Vests
Handgun (.45 Cal. Auto)
2 Portable Radios (UHF)
Miscellaneous Uniforms & Office Equipment
19" Sylvania TV/VCR combo
Sony VCR GPS Portable System

*Governor's Highway Safety Council - Free Equip.

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
Treasurer's Report
July 1, 2002 ~ June 30, 2003

Revenue:	Budget 2002-03	Actual 2002-03
Cash on Hand July 1, 2002	83,439	83,439.82
Property Taxes	303,893	219,324.69
Delinquent Taxes	35,000	103,256.16
Escrow Taxes	0	4,523.83
Interest on Earnings	20,000	28,720.52
Current Use	0	28,780.00
Pilot	0	2,299.10
State – Reappraisal	0	6,916.00
State Aid to Roads	92,068	101,886.28
Tax Sale ads	0	582.23
Liquor Licenses	200	500.00
Green Mountain National Forest	4,500	9,650.00
Fees	8000	14,812.75
Pittsfield – Winter Maintenance	1,800	0.00
U. S. Forest Service	1,015	0.00
Dog Licenses	1,600	1,448.00
Animal Fines	0	140.00
Townsend-Hutchinson Fund	14,000	14,488.09
Leland Fund	3,000	2,104.67
Trustees of Public Funds	7,000	4,300.00
Judicial Fines	3,000	11,767.79
Summer Recreation Program	200	387.00
Revolving Loan Payments	2,000	210.24
Sale of Cemetery Lots	300	150.00
Sale of 1998 Cruiser	0	800.00
Miscellaneous	0	2,655.70
Library Reimbursement		183.87
Valley Rescue Reimbursement 911		93.87
Town of Hancock 911		23.46
Town of Granville 911		23.46
Sale of Computer		50.00
Cruiser/Officer Rental		225.00
Penalty Withdrawals from Current Use		2,380.70
Tax Collector's Fees		15,890.70
Welcome to Rochester Sign Fund		1,868.00
Postage Reimbursement		179.32
Notes Payable ~ Riverbrook Farm	0	422,500.00
Municipal Planning Grant	0	2,216.00
Insurance Refund ~ Holden Insurance	0	117.00
Total	581,015.00	1,088,894.25

Expenses

Selectboard Salaries	3,500	3,500.00
Town Clerk Salary	13,390	13,390.00
Town Treasurer Salary	13,390	13,390.00
Assistant Clerk & Treasurer	2,000	4,625.50
Administrative Assistant	4,000	4,745.50
Tax Collector	0	12,255.93
Auditors	600	583.00
Listers	9,200	4,570.50
Animal Control Officer	400	486.00
Planning & Zoning	400	763.50
Health Officer	500	500.00
Recreation Staff	1,500	2,244.00
Office Supplies	5,000	4,425.35
Office Equipment	500	0
Office Equipment Repair/Rental	3,000	1,731.71
Computer & Software	3,600	5,269.29
Printing	1,300	1,383.00
Meetings/Education	1,300	555.00
Mileage	300	113.06
Office Electricity	2,000	1,849.67
Office Telephone	1,500	1,257.37
Office Heat	1,000	2,147.05
Office Utilities	300	156.58
Legal	1,000	1,200.43
Tax Sale Ads	737.48	
Town Warning	190.86	
Woolley/Pierce Lot	125.00	
P/Z Hearings	147.09	
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,040.72
Adm. Asst Ad	375.72	
Dues Vt. Assessors	15.00	
1/2 Office Plans	650.00	
Street Lights	7,000	6,880.43
Port-a-Let Rental (3)	1,700	1,204.00
Office Cleaning	750	692.50
Town Office Building Repair	1,500	2,047.54
Parking Lot	500	415.57
Athletic Fields	1,700	1,800.33
Park Expense	6,000	4,390.18
Recycling	6,600	6,950.00
Tax Mapping	1,800	0.00
Notes Payable ~ Option	0	50,000.00
Solid Waste	8,800	8,606.85
Law Enforcement Salaries	21,000	19,034.50
Supplies	350	397.89
Training	200	1,882.50
Telephone	250	619.52
Special Officer	500	0.00
Insurance/Bonding	1,040	0.00
Gas	1,200	414.83
Repairs	600	181.05

Social Security	11,200	10,250.69
Municipal Retirement	5,200	5,258.57
Drug & Alcohol Testing	350	0.00
Animal Control	1,000	430.55
VLCT Dues	770	761.00
Bonding/Liability	1,564	2,296.00
Property/Casualty	5,543	11,033.00
Worker's Compensation	7,261	9,733.00
Business/Auto	4,770	0.00
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	13,400	10,958.26
Unemployment	275	322.14
Recreation Department	2,350	2,640.25
Tennis Committee	1,000	1,000.00
Library	11,000	11,000.00
Windsor County Assessment	11,200	11,132.65
Emergency Management	500	0.00
Cemeteries Upkeep	7,500	10,510.78
Water Bond & Interest	31,752	31,752.00
Bank Charges	400	1,273.80
Equipment Fund ~ Highway	25,000	25,000.00
Equipment Fund ~ Fire	10,000	10,000.00
Bridge Fund	10,000	10,000.00
Highway Road Crew Salaries	65,000	59,286.25
Overtime	11,000	7,994.22
Uniforms	1,800	1,492.43
Roadside Mowing	2,500	1,693.67
Brush Removal	4,000	0.00
Braintree	2,500	1,699.60
Stockbridge	1,500	1,500.00
Crosswalk Painting	2,500	0.00
Gravel	25,000	42,973.00
Sand	18,000	40,066.40
Salt	20,000	25,678.87
Resurfacing	25,000	30,066.70
Chloride	6,000	200.00
Culverts	7,500	2,433.10
Bridge/Band Rails	10,000	13,742.36
Electricity	1,000	939.47
Telephone	500	398.48
Heat	900	1,723.83
Trash Removal	300	315.25
Utilities	100	162.50
Supplies	2,500	2,346.69
Building Repair	1,000	241.85
Land Rental	500	0.00
Contracted Services	6,000	12,035.00
Signs/Posts	1,500	903.00
Equipment Rental	12,000	1,909.90
Gas/Oil/Grease	14,000	15,219.41
Equipment Parts/Repairs	15,500	18,207.30
Small Tools	300	99.95

Fire Department	13,800	13,610.42
Vermont Council on Aging	400	400.00
Valley Rescue Squad	45,798	45,797.81
Clara Martin Center	2,066	2,066.00
VNA/VNH	3,290	3,290.00
Quin-town Senior Center	1,800	1,800.00
Central Vermont Community Action	300	300.00
Two Rivers-Ottawqueechee	1,300	1,294.00
Stagecoach	800	800.00
Woodlawn Expansion	8,000	7,195.00
Upper Valley Streambank (WRP)	875	875.00
Cruiser Fund	5,000	5,000.00
Reappraisal Fund	10,000	10,000.00
New Fire House Fund	10,000	10,000.00
WomenSafe	150	150.00
Tri-Town Sports	3,000	3,000.00
SkateSpace	1,000	1,000.00
Center for Valley Youth	3,000	3,000.00
Welcome Sign	0	2,000.00
Glogover Memorial Tree	0	1,079.00
Interest on Borrowing	0	275.75
 Total	 663,184	 871,813.97
Cash On Hand June 30, 2003		300,066.94

Tax Rate 2003/2004:

Town	.5507
Local Exemption	.0142
State-wide Education	1.0181
Local School	<u>1.2520</u>
	2.8350

Riverbrook Farm Financial Summary

2002-2003

Purchase price	420,000.00
Borrowed for Option	50,000.00
Borrowed for Option	372,500.00
Interest to Randolph	275.75
Total Expense	420,275.75

2003-2004

Expense	
Appraisals	1,700.00
Water line	805.00
Repairs	875.00
Survey	3,000.00
Legal	2,812.06
Advertising	450.00
Interest	17,494.00
Total	27,136.06

Down Payment	42,900.00
Closing payment	386,100.00
Total	429,000.00

Plus Lease	19,500.00
------------	-----------

Total Income	448,500.00
---------------------	-------------------

Total Purchase Expense 2003/2004	449,911.81
---	-------------------

Cost of 10 acres	(1,411.81)
------------------	------------

WORKING ACCOUNTS

Savings Account - WRCU #3248-1

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	14,727.85
Revenue:	
Interest	194.42
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	14,922.27
Open Account	5.00
Leland Fund	10,893.56
Interest Accumulated	3,978.71
Wetmore Memorial	45.00

Money Market Account Randolph National Bank #801350

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	47,630.29
Revenue:	18,706.00
Records Preservation	1,790.00
Reappraisal - State	6,916.00
Appropriation	10,000.00
Expenses:	32,326.00
Ed Clodfelter	31,000.00
Postmaster	50.00
Clovis Point	750.00
Lock-n-Glass	23.00
Sensible Savings	503.00
ADA	4,992.08
Clock Fund	920.68
Accum. Int.	4,908.01
Records Preservation	3,349.50
Reappraisal	22,326.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	34,010.29

Money Market - Charter One - #491-000485-9

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	83.85
Revenue:	
Interest66
Expenses:	84.46
To General Fund	84.46
Ending Balance June 30, 200305

Bridge #36 Fund- Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	91,789.73
Revenue:	
Appropriations	10,000.00
Expenses:	
Agency of Transportation	128,923.11
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	(27,133.38)

Equipment Fund - Road Department - Randolph National Bank - #825897

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	28,951.35
Revenue:	47,000.00
Appropriations	25,000.00
Trade-in 1997 F350	19,000.00
Rebate	3,000.00
Expenses:	
Truck F550	54,240.00
Title	25.00
Extended Warranty	2,535.00
Plow	4,378.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	14,773.35

Sale of 1992 Cruiser - Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	2,575.00
Revenue:	<800.00>
Payments	800.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	2,281.00
Sale Price	4,200.00
7% Interest	294.00
Paid to Date	2,719.00
Balance Due	1,775.00

Equipment Fund - Fire Department - Randolph National Bank - #926057.....Check Number

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	21,152.16
Revenue:	
Appropriations	10,000.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	31152.16

Village Cemetery Account Mascoma #5001062

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	9,752.05
Revenue:	229.58
Interest	79.58
Sale of Lots	150.00
J. Scanlan/C. Martin	
Interest	143.78
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	9,981.63

Revolving Loan Fund - Northfield Savings Bank - #6010053830

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	50,581.40
Revenue:	332.25
Payments	210.24
Interest	122.01
Expenses:	
Bank Charges	93.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	50,820.65

Revolving Loan Fund - WRCU #3248-091

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	9,092.30
Revenue:	120.04
Interest	120.04
Expenses:	470.00
Silloway's Septic	470.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	8,742.34

Emergency Reserve Fund - Water Department – Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	23,445.40
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	23,445.40

Emergency Reserve Fund - Sewer Department – Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	445.64
Revenue:	29,500.00
Rural Development	19,500.00
Budget	10,000.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	29,945.64

Welcome to Rochester Sign Fund – Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	485.00
Revenue:	
Donations/Raffle	1,868.00
Expenses:	2,000.00
Artcast, Inc.	2,000.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	353.00

Michael Glogover Memorial Tree Fund – Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	1,079.00
Expenses:	1,079.00
Trees, Inc. (Linden, Sugar Maple)	1,079.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	0.00

Fire House Fund – Randolph National Bank - #926057

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	10,000.00
Revenue:	10,000.00
Appropriation	10,000.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	20,000.00

RESTRICTED USE

Martin Farms Appreciation Fund - Mascoma #68006406

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002	5,253.42
Revenue:	
Interest	342.06
Expenses: Dean Blomquist	100.00
Ending Balance June 30, 2003	5,495.48

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
Delinquent Property Taxes
Year ending June 30, 2003

