

SANDGATE, VERMONT  
Town & School District

2004

Fiscal Year  
Annual Report



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## ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

### MODERATOR

Richard Dahm ..... 2005

### TOWN CLERK

Ann Wuerslin ..... 2007

### TREASURER

Valerie dePeyster..... 2006

### SELECTMEN

Stephen Saltonstall, Chair (3-yr term) ..... 2006

Charles Bentley, Jr. (1-yr term)..... 2005

Roy Gattlin (3-yr term)..... 2005

Christopher Barlow, Clerk (3-yr term) ..... 2007

Richard Zoppel (1-yr term)..... 2005

### STATE OFFICER AND CONSTABLE

Richard Dahm ..... 2005

### DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR

Ann Wuerslin ..... 2005

### AUDITORS

Sonja Jaffee..... 2006

Claire Merritt ..... 2005

Phoebe Sheres..... 2007

### LISTERS

Jeanne Zoppel, CHAIR ..... 2005

Jane Gattlin ..... 2006

Julian Sheres..... 2007

### TOWN AGENT

Jean Eisenhart ..... 2005

### TOWN GRAND JUROR

Jean Eisenhart ..... 2005

### CEMETERY COMM.

Richard Dahm ..... 2006

Roy Gattlin ..... 2007

Julie Robertson..... 2005

### JUSTICES OF PEACE

Kitt Hazelton ..... 2007

Sonja Jaffee..... 2007

Julie Robertson..... 2007

Phoebe Sheres ..... 2007

Ann Wuerslin ..... 2007

### SCHOOL MODERATOR

Richard Dahm ..... 2005

Allan Tschorn, CHAIR..... 2007

Cheri Weber, APPOINTED..... 2006

Jeanne Zoppel..... 2005

**APPOINTED OFFICERS  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Jean Eisenhart, CHAIR .....	2006
Sonja Jaffee .....	2005
Phoebe Sheres .....	2007
Karl Stuecklen .....	2005
Harry Rich .....	2006

**PLANNING COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD**

Jean Eisenhart .....	2006
Suzanne dePeyster .....	2006
Judith Tudor .....	2005
Brad Kessler .....	2007
Harry Rich, Chair .....	2007

**911 COORDINATOR**

Julian Sheres .....	2006
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**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

William Jakubowski .....	Hired
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**HEALTH/SEWAGE OFFICER**

William Jakubowski .....	Hired
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**POUND KEEPER**

Suzanne dePeyster .....	2005
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**BCRC REPRESENTATIVES**

Julian Sheres .....	2006
Suzanne dePeyster .....	2006

**INSPECTORS OF WOOD,LUMBER ET AL**

Roy Gattlin .....	2005
William Haggerty .....	2005

**GREEN-UP DAY COORDINATORS**

Jean Eisenhart .....	2005
Suzanne dePeyster .....	2005

**FENCE VIEWER**

Suzanne dePeyster .....	2005
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**TREE WARDEN**

Ed Pike .....	2005
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**SIGN CONTROL**

Selectmen .....	2005
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**TOWN SERVICE OFFICER**

Julie Robertson .....	2005
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**EMERGENCY FUEL COORDINATOR**

Julie Robertson .....	2005
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**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICER**

Richard Dahm .....	2005
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**FIRE WARDEN**

Lynn Fielding .....	2006
Jim Gunn .....	2006

**LOTHAR WUERSLIN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Jean Eisenhart, Donald Brown, Jeanne Zoppel, Karl Stuecklen and Ann Wuerslin

**TOWN OF SANDGATE ANNUAL MEETING  
ABSTRACT OF MINUTES  
MARCH 1, 2004**

The legal voters of the Town of Sandgate, Vermont met at Sandgate Town Hall on Monday, March 1, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of acting on the articles specified in the warning. There were 34 voters in attendance at the meeting. The Moderator informed voters that Article #1 will be voted on by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 when the polls will be open from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Moderator, Richard Dahm, asked that the rules be suspended so that Larry Molloy, town Representative, could address the voters. Mr. Molloy spoke to the issues of: Act 68 the new education Act, the necessary declaration of homestead for landowners desiring a rebate from the State, the issue of school choice, and the funding for teacher's retirement. The meeting resumed at 7:18 p.m.

ARTICLE 1. To vote the following Town Officers: (by Australian ballot on March 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Selectman, 3 years-Christopher Barlow-58  
Selectman, (2 positions) 1 year-Charles Bentley Jr.-67  
1 year-Richard Zoppel-68  
Selectman, 2 years to complete a 3-year term-  
Stephen Saltonstall-64  
Town Moderator, 1 year-Richard Dahm-45  
Town Clerk, 3 years-Ann Wuerslin-67  
Town Constable, 1 year-Richard Dahm-66  
Delinquent Tax Collector, 1 year-Ann Wuerslin-64  
Auditor, 3 years-Phoebe Sheres-69  
Lister, 3 years-Julian Sheres-62  
Cemetery Commissioner, 3 years-Leroy Gattlin-74  
Town Agent, 1 year-Jean Eisenhart-70  
Town Grand Juror, 1 year-Jean Eisenhart-70

ARTICLE 2. To hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers. To see if the town will accept the Town Report as printed for the year ending June 30, 2003.

The Town Clerk made a correction to her comments on page 17. She noted there had been two births in Sandgate in the past year. She added the name Bryce Patrick Harrington, son of Amanda and Gary Harrington. She also noted a correction on page 12 in Article 3 where the figure \$62,763 should be changed to read \$20,000.

Ms. Christiansen asked what the \$50,000 spent on a project in West Sandgate was actually spent on. Mr. Pike, road foreman, said it was on the Rupert road and was a culvert project. He added that the figure of \$50,000 should have read \$21,000.

Mr. Tschorn wanted to know how the State determines State aid for roads. Mr. Link responded to the question. Ms. Christiansen referenced the cover by Karl Stuecklen, and its appropriateness.

The Constable, Richard Dahm, gave his report orally, having failed to submit a written report to the Auditors. Mr. Saltonstall asked Mr. Dahm if he believed the specified speed limits were realistic. Ms. Phelps said she believed the limit should be raised to 45 MPH and then strictly enforced.

Ms. Christiansen mentioned the work Kathy Wagner had done to rehabilitate the District School. Ms. Wagner read an addition to her comments on the subject with an addition to the first paragraph of the District 2 Schoolhouse Report: "Thanks to a successful fundraiser in July, grants awarded in the amount of \$22,000, (\$15,000 from the Preservation Trust of Vermont and \$7,000 from the Division for Historic Preservation), and the town's allocation of funds, most of the restoration work has been completed as planned. A special thank you to Jim and Betsy Gunn for use of their dumpster to remove the debris in the building. We are appreciative of Willy Skidmore's time donated in pulling up the old floor. Thank you to r.k. Miles and Sue dePeyster for donating materials."

Ms. Wagner said she expects that by May or June the restoration of the building will be completed. She noted that Mr. Mears is to sign a quit claim to give the town the land around and under the school house building. Mr. Link has signed the quit claim deed for the town, which will be held in escrow until the town receives the signed deed from Mr. Mears.

Under the Lister's Report, the question of paying Listers \$15/hr to reappraise the town was discussed. The Listers said that their work becomes more complicated all the time. They are currently paid \$7/hr while Arlington Listers are paid \$9.35/hr, and Sunderland Listers are paid \$10/hr. Since the Selectmen set payment rates, no conclusion was reached at the meeting, though the Listers noted that the town would pay more if the town hired outside appraisers to do the reappraisal.

Mr. Link asked who had submitted the report on page 45. Ms. Wuerslin said she had. He disputed the difference in the total of the grand list figure used to make the computation.

Placing in the town report information on the restoration of the Sandgate church was questioned. Mr. Saltonstall said he thought there was nothing wrong with placing it there as it, along with the school house, is designated historic buildings in the town.

As there was no further discussion about town reports, Ms. Christiansen moved the question, with the additions and corrections, without opposition.

ARTICLE 3. To vote the salaries to be paid the Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Road Liaison, and Constable.

Mr. Saltonstall asked why there was no figure for salary for the Constable. Ms. Wagner spoke to the issue of the handling of dog problems in town, which she said the select board did not believe was handled in an expedient manner. She also mentioned that the board had had complaints of the Constable not returning phone calls. Mr. Dahm, as Constable, responded that he had understood he had 90 days before he needed to destroy the dogs in question. He said the owners had licensed the dogs before that time was up. He acknowledged that he usually did not return phone calls.

Mr. Frost asked if the Constable was paid more for killing dogs. He is not. Mr. Saltonstall wanted to know if the Article can be amended to put the \$800 salary back in the budget. He was told the Article could be so amended. Mr. R. Tschom asked how many hours the Constable logs in a year. Mr. Dahm said 200-300 hours, adding that his salary is \$61/month for the service. Mr. Kessler wanted to know how many calls he gets in a month, and Mr. Dahm responded it depends on the month. Mr. Saltonstall said that he, personally, believed that just having the Constable check on people's homes when they are out of town is a valuable service to the community. Mr. Saltonstall then made the motion to change the "0" amount on the budget for the Constable to \$800. It was seconded by Mr. Christiansen. Motion passed with only two nays. Mr. Christiansen moved the question, which passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 4. Shall current property taxes be paid to the Assistant Town Treasurer, on or before October 1, 2004?

Mr. Christiansen moved the question, which passed without opposition.

ARTICLE 5. Shall line item balances, specifically for the following accounts: Record Restoration, Legal and Professional, Highway Fund Materials and Hauling (both summer and winter), Pavement Maintenance, and Bridge/Culvert Program, be carried over in the individual accounts into this following year?

Mr. Christiansen moved the question which, passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow such sum or sums of money to meet its necessary expenditures prior to the collection of taxes?

Ms. Christiansen moved the question which passed without opposition.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the Town vote to allow the Selectmen to appoint the Town Constable?

Mr. Kessler asked the Selectmen to explain the article and the reason for placing it on the Warning. Mr. Gunn wanted to know why the Selectmen wanted to choose who the constable would be. Ms. Christiansen said the post of Constable is under the election system. She suggested the Selectmen wanted to take more control. Mr. Gunn said the Selectmen were changing the process, and asked if this was a personal vendetta against the Constable? The Constable said no one from the Select board had discussed the problem with him.

Ms. Wagner said the board had had complaints. She apologized for not discussing the problem with the Constable. Mr. Gunn said he thought the whole treatment was under-handed. Ms. S. dePeyster said she had had to deal with Mr. Dahm's non-action, adding that the dogs had been a definite problem and a danger not only to animals but humans alike.

Ms. Christiansen said that every elected position is under the control of the person so elected. She wanted to know why the Select board wants more control. Mr. Tschorn said we fight for the right to vote, and he didn't think the voters should give up this right to the Selectboard. Mr. Gust suggested the Selectboard wants to change the position based on one incident. Mr. Link said it was not based just on one specific incident.

Ms. Sunquist suggested to the Constable that in the future he should write a report in time to submit its inclusion in the Town Report. After further discussion, Ms. Christiansen moved the question. There was only one vote for the Article, so the Article was defeated roundly.

ARTICLE 8. Shall the Town vote to transfer any remaining money from the Schoolhouse Restoration Fund to a Schoolhouse Museum Fund?

Mr. Christiansen wanted to know why we should change the name of the fund. Ms. Christiansen wanted to know if the fund would be all encompassing. Mr. Link said there would be a line item on the town budget for maintenance of the school house. Ms. Rich



suggested the name be left as it is, therefore the article should be amended to delete "Museum". Ms. Phelps wanted to know if funding would be affected if the building was not designated a Museum? Ms. Christiansen said the Select board could make a statement of purpose and put it in the town's Proceedings book, e.g. a mission statement to clarify.

Miss Pike suggested that in amending the article, page 43 should be referred to and the current name being used to designate the fund be used. The amended article should read: Shall any remaining money from The Schoolhouse Lot Acquisition/Renovation Fund be transferred into The Schoolhouse Fund?

Ms. Christiansen made the motion to amend the article as above, seconded by Ms. Rich. The motion passed. Ms. Christiansen called the amended question, which passed as amended.

ARTICLE 9. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$350 to the Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund as it has done in past years?

Mr. Christiansen said this was usually a line item. Ms. Eisenhart said the Scholarship Committee forgot to get the request to the Selectmen in time, so it had to be a special article. Mr. Christiansen called the question, which passed without opposition.

ARTICLE 10. Shall the Town appropriate \$92,627 to defray the general expenses of the town; and if so voted, authorize the Selectmen to set the tax rate based on the final Grand List?