2000

Belisle, John & Cindy	386.08
Gendron, Oscar	1,103.77
 Total	 1,489.85

2001

Belisle, John & Cindy	411.16
Gendron, Oscar	1,333.40
Thresher, John	516.64
 Total	 2,261.20

2002

Belisle, John & Cindy	458.16
Fairbanks Williams, Edna	311.96
Gendron, Oscar	1,485.84
Gonzalez, Tomas & Maria	1,055.30
Gonzalez, Tomas R.	14.41
Henderson, Gary & Rosalie	1,027.14
Johnson, Charles	370.76
McIntyre/Miller, Michael & Cheryl	2,850.68
* Roberts, John & Dian	80.11
Ryan, Gregory & Anne	792.76
Ryerson, Danny & Brandy	763.56
* Scanlan, Margaret	929.16
Schaffner, Natividad	218.00
Sleath, Mark & Robert	1,154.36
* Smith, Ernest & Julie	974.14
Thresher, John	575.72
Thurston, Cynthia & Leslie	2,705.03
 Total	 15,767.09
 Total All Years	 19,518.14

*Payment received after December 31, 2003

Delinquent Water Fees ~ Year Ending December 31, 2003

2003

Downs, Harvey & Brenda.....	81.00
Downs, Harvey & Brenda.....	21.00
Dugger Irrevocable Trust.....	58.60
Graham Jon & Frock, Beth.....	48.25
Henderson, Gary & Rosalie.....	100.93
McCandless, Carol.....	58.75
*Roberts, John & Dian.....	72.50
*Shankland, Stephanie.....	251.50
Sterling, Richard & Pamela.....	55.00
Sweeney, Arthur & Jeanette.....	400.75

Total1,148.28

Water Bond

FHA bond being repaid at an annual rate of \$39,286, plus interest. At the 1995 Town Meeting, an additional annual payment of \$5,000 was authorized by the voters. \$414,304.98 has been paid as of January 26, 2004, leaving an unpaid principal balance of \$273,262.98.

Delinquent Sewer Fees ~ Year Ending December 31, 2003

2003

Downs, Harvey & Brenda.....	103.40
Dugger Irrevocable Trust.....	61.20
Graham, Jon & Frock, Beth.....	57.55
Henderson, Gary & Rosalie.....	485.76
Laffan, Christine, Ross, Kurt.....	17.40
McCandless, Carol.....	72.25
*Roberts, John & Dian.....	91.50
*Shankland, Stephanie.....	312.10
Sterling, Richard & Pamela.....	57.00
Sweeney, Arthur & Jeanette.....	541.05

Total1,799.21

*Payment received after December 31, 2003

Selectboard Report

The 2003-2004 fiscal year has been significant for three reasons.

First, we were able to obtain \$200,000 in grants. This made it possible to be far more active in the areas of road, planning and zoning, town planning and in obtaining fire department equipment.

Second, we completed the major portion of our village wastewater system rehabilitation, assuring adequate facilities for the foreseeable future. The farm was sold providing the Town with an excellent new site for a modest sum of money.

Third, we lived within our means after setting a budget that was slightly lower than 2002-2003in marked contrast with the rest of the country.

2004-2005 is going to be a tougher year for three reasons also.


First, we have a significant decision to make on the Valley Rescue Squad which will probably result in a significant cost increase. It involves serious issues of response time, expense and sound planning for the future and needs the best thinking of everyone in the Town.

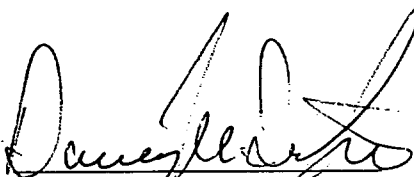
Second, the cost of everything has gone up, from health insurance to materials and labor, to maintain the Town's road systems and we must maintain adequate reserves for future capital expenses.

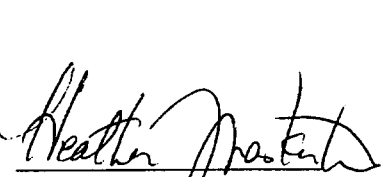
Third, our town-wide property assessment project will be completed this spring and will affect evaluations and taxes in the coming year. We will have no specific information until April, but there will be a substantial effect on all of us.

Please read the appropriation warnings and the Town budget carefully and prepare for a lively Town Meeting. Whether you are full-time, part-time, owner or renter, you will be affected by what is voted and should participate in the discussion. Your Selectboard and all Town committees and commissions have been diligent in planning and budgeting, but the final word comes from you, the registered voters of Rochester.

ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD


Charles H. Biederman, Chair


Danny McIntyre


Heather Masterton


Road Commissioner's Report Highway

Both Bethel Mountain and Middle Hollow roads were extensively paved this past year, thanks, in part, to the receipt of a \$150,000 Resurfacing Grant which helped to fund the project. A \$7,000 grant for addressing erosion run-off problems allowed us to continue with the culvert replacement program. This money was used to replace and upgrade a large culvert on Middle Hollow road. FEMA funds in the form of a \$9,400 grant from the Vermont Agency of Transportation enabled us to do culvert upgrades. A \$2,600 Road Inventory grant will help us to obtain culvert grants in future years. Other projects included roadside mowing, brush cutting, graveling, grading and ditch work.

Bruce Johnson, Road Foreman for 10 years, retired from the Highway Department this past December. We have all appreciated his dedicated service to the Town and its roads, and wish him the very best in his retirement.

John Champion was hired as Road Foreman in October, and Dan Gendron joined him as a Road Crew member in November. I look forward to working with and assisting them in our highway improvements.

Projects under consideration for the forthcoming year include the Brook Street bridge, Bean's Bridge road to Crowley's, Marsh Brook road, Buttle's Road, Shady Rill culverts, Erosion Control grants, Class 2 Road Culvert grants, Road Inventory, and general Highway Department re-organization.



Danny McIntyre
Road Commissioner

ROCHESTER TOWN GENERAL ACCOUNT			ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD REPORT				
Statement of Budgets, Revenue, and Expenses	July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003		100%	July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		50%	July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 Proposed Budget 12 months
	Voted Budget	Actual 12 months		Voted Budget	Actual 6 months		
Beginning Balance:		-14,432.02		157,128.94			0.00
REVENUE:							
Property Taxes	229,505.00	259,192.72	113%	195,312.00	85,252.22	44%	274,320.00
Delinquent Taxes	35,000.00	103,256.16	295%	75,000.00	74,459.37	99%	25,000.00
Escrow Taxes	0.00	4,523.83	0%	0.00	4,524.18	0%	0.00
Interest	20,000.00	28,720.52	144%	20,000.00	11,203.16	56%	20,000.00
State of Vt. Current Use	0.00	28,780.00	0%	0.00	29,043.00	0%	30,000.00
State Pmt in Lieu of Taxes [PILOT] Payme	0.00	2,299.10	0%	0.00	2,255.04	0%	2,000.00
Liquor Licenses	200.00	500.00	250%	400.00	0.00	0%	500.00
Town Clerk Fees	8,000.00	14,812.75	185%	8,000.00	6,325.00	79%	12,000.00
Dog Licenses	1,600.00	1,448.00	91%	1,600.00	221.00	14%	1,450.00
Animal Fines	0.00	140.00	0%	0.00	87.50	0%	0.00
Recreation Fees	200.00	387.00	194%	200.00	169.00	85%	200.00
Townsend/Hutchinson Fund	14,000.00	14,488.09	103%	14,000.00	7,853.69	56%	10,000.00
Leland fund	3,000.00	2,104.67	70%	2,500.00	882.31	35%	2,000.00
Trustees of Public Funds [cemetery fund]	7,000.00	4,300.00	61%	4,000.00	4,000.00	100%	4,000.00
Judicial Fines	3,000.00	11,767.79	392%	4,000.00	3,136.69	78%	10,000.00
Rev Loan Payments	2,000.00	210.24	11%	2,000.00	2,342.13	117%	0.00
Sale of Cemetery Lots	300.00	150.00	50%	300.00	200.00	67%	300.00
Sale of '98 cruiser [sale is complete]	0.00	800.00	0%	2,575.00	1,775.00	0%	0.00
Municipal Planning Grant	0.00	2,216.00	0%	0.00	2,378.00	0%	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	2,655.70	0%	100.00	1,695.50	0%	100.00
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	0.00	6,196.36	0%	0.00	6,227.61	0%	0.00
Library Phone Reimb	0.00	183.87	0%	0.00	868.82	0%	0.00
VRS Phone Reimb	0.00	93.87	0%	0.00	293.66	0%	0.00
Current Use withdrawal	0.00	296.40	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Rochester Welcome Sign	0.00	1,258.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Total GENERAL FUND:	323,805.00	490,781.07	152%	329,987.00	245,192.88	74%	391,870.00
Payment of Voted Appropriation	82,479.00	82,478.81	100%	93,105.55	63,432.44	68%	
TOTAL REVENUE:	406,284.00	573,259.88		423,092.55	308,625.32		391,870.00

Statement of Budgets, Revenue, and Expenses						
	July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003			July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005
	Voted	Actual	100%	Voted	Actual	Proposed Budget
	Budget	12 months		Budget	6 months	12 months
GENERAL TOWN SALARIES						
Selectboard	3,500.00	3,500.00	100%	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
Town Clerk	13,390.00	13,390.00	100%	14,368.00	5,986.65	14,943.00
Town Treasurer	13,390.00	13,390.00	100%	14,368.00	5,986.65	14,943.00
Ass't. Clerk/Treasurer	2,000.00	4,625.50	231%	4,300.00	2,058.00	6,240.00
Administrative Asst	4,000.00	4,745.50	119%	7,000.00	2,706.00	7,488.00
Auditors	600.00	583.00	97%	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Listers	9,200.00	4,570.50	50%	5,600.00	603.00	3,500.00
Animal Control Officer	400.00	486.00	122%	400.00	12.00	365.00
Planning Commission Clerk	400.00	763.50	191%	900.00	681.00	1,000.00
Health Officer	500.00	500.00	100%	500.00	0.00	500.00
Recreation Activities Staff	1,500.00	2,244.00	150%	1,800.00	1,337.00	1,800.00
Housekeeping Salary	0.00	0.00	0%	700.00	222.50	819.00
Total GENERAL TOWN SALARIES	48,880.00	48,798.00	100%	54,636.00	19,592.80	56,298.00
GENERAL OFFICE EXPENSE						
Supplies-Office, P/Z, Listers, Health	5,000.00	4,333.53	87%	5,000.00	2,691.53	5,000.00
Tax Mapping	1,800.00	270.00	15%	1,800.00	0.00	400.00
Office Equipment	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00	971.99	500.00
Office Equip. Repair/Rent	3,000.00	1,731.71	58%	3,000.00	1,031.37	2,000.00
Computer & Software-Office, Listers, Planning	3,600.00	5,269.29	146%	3,600.00	1,265.19	3,000.00
Printing Town Report	1,300.00	1,383.00	106%	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00
Outside Meetings/Education	1,300.00	555.00	43%	2,300.00	232.50	1,500.00
Lister's Mileage	300.00	113.06	38%	200.00	0.00	200.00
Office Utilities: Electricity	2,000.00	1,849.67	92%	2,000.00	678.93	2,000.00
Telephone	1,500.00	1,257.37	84%	1,500.00	692.96	1,500.00
Fuel	1,000.00	2,147.05	215%	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Water & sewer assessment	300.00	156.58	52%	200.00	70.00	200.00
Legal Services [04/05: reappraisal appeals]	1,000.00	711.87	71%	0.00	226.27	3,000.00
Selectboard - Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,040.72	104%	1,000.00	189.74	1,000.00
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	4,371.83	0.00
911 Phone	0.00	467.33	0%	0.00	813.38	0.00
Library-Phone & Ins Reimb	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	556.74	1,448.00
Total General Office Expense:	23,600.00	21,286.18	90%	24,100.00	13,792.43	24,748.00

Statement of Budgets, Revenue, and Expenses									
	July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003		100%	July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		50%	July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005		
	Voted Budget	Actual 12 months		Voted Budget	Actual 6 months		Proposed Budget 12 months		
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS									
Street Lights	7,000.00	6,880.43	98%	7,000.00	3,429.40	49%		7,000.00	
Port-o-Let rental (Lions/Rec/Tri-Town)	1,700.00	1,204.00	71%	1,700.00	1,746.13	103%		1,800.00	
Window Cleaning	750.00	692.50	92%	80.00	60.00	75%		120.00	
Maint & Repairs - Town Office	1,500.00	2,047.54	137%	3,500.00	57.40	2%		7,000.00	
Maint & Repairs - Town Parking Lot	1,500.00	0.00	0%	1,500.00	7.79	1%		0.00	
Maint & Repairs - Fire House	500.00	415.57	83%	1,000.00	1.79	0%		1,000.00	
Athletic Fields (mowing)	1,700.00	1,800.33	106%	1,700.00	800.02	47%		1,700.00	
Park Upkeep	6,000.00	4,390.18	73%	4,900.00	2,005.73	41%		4,900.00	
Total BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:	20,650.00	17,430.55	84%	21,380.00	8,108.26	38%		23,520.00	
Recycle - Benson's	6,600.00	6,950.00	105%	7,440.00	3,760.00	51%		7,440.00	
Solid Waste - Bethel/Royalton Alliance	8,800.00	8,606.85	98%	8,800.00	8,606.90	98%		8,800.00	
Total SOLID WASTE:	15,400.00	15,556.85	101%	16,240.00	12,366.90	76%		16,240.00	
LAW ENFORCEMENT:									
Law Enforcement Salaries	21,000.00	19,034.50	91%	22,880.00	11,244.00	49%		24,440.00	
Law Enforcement Supplies	350.00	397.89	114%	500.00	234.90	47%		500.00	
Training	200.00	1,882.50	941%	200.00	444.00	222%		200.00	
Cruiser cell & office phones	250.00	619.52	248%	500.00	294.28	59%		500.00	
Special Officers	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00	0.00	0%		500.00	
Insurance/Bond	1,040.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%		part of VLCT	
Cruiser insurance	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%		part of VLCT	
Cruiser gas	1,200.00	414.83	35%	1,500.00	489.54	33%		1,000.00	
Cruiser maintenance & repairs	600.00	181.05	30%	500.00	820.47	164%		500.00	
Total LAW ENFORCEMENT:	25,140.00	22,530.29	90%	26,580.00	13,527.19	51%		27,640.00	
GENERAL TOWN EXPENSE:									
Matching Social Security	11,200.00	10,250.69	92%	11,500.00	6,417.33	56%		12,916.00	
Municipal Retirement	5,200.00	5,258.57	101%	5,100.00	1,303.93	26%		5,378.00	
Drug & Alcohol Testing	350.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%		part of VLCT	
Animal Control	1,000.00	430.55	43%	1,180.00	2,060.13	175%		1,180.00	
VLCT Dues	770.00	761.00	99%	1,035.00	1,035.00	100%		1,096.00	
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee	1,300.00	1,294.00	100%	1,300.00	0.00	0%		1,294.00	

Statement of Budgets, Revenue, and Expenses					July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2003		July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005	
	Voted	Actual	100%	Budget	6 months	Actual	50%	Proposed Budget	12 months	
Bonding/Public Officials	1,564.00	2,296.00	147%	2,296.00	0.00	0.00	0%	2,291.00		
Property/Casualty Ins - VLCT	5,543.00	11,033.00	199%	11,530.00	0.00	0.00	0%	12,938.00		
Worker's Compensation	7,261.00	9,733.00	134%	9,733.00	44.36	0.00	0%	10,961.00		
Business/Auto Insurance	4,770.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Blue Cross & Blue Shield	13,400.00	10,958.26	82%	12,200.00	6,433.03	0.00	53%	22,512.00		
Unemployment Compensation	275.00	322.14	117%	370.00	307.14	0.00	83%	338.00		
Recreation Dept.	2,350.00	2,640.25	112%	2,500.00	1,951.80	0.00	78%	3,000.00		
Tennis Committee Main & Repair	1,000.00	1,000.00	100%	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0%	2,000.00		
Rochester Fire Dept	13,800.00	13,683.92	99%	13,800.00	3,087.32	0.00	22%	-13,800.00		
Rochester Public Library	11,000.00	11,000.00	100%	11,000.00	5,500.00	0.00	50%	15,000.00		
Windsor County Tax Assessment	11,200.00	11,132.65	99%	10,255.00	10,255.00	0.00	100%	9,474.00		
Emergency Management	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00	0.00	0.00	0%	500.00		
Cemetery Upkeep	7,500.00	10,510.78	140%	10,000.00	5,235.08	0.00	52%	12,000.00		
Water Bond & Interest	31,752.00	31,752.00	100%	31,752.00	13,376.00	0.00	42%	31,752.00		
Sewer Bond & Interest			0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	42,994.00		
Bank Charges	400.00	1,273.80	318%	2,000.00	553.85	0.00	28%	2,000.00		
Law Enforcement Cruiser Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00	100%	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0%	5,000.00		
Equip. Fund - Highway Dept.	25,000.00	25,000.00	100%	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0%	25,000.00		
Equip. Fund - Fire Dept.	10,000.00	10,000.00	100%	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0%	10,000.00		
Bridge # 36 Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	100%	0.00	4,434.16	0.00	0%	0.00		
Legal - Easements	0.00	13.63	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Woodlawn Cem. Expansion [complete]	8,000.00	7,195.00	90%	8,000.00	6,326.00	0.00	79%	0.00		
M. Glogover Trees	0.00	1,079.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Total GEN. TOWN EXPENSE	190,135.00	193,618.24	102%	187,051.00	68,231.41	0.00	36%	243,424.00		
Total GEN. FUND EXPENSE:	323,805.00	319,220.11	99%	329,987.00	135,618.99	0.00	41%	391,870.00		
APPROPRIATIONS EXPENSE:	82,479.00	82,478.81	0%	93,105.55	63,432.44	0.00	0%	0.00		
Grand TOTAL EXPENSE:	406,284.00	401,698.92	0.99	423,092.55	199,051.43	0.00	0.41	391,870.00		
Closing Balance:		157,128.94			266,702.83					
Balance Forward:		-14,432.02			157,128.94					
Plus Revenue:		573,259.88			308,625.32					
Minus Total Expense:		-401,698.92			-199,051.43					
Closing Balance:		157,128.94			266,702.83					

Year To Date:

Review of Appropriations		Voted		Actual		100%		Voted		Actual		50%		Proposed Budget	
		Budget		12 months				Budget		6 months		50%		12 months	
		July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003						July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004				July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005			
		VOTED Mar 4, 2002						VOTED Mar 3, 2003				To be Voted at Town Meeting			
		Actual						Year To Date				Monday, March 1, 2004			
Review of Appropriations															
Center for Valley Youth		3,000.00		3,000.00		100%		3,000.00		3,000.00		100%			
Central Vt Community Act		300.00		300.00		100%		300.00		300.00		100%			
Central Vt. Council Aging		400.00		400.00		100%		400.00		400.00		100%			
Clara Martin Center		2,066.00		2,066.00		100%		2,066.00		2,066.00		100%			
Quintown Senior Center		1,800.00		1,800.00		100%		2,160.00		2,160.00		100%			
Skatespace		1,000.00		1,000.00		100%		0.00		0.00		0%			
Stagecoach		800.00		800.00		100%		800.00		800.00		100%			
Tri Town Sports		3,000.00		3,000.00		100%		3,000.00		3,000.00		100%			
Valley Rescue Squad		45,798.00		45,797.81		100%		42,214.55		21,107.28		50%			
VNA/VNH		3,290.00		3,290.00		100%		3,540.00		3,540.00		100%			
Welcome Sign		0.00		0.00		0%		1,000.00		1,500.00		0%			
White River Partnership		875.00		875.00		100%		875.00		875.00		100%			
Windsor Co Partners		0.00		0.00		0%		250.00		250.00		0%			
Windsor Cty Court Diversion		0.00		0.00		0%		0.00		0.00		0%			
WomanSafe		150.00		150.00		100%		0.00		0.00		0%			
Total Petitioned Requests		62,479.00		62,478.81		100%		59,605.55		38,998.28		65%			
Town Department Requests:															
*Article 8 - Reappraisal Fund		10,000.00		10,000.00				10,000.00		10,000.00					
*Article 9 - Fire House Building Fund		10,000.00		10,000.00				10,000.00		10,000.00					
*Article 11 - Bridge # 36 Fund		Line Item		Line Item				8,000.00		4,434.16					
*Article 12 - Generator/Emergency		0.00		0.00				5,500.00		0.00					
TOTAL Town Department Requests:		20,000.00		20,000.00				33,500.00		24,434.16					
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:		82,479.00		82,478.81				93,105.55		63,432.44					

ROCHESTER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT			ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD REPORT			
Statement of Budget, Revenue, and Expense:						
July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003			July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004			
	Voted	Actual	Voted	Actual		
	Budget	12 months	Budget	6 months	50%	Proposed Budget 12 months
Beginning Balance:		98,120.84	103,569.85			0.00
REVENUE:						
Current Property Taxes	158,517.00	158,517.00	155,785.00	77,892.50		183,265.00
US Forest Service - Highway Fund	4,500.00	9,650.00	4,500.00	0.00	0%	4,500.00
US Forest Service - Bingo Road	1,015.00	0.00	1,015.00	0.00	0%	1,015.00
Vermont State Highway Aid	92,068.00	101,886.28	92,000.00	50,885.00	55%	101,000.00
Town of Pittsfield Winter Maintenance	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	0.00	0%	1,800.00
GRANTS:						
Vt Trans Resurfacing Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000.00		0.00
Culverts - FEMA funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,400.00		0.00
Back Rds Grant-Road Inventory	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,606.00		0.00
Back Rds Grant-Culvert Replacement	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,432.00		0.00
Total REVENUE:	257,900.00	271,853.28	255,100.00	297,215.50		291,580.00
EXPENSE:						
Salaries - Crewmen	65,000.00	59,286.25	65,000.00	25,317.00	39%	69,680.00
Overtime	11,000.00	7,994.22	9,000.00	4,761.39	53%	9,000.00
Supervisor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Road Commissioner	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	10,400.00
Land Rental	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Crew Uniforms	1,800.00	1,492.43	1,500.00	582.70	39%	1,500.00
Roadside Mowing	2,500.00	1,693.67	2,500.00	4,421.25	177%	2,500.00
Brush Removal	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	1,740.00	44%	4,000.00
Town of Braintree Winter Maintenance	2,500.00	1,699.60	2,500.00	4,124.50	165%	2,500.00
Town of Stockbridge Winter Maintenance	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0%	1,500.00
Special Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Paint crosswalks	2,500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0%	2,500.00
Gravel	25,000.00	33,536.05	33,400.00	17,576.18	53%	33,400.00
Sand	18,000.00	40,066.40	18,000.00	10,929.60	61%	23,000.00