Ms. Christiansen wanted to know if the Health Officer and Zoning Administrator, the same person, received fees plus \$7/hr? She was told he did. She wanted to know what work he did for the \$7/hr. She was told when he attends special variance meetings, and/or had to investigate violations.

Mr. Saltonstall wanted to know why the request from the Arlington Rescue Squad had gone up from \$3,500 to \$6,000. Mr. Dahm explained that the current request represented the actual cost for servicing the town. Sandgate represents 4.5% of all calls received by the Squad. Ms. Christiansen made a motion to amend the request to read \$4,500. Mr. Link seconded the motion. Mr. Christiansen wanted to know how the Squad has kept going all this time, if it was not covering its expenses. Mr. Dahm said it had had bequests which were now spent down. Ms. Christiansen called the motion which was defeated with only two ayes voted in support of the motion.

Ms. Christiansen wanted to know why town hall maintenance has risen to \$3,000. Ms. Wagner said she had been cleaning the building

for free, but was not going to continue that duty, so that represented the cost for having an outside cleaning service.

Mr. Link said that the amount for Fire Protection should be changed to the actual figure. The budget figure of \$11,200 was amended to read \$10,982.

The budget is now amended by the following amounts with resulting totals:

Administrative is changed from \$58,031 to \$58,831 (which represents the inclusion of \$800 for the town constable's salary.

General Services is changed from \$20,707 to \$20,489 (which represents a decrease in fire protection cost of \$218).

Appropriations are changed from \$13,889 to \$14,239 (which represents an increase of \$350 for the Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund.

The total General Fund now reads \$93,559. The question was moved and passed as amended without opposition.

ARTICLE 11. Shall the Town appropriate \$190,230 to defray the highway expenses of the Town; and if so voted, authorize the Selectmen to set the tax rate based on the final Grand List?

Ms. Christiansen asked if FEMA grant money goes into designated line items. Ms. Pike said it is not so specified, but goes into the highway money market fund, but it is earmarked for specific use. Ms. Christiansen called the question, which passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12. Shall the Town vote to reduce the total amount to be raised by taxes by \$21,549 from the Tax Stabilization Fund?

Ms. Christiansen wanted to know the total of surplus funds. Ms. Pike indicated the total was \$101,759. Mr. Link told voters the outside auditors had suggested leaving \$50,000 in the fund for emergencies. The balance the Select board could be drawn down over the next three years. The question was moved and passed without opposition.

ARTICLE 13. Shall the Town vote to use the total interest of \$6,709 from the General Fund and Highway Fund to reduce the total amount to be raised by taxes? The question was called and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 14. To transact any other business proper to be brought before said meeting.

Ms. Phelps said there would be a town gathering for the school house the first Saturday in June, and residents should look for a notice of the event at the Yellow Farm. Mr. Dahm, Moderator, reminded voters that the town school meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday morning, and that polls will be open for voting from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m.

ARTICLE 15. Adjourn.

Ms. Broderick made the motion to adjourn the meeting with second by Mr. Saltonstall. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Ann B. Wuerslin, Town Clerk  
Richard Dahm, Moderator  
James Link, Select board Chair

Dated at Sandgate, Vermont, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2004.

**ANNUAL SANDGATE SCHOOL MEETING  
ABSTRACT OF MINUTES  
MARCH 2, 2004**

The legal voters of the Town School District of Sandgate met at 10:00 A.M. at the Sandgate Town Hall on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. Moderator Richard Dahm opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m., announcing the polls would be open for voting from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot on Article 7, of the School Warming, for School District officers. 18 voters were present. Also present was Mr. Sweetman, Superintendent, and Susan Jones, business manager of the school district. Mr. Swisher represented the Career Development Center in Bennington.

Article 7. To elect Town School District officers for the ensuing year by Australian ballot on March 2, 2004.

School Moderator-Richard Dahm-21  
School Director-Alan Tschorn -38

Article 1. To hear and act on the report of the School District Officers.

Ms. Christiansen wanted to know if Act 68 was an aid to the district in doing the budget. There followed a general discussion of the issue. Ms. Christiansen moved the question, which passed without opposition.

Article 2. To see if the Sandgate School District will vote the sum of \$6,000 into the existing reserve fund for replacement of the school bus when necessary.

Ms. N. Tschorn wanted to know the total in the school bus fund. She was told there is currently \$27,000 in the fund. The cost of a new bus will be

approximately \$55,000, however, Mr. Tschorn added that the board expects they can get 4-5 more years out of the bus in use now.

The question was moved and passed unanimously.

- Article 3. To see if the Sandgate School District will vote to place any unanticipated surplus from the 2003-2004 fiscal year into the existing Reserve Fund for tuition and special education purposes.

Mr. Tschorn told voters they anticipate a surplus of \$13,500, of which \$10,000 is being applied towards reducing the budget. Only \$3,500 will go into the reserve fund. The question was called and passed without opposition.

- Article 4. To vote a sum of \$526,804 necessary for the support of the School District for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

Mr. Tschorn said with the \$6,000 voted for the sinking fund, the total to be voted on will now be \$532,804.

Mr. Sheres asked for a review of current tuition, and how much is paid for students not attending the Arlington schools. Ms. Weber said the town must make full payment when students go to any public schools. However, if students attend private schools, only the State average has to be paid with the parents picking up the rest of the bill for education.

Ms. Christiansen questioned the increase in legal fees. Mr. Tschorn said there is litigation currently in progress, which must be paid for. Following general discussion as to how the town pays for students attending the Career Development Center, the question was moved. Article 4 passed without opposition.

- Article 5. To authorize the School Board to borrow money by issue of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year.

The question was called and passed unanimously.

- Article 6. To transact any other business proper to be brought before said Town School District Meeting.

As there was no further business, Ms. Jaffee made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Sheres seconded the motion. The annual school meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Ann B. Wuerslin, Town Clerk  
Richard Dahm, Moderator  
Alan Tschorn, School Director

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2004

**SANDGATE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
JULY 13, 2004, 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was opened by Moderator, Richard Dahm, at 7:04 p.m. There were sixteen voters in attendance. Mr. Dahm announced that two articles were to be discussed and voted on by those assembled.

ARTICLE 1. "Shall the date of annual town meeting be changed from its current date (the Monday evening immediately before the first Tuesday in March) to the first Tuesday in March?"

Valerie DePeyster moved the article. Eleanor LaCross explained that people who work can't come to Tuesday meetings.

Ann Wuerslin reported that 34 people had attended the Monday night meeting this past year, fewer than attended the Tuesday meetings. Ms. LaCross countered that in 2001 only 31 people attended the Tuesday meeting, adding that it depended on how people felt as to how many people show up for Town Meeting.

Marlene Roderick suggested that people who work days never get a chance to vote on the issues discussed. Phoebe Sheres said that lots of people were not aware of the change of date to Monday night. She added that people showed up Tuesday morning for Town Meeting only to find that just the School Meeting, which had not been changed to Monday night, was scheduled.

James Link said that it was the duty of residents to read the Town Report. He urged people not to disenfranchise those who have to work. He also suggested that if there were ever a change so that the budget was voted on by Australian ballot, there would be no discussion of budget issues available to voters. Suzanne dePeyster suggested that people will get used to Monday night eventually. Valerie dePeyster moved the article.

Article 1 was voted down overwhelmingly.

ARTICLE 2. "Shall the Town appropriate \$500.00 from the General Fund to Arlington Area Childcare, Inc. for the year 2004?"

Philip Monahan said the appropriation for Childcare had been a line item on the town budget, but it had been left off the appropriation budget this past March. Mr. Link said he had seen no letter of request from Childcare. Ms. Sheres, auditor, said the auditors had not received any request, either.

Ms. Monahan said Childcare would be sure that their request arrives in the town in the future. Mr. Monahan said he didn't mean to blame anybody for the omission.

Mr. Dahm said he had spoken to Carol at Childcare, who thought the request had been mailed out. Ms. Monahan was asked how many Sandgate kids attend Childcare. Ms. Monahan said 7 in all at this time, adding that the center provides other events as well. Valerie dePeyster wanted to know if this money was to come out of the 2004-5 budget that was voted on last March. Mr. Link said the tax rate has already been set, but there was enough money in the budget to cover this added expense.

The Article was moved, and the article passed unanimously.

Under other business, Valerie dePeyster announced there would be a Town Tag Sale on July 24, located at the bottom of S.E. Corners road. As there was no further business, Ms. Roderick made the motion to adjourn, with second by Ms. DePeyster. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Ann B. Wuerslin, Town Clerk  
Richard Dahm, Moderator  
Leroy Gattlin, Selectman

### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – SANDGATE, VERMONT OCTOBER 14, 2004**

Moderator, Richard Dahm, opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. 88 people were in attendance. He stated the ground rules for the meeting, including the fact that only the article on the table could be discussed. He suggested that voters in attendance could suspend the rule which only allows voters of the town to speak, thus allowing all people in attendance, wishing to speak, to speak to the issue. He asked if there were any exceptions to letting those in attendance speak, and as there were none, it was noted all could speak if they wished to do so.

Mr. Dahm then read from Title 24 of the State statutes in reference to town ordinances: "A municipal ordinance cannot be adopted or established by vote of the electorate. With the exception of ethics rules and zoning and subdivision bylaws, only the Selectboard can adopt or amend an ordinance. Once an ordinance has been adopted the legal voters of the town can bring a petition signed by 5% of the voters within 44 days of the adoption of the ordinance to require the selectboard to warn a meeting to allow voters to vote to disapprove an ordinance. However, a petition cannot be used to force a town to vote to adopt or amend an ordinance." 24 V.S.A. section 1972 and 1973.

The Moderator then read the Article on the floor: "Whether the Town All-Terrain Vehicle Ordinance adopted by the Selectmen on August 23, 2004 shall be disapproved."

Ms. Phelps made the motion to accept with second by Ms. Jaffee.

Mr. Saltonstall, Chair of the Selectboard, addressed the meeting, stating that the Board had tried to strike a balance between the issues. He said no one doubts the right

of citizens to use, or landowners to allow, the use of ATV's in town. However, other citizens had the right to peace and quiet—two conflicting property rights. He said the State gave towns the right to govern the use of ATVs. He said during weekends ATV use is heavy and adjoining landowners had noticed the high level of noise from their use. Some users ride on town roads which is illegal. He noted that a group of ATVs had crossed land in a convoy and were seen to ride through the town cemetery, so the Board had decided to take action now.

Ms. Hoffstein spoke saying that in her part of town sound reverberates and noise is a community issue.

Mr. Smith asked if the town had a noise ordinance. He said it was already illegal for ATVs to ride on the highways, and must have landowner's consent to use their land.

Ms. Stannard wanted to know if there had been any tests done as to level of noise in town.

The Moderator said that by law a vehicle over 50 decibels at 100 yards is in violation.

Ms. Jaffee said it was a problem, as the ATVs came over Swearing Hill into Sandgate from Shushan joy riding through town. She asked, "How do you catch people riding through the cemetery?"

Mr. Littmann contributed that groups ride to hunt. He uses his to get the mail and rides it each day.

Mr. Fierravanti said he believed the ordinance was too extreme, and there are already State laws to protect citizens. He asked what about chain saws and skidders, would they be next?

Mr. Zolla wanted to know the basis for not including snowmobiles in the ordinance.

Ms. Zoppel suggested we have more problems with snowmobiles than with ATV's.

Mr. Froment stated he uses his ATV to plow and grade his driveway and haul in wood.

Ms. Dziabo asked how the Board had determined that some hours are more offensive than other hours.

Ms. Barlow suggested there must be a better way to enforce existing laws, asking if there aren't places out of town where people can ride their ATVs and are welcome.

Selectman Mr. Zoppel said the Board had not meant to limit ordinary use, but added that some young kids are definitely "out of control".

Mr. Link wanted to know why the Board was not answering the questions being asked, specifically about the hours.

Mr. Saltonstall said the Board had thought early morning and late afternoon people wanted quiet.

Mr. Stannard apologized to the Townspeople. He said he believed he was the one precipitating the ordinance because of problems between him and Mr. Saltonstall.

Ms. Saltonstall said she also was a taxpayer and believed she had the right to enjoy the roads, and sleep through the night with out noise interfering.

Ms. Tendrup said she too is a runner, and has no problem with ATVs.

Ms. Kathleen Hill said her kids ride on her property for recreation.

Ms. Phelps complained that the town does not enforce existing laws so why put more laws on the books when the ones we have are not enforced.

Mr. Hess said he leases land for recreational purposes, and can't pick and choose hours for use of his ATV. He did admit that noise can decrease property values.

Mr. Littmann suggested the town get the "bad apples".

Selectman, Barlow said the ordinance's intent was to spur consideration of others. All equipment are just tools, but there is a time to be considerate of other people. The intent was not to hurt locals, but snowmobiles and ATV's are eroding many trails.

Mr. Kessler asked if there were other ordinances in other town in the area.

Mr. Barlow said there were four in the act of having debates in re ATV's.

Mr. Tschorn said he believed Jamaica had just voted theirs down.

Mr. Fierravanti said he had to put up with horse manure on the roads, and asked the town not to create more laws.

Mr. McCauley from Rupert said he uses his ATV for hunting as he can't climb the mountains any more for hunting on his property in Sandgate which is located on the Rupert Road.



Mr. Camelio asked a procedural question as to what happens if the Ordinance is voted down, saying townspeople don't want an open season on the use of ATV's with no restrictions at all.

Ms. Jaffee asked the Selectboard to continue work on an acceptable ordinance so that the soil, water and animals are protected. She further suggested they consider a noise ordinance for the Town.

Mr. Bains said he is a fireman in Arlington, but that if this Ordinance stands and he is asked to use his ATV to rescue someone they will have a long wait.

Mr. Smith addressed the issue of 2-stroke engines which he says must meet 4-stroke engines by 2006.

Mr. Fierravanti called the question with second by Ms. Zoppel.

People voted. The Ordinance was disapproved 51 to 10.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Ann Wuerslin  
Town Clerk

Richard Dahm  
Moderator

Steve Saltonstall  
Selectman

**TOWN OF SANDGATE  
2004-5 COMPENSATION SCHEDULE**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Compensation Rate</u>
Auditors .....	\$7.00/hour
Board of Civil Authority .....	\$7.00/hour
School Board Salaries .....	\$2,300 voted
Chair of Selectboard .....	\$2,448 voted
Constable .....	\$800 voted
Listers .....	\$10.00/hour (regular yearly work) \$15.00/hour (reappraisal years)
Minute Taker .....	\$7.00/hour
Road Foreman .....	budgeted
Road Liaison .....	\$600 voted
Road Worker .....	budgeted
School Bus Driver Salary .....	\$13,348 voted
School Bus Driver Substitute Salary .....	\$355 voted
Selectmen (set by auditors) .....	\$12.00/meeting
Town Clerk .....	\$6,829 voted
Town Treasurer .....	\$8,294 voted

Additional Laborers (Highway): As contracted with Selectboard

Additional Machine Workers: As contracted with Selectboard

Mileage for Town Business ..... \$ .345 per mile

The Sandgate board of Selectmen approved the above compensation schedule at their March 11, 2004 meeting.

Attest: Ann Wuerslin,  
Town Clerk

## **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

William E. Jakubowski  
375-6570 FAX 375-6821

Zoning permit applications are available at the Town Clerk's Office and questions are accepted by phone or fax during normal business hours at the above phone numbers. The Zoning Administrator is usually available weekly at Town Hall on Tuesdays (8:30 - 9:30 AM)

Permit applications and requests for Letter of Compliance may be mailed or left at the Town Clerk's Office during the Clerk's regular hours. Payment of fees must accompany the submitted application or request. Approved permits allow work to begin fifteen (15) days after being duly posted by the Zoning Administrator to allow time for the required appeal period.

### **Permit Applications as of December 31,2004**

Littman - Littman Lane - Accessory structure  
Littman - Littman Lane - Turn out shed  
Russell - Sandgate Road - Accessory structure  
Scianna - Walsh Road - Reconstruct and addition to existing structure  
Tschorn - Wuerslin Road - Kitchen addition  
Green River Inn - Sandgate Road - Change of Use  
Dawson - Sandgate Road - Accessory structure  
Sullivan - S. E. Corners Road - Rear porch roof  
Cornell - Weldon Road - One Family Dwelling  
J. Gunn - Sandgate Road - One Family Dwelling  
Garrison - Sandgate Road - Accessory Structure  
Sherra - Rupert Road - Screen Porch  
Audy - Rupert Road - One Family Dwelling  
Nunes - Weldon Road - Primitive Camp

### **Other Business Conducted**

Four zoning violations were issued and two have been corrected. Two outstanding violations from 2003 were also corrected earlier this year. One of the two outstanding violations are being processed through the Zoning Board Property and the second is awaiting correction. Searches for Letters of Compliance were conducted for ten residents with approval letters issued.

Attended seminars given by the VLCT and the BCRC to keep up to date regarding the regulations and their administration. Recent changes to Chapter 117 have been passed and training for my self and the Planning and Zoning Boards will be given early in 2005. Assisted the Planning Commission with review of the Zoning Bylaws for changes.

## HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

William E. Jakubowski 375-6570FAX 375-6821

There has been a new Sewage Ordinance implement by the Select Board this year. Most of the changes deal with the changes made in the prior year by the State. A call to my office will enable us to more readily process applications and assist people in compliance with the regulations.

Sewage applications are available at the Town Clerk's Office and questions are accepted by phone or fax during normal business hours at the above phone numbers. Appointments may be made for preliminary discussion regarding permits or other matters.

Permit applications may be mailed to, or left at the Town Clerk's Office during the Clerk's regular hours. Payment of fees must accompany the submitted application. Seventy - two hours notice is required before any inspection of septic system, or parts thereof, may be made.

### Permits as of December 31, 2004

#### New Systems

E. Murray and D. Sullivan - S.E. Corners Rd.  
D.W.C. Inc. - Weldon Rd.  
B. Audy - 951 Rupert Rd.

#### Replacement Systems

J. Scianna - 164 Walsh Rd.

#### Privy permits

K. Nunes - Weldon Rd.

### Certificates of Occupancy

Green River Inn - Sandgate Rd. - Change of use  
E. Maue - Sandgate Rd. - Modify One Family Dwelling

### Rabies Clinic

The Rabies Clinic may NOT be held in March of 2005 in Town Hall. The major reason to have the Clinic is to provide a convenient and reasonably priced service for the residents. We are currently discussing fees with the Green Mountain Veterinary to try to keep the cost down and arrange for a time of day that will allow residents to visit the clinic after working hours. At this time neither of these options are viable. Look for announcements at Town Hall and in the Bennington Banner if we are able to work all the details out to benefit Sandgate residents and their pets.

The responsibilities of the Health Officer include several areas that may be of concern to our residents. There are state agencies to which referrals can be made when the responsibility is beyond the area of control or jurisdiction of the Health Officer. I look forward to continuing to assist the Select Board and the townspeople in the future. Calls or faxes may be made to the above listed phone numbers for information or in response to questions.

## **AUDITORS' REPORT**

Town of Sandgate: General Fund and Highway/Other Funds  
Sonja Jaffee, Claire Merritt, Phoebe Sheres

We have audited the books and records of the Town for the fiscal year. To the best of our knowledge, the Consolidated Balance Sheet and other financial statements represented in this Town Report fairly reflect the financial position of the town of Sandgate.

In an effort to make the town report easier to read, we have rounded figures to the whole dollar whenever possible.

We are pleased to report that evaluation of Town Reports has been refunded, and that our Town Report received an Award of Excellent Achievement in 2003.

We thank all the town officers who submitted their information for this report in a timely manner. The Constable will report orally at Town Meeting. Some of the reports from outside agencies have not been included in the printing of this report, because they add greatly to printing costs. They will be available in the Town Office.

We want to thank Mallory Rich for her excellent cover drawing, "Cutting the Corn". Her talent and generosity are much appreciated.

## **INDEBTEDNESS**

The Sandgate General Fund has no indebtedness.

The Sandgate School Fund has no indebtedness.

The Sandgate Highway Fund has no indebtedness.

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - TOWN FUNDS

July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004

	<u>General</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>School House Renovation</u>	<u>Tax Stabilization Emergency Fund</u>
<b>Assets:</b>						
Cash: On Hand .....	\$ 25	0	0	0	0	0
Cash: Checking .....	(241)	1,487	0	0	0	0
Cash: Money Market .....	54,185	160,007	12,024	8,730	7,698	93,447
Delinquent Tax Receivable .....	70,594	0	0	0	0	0
Due from Other Funds .....	0	(35,640)	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b><u>\$124,563</u></b>	<b><u>\$125,854</u></b>	<b><u>\$12,024</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,730</u></b>	<b><u>\$7,698</u></b>	<b><u>\$93,447</u></b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>						
Due to Other Funds .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Notes Payable .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities .....</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>Designated Fund Balance .....</b>	<b>*18,214</b>	<b>**61,052</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,513</b>	<b>7,698</b>	<b>93,447</b>
<b>Fund Balance (Deficit) .....</b>	<b>106,349</b>	<b>64,802</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance ....</b>	<b><u>\$124,563</u></b>	<b><u>\$125,854</u></b>	<b><u>\$12,024</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,730</u></b>	<b><u>\$7,698</u></b>	<b><u>\$93,447</u></b>

\*Town Hall Building Fund - \$1,844; Emergency Fund - \$1,161; Zoning/Planning Grant - \$937; Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund - \$3,048; Holiday Party Fund - \$72; Property Appraisal Fund - \$9,657; Records Restoration - \$1,194; Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Savings - \$301.

\*\*Paving Fund - \$18,519; Bridge & Culvert Fund - \$9,100; Materials & Hauling Fund - \$33,433.

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET – TOWN FUNDS**

July 1, 2004-December 31, 2004

	<u>General</u>	<u>Highway</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>School House Renovation</u>	<u>Tax Stabilization Emergency Fund</u>
<b>Assets:</b>						
Cash: On Hand .....	\$ 25	0	0	0	0	0
Cash: Checking .....	973	1,043	0	0	0	0
Cash: Money Market .....	142,378	243,280	27,075	9,401	7,961	65,511
Delinquent Tax Receivable .....	33,277	0	0	0	0	0
Due from Other Funds .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$176,653</b>	<b>\$244,323</b>	<b>\$27,075</b>	<b>\$9,401</b>	<b>\$7,961</b>	<b>\$65,511</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>						
Due to Other Funds .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Notes Payable .....	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities .....</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Designated Fund Balance .....	*17,922	**96,692	0	7,763	7,961	65,511
Fund Balance (Deficit) .....	158,731	147,631	0	1,638	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance .....</b>	<b>\$176,653</b>	<b>\$244,323</b>	<b>\$27,075</b>	<b>\$9,401</b>	<b>\$7,961</b>	<b>\$65,511</b>

\*Town Hall Building Fund - \$1,846; Emergency Fund - \$1,163; Zoning/Planning Grant - \$938; Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund - \$3,602; Holiday Party Fund - \$30; Property Appraisal Fund - \$8,466; Records Restoration Fund - \$1,194; Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Savings - \$683.  
 \*\*Paving Fund - \$33,519; Bridge & Culvert Fund - \$9,268; Materials & Hauling Fund - \$53,905.

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION POLICY  
TOWN OF SANDGATE, VERMONT**

1. All delinquent taxes must be remitted to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes. The Town Treasurer is not authorized to accept any payment toward delinquent taxes.
2. As soon as the Tax Collection Warrant has been received from the Treasurer, the Tax Collector will send a notice to each delinquent taxpayer each month for three months. The third letter will contain notice of the possibility of a tax sale.
3. Partial payments may be made on a monthly basis; however, payment arrangements which completely pay the bill before April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year succeeding the current tax due date will be required.
4. Mortgage and lien holders will be notified of the tax delinquency 30 days after the first notice has been sent, if the delinquent taxpayer has not paid the taxes nor contacted the Collector to make arrangement for payment.
5. There will be a \$20 fee charged for any returned check or other faulty payment of delinquent taxes.
6. Six months after the due date, the collector will send notice of impending tax sale, to sell as much of the property as is necessary, to pay the taxes, costs and fees associated with such a sale.
7. If no satisfactory payment arrangements have been made in one month or if the arrangements agreed to have not been met, the Collector of Delinquent Taxes will begin the following actions to sell as much of the property on which the tax is due, as is necessary to pay the tax, costs, and fees.
  - a. The Collector of Delinquent Taxes will notify the taxpayer of the tax sale decision, that full payment must be received prior to the posted date of the impending tax sale, and that the costs of the tax sale will be borne by the taxpayer.
  - b. The Collector of Delinquent Taxes will notify all mortgage holders and lien holders of the imminent tax sale.
  - c. If full payment has not been received by the posted time and date of the tax sale, the tax sale will be held according to the procedure specified in 32 V.S.A. Section 5252.



- d. Costs of preparing and conducting the sale, including legal fees up to a maximum of 15% of the amount of the delinquent tax, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer.
8. In the event that no one purchases the property at tax sale, or if in the judgment of the Delinquent Tax Collector, proceeding with tax sale is unwise, the Collector shall collect the delinquent taxes using any or all the methods permitted by law.
9. Each taxpayer has a right to apply for abatement of property taxes based on any of the grounds listed in 24 V.S.A. Section 1535, which may be viewed in the Town Clerk's office.