Statement of Budget, Revenue, and Expense:						
	July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003			July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005
	Voted	Actual		Voted	Actual	Proposed Budget
	Budget	12 months	100%	Budget	6 months	12 months
Salt	20,000.00	25,678.87	128%	20,000.00	4,997.27	20,000.00
Resurfacing**	25,000.00	29,220.44	117%	25,000.00	25,000.00	35,000.00
VTrans grant-spent on resurfacing			0%		150,000.00	0%
From 2002/2003 to match resurfacing grant			0%		36,995.80	0%
Chloride	6,000.00	200.00	3%	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Culverts & Bands	7,500.00	2,433.10	32%	7,500.00	1,235.44	11,500.00
Culverts & Bands- spent from FEMA			0%		9,400.00	0%
Culverts & Bands- spent from Back Rd			0%		6,432.00	0%
Bridge & bandrails	10,000.00	9,492.36	95%	10,000.00	9,100.00	10,000.00
Back Rds Grant - Road Inventory			0%		2,000.00	0%
Utilities: Garage - Electricity	1,000.00	939.47	94%	1,000.00	232.84	1,000.00
Garage - Telephone	500.00	398.48	80%	500.00	185.58	500.00
Garage Heat	900.00	1,723.83	192%	900.00	54.14	900.00
Trash Removal	300.00	315.25	105%	300.00	130.00	300.00
Garage water & sewer assessment	100.00	162.50	163%	200.00	57.50	200.00
Supplies	2,500.00	2,273.19	91%	2,500.00	675.70	2,500.00
Building Maint & Repairs - Garage	1,000.00	241.85	24%	1,000.00	783.85	1,200.00
Contracted Services	6,000.00	12,035.00	201%	10,000.00	5,060.00	10,000.00
Road Signs & Posts	1,500.00	903.00	60%	500.00	80.88	500.00
Equipment Rental	12,000.00	1,909.90	16%	2,500.00	8,278.75	2,500.00
Gas, Oil, Grease	14,000.00	15,219.41	109%	14,000.00	3,237.05	14,000.00
Equipment/Radio - Maint & Repair	15,000.00	15,889.05	106%	15,000.00	5,100.67	15,000.00
Small tools	300.00	99.95	33%	300.00	11.99	500.00
Total EXPENSE:	256,900.00	266,404.27	104%	300,100.00	338,502.08	291,580.00
Closing Balance:		103,569.85			62,283.27	
Beginning Balance:		98,120.84			103,569.85	0.00
Plus Total Revenue:		271,853.28			297,215.50	291,580.00
Minus Total Expense:		266,404.27			338,502.08	291,580.00
Equals						
Closing Balance:	End of Year	103,569.85		Year To Date:	62,283.27	0.00
**2004/2005: Resurfacing State Garage Road, \$35,000						

ROCHESTER WATER DEPARTMENT		WATER COMMISSIONERS REPORT							
Statement of Budget, Revenue, and Expense:									
July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003									
	Voted	Actual	100%	Voted	Actual	50%	Proposed Budget		
	Budget	12 months		Budget	6 months		12 months		
Beginning Balance:		6,223.64			12,286.37				
REVENUE:									
Current Assessments	28,675.00	27,936.42	97%	29,800.00	16,868.70	57%	29,800.00		
Delinquent Assessments	1,000.00	2,317.59	232%	1,000.00	523.46	52%	1,000.00		
Connection Fees	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Interest	1,000.00	171.83	17%	100.00	59.99	60%	100.00		
Total Revenue:	30,675.00	30,425.84	99%	30,900.00	17,452.15	56%	30,900.00		
WATER Operations									
Education	400.00	54.00	14%	400.00	0.00	0%	500.00		
Electricity	7,000.00	6,529.89	93%	7,000.00	2,641.40	38%	7,300.00		
Telemetering	600.00	648.36	108%	700.00	325.90	47%	750.00		
Heat pump/house	500.00	519.84	104%	500.00	118.53	24%	800.00		
Supplies	1,000.00	754.71	75%	1,000.00	205.26	21%	1,000.00		
Equipment	0.00	289.35	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	500.00		
Meter Reading	600.00	526.00	88%	800.00	313.00	39%	800.00		
Testing & sampling	1,500.00	1,128.00	75%	1,500.00	95.00	6%	1,500.00		
Operator	10,000.00	7,301.00	73%	10,000.00	3,964.00	40%	10,000.00		
Special Projects	0.00	555.50	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Reserve Fund	0.00	555.50	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	3,000.00		
Total OPERATIONS:	21,600.00	18,862.15	87%	21,900.00	7,663.09	35%	26,150.00		
Other Water Exp									
Permits/Licenses	600.00	314.33	52%	500.00	323.36	65%	500.00		
Dues/Memberships	200.00	0.00	0%	200.00	0.00	0%	200.00		
Bonding Treasurer	175.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Equipment Maint	6,000.00	4,257.38	71%	6,000.00	177.64	3%	6,000.00		
Grounds Maint	900.00	900.00	100%	1,200.00	992.00	83%	1,200.00		
Building Maint	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00		
Trash Removal	100.00	29.25	29%	100.00	58.50	59%	100.00		
Legal-easements	100.00	0.00	0%	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00		
Billing Service	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00		
Total OTHER EXPENSE:	8,875.00	5,500.96	62%	9,000.00	1,551.50	17%	9,000.00		
TOTAL EXPENSE:	30,475.00	24,363.11	80%	30,900.00	9,214.59	30%	35,150.00		
Closing Balance:		12,286.37			20,523.93				

Water

ROCHESTER SEPTIC SYSTEM DEPARTMENT			SEPTIC SYSTEM COMMISSIONERS REPORT			
Statement of Budget, Revenue, and Expense:	July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003		July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004		July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005	
	Voted	Actual	Voted	Actual	Proposed Budget	
	Budget	12 months	Budget	6 months	50%	12 months
Beginning Balance:		12,219.39		7,803.21		
REVENUE:						
Current Assessments	53,636.00	31,951.93	30,400.00	17,683.96	58%	30,400.00
Delinquent Assessments	1,000.00	2,432.38	1,000.00	195.70	20%	1,000.00
Connection Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Emergency Fund Proceeds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Interest	1,000.00	366.01	100.00	73.27	73%	100.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Total REVENUE:	55,636.00	34,750.32	31,500.00	17,952.93	57%	31,500.00
WASTEWATER Operations						
Electricity	800.00	787.10	1,200.00	194.73	16%	1,400.00
Supplies	1,946.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0%	600.00
VT Permits/Licenses (2005)	290.00	2,393.52	100.00	132.30	132%	100.00
Operator	7,000.00	4,460.00	7,000.00	2,742.00	39%	7,000.00
Repairs	5,000.00	4,769.87	5,000.00	3,026.67	61%	5,000.00
Upgrade Site 1	15,000.00	2,045.60	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Reserve Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
General Projects	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	200.00
Total Operations:	40,036.00	24,456.09	15,900.00	6,095.70	38%	14,300.00
Other Wastewater Exp						
Education	0.00	946.00	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00
Legal - Easements	100.00	587.16	100.00	0.00	0%	100.00
Inspections	4,000.00	2,467.25	3,500.00	437.50	13%	3,500.00
Grounds Maint	1,000.00	884.00	1,000.00	800.13	80%	2,000.00
Tanks Maint	10,000.00	9,826.00	10,000.00	9,488.00	95%	11,000.00
Billing Service	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	0%	500.00
Total Other Expense	15,600.00	14,710.41	15,600.00	10,725.63	69%	17,600.00
TOTAL EXPENSE:	55,636.00	39,166.50	31,500.00	16,821.33	53%	31,900.00
CLOSING BALANCE:		7,803.21		8,934.81		

TOWN OF ROCHESTER TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

2003 Annual Report

Townsend Hutchinson Fund-Chittenden

	Percent of Assets	Market Value
Cash & Equivalent	14.0%	144,688.35
Fixed Income	35.3%	364,288.54
Equity	50.7%	524,153.90
Total Assets	100.0%	1,033,130.79

Kirkpatrick Fund 1 - Mascoma

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002		78,457.41
Revenue - Interest	4,185.12	
Ending Balance June 30, 2003		82,642.53

Kirkpatrick Fund 2 - WRCU

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002		65,043.68
Revenue - Interest	2,209.71	
Expenses - Rylan Lynam	1,000.00	
Ending Balance June 30, 2003		66,253.39

Leland Home Fund - Mascoma

Beginning Balance July 1, 2002		63,629.88
Revenue - Interest	2,104.67	
Expenses - To General Fund	2,104.67	
Ending Balance June 30, 2003		63,629.88

Guernsey Fund

Beginning Balance 7/1/02		2,179.01
Receipts		28.77
Ending Balance 6/30/03		2,207.78

U.S Forest Service-Property Tax Fund-In Lieu of Taxes-Chittenden

Cash & Equivalent	14.0%	21,257.69
Fixed Income	35.3%	53,521.46
Equity	50.7%	77,008.96
Total Assets	100.0%	151,788.11

Cemetery Funds based on calendar year 2003

Cemetery Fund-Chittenden

Beginning Balance 1/1/03		147,774.40
Receipts		5,308.33
Disbursements		
Management Fees		770.30
To General Fund		4,000.30
Gain		6,926.49
Ending Balance 12/31/03		155,238.62

Cemetery Fund Tri Continental Corp

Beginning Balance 1/1/03		5,532.67
Receipts		375.00
Transfer to WR Credit Union		375.00
Gain		1,352.33
Ending Balance 12/31/03		6,885.00

Cemetery Fund-WR Credit Union

Beginning Balance 1/1/03		147,774.40
Receipts		565.12
Transfer to WR Credit Union		
Transfer to Chittenden		147,960.00
Gain		
Ending Balance 12/31/03		379.52

Total Cemetery Funds 12/31/03		162,503.14
--------------------------------------	--	-------------------

Cemetery Commissioners Report

The five elected members of the Cemetery Commission oversee the maintenance of, and the sale of burial lots in the seven cemeteries within the Town of Rochester. General maintenance is contracted out to the lowest acceptable bidder. The contractor is primarily responsible for the lawn and shrub care, but may also fill in sunken graves, cut brush, and remove debris from the grounds. The seven cemeteries are: Woodlawn, Village, North Hollow, Little Hollow, West Hill, Bingo and Tupper.

There are lots available for sale in the Little Hollow, Bingo, North Hollow and Woodlawn Extension cemeteries.

The Woodlawn Cemetery Expansion Project continued in 2003 in its fifth and final year of approved funding. Final grading, topsoil, seeding and road building was completed this year. Cemetery lots will be surveyed and mapped, and corner stones will be set in 2004.

Over the last several years, the Commissioners have contracted services to straighten and clean headstones, repair fences, remove dead trees, and improve the general appearances of the Town's cemeteries. We are proud of the appearance of the cemeteries. We would like to hear from the Rochester Taxpayers regarding any cemetery related operations. Please call any of the Cemetery Commissioners with any question or comments.

We would like to acknowledge Dick White, who has been overseeing the maintenance contracts, and the sale of lots for much of his 20 plus years on the Commission. Dick has decided to step down following his current term. Thanks, Dick for your outstanding service on the Commission and to the Town's cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCHESTER CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Java Hubbard
Sue Flewelling
Marvin Harvey
Tom Paquette
Richard White

Constable Report

Paul and I have had a good year. We have stayed healthy and continued to assist the State Police as they provide primary law enforcement services for the valley. Occasionally we investigate accidents when they are not available. During these times we are grateful for the Valley Rescue Squad and the three valley fire departments doing their thing while we do ours. Please support them and volunteer if you can find the time.

Our efforts at speed reduction seem to be making some difference as we find fewer cars going 20 or more miles per hour over the posted limits in town. Due to the town's adoption of local speed ordinances a few years ago, revenues from convictions on speeding tickets written are coming back to the town. This amounts to thousands in revenues.

Domestic violence, out of control youth and assaults continue to be the largest portion of cases here. We also deal with various civil issues and help Bob and Gloria Steventon, our Animal Control Officers and pound keepers with "critter" issues.

We remind you that the Vermont seat belt law regarding children changed as of January 1.

1. All children under the age of one, and all children weighing less than 20 pounds, regardless of age, shall be restrained in a rear facing position, properly secured in a federally-approved child passenger restraining system, which shall not be installed in front of an active air bag;
2. A child weighing more than 20 pounds, and who is one year of age or older and under the age of 8 years, shall be restrained in a child passenger restraining system;
3. A child 8 through 15 years of age shall be restrained in a safety belt system or a child passenger restraining system.

Note: which you use depends on how the shoulder belt stays off the neck; a smaller child might need a booster seat, whereas a taller one might use the regular belt alone.

This is a primary law (you can be stopped and fined just for a violation of this law) and the fines increase for each offense. Keep your children safe and properly buckle them in the appropriate safety system. Drive as if their lives depended on you.

We continue to ask for community involvement in reporting violations and safety problems. Call the Vermont State Police at the Bethel Barracks at 234-9933 and they will dispatch the appropriate people. For life threatening emergencies, dial 911.

Constable Tom Simpson
Constable Paul Frigault

Lister's Report

Automated Property Appraisal Services continued their inspection and reappraisal of all properties in town. At this point, most of the fieldwork is accomplished. Every reasonable effort will be made to visit the few remaining unvisited properties. We expect that APAS will provide us with the new property values in April. All property owners can expect to receive a booklet detailing previously listed values and new values for each parcel in a manner similar to that used during the 1992 town-wide reappraisal. The goal of this current State-ordered reappraisal is to adjust individual parcel values so there is more equity in value between parcels. The majority of parcel owners have been very cooperative during this process, and the listers and APAS are appreciative.

We are fortunate to have the support of many people. Our Town Clerk, Frances Guilmette, is a constant source of information, encouragement and direction. Our Assistant Town Clerks, Mary O. Davis and Nancy Woolley, ably assist her. Our Vermont Department of Property Valuation and Review district advisor, Sandra Brodeur, provides invaluable guidance, instruction and information concerning the Town and the State.

Finally, the overall umbrella of the Vermont Department of Property Valuation and Review provides, among other things, the technical support for the computer assisted appraisal programs that we use.

Herb Campbell
Sine Allen
Louis Donnet

Rochester Public Library

The Rochester Public Library is a collective entity of volunteers, staff and patrons seeking to provide our community with a resource for information and literary entertainment. Our patrons give the library its purpose and form. Our regular volunteers – Marge Beck, Jack Oliver, Elizabeth Sullivan, Bobbie Oliver, Erika Comes, Lori Borden, Connie Breu, Helen Sperling, Jan Aviano, and Arthur Wright – logged 698 hours during the year. The Library depends on a strong volunteer crew to offer excellent services to the community while keeping a tight budget. The Board of Trustees – Bobbie Oliver (chair), Ann Mills, Connie Breu, Lori Borden, Larry Hamberlin, and Jane Duval – met five times during 2003 to provide guidance and review of library operations.

In 2003, the Rochester Public Library issued 43 new membership cards and the total annual book circulation nudged up 2%. 16,589 volumes were circulated, of which 5,930 were children's books. The library's inter-library loan program remained strong with 648 books acquired for our patrons and 481 books sent out.

The Library held a Fabulous February Quilt Show in 2003. Area quilters from throughout the White River Valley shared the most marvelous creation,s and for the entire month of February people came to see the quilts on display. In the same style, the library will sponsor a Magical March Quilt Show 2004 and invite all interested folks to join in the fun. In the summer of 2003, the Library sponsored the first ever Rochester Garden Tour. 6 area gardeners and their gardens were featured. It was wonderful. Special thanks to Lois Bond, Garden Tour Organizer. The event was an important fundraiser for the library, and a second annual tour has been scheduled for the last Saturday of June 2004.

A Friends Group was organized to help manage the annual book sale event. Rather than housing a lack-luster sale all summer long, the volunteer group orchestrated a large Columbus Day sale in the local school gym. It was a lot of work! Special thanks to the Rochester Girls Soccer team and all the folks, too numerous to list here, who made book donations, sorted hundreds and thousands of books, lugged them all to the gym, sorted again, and helped tend to the myriad of details that came up along the way.

For the second year in a row, the Library received Freeman Foundation Grant funding for improvements and activities above and beyond normal operations. Investments were made in Children's Programming with the employment of Lisa Thomas as Children's Event Coordinator. Numerous performers and artists were employed throughout the spring and summer seasons to engage children of all ages. Freeman Funds were also used to refinish the wooden floors, re-carpet the library's main room, and install insulating shades on all the large windows in the main room. In addition, Freeman Funds helped sponsor the "About Vermont" project, a catalogue in both pamphlet and electronic formats outlining the Library's holdings of books and materials about Vermont. The effort is being administered by Paul Davis, with the help of a team of volunteers – Isabel Fiske McFarlin, Kelly Kelly, Java Hubbard, Nancy Manning and Glenn Scherer. In 2004, the Library will benefit from a third and final installment of Freeman Funds, approximately \$4800, which is being earmarked for Children's Programming and refurbishment of the upstairs room into a formal lecture and performance space.

In 2003, the library unveiled a new web site, www.rochesterreads.info. Patrons are now able to renew books on-line, check out Library history and services, and link to other libraries throughout the state. The Library provides delivery service to house-bound readers and free internet access. With a 200-year history of bringing books to readers, we look forward to the challenges ahead and urge you to get involved. We need volunteers, appreciate your support, and welcome your suggestions. Open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 – 7 pm and Saturdays 9 – 1pm. Come see us soon, and Happy Reading!

Sandy Lincoln
Librarian

ROCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY 2003 Annual Report

RECEIPTS

General Account Balance 1/01/03	\$6,119.03
Town of Rochester	\$11,000.00
Interest and Dividends	\$14,187.71
WRCU	\$280.98
AG Edwards -Acct 1	\$6,702.00
AG Edwards -Acct 2	\$7,204.73
Gifts and Memorials	\$2,350.00
Fines	\$359.92
Book Sale	\$1,315.67
Transfer from Savings	\$400.00
Misc (Copier,ILL,etc)	\$195.30
Vt.State Grant	\$100.00
Chinese New Yr F/R	\$20.00
Garden Tour	\$730.00
Total	\$36,777.63

EXPENDITURES

Librarian: Salary, Social Security	\$15,125.90
Utilities:Heat,Water, Electricity,Telephone	\$4,130.93
Books, Magazines, Tapes	\$6,810.13
Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,556.39
Supplies	\$1,091.08
Insurance	\$497.00
Postage	\$743.00
Library Events	\$669.34
Misc.	\$230.00
Newsletters	\$59.00
Computer Maint.	\$617.44
Chinese New Year	\$97.95
Memorial Table	\$600.00
Subtotal:	\$32,228.16
Balance 12/31/03	\$4,549.47
TOTAL	\$36,777.63

WHITE RIVER CREDIT UNION ACCOUNTS

Savings Acct: 1873-1	\$1,389.00
Huntington Fund:1873-3	\$1,082.00
Bennett Fund : 1873-4	\$1,364
CD # 320	\$10,000

AG EDWARDS INVESTMENTS

Acct # 373-176737-015	\$130,184	Yearly Dividends	\$6,702.00
Acct # 373 200301-015	\$125,642		\$7,204.73

ROCHESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Rochester Volunteer Fire Department responded to 44 calls in 2003, up from 34 in 2002, as follows: 5 structure fires, 7 chimney fires, 6 brush/grass fires, 9 motor vehicle accidents, 2 furnace fires, 9 false alarms, 2 snowmobile accidents and 2 assists to the Valley Rescue Squad. We also landed the D-HART helicopter 2 times.

We presently have 20 members in the department, including 1 junior member (16-18 years of age). The junior member is the first female to join our department, and we are always looking for more junior members. We hold two monthly meetings, one regular meeting and one work/training session. As always, we are looking for more volunteer members and would encourage anyone interested in joining the Department to contact me or any other member.

Fundraising efforts in the year 2003 included the Pancake Breakfast on Easter morning and the annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament, held at the White River Golf Club. Thank you to all members and their families for helping these projects happen and be successful. Also a huge thank you to the White River Golf Club for providing the facilities and course for the tournament.

The Fire Department applied for several grants, and were awarded two to date. These grants enabled us to purchase more communication radios, and 4 SCBA (Scott Air Packs), which cost \$3,200 each. These new packs replaced older units, ensuring our members safety in entering burning buildings. We also received grant money with which we purchased a portable gas meter that allows us to test gases in houses such as carbon monoxide, etc. All the grant monies received totaled \$21,200 which helped us augment our gear and equipment. We have applied for other grants for personnel equipment and turnout gear and should hear about those in the near future.

The budget for 2004/2005 will be \$13,800.00, which covers the following items: equipment, training, vehicle maintenance, utility costs, hydrant shoveling, communications costs and general repairs. This budget figure is the same as the past 5 to 6 years. We give a heartfelt thank you to all the generous contributors to the Department in the past year, whose donations help us provide the best fire coverage we can, while still keeping our budget relatively low.

Thank you to all the community members and businesses who have supported the Fire Department this year. And a very special thank you to our volunteers and their families for time and effort spent in all our activities.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Fire Department, please feel free to call me at 767-3394.

Respectfully Submitted
Terry Severy, Chief

PARK HOUSE

Rochester Community Care Home, Inc., dba Park House, a not-for-profit organization, has been providing high quality, affordable housing for the older members of our community since 1991, when Selectboards and other interested community people from the five towns of Rochester, Granville, Hancock, Stockbridge, and Pittsfield joined together to explore the possibility of locating a shared housing facility for elders in the valley. The group ultimately applied for, and was awarded, a Community Development Block Grant, as well as grants from the Vermont Housing Conservation Board that enabled the Park House project to proceed with the renovation of the Rochester Inn property.

Directives of the grants guarantee that rents for elders living at Park House will remain perpetually affordable, and that approved income guidelines must be followed in admitting residents. Section 8 housing subsidies are available through the Vermont State Housing Authority to help those individuals who are income eligible.

Park House is a particularly valuable resource to Rochester and the greater valley community, providing:

- exceptionally fine, affordably-priced housing that allows elders to live and remain actively involved in the community
- opportunities for school children, through planned programs, to interact with older members of the community
- employment and volunteer opportunities for interested young people and adults
- a successful not-for-profit business that consciously utilizes the services of local businesses and services (our stores, contractors, utilities), helping to support the economy of the town
- a first-rate, multi-use community center available for concerts, plays, meetings, classes, special events

2003 Park House Budget, Revenue and Expense Statement

<i>Revenue:</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Food Service	50,700.00	54,061.00
Fundraising/Other Income	49,100.00	34,404.73
Rental Income	79,300.00	85,344.75
Resident Service Fee	10,920.00	11,641.25
Laundry/Cable TV	3,860.00	3,211.50
Total Revenue:	193,880.00	188,663.23
<i>Expenses:</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Administrative	8,450.00	7,111.06
Capital Improvements	10,000.00	768.00
Mortgage Principal	14,069.00	9,171.65
Mortgage Interest	8,165.00	4,768.19
Fundraising Expense	5,000.00	5,901.57
House/Kitchen Furnishings	1,000.00	669.83
Housekeeping Supplies	1,000.00	630.15
Food & Supplies	23,000.00	27,208.88
Insurances	5,089.00	6,253.40
Maintenance	9,132.00	9,258.66
Payroll Taxes	6,551.00	6,562.13
Utilities	18,826.00	21,663.44
Wages	83,598.00	87,665.91
Total Expenses:	193,880.00	187,632.87

Rochester Recreation Committee

Rochester's Recreation Committee had an active year:

- Welcomed Tucker Cruikshank to committee.
- Held annual WINTER FEST on February 2 with snowmobile rides provided by Tri-Town Snow Travelers Club, cross-country ski clinic offered by Dean Mendell and food sold by RHS 8th grade REAL class.
- Valley Rescue Squad provided a first aid kit for SKATESPACE.
- Great response to hockey clinic at Middlebury College for grades 3-6.
- Offered four weeks of Summer Recreation for elementary-aged children in the valley.
- Paved the Recreation Park, put up basketball hoops and painted lines for basketball court.
- Provided port-a-potties near tennis courts, behind RHS and at Lion's Club picnic area. Town had to replace and pay for two of these due to vandalism.
- Arranged for several concerts on the Park during the summer months.
- Tennis Committee had "pick-up" games Thursday evenings throughout the summer.
- Grand opening for the Recreation Park was well attended. Martha Slater cut the ribbon and Connie Mendell donated delicious finger food.
- New lights and timer at SKATESPACE were donated and put in place by LCS, Inc.
- Jimmy Brown is working on a sign for SKATESPACE/Recreation Park area.