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Ann Wuerslin  
Collector of Delinquent Taxes  
Sandgate Road box 2466  
Sandgate, VT 05250  
Tel: 802-375-2298  
Revised March 30, 2004

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT  
FOR 2004-05**

Ann B. Wuerslin, Collector

Town taxes are due upon receipt of your yearly tax bill. The final date for the treasurer to receive payment for 2005 AD taxes without 8% penalty (collector's fee) is October 1, 2005. A mailing date of October 1<sup>st</sup> does not constitute payment of taxes in a timely fashion, and the 8% penalty and 1% interest will be applied to all taxes which do not arrive at town hall ON OR BEFORE October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. 1% interest on the principal is charged per month or portion of the month that the tax remains unpaid. This is an interest rate of 12% per year.

## STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES

2003 & 2004

	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Penalty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Agresta, Scott .....	1963.01	78.52	157.04	2198.57
Barrieau, Michael .....	185.56	5.58	14.85	205.99
Brady, Nancy .....	721.45	21.63	57.72	800.80
Clark, Thomas M. ....	513.29	20.52	41.06	574.87
Clement, Keith .....	2283.89	91.50	182.71	2558.10
D'Eredita, Gertrude .....	801.87	32.08	64.15	898.10
Fischer, Edward III .....	2012.96	80.52	161.04	2254.52
Hill, Michael. ....	999.16	39.96	79.93	1119.05
Maue, Eugene .....	422.03	8.44	33.76	464.23
McGloine, Bridget .....	667.04	26.68	53.36	747.08
Miller, John .....	500.92	20.60	40.08	561.60
Peters, James .....	1924.09	76.96	153.93	2154.98
Rimany, William .....	854.42	136.64	68.35	1059.41
Scanlon, Richard .....	2143.06	85.72	171.44	2400.22
Vaughan, Sylvia .....	1667.38	66.68	133.39	1867.45
Tax year 2003 .....	874.87	138.18	69.99	1,083.04
Tax year 2004 .....	<u>18,552.21</u>	<u>724.53</u>	<u>1,484.18</u>	<u>20,760.92</u>
TOTALS	\$19,427.08	\$8,62.71	\$1,554.17	\$21,843.96

The above totals are as of 01/25/2005.

Ann Wuerslin, Delinquent Tax Collector

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Cash Receipts & Disbursements-General Fund

July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....	\$ 92,499
Less Restricted Funds (Town Hall Building, Emergency Management, Zoning/Planning, Property Reappraisal, Wuerslin Scholarship CD, Records Restoration, Petty Cash, Wuerslin Scholarship Savings, Holiday Party) .....	<u>-19,309</u>
	\$73,190

#### Receipts:

Current Taxes .....	772,574
Delinquent Taxes .....	70,594
Interest on Delinquent Taxes .....	3,591
Penalties on Delinquent Taxes .....	5,659
Dog Licenses .....	924
Marriage/Civil Union Licenses .....	15
Building Permits .....	505
Health Permits .....	410
Zoning Permits .....	1,687
Town Clerk Fees .....	4,643
Interest Earned .....	1,359
Copier Use Fee .....	14
Sheriff Traffic Fines .....	309
Hold Harmless Monies .....	6,988
Rabies Clinic .....	204
Animal Control .....	79
Dry Hydrant Grant .....	500
Tax Stabilization Fund .....	11,561
Miscellaneous Revenues (Town Hall Rent, Liquor License, Overweight Permits) .....	1,839
Total Receipts .....	\$ 883,455

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE ..... \$ 956,645

#### Property Tax Allocation:

Highway Property Tax Share .....	153,684
School Tax Share .....	544,649
Town Share - Act 60 School Tax .....	112,868
Total Transfers .....	\$ 811,201

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE ..... \$ 145,444

#### Disbursements:

State Treasurer—dog licenses .....	173
Marriage/Civil Union licenses .....	15

Tax Collector fees .....	4,519
Town Clerk salary .....	6,695
Town Clerk fees .....	6,486
Town Treasurer's salary .....	8,131
Chair-Selectmen salary.....	1,600
Constable salary .....	800
Auditors' salary .....	810
Listers' salary & expenses .....	284
Miscellaneous – Mileage .....	276
Road Liaison salary .....	600
Septic permits .....	110
Zoning Administrator salary .....	1,500
Zoning Administrator expenses.....	500
Health Officer salary .....	346
Health Officer expenses .....	221
Payroll Taxes (FICA) .....	2,134
Medicare payroll tax .....	498
Selectmen meetings .....	984
Town Report expense .....	1,395
Records Restoration .....	2,306
Legal/professional fees .....	1,327
Miscellaneous.....	2
Insurance & Bonding .....	1,692
Cemetery Grant .....	2,100
BCA meetings/appeals/polls .....	1,089
County Tax .....	3,596
Town Hall Utilities .....	5,619
Office Supplies .....	1,420
Computer Software/Supplies .....	1,482
Town Hall Maintenance .....	1,618
Postage .....	769
Office Equipment Maintenance .....	388
Solid Waste/Recycling .....	2,102
Solid Waste Implementation .....	31
ZBA Planning/Zoning Expenses .....	92
Rabies Clinic .....	170
BCRC .....	1,013
Animal Control .....	24
VLCT dues .....	990
BROC .....	137
RSVP .....	500
Arlington Recreation Park .....	2,352
SW VT Area on Aging .....	600
Arlington Nursing Service .....	1,200
Arlington Area Childcare .....	400
Training Town officers .....	970

PAVE .....	100
Arlington Rescue Squad .....	3,500
Geo. D. Aiken Resource Center .....	50
Martha Canfield Library .....	1,000
Court Diversion Program .....	400
Bennington County Conservation .....	250
Burdett Commons .....	300
Arlington Community House .....	250
Bank Street Shelter .....	500
Green Up Day .....	50
Fire Protection-Arlington Fire Dept. ....	10,944
Schoolhouse Utilities/legal .....	505
Miscellaneous adjustments .....	60
Records Restoration Transfer .....	<u>1,500</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .. ..... \$ 91,475

Balance to Account For..... \$ 53,969

Evidenced by:

Checking Account at FPNB .....	<241>
Money Market Acct #3601137 at FPNB .....	54,185
Petty Cash On Hand .....	25

TOTAL ALL BALANCES..... \$ 53,969

**Town Hall Building Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$2,352
Interest earned .....	<u>5</u>
	\$2,357
Sandgate Sign, Roof Repairs .....	<u>-513</u>
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$1,844
Evidenced by Savings Acct #3601137 at FPNB .....	\$1,844

**Emergency Management Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$1,158
Interest earned .....	<u>3</u>
	\$1,161
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$1,161
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 302304 at FPNB .....	\$1,161

**Planning/Zoning Grant**

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$935
Interest earned .....	<u>2</u>
	\$937
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$937

### Property Reappraisal Fund

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$10,880
Interest earned .....	<u>22</u>
	\$10,902
2003 Grand List Lodging (wages & expenses) .....	<u>1,245</u>
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$9,657
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 131102933 at CB .....	\$9,657

### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$3,019
Interest earned .....	<u>29</u>
	\$3,048
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$3,048
Evidenced by CD # 184863601 at FPNB .....	\$3,048

### Holiday Party Fund

Balance in Fund 7/01/03 .....	\$199*
2003 Holiday Party Expenses .....	<u>-127</u>
	\$ 72
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$ 72
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3040126 at FPNB .....	\$ 72

\*(Balance falls below minimum to accrue interest.)

### Records Restoration Fund

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$ 0
02/03 Carryover .....	<u>1,500</u>
	\$1,500
Land Use Volume Expense .....	<u>-306*</u>
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$1,194
Evidenced by GF MM Acct # 3601137 at FPNB .....	\$1,194

\*(Monies needed above budgeted expenses.)

### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Savings

Balance in Fund 7/1/03 .....	\$766
Interest earned .....	2
Donation .....	<u>33</u>
	\$801
6/28 Scholarship awarded .....	<u>-500</u>
Balance in Fund 6/30/04 .....	\$301
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3043245 at FPNB .....	\$301

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Cemetery Fund**  
 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....		\$ 8,168
Receipts:		
2003-04 Appropriation .....	2,100	
Interest earned .....	6	
Useable Funds from CD maturity .....	<u>626</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	\$ 2,732	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 10,900
Disbursements:		
Mowing, Fall & Spring Clean-up .....	2,170	
Balance to Account For.....		\$ 8,730
Evidenced by:		
CD at BankNorth (Restricted).....	7,513	
Money Market Acct \$ 3600440 at FPNB (Usable Funds) .....	1,217	
TOTAL ALL BALANCES .....		\$ 8,730

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Tax Stabilization/Emergency Fund**  
 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....		\$ 129,178
Receipts: Interest earned .....	747	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 129,925
Disbursements:		
Transfer to General Fund to defray taxes .....	11,561	
Transfer to Highway Fund to defray taxes .....	<u>24,917</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....		\$ 36,478
Balance to account for .....		\$ 93,447
Evidenced by NOW Acct # 3900131 at FPNB .....		\$ 93,447

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Maki Account**  
 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....		\$ 2,018
Receipts:		
Interest earned (2002 to present) .....	15	
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 2,033
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 131103058 at CB .....		\$ 2,033

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-**  
**Schoolhouse Lot Acquisition/Renovation Fund**  
July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03: .....		\$20,209
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Fundraiser Activities/Auction .....	\$2,279	
Preservation Grant .....	15,000	
Donations .....	1,494	
Book Sales .....	3,519	
State Grant Monies .....	7,000	
Interest earned .....	62	
Flooring (dePeyster) .....	<u>312</u>	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> .....		<b>\$ 29,666</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b> .....		<b>\$ 49,875</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>		
J. Beach Parker .....	\$34,470	
J. Thompson Electric .....	322	
Iron Horse Roofing .....	2,957	
Book Costs (K. Wagner) .....	1,684	
Authentic Designs (lights) .....	792	
Lathrop Flooring .....	390	
Photography .....	700	
Floor Repair Supplies .....	420	
Miscellaneous Supplies.....	<u>442</u>	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b> .....		<b>\$ 42,177</b>
Balance to Account For.....		\$ 7,698
Evidenced by NOW Acct # 04010065439 at Charter One .....		\$ 7,698



**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Highway Fund**  
 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....	\$ 169,945
Less Restricted Funds (Paving, Bridge/Culvert, Materials/Hauling .....	<u>-61,052</u>
TOTAL .....	\$ 108,893

Receipts:

Property Tax Share .....	153,684	
VT State Highway Aid .....	60,183	
Highway Interest Earned .....	1,380	
Hold Harmless Monies .....	15,470	
Tax Stabilization Fund .....	24,917	
FEMA Reimbursement .....	5,617	
Miscellaneous (Insurance Claim, Workers' Comp., Plow Sale) ..	<u>3,256</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....		\$ 264,507
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 373,400

Disbursements:

Medicare Payroll Expense .....	1,397	
FICA Payroll Expense .....	3,779	
Employee Health Insurance.....	20,988	
Retirement Program .....	2,645	
Workers' Comp. Insurance.....	5,503	
Vehicle Liability .....	3,448	
Unemployment Insurance.....	533	
Allocation to Road Equipment Fund .	15,000	
Winter Maintenance Materials and Hauling..	21,751	
Winter Maintenance Salaries.....	34,628	
Summer Maintenance Materials and Hauling	9,776	
Mowing and Contract Labor .....	2,450	
Summer Maintenance Salaries .....	31,701	
Bridge & Culvert Materials .....	19,832	
Equipment Repair.....	9,256	
Fuel & Oil .....	8,460	
Supplies .....	1,265	
Mileage Reimbursement and Training .....	725	
Uniforms .....	600	
Garage Utilities .....	2,669	
Guard Rail Maintenance .....	9,225	
Road Crew Drug Testing .....	160	
Garage Maintenance .....	265	
FEMA - Rupert Road Project .....	<u>5,850</u>	

Balance to account for: ..... \$ 161,494

Balance in Highway Fund 6/30/04 .....		\$ 161,494
Evidenced by:		
Checking Acct. at FPNB.....	1,487	
Money Market Acct # 139900200 at CB .....	160,007	
Less Year-end 6/30/04 Carryovers in Money Market:		
Paving Fund .....	-15,000	
Bridge & Culvert Fund .....	-168	
Materials and Hauling .....	<u>-20,472</u>	
	\$ -35,640	
TOTAL USEABLE HIGHWAY FUNDS.....		\$ 124,367

**Paving Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/03 .....		\$ 18,519
02/03 Carryover .....		<u>\$ 0</u>
Balance in Fund as of 6/30/04 .....		\$ 18,519
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 18,519

**Bridge/Culvert Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/03 .....		\$ 9,100
02/03 Carryover .....		<u>\$ 0</u>
Balance in Fund as of 6/30/04 .....		\$ 9,100
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 9,100

**Materials and Hauling Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/03 .....		\$ 19,143
02/03 Carryover .....		<u>\$ 14,290</u>
Balance in Fund as of 6/30/04 .....		\$ 33,433
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 33,433

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Road Equipment Fund**  
 July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/03 .....		\$ 53,971
Receipts:		
2003/04 Appropriation .....	15,000	
Interest earned .....	85	
Miscellaneous Income (Bromley Mountain) .....	<u>800</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....		\$ 15,885
 Total Funds available .....		 \$69,856
Disbursements:		
2004 International Truck .....	\$ 40,000	
New Truck Accessories .....	<u>17,832</u>	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....		\$ 57,832
 Balance to account for .....		 \$12,024
 Evidenced by MM Acct 3 139900170 at CB .....		 \$ 12,024

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-General Fund**  
 July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Account as of 7/1/04 ..... \$ 54,185

Receipts:

Current Taxes .....	764,558	
Delinquent Taxes.....	33,277	
Interest on Delinquent Taxes.....	1,688	
Penalties on Delinquent Taxes .....	3,212	
Dog Licenses .....	66	
Marriage/Civil Union Licenses .....	30	
Building Permits.....	280	
Health Permits .....	1,030	
Zoning Permits .....	1,178	
Town Clerk Fees .....	3,169	
Interest Earned – GF MM .....	836	
Copier Use Fee.....	11	
Sheriff Traffic Fines .....	312	
Hold Harmless Monies .....	6,670	
Tax Stabilization Fund .....	9,325	
Miscellaneous (Equine burial, overweight permits, maps) .....	<u>143</u>	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS.....</b>		<b>\$ 825,785</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE.....</b>		<b>\$ 879,970</b>

Highway Property Tax Share .....	157,736	
School Tax Share .....	452,691	
Town Share-Act 60 School Tax .....	<u>60,057</u>	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$ 670,484</b>	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....</b>		<b>\$ 209,486</b>

Disbursements:

Dog licenses .....	15
Tax Collector fees .....	3,162
Town Clerk salary .....	3,347
Town Clerk fees .....	2,447
Town Treasurer's salary.....	4,066
Constable salary .....	400
Auditors' salary.....	126
Listers' salary/expenses.....	3,529
Mileage reimbursement .....	70
Road Liaison salary .....	300
Zoning Administrator salary .....	1,570
Zoning Administrator expenses .....	235
Health Officer salary .....	796

Health Officer expenses .....	67
Health Officer permits .....	80
Septic permits .....	620
Building permits .....	32
FICA Payroll expense .....	1,315
Medicare Payroll expense .....	308
Selectmen meetings .....	552
Records Restoration .....	1,910
Legal/Professional fees .....	440
Miscellaneous expenses .....	<u>46</u>
Sub-total .....	\$ 25,132

Cemetery Appropriation .....	2,500
BCA meetings/polls .....	1,382
Dry Hydrant .....	807
Town Hall Utilities .....	2,615
Office Supplies .....	1,855
Computer Software/Supplies .....	1,565
Town Hall Maintenance/Repairs .....	2,618
Postage .....	59
Solid Waste/Recycling .....	1,045
ZBA Planning/Zoning .....	681
Animal Control .....	75
BROC .....	137
RSVP .....	500
Arlington Recreation Park .....	2,352
S. W. Vermont Area on Aging .....	600
Arlington Nursing Service .....	1,200
Arlington Area Childcare .....	500
Training Town Officers .....	430
Arlington Rescue Squad .....	6,000
Geo. D. Aiken Resource Center .....	50
Martha Canfield Library .....	1,000
Center for Restorative Justice .....	400
Bennington County Conservation .....	250
Burdett Commons .....	350
Arlington Community House .....	500
Town Holiday Party .....	42
Green-Up Day .....	50
Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship .....	350
Fire Protection-Arlington Fire Department ..	10,982
Schoolhouse legal/utilities .....	<u>83</u>
Sub-total .....	\$ 40,978

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .. \$ 66,110

Balance to Account For..... \$ 143,376

Evidenced by:

Checking Account at FPNB ..... 973

Money Market Acct. #3601137 at FPNB.....	142,378	
Petty Cash On Hand .....	<u>25</u>	
	\$ 143,376	
TOTAL ALL BALANCES.....		\$ 143,376

**Town Hall Building Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....		\$ 1,844
Interest earned .....		<u>2</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....		\$ 1,846
Evidenced by Savings Acct #3601137 at FPNB .....		\$ 1,846

**Emergency Management Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....		\$ 1,161
Interest earned .....		<u>2</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....		\$ 1,163
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 302304 at FPNB .....		\$ 1,163

**Planning/Zoning Grant**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....		\$ 937
Interest earned .....		<u>1</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....		\$ 938
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3024795 at FPNB .....		\$ 938

**Property Reappraisal Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....		\$ 9,657
Receipts:		
VT State Monies .....	2,513	
Interest earned .....	<u>24</u>	
Total receipts .....		\$ 2,537

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 12,194
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Disbursements:

GIS Maps .....	\$ 1,500
Listers' Salaries .....	663
Microsolve (upgrade) .....	150
Computer (Compaq) .....	700
Laser Printer .....	400
NEMRC Software .....	<u>315</u>
Total disbursements .....	\$ 3,728

Total to account for .....		\$ 8,466
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....		\$ 8,466
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 131102933 at CB .....		\$ 8,466

### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 3,048
Interest earned .....	<u>14</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 3,062
Evidenced by CD # 184863601 at FPNB .....	\$ 3,062

### Holiday Party Fund

Balance in Fund 7/01/04 .....	\$ 72
2004 Holiday Party Expenses .....	<u>-42</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 30
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3040126 at FPNB .....	\$ 30

### Records Restoration Fund

Balance in Bank 7/1/04 .....	\$ 1,194
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$1,194
Evidenced by MM Acct # 3601137 at FPNB .....	\$1,194

### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Savings

Balance in Bank as of 7/1/04 .....	\$ 301
Receipts:	
Interest earned .....	1
Donation .....	31
04/05 Appropriation .....	<u>350</u>
	\$ 382
Total Funds available .....	\$ 683
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 683
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3043245 at FPNB .....	\$ 683

**Town Hall Building Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 1,844
Interest earned .....	2
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 1,846
Evidenced by Savings Acct #3601137 at FPNB .....	\$ 1,846

**Emergency Management Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 1,161
Interest earned .....	<u>2</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 1,163
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 302304 at FPNB .....	\$ 1,163

**Planning/Zoning Grant**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 937
Interest earned .....	<u>1</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 938
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3024795 at FPNB .....	\$ 938

**Property Reappraisal Fund**

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 9,657
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Receipts:

VT State Monies .....	2,513
Interest earned .....	<u>24</u>
Total receipts .....	\$ 2,537

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....	\$ 12,194
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Disbursements:

GIS Maps .....	\$ 1,500
Listers' Salaries .....	663
Microsolve (upgrade) .....	150
Computer (Compaq) .....	700
Laser Printer .....	400
NEMRC Software .....	<u>315</u>
Total disbursements .....	\$ 3,728

Total to account for .....	\$ 8,466
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 8,466
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 131102933 at CB .....	\$ 8,466



### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Fund

Balance in Fund 7/1/04 .....	\$ 3,048
Interest earned .....	<u>14</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 3,062
Evidenced by CD # 184863601 at FPNB .....	\$ 3,062

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Balance in Fund 7/01/04 .....	\$ 72
2004 Holiday Party Expenses .....	<u>-42</u>
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 30
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3040126 at FPNB ....	\$ 30

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Balance in Bank 7/1/04 .....	\$ 1,194
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$1,194
Evidenced by MM Acct # 3601137 at FPNB .....	\$1,194

### Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship Savings

Balance in Bank as of 7/1/04 .....	\$ 301
Receipts:	
Interest earned .....	1
Donation .....	31
04/05 Appropriation .....	<u>350</u>
	\$ 382
Total Funds available .....	\$ 683
Balance in Fund 12/31/04 .....	\$ 683
Evidenced by Savings Acct # 3043245 at FPNB ....	\$ 683

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Highway Fund**  
 July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Account as of 7/1/04 .....		\$ 161,494
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Property Tax Share .....	157,736	
VT State Highway Aid .....	31,481	
Highway Interest Earned .....	976	
Hold Harmless Monies .....	13,561	
Tax Stabilization Fund .....	18,933	
Miscellaneous (Workers' Comp. refund) .....	<u>25</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....		\$ 222,712
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 384,206
<b>Disbursements:</b>		
Medicare Payroll Expense .....	451	
FICA Payroll Expense .....	1,934	
Employee Health Insurance .....	10,378	
Retirement Program .....	1,248	
Workers' Comp. Insurance .....	167	
Unemployment Insurance .....	102	
Allocation to Road Equipment Fund .....	15,000	
Winter Maintenance Materials & Hauling ....	11,550	
Winter Maintenance Salaries .....	10,080	
Summer Maintenance Materials & Hauling .	592	
Mowing and Contract Labor .....	2,450	
Summer Maintenance Salaries .....	21,117	
Pavement Maintenance .....	4,640	
Bridge and Culvert Materials .....	4,025	
Equipment Repair/Maintenance .....	5,942	
Fuel & Oil .....	3,833	
Tools .....	170	
Supplies .....	389	
Mileage Reimbursement and Training .....	424	
Uniforms .....	600	
Garage Utilities .....	947	
Guard Rail Maintenance .....	8,075	
Road Crew Drug Testing .....	105	
Signs .....	<u>24</u>	
Total Disbursements.....		\$ 104,243
04/05 Paving Carryover .....	15,000	
04/05 Bridge & Culvert Carryover .....	168	
04/05 S. & W. Materials & Hauling Carryover	<u>20,472</u>	
		\$ 35,640
Balance to Account For.....		\$ 244,323

Evidenced by:		
Money Market–Chittenden Bank .....	243,280	
Checking Acct at FPNB .....	<u>1,043</u>	
TOTAL ALL BALANCES .....		\$ 244,323

**Paving Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/04 .....		\$ 18,519
Receipts:		
04/05 Carryover .....	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	
	<u>\$ 33,519</u>	
Balance in Fund as of 12/31/04 .....		\$ 33,519
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 33,519

**Bridge/Culvert Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/04 .....		\$ 9,100
Receipts:		
04/05 Carryover .....	<u>\$ 168</u>	
	<u>\$ 9,268</u>	
Balance in Fund as of 12/31/04 .....		\$ 9,268
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 9,268

**Materials and Hauling Fund**

Balance in Fund as of 7/1/04 .....		\$ 33,433
Receipts:		
04/05 Carryover .....	<u>\$ 20,472</u>	
	<u>\$ 53,905</u>	
Balance in Fund as of 12/31/04 .....		\$ 53,905
Evidenced by Highway MM Acct. at CB .....		\$ 53,905

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Road Equipment Fund**  
 July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank as of 7/1/04: .....	\$ 12,024
Receipts:	
2004-05 Appropriation .....	15,000
Interest Earned .....	<u>51</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS.....	\$ 15,051
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE.....	\$ 27,075
Evidenced by MM Acct # 139900170 at CB .....	\$27,075

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Cemetery Fund**  
 July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank as of 7/1/04: .....	\$ 8,730
Receipts:	
04/05 Appropriation .....	\$ 2,500
Donations: Sprague & Bentley (restricted) ..	300
Interest earned .....	<u>4</u>
Total receipts .....	\$ 2,804
Total Funds Available .....	\$ 11,534
Disbursements:	
Mowings, Fall & Spring Cleanup and Culvert repair .....	\$2,133
Balance to account for: .....	\$ 9,401
Evidenced by:	
CD at Bank North (Restricted) .....	\$ 7,763
MM Acct. #3600440 at FPNB (Useable Funds) .	<u>1,638</u>
	\$9,401

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Cash Receipts & Disbursements-Tax Stabilization/Emergency Fund July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/04 .....		\$ 93,447
Receipts:		
Interest Earned .....	322	
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS .....		\$ 93,769
Disbursements:		
04/05 voted to defray taxes (Highway Fund)	18,933	
04/05 voted to defray taxes (General Fund) ..	9,325	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS .....		\$ 28,258
Balance to Account For.....		\$ 65,511*
Evidenced by NOW Acct. #3900131 at FPNB .....		\$ 65,511
*Highway Fund Amount.....	\$ 36,813	
*General Fund Amount .....	\$ 28,698	

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Schoolhouse Lot Acquisition/Renovation Fund July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank as of 7/1/04 .....		\$ 7,698
Receipts:		
Book Sales (24 @ \$12).....	288	
Interest Earned.....	<u>38</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....		\$ 326
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....		\$ 8,024
Disbursements:		
Miscellaneous expenses for June 12 Open House	\$ 63	
Balance to account for: .....		\$ 7,961
Evidenced by NOW Acct: #04010065439 at Charter One .....		\$ 7,961

## TREASURER'S REPORT

William Maki Escrow

July 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/04 .....	\$ 2,033
Receipts:	
Interest Earned.....	\$ 3
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE .....	\$ 2,036
Evidenced by Savings Acct. #131103058 at CB .....	\$ 2,036

### SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS – TOWN 2004

Cemetery equipment .....	\$ 250
Constable safety items .....	400
Fire pumps and related equipment .....	3,300
Office equipment .....	20,000
Real estate .....	452,282
Vault .....	40,000
2001 International 4700 truck .....	42,900
2003 International 4400 truck .....	44,800
2 Flink sanders .....	1,400
1987 Caterpillar 120G grader .....	36,000
1996 Ford 575D backhoe .....	22,400
Miscellaneous shop equipment .....	1,500
Wing plow .....	5,500
Total estimated value of fixed assets .....	\$ 670,282

NOTE: Fixed assets are listed at cost, not purchase price, or at estimated value if actual cost is not available.