Terry Paquette, Chair

John Allen

Tucker Cruikshank

Cynthia Fowles, Tennis

Siobhan Hybl (resigned)

Dean Mendell

Joe Schenkman

Charlie Biederman, ex-officio

Rochester Historical Society

June 2003 found the Historical Society members manning the booth at the 4th Vermont Historical Society EXPO. The exhibit theme, *Sugaring in Rochester*, was based on photos of Dick and Ralph White as youngsters sugaring in their back yard on their homemade evaporator. The photos were taken in the early 1950s by Reba Kinsley, Marion Hubbard's cousin. Other photos were of horse and dray sugaring in the Pierce sugar woods around 1950. Thanks to Brad Johnson, Tillie Kingsbury, Carol McLoughlin, and numerous others for the loan of materials to round out the exhibit. Thanks to Edith Artz for her coordination of the exhibit, and Dick and Diane White for their interest, time, and assistance to Edith. This exhibit became the focal point of the Society's Museum exhibit during the summer.

The Tunbridge EXPO was followed by participation at the Stockbridge EXPO at Johnny Cake Flat on Stockbridge Common, where the *Sweet Sap* exhibit was again on display.

The Earl and Mary Davis collection of early and historic Rochester photographs was highlighted at two well-attended Spring and Fall performances held at Park House and Fellowship Hall. Richard Harvey worked closely with Earl in developing the programs, and great thanks go to Bill Zucca who assisted with the computer format. The Society hopes to present these programs again, and add material to the format.

Tom Perera of Hancock will be the Society's guest speaker in April, discussing the electric telegraph used during the 19th century. He will examine examples of early instruments and we will see and hear them in operation as they were during the Civil War. You history buffs will be in for a real treat.

The Town of Rochester has requested that members of the Historical Society, and others in the community, participate on a committee being organized to work on developing a Village Center Designation. Anyone interested should contact the Town Office.

The Historical Society will participate once again in the 5th Vermont History EXPO to be held the weekend of June 26-27. We certainly hope that we'll see many familiar faces.

Mary O. Davis
President

Helen Brown
Vice President

Nancy Woolley
Secretary

Frances Guilmette
Treasurer

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 Vermont League of Cities and Towns, including reviewing its audited financial statements, can visit its website at www.vlct.org.

TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION 2003 YEAR-END REPORT

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

Vermont Department of Health Annual Report

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

Food & Lodging Inspections: Public health sanitarians inspect eating establishments (restaurants, schools, fairs) to decrease the risk of food borne disease outbreaks. Inspections include review of a 44-item checklist to evaluate food storage, preparation and handling, as well as to identify where there is a high likelihood of practices contributing to illness if left uncorrected. Of the 13 establishments in Rochester, 10 inspections were completed by a sanitarian during 2002.

Special Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): WIC improves the health of pregnant and postpartum women, infants and young children by assuring access to health care, teaching families about good nutritional practices, and providing an individually designed package of nutritious food to eligible individuals. During 2002, 37 women, infants and children living in Rochester received foods as well as health screening and individualized nutrition education through this program at an average value of \$35.00 per person per month.

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: Proper vaccination protects children and adults against many diseases, saves health care dollars, and minimizes sick leave from school or work. Immunization has reduced reportable cases of preventable disease in Vermont to record low levels. Still, total annual hospital charges from vaccine-preventable disease in Vermont is \$2.6M, and each year 150 to 200 Vermonters die of pneumonia or influenza. During 2002, the Health Department distributed 12,054 doses of vaccine to health care providers in Windsor County. This represents a value of \$153,341.90 to these communities, including children living in Rochester.

West Nile Virus (WNV) Surveillance: WNV first appeared in the U.S. in New York City in 1999 and has become well established in the United States. Birds, mammals and people can get WNV from the bite of an infected mosquito. The Vermont Departments of Health and Agriculture conduct surveillance for WNV each year from June until cold weather limits mosquito activity in the fall. In 2003, 5 Town Health Officers in different parts of the state also participated in the program, assisting primarily with mosquito trapping. As of September 19, 2003: 450 mosquito pools were tested, with nine positive for WNV, and three horses have tested positive (one each from Addison, Orleans and Franklin Counties). In Windsor County from June-September 16, 2002, 110 dead birds were reported, 56 were tested, and 5 found to be infected with WNV. There were no reported human or equine cases reported during this same time period.

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

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

George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development 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 groups in the six southern Vermont counties. By bringing together help from our extensive network of resources, we can focus technical and financial resources on your specific needs. We get technical assistance and staff help through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, but private sources make up most of our budget. The Council is a self-supporting 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Highlights of our work in the six counties in 2003 include:

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

Other current projects include helping a town with flooding problems, erosion control and streambank stabilization in several locations, helping to develop community centers and recreation fields. We currently have funding available for low interest loans(3.0-5.0%) to develop agritourism ventures on farms. In Rochester, we provided two better backroads grants for \$6,432 and \$3,069. 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; give us a call. For information and free consultation, call Kenneth Hafner, our RC&D Coordinator at (802) 728-9526, or e-mail: Kenneth.hafner@vt.usda.gov.

VALLEY RESCUE SQUAD

Annual Report 2003

The Valley Rescue Squad presently has 13 members, 9 volunteers and 4 paid members. The paid members are 3 full-time medical personnel and 1 part-time medical driver. The full-time paid members each work a 72 hour shift. The part-time paid medical driver works five 12 hour weekday shifts. The volunteers fill in the gaps, and work alongside the paid members. The squad responded to 175 calls in calendar year 2003. The call volume has increased over 2002, which increases the expected billing estimates.

The Squad holds regular business/training meetings once a month. A First Responder course is scheduled to begin February 2004, running through April 2004. Fundraisers for 2003 included Harvest Fair, a used car raffle and the Rabies clinic held at the Squad building in Hancock every March. Funds raised from these events help finance medical and personnel equipment. A new radio repeater was purchased and installed in January 2003. This repeater is owned jointly with the 3 valley Fire Departments, and has increased the area in which radio signals can be used.

VRS took delivery of the new ambulance in April 2003. This new vehicle replaced the ten-year old unit, which was sold, and that money was used to augment purchase of the new ambulance. The new ambulance was well received by all members and so far, no problems!

The budget for 2004-2005 has increased dramatically, in large part due to having more paid personnel. The Squad is in dire need of volunteers, and felt the only way to keep the service in the valley was to hire full-time medical personnel. The rest of the budget has stayed fairly equal to last year's budget, and we have anticipated more billing income. Nonetheless, without more volunteers, and risking "burning out" the present volunteers, VRS will have to maintain the paid staff for now and the future. Other options for coverage included neighboring rescue squads, several of who were not interested in covering our valley, and 1 ambulance service which gave us a few proposals for coverage, which we felt were not feasible, and as expensive, or more expensive, than the budget we are presenting for the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

The Valley Rescue Squad would like to extend its gratitude to the people of the Valley who have generously donated to us in the past year so that we can continue to provide needed emergency medical services to the public. Without you and your support, we could not do this. Also thanks, to the volunteers and their families who give up time and energy to support the Squad.

Administrator Matt Parrish is available to answer any questions or concerns you may have about the Squad. He can be reached at (802) 767-9200 or you can email Matt at vrsinc@sover.net.

Dial 911 for emergencies!

Valley Rescue Squad
Operating Budget 7/1/04-6/30/05

INCOME/EXPENSES	2004/2005 PROPOSED BUDGET	2003/2004 BUDGET	2002/2003 ACTUAL
CASH ON HAND	\$8,896.72	\$15,768.00	
DONATION RECEIVED	\$4,175.00	\$8,555.50	\$4,175.00
	PROPOSED		
BILLING INCOME	\$55,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$57,023.03
NON-APPROPRIATED TOTAL			
ROCHESTER APPROPRIATION	\$86,140.00	\$42,214.55	\$42,214.55
HANCOCK APPROPRIATION	\$25,550.00	\$13,771.10	\$13,771.10
GRANVILLE APPROPRIATION	\$20,221.00	\$9,985.85	\$9,985.85
TOTAL APPROPRIATION TOTAL	\$132,829.00	\$65,976.00	\$65,976.00
TOTAL COMBINED INCOME	\$200,901.00	\$122,800.00	
EXPENSES			
AMBULANCE EXPENSES	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,156.66
AMBULANCE REPLACEMENT LOAN	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
BILLING EXPENSES	\$5,500.00	\$4,800.00	\$4320.00
BOOKKEEPING EXPENSES	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1620.00
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$516.89
COMMUNICATIONS	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3108.93
LEGAL SERVICES	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	0.00
GIFTS	\$1,800.00	\$1,650.00	\$405.00
GAS AND OIL	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$1749.55
HEPATITIS VACCINE	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00
LIABILITY, CURTAIN INSURANCE	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$3996.00
LICENSES, DUE AND PERMITS	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3532.30
MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2426.20
FUNDRAISING \ ADVERTISING EXPENSE	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$146.16
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$2426.20
PAYROLL EXPENSE \ TAXES	*108,267.50	* \$51,000.00	\$50491.91
PERSONNEL EXPENSE	\$0.00	0.00	0.00
POSTAGE EXPENSES	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$514.69
TELEPHONE EXPENSE	& \$3,500.00	\$2,250.00	\$3154.22
TRAINING EXPENSE	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$250.00
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION	\$12,734.00	\$7000.00	\$7086.00
TRASH	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00
HEALTH INSURANCE	\$13,600.00	\$4,600.00	\$4154.80
911	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONTRACT LABOR	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1065.00
BUILDING EXPENSES	# \$17,000.00	#\$ 17,000.00	\$13,833.15
TOTAL	\$200,901.00	\$122,800.00	\$117663.12
* INCLUDES ADMINISTRATORS SALARY, PAYROLL TAXES, PART-TIME PAID SALARY.	# MORTGAGE, HEAT, ELECTRIC, TAXES	& 2 telephone lines internet, p11 charges, and cell phone	

Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc.
Home Care, Hospice and Family Health Services
Annual Report

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 Rochester to help us meet your residents' home care, hospice and family health needs. Town funding accomplished 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	433	<i>Family Support Services</i>	
Physical Therapy	314	Families served	12
Speech Therapy	111	Individuals served	25
Occupational Therapy	21	Home Visits	3
Medical Social Worker	8	Fatherhood Program, Dads served	35
Home Health Aide	245		
Homemaker	77		
Total Visits	1,209		
<i>Hospice VNH</i>		<i>Orange County Parent Child Center</i>	
Patient Families served	2	Families	12
Volunteer Hours	21	Children	25
Volunteer Visits	8		
<i>MCH</i>			
Children	14		
Home Visits	86		

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 St., White River Jct., VT 05001

Quin-Town Center for Senior Citizens

**PO Box 113
Hancock, VT 05748
(802) 767-3763**

Quin-town Center for Senior Citizens, located in the Hancock Town Hall, operates on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, serving the towns of Rochester, Granville, Hancock, Stockbridge, and Pittsfield.