## TAX RATE FOR 2004-5

Town Administrative Expenses	\$ 58,231
General Services	\$ 20,489
Appropriations	<u>\$ 14,739</u>
Total General Fund Taxes	\$ 93,459
Less Hold Harmless Monies	\$ 6,670
Less Tax Stabilization Fund	<u>\$ 9,325</u>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND TAXES TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$ 77,464</b>
General Fund Tax rate per hundred = \$ .220	

Highway Fund Taxes	\$190,230
Less Hold Harmless Monies	13,561
Less Tax Stabilization	<u>\$ 18,933</u>
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY TAXES TO BE RAISED</b>	<b><u>\$157,736</u></b>
Highway tax rate per hundred = \$ .446	

<b>TOTAL TOWN TAXES to be raised</b>	<b>\$235,200</b>
Total Municipal tax rate per hundred = \$ .666	

Grand List for Municipal Computations:

\$353,355.00 X \$.666 (per hundred)

Municipal tax rate will raise = \$235,334.43  
Taxes voted to be raised = \$235,200.00

SCHOOL EXPENSES PER ACT 68

TOTAL voted March 2004 \$532,804

**TAX RATE SET BY STATE:**

HOMESTEADS (residents)	\$1.4959 (per hundred valuation)
NON-Residents	\$1.6994 (per hundred valuation)

**GRAND LIST FOR HOMESTEAD CALCULATIONS:** \$128,178.00  
\$128,178 X \$1.50 = \$192,267 School Taxes on homesteads

**GRAND LIST FOR NON-resident CALCULATIONS:** \$225,177.00  
\$225,177.00 X \$1.70 = \$382,800.90 School Taxes on non-residents

<b>TOTAL SCHOOL TAXES RAISED =</b>	<b>\$575,068.90</b>
<b>SCHOOL TAXES VOTED=</b>	<b>\$532,804.00</b>

**COMPARATIVE TAX RATES**

<b>2004-5</b>	<b>\$2.1619 Resident</b>
	<b>\$2.3654 Non-resident</b>
<b>2003-4</b>	<b>\$2.3800</b>
<b>2002-3</b>	<b>\$2.3800</b>
<b>2001-2</b>	<b>\$2.5700</b>

**STATEMENT OF TAXES RAISED**

End of Quarter Two – Year 2004-05

Total Appraisal of Town .....	\$ 35,335,500.00
Total Grand List .....	\$ 353,355.00
Total Taxes Billed – Due Oct. 1, 2004 .....	808,855.74
Form HS-101 Adjustments .....	<365.48>
HS-101 Filing Penalty .....	<u>37.25</u>
Total for Collection .....	\$ 808,527.51
Accounted for as Follows:	
Received in good time .....	759,402.82
Less overpayment refunds .....	<3,124.05>
Less overpayment adjustments .....	<.08>
Total Taxes received .....	\$ 756,278.69
Delinquent Taxes to Collector .....	\$ 52,248.82
Total Taxes accounted for .....	\$ 808,527.51

**COMPARISON OF REVENUES TO ESTIMATES**

Fiscal Year 2003-2004

Revenues budgeted .....	\$ 796,537
Revenues received .....	825,785
Variance .....	29,248
Expenditures budgeted .....	796,537
Expenditures paid .....	683,101
Variance .....	113,436
Excess of revenues over expenditures .....	142,684
Bank balance 7/01/04 .....	387,699
General & Highway Funds	
All Funds .....	\$ 513,879



SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET - GENERAL FUND						
	FY 03-04	FY 03-04	FY 04-05	FY 04-05	FY 04-05	FY 05-06
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Budgeted	6 Mo. Actual	Proposed
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE:</b>						
Town Clerk's Salary	\$ 695	\$ 6,695	\$ 6,829	\$ 3,347	\$ 3,347	\$ 7,034
Town Treasurer's Salary	8,131	8,131	8,294	4,066	4,066	8,543
Chair Selectboard Salary	2,400	1,600	2,448	-	-	-
Road Liaison	600	600	600	300	300	600
Selectmen's Meetings	1,500	984	1,500	552	552	1,500
Selectmen's Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Auditor's Salaries	900	810	900	126	126	900
Constable's Salary	800	800	800	400	400	800
Listers Salaries / Expenses	3,000	284	3,000	3,529	3,529	7,000
BCA Meetings/Appeals Hearings	1,500	1,089	2,100	1,382	1,382	2,100
ZBA/Planning	200	92	150	681	681	150
Zoning Administrator's Expenses	630	500	600	235	235	600
Zoning Administrator's Salary	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,570	1,570	1,700
Health Officer's Expenses	600	221	500	67	67	350
Health Officer's Salary	600	346	900	796	796	900
Officer Training	600	970	600	430	430	700
Payroll Tax Expenses	2,500	2,634	2,600	1,623	1,623	3,150
Town Hall Utilities	5,000	5,619	5,000	2,615	2,615	7,500
Town Hall Maintenance/Repairs	1,200	1,618	3,000	2,618	2,618	3,000
Schoolhouse Utilities	-	505	240	83	83	240
Schoolhouse Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-
County Tax	3,607	3,596	3,700	-	-	3,800
Office Equipment Maintenance	2,500	388	2,000	-	-	800
Office Supplies	2,300	1,420	2,000	1,855	1,855	1,500
Postage	500	769	670	59	59	745
Computer Software/Supplies	2,500	1,482	2,500	1,565	1,565	1,800
Record Restoration	2,000	1,500	2,000	1,910	1,910	2,000

Town Report Expense	1,600	1,393	1,700	-	1,700	-	1,700
Legal & Professional	1,200	1,327	1,800	440	1,800	440	2,000
Miscellaneous/Mileage	500	276	300	116	300	116	300
County Sheriff							2,900
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$ 48,563</b>	<b>\$ 47,151</b>	<b>\$ 58,231</b>	<b>\$ 30,365</b>	<b>\$ 58,231</b>	<b>\$ 30,365</b>	<b>\$ 64,312</b>
<b>GENERAL SERVICES:</b>							
Insurance & Bonding	\$ 1,692	\$ 1,692	\$ 1,700	\$ -	\$ 1,700	\$ -	\$ 1,800
Fire Protection	10,994	10,944	10,982	10,982	10,982	10,982	11,000
Cemetery	2,100	2,100	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800
Animal Control	500	24	500	75	500	75	250
Solid Waste Implementation Plan	-	31	500	-	500	-	500
ISWAP/Hazardous Waste/Recycling	3,040	2,102	2,320	1,045	2,320	1,045	2,171
VLCT Dues	487	990	487	-	487	-	1,000
BCRC	1,013	1,013	1,500	-	1,500	-	1,500
<b>TOTAL GENERAL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$ 19,826</b>	<b>\$ 18,896</b>	<b>\$ 20,489</b>	<b>\$ 14,602</b>	<b>\$ 20,489</b>	<b>\$ 14,602</b>	<b>\$ 21,021</b>
<b>APPROPRIATIONS:</b>							
Arlington Nursing Service	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
Children's Holiday Parties	-	-	-	42	-	42	125
Lothar Wuerslin Scholarship	350	-	-	350	-	350	350
Arlington Area Childcare	400	400	-	500	-	500	500
Benn./Rutland Opp. Council	137	137	137	137	137	137	137
RSVP	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
SW VT Area Agency on Aging	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
Martha Canfield Library	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Arlington Rescue Squad	3,500	3,500	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,500
P.A.V.E.	100	100	-	-	-	-	100
George Aiken Resource Center	50	50	50	50	50	50	100
Center for Independent Living	-	-	-	-	-	-	95
Arlington Recreation Park	2,352	2,352	2,352	2,352	2,352	2,352	2,352
Green-Up Day	50	50	50	50	50	50	50

	400	400	400	400	400
Center for Restorative Justice					400
Sandgate School House Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Benn. County Conservation District	250	250	250	250	300
Burdett Commons	300	300	350	350	350
Arlington Community House	250	250	500	500	500
Benn. Coalition for the Homeless	500	500	500	-	500
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 11,939</b>	<b>\$ 11,589</b>	<b>\$ 13,889</b>	<b>\$ 14,281</b>	<b>\$ 15,659</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 80,328</b>	<b>\$ 77,636</b>	<b>\$ 92,609</b>	<b>\$ 59,248</b>	<b>\$ 100,992</b>
Y/E 04 Surplus					\$ (17,990)
<b>AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES</b>	<b>\$ 80,328</b>		<b>\$ 92,609</b>		<b>\$ 83,002</b>

**SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND PROPOSED BUDGET - HIGHWAY FUND**

	FY 03-04		FY 03-04		FY 04-05		FY 04-05		FY 05-06	
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	6 Mo. Actual	Actual	Proposed	Actual	Proposed
<b>WINTER MAINTENANCE:</b>										
Materials & Hauling	\$ 32,000	\$ 21,751	\$ 32,000	\$ 11,550	\$ 32,000	\$ 11,550	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000
Salaries	31,080	34,628	32,640	10,080	32,640	10,080	34,292	34,292	34,292	34,292
Contract Plowing/Sanding	500	-	500	-	500	-	500	500	500	500
<b>TOTAL WINTER MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>\$ 63,580</b>	<b>\$ 56,379</b>	<b>\$ 65,140</b>	<b>\$ 21,630</b>	<b>\$ 65,140</b>	<b>\$ 21,630</b>	<b>\$ 66,792</b>	<b>\$ 66,792</b>	<b>\$ 66,792</b>	<b>\$ 66,792</b>
<b>SUMMER MAINTENANCE</b>										
Materials & Hauling	20,000	9,776	20,000	592	20,000	592	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Contract Labor	4,000	2,450	3,500	2,450	3,500	2,450	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
Pavement Maintenance	15,000	-	15,000	4,640	15,000	4,640	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Bridge/Culvert Program	20,000	19,832	20,000	4,025	20,000	4,025	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000

Payroll Tax Expense	5,434	5,176	5,500	2,385	5,900
Salaries	39,960	31,701	40,760	21,117	42,822
Retirement Contribution	2,841	2,645	2,900	1,248	3,085
Health Insurance	19,200	20,988	19,200	10,378	24,000
Unemployment Insurance	714	533	780	102	800
Workers' Comp. Insurance	4,322	5,503	4,600	167	5,504
Clothing Allowance	600	600	600	600	600
Vehicle/Liability/Garage Insurance	3,342	3,448	3,600	-	4,154
Equipment Repair/Maintenance-Off Site	7,000	9,256	8,000	5,942	9,500
Fuel & Oil	7,500	8,460	7,500	3,833	8,500
Garage Utilities	2,200	2,669	2,200	947	3,500
Tools	1,000	-	750	170	500
Supplies	7,000	1,265	5,000	389	2,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	250	24	250
Equipment Fund Appropriation	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Truck Payment	-	-	-	-	-
Garage Maintenance	300	265	400	-	400
Guard Rails	8,000	9,225	8,000	8,075	8,000
VT Truck and Bus Ass./Drug Testing	150	160	150	105	200
FEMA Mitigation Project/Rupert Rd.	4,628	5,850	-	-	-
Training/Mileage	300	725	400	424	400
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 252,071</b>	<b>\$ 211,906</b>	<b>\$ 249,230</b>	<b>\$ 104,243</b>	<b>\$ 259,507</b>
Less Anticipated State Aid	58,000		59,000		-
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 194,071</b>		<b>\$ 190,230</b>		<b>\$ 259,507</b>
Less FEMA Reimbursement Grants	-		-		-
<b>Y/E 04 surplus</b>					<b>(41,455)</b>
<b>AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXES</b>	<b>\$ 194,071</b>		<b>\$ 190,230</b>		<b>\$ 218,052</b>

## SELECTBOARD COMMENTS

Steve Saltonstall, Selectboard Chair

The members of the Selectboard have worked together in a relaxed and collegial way this year. We've been fortunate to have members with different skills. Richard Zoppel is a whiz at budgets and computer spreadsheets. Chris Barlow has dutifully filled out the road and other payment orders, drafted the minutes of meetings, and posted warnings when necessary. Roy Gattlin has done his usual fine job of coordinating road issues with Ed Pike. Junior Bentley is our institutional memory and an inspiring example of wisdom, good humor and personal courage.