Nutritious dinners are furnished to those who attend the Center's events, and the area's "meals on Wheels" program also operates out of Quin-town. This past year 3,452 lunches were served on-site, and 4737 home delivered meals were prepared by the Center, for a total of 8,188 during the past fiscal year.

The Center provides a fun and educational balance of activities prior to each meal. Health topics are presented monthly, mostly through Gifford Outreach, and state and national organizations frequently deliver talks about senior issues.

Fully funded grants from the Vermont Council on the Humanities enable lively historical presentations at the Center, and other talks and displays about the past are well attended.

Musical and dance entertainment is provided frequently, and the Center often holds special events, complete with games and decorations, to celebrate various cultures and holidays.

Granville, Hancock, and Rochester school students, plus area home-schooled pupils, contribute to the livelihood at the Center, and many area residents, businesses, and groups share their talents, hobbies, and areas of expertise with our seniors.

Three picnics were held this past summer at Texas Falls, and the Quin-town group enjoyed a mini field trip to Michael Egan's glassblowing shop in Granville. A major field trip to Indian Head Resort in the White Mountains, as well as cruises on Lake Champlain and Lake George were well attended by many area seniors. A fall foliage tour to southern Vermont was enjoyed too.

Quin-town was able to streamline much paperwork, thanks to the purchase of a computer and printer, facilitated by grants from area financial institutions. Additional "Meals on Wheels" equipment, necessitated by the expansion of that program, was also procured via the same sources.

Thanks to the generous support of volunteers, businesses, donors, organizations, and the townships served, Quin-town Center for Senior Citizens continues to flourish, contributing quality to the lives of this ever-growing segment of the population.

Holly Brown
Site Manager

Center for Valley Youth

The Center for Valley Youth, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization, is in its 14th year of service to the middle and high school students of the Rochester, Hancock, and Granville communities. During 2004 the center will be open two Fridays a month, with other activities scheduled for various times, as funding permits. Announcements of open hours are made through the Rochester School public address system, and newsletters with calendars will be mailed out to the middle school students. Open hours are 7:30 – 10:00 pm. The CVY center is staffed by Nancy Sanz, Director, Linda Anderson and Marcelo Angulo, Assistant Directors.

CVY Director Nancy Sanz continues to serve on the Pierce Hall Community Center Founding/Steering Committee in the hopes of having the CVY program relocated to Pierce Hall in the event the community center idea is realized. This would make it possible for the program to serve a larger number of teens of the valley.

A grant written by teen Amanda Brown and Nancy Sanz was awarded to CVY in the amount of \$1,000 for a theater/video project with instructor Ethan Bowen. The project was started in the summer and will be completed in early 2004. The theme of the work will center on issues that affect the lives of teens, including anti-smoking messages. This grant is an outcome of the middle and high school presentation and workshop by the In Your Face Gorilla Theater of Windsor in March 2003, funded by a grant awarded to CVY by the Gifford Medical Center/Windsor Central Supervisory Union Tobacco-free Coalition.

Many thanks to the Rochester community for all the years of support to the teens of the valley.

Nancy Sanz
Co-founder/Director

Center for Valley Youth
Peavine Drive
Rochester, Vermont 05767
Cash Receipts and Disbursements 2003

Beginning Balance 1/1/2003	
Checking	\$ 2,380.09
Savings	541.15

Receipts:		
Town of Rochester	\$3,000.00	
Fundraising	1021.00	
Dividends	29.75	
Transfer from Grant		
Town of Rochester	3,000.00	
Total Receipts:		7,395.29
Subtotal		\$10,283.53

Disbursements:		
Director Payroll	1,015.00	
Assistant Director	442.00	
Payroll tax expense	81.16	
Rent	3,300.00	
Electricity	31.20	
Regular Activities	235.78	
Fundraising expense	629.10	
Grant Activities	311.54	
Vermont Secretary of State	15.00	
2003 Payroll Tax Exp. & Liability .	(30.29)	
Total Disbursements:		6,030.49

Cash Balance December 31, 2003	\$ 4,253.04
--------------------------------	-------------

YIG Grant:

July 7, 2003 Receipt of Grant	\$1,000.00
Transfer to general checking to reimburse for Grant activities	311.54
Balance of YIG Grant December 31, 2003	\$ 655.46

Submitted by Rebecca Klein
CVY Accountant

Clara Martin Center

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

Counseling	Free Walk-in Clinic
Psychiatric Services	Help with job training
Short-term crisis intervention	Alcohol & other drug treatment
School-based & Home-based services	Respite Care
Community resource assistance	24-hour emergency system

Why Should You Help?

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

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

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

It is through the continued financial support from our local towns that we are able to report these Agency successes and in turn continue to meet our goal of strategically positioning our Agency for the future behavioral and physical health care needs of our local environment.

FY 03 Total Served AT CMC

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

Total Served from Rochester

Child & Family Services	15
Adult Services	16
CSP Services*	7
Substance Abuse Services	14
Total Served	52

Additionally, the Clara Martin Center provides services within the Rochester School three days a week through our Home School Coordinator program.

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



Helping local communities balance the long-term cultural, economic and environmental health of the White River watershed through active citizen participation.

Board of Directors

Nicole Conte, Barnard
(802) 234-9786

Patrick Dakin, South Royalton
(802) 763-3948

Kevin Geiger, Woodstock
(802) 457-3188

Walter Hastings, Royalton
(802) 763-7730

Doug Haun, Vershire
(802) 685-7837

Tom "Geo" Honigford, S. Royalton
(802) 763-7446

Justin Johnson, Randolph
(802) 728-9350

Beth Kennett, Rochester
(802) 767-3926

Richard Kolehmainen, Norwich
(802) 649-3504

Ron Rhodes, Pomfret
(802) 457-1247

Ellen Shephard, Braintree
(802) 728-6652

Staff

Amy Sheldon, Watershed Coordinator
wrpamy@together.net
802-767-4600

Kari Dolan, Projects Manager
dolan@nwf.org
802-767-4600

Dan McKinley, Projects Manager
dmckinley@fs.fed.us
802-767-4261 x516

Ed Sharron
Membership and Outreach Coordinator
wrped@together.net
802-767-4600

Report to the Town of Rochester

2003 was a busy year for the White River Partnership in the Rochester area and the WRP seeking funds to continue our water quality monitoring work and stream restoration projects. Below is a brief list of recent accomplishments:

- Since 2001, over 70 volunteers have been collecting water quality samples on the White River and its tributaries (including 2 sites in Rochester and 6 overall in the Upper River area). This data is posted on our website and helps Partnership members to better understand the health of the watershed and set project priorities.
- Between 2000 and 2003, over 800 Partnership volunteers donated thousands of hours and helped to plant more than 7000 trees restoring 4 miles of river buffer on private and public land! In 2003 alone, 8 private landowners from Rochester had buffers planted on their river banks.
- Since the year 2000, more than 18,500 feet of in-stream restoration work has been completed on the White and its tributaries including many in the Upper River Area.
- In 2003, the Partnership brought on board the Middle Branch Stream Team. We now have a Stream Team actively working in all six sub-basins of the White River watershed. A Stream Team is a group of concerned citizens who assess the river in their area and select appropriate projects to meet their communities' needs.

99 Ranger Road Rochester, VT 05767
(802) 767-4600

Stagecoach Transportation Services, Inc.

Stagecoach Transportation Services, Inc., is organized as a private, non-profit corporation to provide transportation services to the elderly, persons with disabilities, and general public of northern Windsor and Orange Counties. In fulfilling this mission, the Stagecoach continues to provide a range of public transportation services to Rochester including:

1. Scheduled route service for Rochester residents to Bethel, Randolph, West Lebanon, and Rutland for shopping and appointments;
2. Volunteer Drivers program providing Rochester residents with transportation to medical services at Green Valley Clinic, Gifford Medical Center, Rutland Hospital, and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center;
3. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday service for Rochester residents to the Quin-town Senior Citizen Center;
4. *Ticket to Ride* program providing transportation for the elderly and persons with disabilities for trips of their personal need or choice; and
5. Package/prescription delivery to and from Rochester along Stagecoach routes.

The Stagecoach attempts to arrange rides for people who do not otherwise have transportation, and it can coordinate carpool and vanpool matches for commuters.

The Stagecoach is making a funding request to Rochester for \$850 in 2004. The appropriation will be used in direct support of the services mentioned above. The Stagecoach generates additional funding through fare and contract revenue generated by the system's operation, as well as state and federal support of public transportation services.

June Frigault represents Rochester on the Stagecoach Board of Directors.

We would like to thank the town for the support provided in 2003. Information and questions regarding Stagecoach services, and requests for rides can be obtained by contacting our office at 728-3773.

Submitted by: David Palmer, Manager

Central Vermont Council on Aging

The Central Vermont Council on Aging is a private, non-profit organization that supports elders to remain independent as long as possible in their own homes and communities. We use federal, state and local funds to provide a variety of programs and services for elders, either directly or under contract with local groups and organizations.

Services include case management, information and referral, community and home delivered meals, senior center services, transportation and a number of volunteer opportunities for people of all ages. Sixty-four residents of Rochester received services from CVCOA in the past fiscal year.

The Case Manager for Rochester is Kathryn Schenkman. Case Managers are trained to assess needs and create care plans for individuals that include public, private and volunteer resources.

The Council on Aging contracts with Quin-town Senior Center for the provision of community and home delivered meals for seniors. Noontime meals are served Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the Hancock Town Hall. Home delivered meals are also delivered to the homes of elders who cannot get out to the meal site.

Transportation is provided under contract with the local transportation authority. Under this agreement, rides are provided to elders to get to and from meal sites, medical appointments and shopping.

Calling the senior help line at 1 (800) 642-5119 can provide other services such as legal assistance, health insurance information and referrals to other agencies.

We appreciate the support for programs and services for central Vermont elders from the town of Rochester. Please call us for more information or assistance.

Charles W. Castle
Executive Director

Windsor Country Court Diversion Programs, Inc.

Justice-Works!

Over the last decade, Windsor Country Court Diversion received funding on behalf of the Town of Rochester within an appropriation from the County. This year, the Judges Boardman and Cooper have removed non-governmental agencies from the county budget, requiring us to approach each town directly. This request includes \$345 representing a *pro rata* share of the County's appropriation. *This is not a new solicitation, but rather a request for ongoing support from the Town in a different form.*

Windsor County Court Diversion is a private, nonprofit community-based program providing an opportunity for offenders to reconcile with victims and the community by paying restitution, by participating in personal development, and by engaging in community service. The program is a timely, locally-controlled alternative to the conventional state-run court and correctional system. It is widely endorsed as a cost-effective alternative.

Offenders who participate in WCCD programs take responsibility for their offenses through a contractual agreement made with a volunteer-run Community Justice Board composed of community members. On successful completion of their contract, offenders begin anew without a criminal record, the importance of which is obvious and cannot be overstated. Contracts may include compensation to the victims and the communities, formal apologies, monetary restitution and community service. Many offenders undergo one or more of the following programs, services or assistance: counseling, job training, budget counseling and alcohol and drug abuse evaluation and counseling. This course of restorative justice had been shown to help offenders stay out of trouble and take productive control of their lives.

We hasten to point out that Diversion saves Rochester taxpayers considerable money. While conventional court proceedings can easily exceed \$2,500 per case, our locally-controlled Court Diversion program costs one-tenth as much. Further, our program is 99.8% efficient in helping victims recover out-of-pocket costs. Moreover, our rate for repeat offenses is just 6% compared to 55% for government run approaches.