Consideration of ordinances took up much of the Board's time. An ordinance that would have regulated ATV use, primarily by limiting hours of operation to 37 hours per week with "quiet times" in the early mornings and evenings, passed the Board 4-0 with one abstention, but was resoundingly rejected by the voters, 52-10. A revised sewage disposal ordinance, prepared by our Zoning Administrator Bill Jakubowski and approved unanimously by the Board, took effect without any call for a special town meeting. At this writing, the Board is considering changes to our zoning ordinance proposed by the Planning Commission.

The Board also considered the controversial issue of whether to hire the Bennington County Sheriff's Department for five hours per week to patrol our roads and nab speeders. Many Sandgaters, particularly those who own horses and other domestic animals, feel that speeding has become a significant safety hazard in town and that action is urgently needed. However, there was opposition to the presence of the County Sheriff's from those who feel that the Town Constable rather than an outside agency should deal with speeders, or who believe that the current 35 m.p.h. speed limit is unrealistically low. The Board ultimately decided to table the issue until town meeting, when everyone can vote on it. There is a line item in the coming year's budget that would pay for County Sheriff patrols. The voters may decide to keep the appropriation in the budget or strike it, at their pleasure.

The Board has done its best to hold the line on the budget this year. In drafting the road budget, we have made the conservative (and hopefully inaccurate) assumption that there will be no state highway aid this year. Many of the budget increases are due to rises in energy costs and other items over which we have no control. The increase in salaries for Town Listers is necessary because of a state-mandated reappraisal of all real property in town that will require a lot of extra work by them. The Board wishes to thank Assistant Treasurer Cindy Pike, who discovered and brought to our attention a surplus of almost \$120,000.00 in the town accounts. On Cindy's recommendation, we have allocated half of that surplus to immediate tax relief for the coming year, and the remainder to the tax stabilization fund. If the voters pass the Budget as written, we will have a little less than \$125,000.00 in the tax stabilization fund.

Finally, the members of the Selectboard wish to extend their thanks to Jim Link and Kathy Wagner for their dedicated service on the Selectboard and their many accomplishments in that capacity. Jim dealt very skillfully with town floods, budget issues, and our dog ordinance, and Kathy was key to the acquisition and renovation of the town schoolhouse property.

**ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT 2004**  
Ed Pike, Road Foreman

This past year has been a busy year as usual. We continued to replace old posts and cables with steel guardrails this summer. This project will be continuing over several years, and the initial emphasis will be directed toward the school bus route. The bridge on Lincoln Lane was redecked in accordance to VTrans recommendations.

We will be applying for repavement funds this summer, and hope our project will be approved. It is unsure if our application will be approved because Sandgate has been allotted considerable funds over the last several years at the expense of other district towns.

Many thanks are in order for your support and understanding of our work and various conditions that arise. We would appreciate that motorists not tail-gate during plowing operations, and that they also reduce their speed during hazardous road conditions. We are all seeing excessive speed on our roads throughout the year.

## **TOWN CLERK'S COMMENTS 2004**

Ann B. Wuerslin, Sandgate Town Clerk

The Board of Civil Authority had a busy year in 2004, as there were three elections to monitor -- the March Preferential Presidential Primary plus fall Federal and State elections. Members of the Board were also busy maintaining the validity of our checklist which grew in numbers from 247 before town meeting to 274 by the time of the elections in November. My thanks to all who diligently manned the polls and counted votes for our regular town meeting, two special town meetings, and the elections.

We got back the land volume sent out for restoration this year, plus two vital records books. The price per land volume is increasing yearly, and most volumes left to restore cost about \$1,000 each. I usually try and send volumes out during December, January and February, hoping they will get returned before late summer when usage is highest. Often a volume sent out under one budget year, does not get returned until the following budget year. That is why when there is money left over, it should be carried into the next year in the restoration category instead of disappearing into the General Fund.

As for Town Hall, we could use some paint on the entryway and the box built so UPS can safely leave packages when the office is not open. I would also like to mention that the town's bulletin boards need some upkeep. Nothing has been done to them since they were built, and they do need some tender, loving care this year.

Please don't forget to license your dogs. All dogs must be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Remember there are late charges if animals are not licensed by that date. The State has increased their charges on dogs this year from the usual \$1 per animal to \$3. Usually the Health Officer holds a rabies clinic, so look for signs indicating the date.

We have many new residents in our town, so please greet them and make them feel welcome in our midst. The holiday party was very enjoyable and we were able to see and visit with the next generation of our school children.

It has been good working with you this year, and if there is any way I can be of help to you, please don't hesitate to call me, either at the office: 375-9075 or at home: 375-2298, and I will do what I can.

## 2004 CHANGES TO THE VOTER CHECKLIST

### Voters Added

Ackert Tammy L.  
Allison Charlene  
Arrington Leslie S.  
Arrington, Nicole M.  
Barlow Rachel M.  
Boehlert Jeffrey D.  
Boehlert Judy P.  
Carrano Joseph  
Cloud Matthew B.  
Colehamer Nicholas J  
Dains Jason E.  
Dezalia Steven J.  
Fagan Marcia H.  
Fitzgerald Konrad W.  
Froment Carol A  
Froment Leo A.  
Gilbert Arthur J.  
Goebel Diana L.  
Grant Lynn M.  
Harrington Amanda L  
Harrington Gary F.  
Jeffrey Morgan L.  
Jennings Debbie Sue  
Joynes Alane W.  
Keel David J.  
Kulmane Annemarie E.  
Lampron (Colehamer)  
Christopher C.  
Marcisz Daija S.  
May James S.  
Mazzola Michael A  
Morgan Catherine T.  
Morgan Jeffrey L.

Potozney Carol M  
Potozney Robert F  
Richheimer Bryan K  
Saint Germain Bruce L.  
Schmidt Chad  
Smith James E.  
Tendrup Karen  
Tschorn Kristin M.  
Tschorn Rachelle N.  
Van Schoick Andrew E.  
Van Schoick Gretchen L,  
Vaughn-Tiffit Carley A  
Zak John P.

### Voters Removed

Brown, William L.  
Dahm, Deborah  
Hulett, Sharon G.  
Hunt, Georgianna  
McBride, Roy  
Messier, Nancy W.  
O'Brian, Danford L.  
O'Brian, Deborah A.  
Stroffoleno, June N.  
Wagner, Kathleen F.



**ANIMAL LICENSES**  
Ann Wuerslin, Town Clerk

Dogs registered January 1-December 31, 2004

Unspayed/Unneutered Animals	30 @ \$10.00	\$300.00
Spayed/Neutered Animals	42 @ \$ 7.00	\$294.00
Late Animals	8 @ \$14.00	\$112.00
Late Animals	9 @ \$11.00	\$ 99.00
Other	5 @ \$ 4.00	<u>\$ 20.00</u>
Total received from dog licenses		\$825.00
Less Town Clerk's fees 94 x \$2.00		<u>\$188.00</u>
Gross Revenue for Town		\$637.00
Less \$1 per dog forwarded to State		<u>\$ 94.00</u>
Net Revenue for Town		\$543.00

**SCHEDULE OF ANIMAL LICENSES AND FEES**

"Title 20, Section 3581(c)(1) is amended to read: A mandatory license fee surcharge of \$2.00 per license shall be collected by each town for the purpose of funding the dog, cat and wolf-hybrid spaying and neutering program established in subchapter 6 of chapter 193 of this title."

"Title 20, Section 3581 (f): In addition to the license fees assessed in subsections (a) and (c) of this section and section 3583 of this title, municipal clerks shall assess a \$1.00 fee for each license sold

This means the State will be sent \$3.00 per license instead of the \$1.00 prior to this year. The following reflects changes in fees for all animal licenses to be issued this year:

	<u>Before April 1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>After April 1<sup>st</sup></u>
Neutered/spayed dogs etc.	\$ 9.00	\$13.00
Unaltered dogs etc.	\$11.00	\$17.00

NOTE: If you become an owner/keeper of a dog that is over six months old after April 1<sup>st</sup>, you have 30 days to license the animal. All unlicensed dogs should be reported to the Town Clerk. Sandgate has an Animal Control Ordinance as of 1998. Copies are available in the Town offices.

**A PERSON WHO FAILS TO LICENSE A DOG OR WOLF-HYBRID IN THE REQUIRED MANNER SHALL BE FINED UP TO \$500 (20:3550) The Rabies Control Hotline number is 1-800-4-Rabies.**

**RABIES VACCINATION LAW CHANGED**

**All dogs etc over three months of age shall be vaccinated against rabies.**

**Initial vaccination valid for 12 months.**

**Within 9-12 months must receive a booster vaccination**

**All subsequent vaccinations valid for 36 months**

**20 v.s.a. section 3581 ©**

**SANDGATE LAND TRANSFERS  
JANUARY 1, 2004-DECEMBER 31, 2004**

- John Adams to Frank McDonald, Jr.  
of Centerville MA  
Lelia Kauffman to M.Earl Tudor  
of Sandgate VT  
Stella Cerretani to Peggy Scianna Revocable Trust  
of Trumbull, CT  
Town of Sandgate to Richard Mears  
of Decatur, GA  
Richard Mears to Town of Sandgate  
of Sandgate VT  
Carol Stroffoleno to Kessler/Stuartship  
of Sandgate VT  
Mary Stroffoleno to Carol Stroffoleno  
of Arlington VT  
Carol Stroffoleno to James Stroffoleno  
of Manchester VT  
Elaine Smith to Cynthia Agati  
of Sherman CT  
Deborah Dahm to Donald Goodell  
of Manchester Ctr, VT  
Green River Inn, Inc. to Robert & Carol Potozney  
of New Jersey  
Darlene Yarter to Raymond Yarter et al  
of Salem NY  
William Knox to GMAC Mortgage Corp.  
of Horsham, PA.  
GMAC Mortgage to Federal Home Loan  
of Vienna, VA  
Wm & Holly Freeman, Jr. to Wm Freeman, Jr.  
of Shaftsbury VT  
Helen Melvin Estate to Robert Melvin  
of Marshfield, MA  
David Prescott to James Howenstein  
of Saratoga Springs NY  
Kathleen Wagner to Diane Jaffee and David O'Brien  
of New York, NY  
Elizabeth Green to Abigail Romeo  
of Roosevelt, NJ  
Kenneth Selig et al to Geanna Trombley et al  
of Ct and Idaho  
Vicki McBride to Susan Constable  
of Lake Mary, Fl.

Danford O'Brian to Vincent & Sharon Lapenta  
of Flushing, NY  
Mary Christofaro to Robert & Paulyna Wise  
of Christmas, Florida  
Edmund & Carol Shedd, Jr. to Jean Eisenhart  
of Sandgate VT  
Raymond & Mary Richard to Kevin Nunes  
of Orleans, MA  
Susan Constable to Francis Constable et al  
of Lake Mary, Florida  
Donald Trachte Sr. to Marjorie Rosenberg et al  
of Locust Valley NY  
Leska, Paul & Sharon to Leska, Paul  
of Eden Prairie, MN  
Christopher & Adrienne Kimball to Harold Farmer  
of Brookfield, CT  
Robert & Elaine Taten to Jack & Cynthia Agati  
of Sherman, CT

## **LISTERS' REPORT**

Jane Gattlin, Julian Sheres, Jeanne Zoppel

Sandgate's 2004 Grand list total was 352 parcels totaling \$35,335,500 after Grievance Day. There were no appeals to the BCA.

The Department of Taxes Equalization Study has the Coefficient of Dispersion at 21.20%. This is the difference between the sales price and the listed value. The Common Level of Appraisal is 74.60%; this is the % of Fair Market Value the town is listed at according to the study. We were ordered to send a reappraisal plan to the state. This was done with the help of Christie Wright our district advisor. The state approved our plan to have a reappraisal done for 2006.