Clearly these savings impact directly on Town budgets and taxpayers throughout our County and our State. Additionally, WCCD continues to improve its program and continues to see its effectiveness increase while the cost to taxpayers goes down.

We welcome an opportunity to answer any questions and to present more information about Windsor County Court Diversion to you. Please feel free to call our Executive Director, Paul Haskell, at (802) 281-5060.

Richard M. McCostis, President
Board of Trustees

Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc.

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

In our most recently completed program year, Central Vermont Community Action helped 67 individuals in 22 Rochester families with and emergency assistance and comprehensive program services designed to teach important skills and help people access the resources they need to build better futures.

Here are some CVCAC program statistics for Rochester:

- 18 households (including 60 family members) received emergency assistance with food, shelter, Crisis Fuel, and other basic needs
- 2 households received intensive assistance from CVCAC's Welfare to Work staff to transition from public assistance to gainful employment.
- 1 household was issued a vehicle from CVCAC's Community Action Motors garage to help family members get to work and to access many of the services and resources we tend to take for granted.

Our 2004 Funding Request: Community Action uses a formula for our funding requests to all towns based on population, number of residents served, and dollars spent in each community. We are requesting \$300 from the citizens of Rochester to support Community Action. Your support is critical to our work, and the Board and staff of Community Action are most grateful for your help.

Central Vermont Community Action Council is supported in part by the towns we serve!

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 that 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 one Rochester resident. 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 workshops, 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.

WomenSafe, Inc.
Annual Report

WomenSafe works toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women and their children through direct service, education and social change.

WomenSafe has been providing services to Rochester families since 1980. We are dedicated to providing services to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Our 24-hour hotline, staffed by trained volunteers and staff offers crisis advocacy, safety planning, information, referrals, emotional support, social service advocacy and safe housing for victims and their children. We assist victims of domestic and sexual violence in accessing Relief From Abuse Orders and provide support and advocacy throughout the medical procedures that might follow an act of sexual or domestic violence. We offer supervised visitation in a safe, neutral, child-friendly environment to ensure children's safety. Our support groups provide a place for women to gain the support that they need to help them and their children be safe.

For the year ending June 30, 2003, we provided at least 52 units of service to over 6 Rochester residents through our hotline, advocacy programs and in-person meetings. Included in this number are parents of 3 children who were exposed to domestic violence. While safety concerns prohibit some callers from divulging any identifying information, we do know that between 30 - 50% of women in the United States will be victims of abuse at some time during their lives.

WomenSafe staff talked to over 500 students about violence and healthy relationships in over 30 presentations to students in pre-school through high school. We also presented to various community groups about domestic and sexual violence and how you can help a friend or family member who is a victim.

It is critical to have a coordinated community response to domestic and sexual violence by sending a consistent message that perpetrators will be held accountable for their violence and victims will be supported. We work with many community agencies to assist in the further development of this coordinated community response. We are also an active member of the Addison County Domestic Violence Task Force and the Sexual Assault Response Team.

Our office is located in Middlebury and our services are free and confidential. We believe that all women and children should be safe in their homes and their communities. We are committed to providing, quality services that offer a positive support system to all victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Contact Information:

24-hour Hotline: 388-4205 or (In-State-Only) (800) 388-4205
TTY: (802) 388-9181
WomenSafe Office: (802) 388-9180
Supervised Visitation Office: (802) 388-6783
Fax: (802) 388-3438
E-Mail: info@womensafe.net
Web: www.womensafe.net

Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation

Annual Report

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

Directors face significant challenges in fulfilling their responsibilities to oversee the activities of modern Economic Development, Investment Companies. Changes in the marketplace have created a more competitive and demanding environment. As a consequence, the role director has grown in importance and complexity. Directors must take an active role in governing, monitoring, and evaluating the company's business activities and risks. Directors must also balance the needs of the community, the interests of the clients/members, and the image of the company. In late summer early fall, we initiated the process of recruiting and nominating 7 directors with significant community leadership and business experience. Messrs. Fred Thomas, Peter Johnson, Matt Bucy, Hod Palmer, Dick Podolec and Ed Childs officially join the GMEDC board at our annual meeting. We are delighted to welcome these community/business leaders.

**TOWN OF ROCHESTER
Vital Records
2003**

BIRTHS

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Parents
Gabriel Silva Cotell	February 25, 2003	William H. & Gretchen Healy Cotell
Mary Jane Kateri Castro	March 21, 2003	Lori G. Castro
Calvin Glidden Kennett	May 24, 2003	Thomas G. & Jennifer L. Forrest Kennett
Tucker James Kennett	May 24, 2003	Thomas G. & Jennifer L. Forrest Kennett
Nicholas Joseph Steventon	June 11, 2003	Bruce A. & Elizabeth A. Laitres Steventon
Kaci Ann Belisle	July 24, 2003	Shawn Waldie & Jennifer Belisle
Margot Wallace Collins	July 28, 2003	Abraham & Kaylie Dudley Collins
Brynn Steelman Thomas	October 6, 2003	J. Ryan & Lisa Beck Thomas
Halley Marie Fairbanks	December 5, 2003	Michael J. Fairbanks & Sabrina M. Timmons

MARRIAGES

Groom	Bride	Date
Conrad L. Duval	Mary Jane Messer Godfrey	January 1, 2003
John Winfield Potter	Jessie Ruth Mailen Payne	February 3, 2003
Troy Basil Lapell	Kristen Elaine Perry	June 14, 2003
Kether W. Darshan	Medha Suman	June 15, 2003
Donald J. Almeida, Jr.	Shannon M. Hogan	June 21, 2003
Ethan Todd Bowen	Courtney Lee Branstetter	July 5, 2003
John C. Tomeny	Sandra Zdanaviciute	August 17, 2003
Robert S. Taylor, Jr.	Victoria L. Kurtz Bloksberg	November 8, 2003
Eric Robert Belanger	Hallie Anne Mendell	December 6, 2003

DEATHS/BURIAL PERMITS

Name	Date	Age
Yolanda A. Anderson	November 30, 2002	77
Constance Harrington McGuffin	January 12, 2003	82
Lucy Ruffin Sprague	January 14, 2003	72
Joyce R. Barron	January 18, 2003	73
Sherry A. Gay	March 15, 2003	45
Henry P. Clook	March 25, 2003	83
Frank Theodore Lewis	May 16, 2003	79
Arlene Parker Roy	July 17, 2003	76
Bonnie M. Simpson McIntyre	July 31, 2003	76
Elizabeth G. Wittlig	August 5, 2003	90
Clifford J. Douglas	August 9, 2003	83
Wayne C. Johnson	August 23, 2003	65
Charles H. Andrews	September 12, 2003	94
Judith H. Newell	October 6, 2003	48
Melvin I. Mishkit	December 19, 2003	75
Ira Fisher Morrison	December 21, 2003	78
Marguerite Quarles Schenkman	December 24, 2003	93

CIVIL UNIONS

Party A	Party B	Date
Randall Duane Christensen	Mark William Owen	January 14, 2003
Linda Jean Bencks	Linda Ann MacCoy	June 28, 2003
Peter H. Oehrlein	Mark D. Rinis	October 26, 2003

The Alliance Solid Waste Management Program

Bethel and Royalton continue to own an improved 22-acre site on Waterman Road in Royalton which has been used to provide local waste management services to the Towns of Barnard, Bethel, Granville, Hancock, Pittsfield, Stockbridge, Rochester, and Royalton. The "Alliance" program provides each of the member towns a means of offering to its citizens an organized and formal plan for management of all hazardous wastes, special wastes, recyclables, and trash, in compliance with State of Vermont law.

Two household hazardous waste collection events were held in 2003, to dispose of practically any hazardous wastes at no cost, with explosive and radioactive material not being accepted. These collections can be used by businesses on a fee basis if appointments are made in advance to ensure that adequate holding equipment is on site. The "Swap Shop" remained a popular component of the facility. No inventory is kept of materials exchanged through the shop, but the public is encouraged to use this to minimize the amount of re-usable material going to the transfer station for disposal. The public is asked to help monitor the materials left off, and if articles are not taken in a reasonable time, the donor should take responsibility for disposing as trash.

Recycling continues to be practiced diligently by member Town, but there is still room for improvement. No fee is charged for most recyclables in order to encourage citizens to use this means of disposing of acceptable materials.

As a last resort, materials which cannot be re-used or recycled must be disposed of, and the facility's transfer station provided aggregation, loading and shipping services for a total of 7,322 tons of solid waste. It is a program objective to reduce this volume by fostering a greater understanding in the public's mind of the need to purchase only necessary quantities, use up purchased materials, and recycle/re-use all that is practical. To further assist in reduction of the quantity of disposed wastes, the program is studying the possibility of collecting used electronic apparatus for recycling, and implementing a composting component in the array of serviced offered at the facility.

Since the 22-acre site also harbors the former landfill which served the area towns, groundwater is regularly monitored through test wells created for that purpose. The "capping" of the former landfill with a layer of impervious clay has resulted in steadily improving the test results. The likelihood of contaminants causing off-site impacts appears to be diminishing as time goes by.

The program had to apply for "Recertification" of its facility during 2003, as the present five-year certification will expire in May 2004. This is essentially a "license to operate" issued by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. The application for recertification requires a focused evaluation of the methods and means being used to operate the facility, and establishes parameters on all operations. Copies of the application are available for public review at the Town Office of each member town.

The State of Vermont developed a new State-level solid waste implementation plan which was made effective in 2002. Towns and solid waste districts were required by State law to develop new plans also, which would address all elements of solid waste management as were addressed within the State's own plan. In the future, reports on progress in meeting objectives under these plans will have to be filed with the Agency every two years. Developing a new "Solid Waste Implementation Plan" (SWIP) for the Alliance Towns has been a paramount task. A draft submittal was made as required in April 2003, and a follow-up submittal in response to Agency comments and questions was made in December 2003. Assistance in performing this work was provided by The Johnson Company of Montpelier, VT, and financial assistance was provided by a grant from the Agency in the amount of \$6,082.09. Each of the Alliance Towns will need to hold two public hearings regarding the SWIP, and Selectboards will then need to decide if the SWIP is appropriate for adoption by each Town as its stated plan for managing the solid waste stream. The SWIP is an ambitious plan, and sets forth a number of new initiatives as well as committing to enforcement of existing laws governing recycling, illegal dumping and burning. Copies of the "Solid Waste Implementation Plan" are available for public review at the Town Office of each Alliance member Town. Questions or suggestions can be directed to Delbert Cloud, Agent for the Solid Waste Program, at 134 South Main St, Bethel, VT 05032. (234-9340)

NOTICE TO ROCHESTER RECYCLERS

Until further notice,
Benson's Rubbish Removal will continue to pick up

glass (clear, dark brown & green)

rinsed steel/tin cans

#2 HDPE

colored plastic and milk, cider, and water containers

#1 PET

plastic containers

aluminum cans, baking trays and foil.

*No newspaper, office paper, magazines, junk mail, mixed paper,
boxboard, corrugated cardboard*

Recycling Day ~ 3rd Monday of each Month

Rochester Residents
may take any and all Recycling materials to the
Bethel-Royalton Solid Waste Facility.

*This includes newspaper, office paper, magazines, junk
mail, mixed paper, boxboard, corrugated cardboard.*

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

8:00 – 3:00

763-2232

Please Bring this Town Report to

Town Meeting
Monday, March 1, 2004
7:00 P.M.
Rochester High School
Auditorium

Pre-Town Meeting: 6:00 P.M. ~ Monday, February 23, 2004
Town Office Conference Room

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Rochester, VT 05767
Permit No. 28

VERMONT STATE LIBRARY
111 STATE ST
MONTPELIER VT 05602