Once again residents will need to file a homestead declaration with the state for Act 68. There are tax penalties for not filing correctly.

The Listers will be sending out postcards with the date we will be in your area to photograph and update our data base.

## **DRY FIRE HYDRANT UPDATE**

After testing by the Rupert Fire Department in 2005, Sandgate will have a new dry hydrant located on the Rupert Road near the junction with West Road.

Thanks to George D. Aiken Conservation District for their continuing support. And extra thanks to Douglas and Beverly Hay for the use of their pond for the Rupert Road site.

Any land owners putting in a pond who would be willing to be considered for a dry hydrant, please let the Town Clerk know.

## **CEMETERY COMMISSION REPORT**

Leroy Gattlin, Julie Robertson, Sonja Jaffee

The Cemetery Commission has been dealt another crushing blow by the armed services call up of Julie Robertson to active duty to the Iraq area. Julie is a dedicated soldier, and we appreciate her sacrifices being made as a mother with minor children left home in her absence. We pray for her safe return to her family and to our town.

The past year has been rather uneventful regarding cemetery upgrading. Due to the increase in oil prices, costs have accelerated. Nathan Bachiochi has continued his good cemetery care. We hope additional funds to meet these increased needs will be forthcoming. Private contributions to the upkeep of our cemeteries are always welcome.

A family name identification stone is to be placed in the old cemetery on Center Hill by the Bentley of Billings, MT.

The cemetery plaque was damaged by the elements this past year. Willy Skidmore repaired it, and Jane Gattlin will repaint it to its original beauty as done by artist Karl Stuecklen.

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Jean Eisenhart, Chair

The Conservation Commission again helped coordinate Green Up Day on May 1<sup>st</sup>. A tremendous amount of trash was collected.

We met in October to discuss a proposal by Shelly Stiles of the Bennington Conservation District to try to eradicate Japanese Knotweed. This is an alien that is beginning to appear in Bennington County and can perhaps be stopped. Ms. Stiles will come in the spring and present a public program on her proposal.

## GREEN MOUNTAIN PASSPORT

Green Mountain Passport is a discount program for seniors and veterans with disabilities provided for by Vermont Agency of Human Services. The Passport Program began in 1973 by enactment of the General Assembly.

Holders are eligible for reduced prices on goods and services from hundreds of Vermont's private businesses and for free admission to Vermont state parks, museums, and events which are fully State sponsored.

To be eligible for a passport, a person must be:

- A resident of Vermont and
- 62 years of age or more or
- Totally disabled as a result of disease or injury suffered while serving in the armed forces or
- A resident of the Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington.

To receive a Green Mountain Passport, just fill out an application at your Town Clerk's Office and pay a \$2.00 fee.

Ann B. Wuerslin, Sandgate Town Clerk

## FOREST FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

Lynn Fielding

There were no forest fires in Sandgate this year. The combination and cooperation of the Sandgate residents and being a wet year gave the town no fires. Please continue to obtain your permits from your wardens.

Your wardens issued 36 burning permits this year (2004). Thank you for your support.

Thank you.

Lynn Fielding – 375-2211  
Jim Gunn – 375-9481

PLANNING COMMISSION and ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
ANNUAL REPORT

Members: Suzanne dePeyster; Jean Eisenhart; Brad Kessler; Judith Tudor;  
Harry Rich, Chair.

The Sandgate proposed Bylaws revisions were completed and presented to the Select Board .The major proposed revisions are Section 6.3 (Forest 2 Conditional Use) and Section 7.8 (pertaining to Cell Towers). Jim Henderson of Bennington County Regional Commission provided updated and improved maps.

The recently received new Bylaws Amendments required by the Vermont State Legislature, Act 115 (Chapter 117) are being studied and worked on with the assistance of BCRC. This law, passed in July 2004, requires the first phase of these Amendments to become part of state-wide town Bylaws no later than September, 2005.

Several Board members attended training workshops sponsored by the U. of Vermont Extension Service and Vermont League of Towns and Cities.

During the past year action was taken on a variety of Board business including: site visits; applications for variances; hearings; conditional use permits; a two-lot subdivision.

After nine years of service to the town as Planning and Zoning Chairperson, Jean Eisenhart has resigned. The Board is grateful that Jean has agreed to continue as a member.

The Board would like to thank William Jakubowski, Sandgate Zoning Administrator, for his valuable continuing contributions as consultant.

## LOTHAR WUERSLIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Lothar Wuerslin Memorial Scholarship committee was appointed by the Sandgate Board of Selectmen on November 11, 1998. Members are: Donald Brown, Karl Stuecklen, Ann Wuerslin, Jeanne Zoppel, and Jean Eisenhart, Chair. The scholarships are to be awarded to support the study and practice of the arts by any Sandgate resident. The arts means creative endeavors including, but not limited to: visual arts, performing arts, and literature. The number and amount of the awards will vary depending on funds available.

Two scholarships were awarded this year. Konrad Fitzgerald received \$250 to be used toward attending Columbia College of Chicago. He will be majoring in documentary film making. Sean Raphael also received \$250. He studied with local musician Barry Hyman, attending a "weeklong intensive" course on How to Organize a Band.

Application requirements are as follows:

1. You must be a Sandgate resident,
2. Awards are for one year only, amount to be determined by the Award Committee,
3. Payment will be sent directly to the chosen institution or supplier of services,
4. Applications must be submitted by May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year,
5. A brief interview may be required,
6. Your application must include an essay of 500 words or less stating why you want the award,
7. People awarded money from the fund will be asked to demonstrate the money was used for the purpose stated in the application,
8. There is no discrimination by age,
9. Awards will be made by June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year,
10. Applications are available from the Town Clerk.



## MARTHA CANFIELD LIBRARY

Frederick Baum, President

Phyllis Skidmore, Librarian

### Bargains galore at the Library!

Every person in Sandgate contributes \$2.83 in tax support to the Library each year. For this sum, less than the cost of renting one new movie for one night, everyone in town has access to all these bargains all year long:

- Over 23,000 books for all ages.
- The Russell Vermontiana Collection of historical and genealogical information.
- Public access computers and the Internet, and staff to assist with your searches.
- The Vermont Online Library.
- Over 1100 videos and DVDs, including educational, classic films, and feature films.
- Over 900 audiobooks on tape or CD.
- Over 700 music CDs and tapes.
- Reference service.
- Reader's advisory.
- Interlibrary loan service from over 200 Vermont libraries, including colleges and universities.
- Special programs for all ages.
- Newspapers and magazines.

This year the school and the Library collaborated on hosting several programs for Vermont Reads 2004, a state-wide one-book reading and discussion program sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council. The book chosen this year was "First They Killed My Father: a Daughter of Cambodia Remembers" by Loung Ung. One of our most successful programs was an exhibit in the library of art created by AMHS students and faculty relating to the book. Students also prepared Cambodian food that was served at the opening reception. Everyone enjoyed sampling Grilled Beef with Dipping Sauce, Persian Rice, Cucumber Salad, and more.

The library would like to thank the town of Sandgate for its financial support in 2004. These bargains would not be possible without your help, along with the support from donations, interest on our endowment, book sales, and a bridge tournament, especially in these days of rising costs for operating the building and the increases in book prices.

The Board looks forward to the continuing support of the town of Sandgate.

Hours: Tues. 9-5, 6:30-8 ; Wed. 9-5;  
Thurs. 9-5, 6:30-8; Fri. 2-5; Sat. 10-3

Russell Vermontiana Collection: Tuesday only, 9-5, or by appointment with curator Bill Budde at 375-6153 or 375-9296

## **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Bennington County**

Patricia M. Palencsar, Director

The goal of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) remains one of "reinvesting the talents and skills of a lifetime" in our communities. RSVP initiates and develops programs for seniors who wish to volunteer and provides support to volunteers in the form of excess liability insurance, training, transportation, and recognition.

There are currently 42 Arlington/Sandgate area residents actively serving as RSVP volunteers in nonprofit agencies and public institutions throughout Bennington County. During this past fiscal year, the town of Arlington received a total of 2,708 hours of service from RSVP volunteers who served at The Senior Nutrition Program, the library, elementary school and high school. Also, in 2004 RSVP volunteers continued The RSVP Bonebuilders Program (an exercise program to delay the effects of/prevent osteoporosis) at Bailey Hall. Using a modest figure of \$10.00 per hour, this service represents a total value of \$27,080 returned to the Arlington/Sandgate community.

RSVP volunteers also serve in a variety of other ways that benefit citizens in communities throughout the county. Examples, which represent the remaining hours, include: "friendly visiting" with residents in nursing homes; serving as "Gray Ladies," staffing blood mobiles; coordinating volunteer recognition events, serving in an advisory capacity to the RSVP director and directors of other non-profit organizations, participating in fund raising events; and delivering meals on wheels, knitting or crocheting lap robes for nursing home residents or hats and mittens for children in area daycare centers, and assembling mailings for agencies with a critical to get their service message out to the community.

## ARLINGTON AREA CHILDCARE

2003-2004 was our second year in our new building. The Board and staff have accomplished their goal of providing early care and education for 115-132 children and their families each year. 7 of these children were from the town of Sandgate, including children who came to our Summer Camp Adventure.

Services Happy Days provides include a teacher and assistant in each classroom, an Early Interventionist, a Family Service Worker doing nutrition activities and home visits, an Occupational therapist once/week, a Speech and Language therapist, a cook and kitchen serving three meals a day, and parent education and literacy activities.

Happy Days is committed to engaging in community collaboration that will allow us to provide the above services and even more. Happy Days continues its formal collaborative with Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union, Head Start, and the Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union. An expansion of our collaborative this year allowed us to participate in a Math Outreach program with the two Kindergarten teachers at Fisher School. For six weeks preschoolers visited the Kindergarten rooms and did math activities with the teachers. Later they repeated these activities in their preschool classrooms. Together our staff and our collaborative staff are working to prepare children for school and life!

Building goals were also achieved this year. Our driveway and sidewalk were paved and required screening trees were planted. Local businesses also continued to support our program with donations and we thank them for their commitment to us.

Our Board and twenty staff look forward to a new year and new challenges. Our goals for year 2004-05 include: national and state accreditation, weekly planning time for teachers, an updated teacher evaluation and salary system, staff development, replacing a large grant which ends this year and starting a Parent Association.

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

The George D. Aiken Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) celebrated 40 years of "making things happen" for towns with natural resource conservation and rural development projects this past year. We are here to serve your community. We coordinate and facilitate assistance to town governments, school districts, fire departments watershed groups and nonprofit organizations in the six southern Vermont counties. By bringing together help from our extensive network of resources, we can focus technical and financial resources on your specific needs. We get technical assistance and staff help through the U. S. Department of Agriculture but private sources make up most of our budget. The Council is a self-supporting 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Highlights of our work in the six counties in 2004 include:

- 13 towns received a total of \$68,685 to improve water quality and upgrade backroads through our better backroads grants.
- We are developing complete water supply plans identifying all potential useable water sources for fire fighting for three towns.
- 26 towns received funding and engineering assistance to design and install dry hydrants as a source of water to fight fires.
- We provided \$60,000 in grants and \$119,000 in loans to support agritourism on farms.
- One town received assistance from a consultant to help them prepare for and go through 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 serve as the fiscal agent for the White River Partnership, Orange County Headwaters project 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 and two projects helping to connect residents with locally grown food. In Sandgate we provided \$1,000 for the installation of a dry fire hydrant. We currently have funding available for low interest loans (3.0 - 5.0%) to develop agritourism ventures on farms. Do you have a project or program that could use some assistance to "make it happen"? Over the years the George D. Aiken RC&D Council has helped many communities and organization on a variety of projects. We work on a request basis, so the first step is up to you, giving us a call. For information and free consultation call Kenneth Hafner our RC&D Coordinator at (802) 728-9526 or email: [kenneth.hafner@vt.usda.gov](mailto:kenneth.hafner@vt.usda.gov).

## **BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Shelly Stiles, District Manager

The mission of the Bennington County Conservation District is to promote rural livelihoods and protect natural resources in southwestern Vermont. This year we focused on rivers, plant communities, environmental education, and publicizing and promoting our agricultural past and present. Projects included a Batten Kill restoration project in Manchester; conclusion of a Walloomsac watershed stream stability assessment in Bennington; participating in planning and finding funding for a White Creek subwatershed assessment in the towns of Rupert and Sandgate, VT and Salem, NY; helping initiate a Roaring Branch river corridor protection project with the US Army Corps of Engineers in Bennington; a summer-long weekly series on invasive plants in the *Bennington Banner*; sponsoring an Envirothon team from Burr & Burton Academy in Manchester; continuing the Mettawee Community School water monitoring project for fifth and sixth graders; working with a new dairy goat operation and an existing diversified farm to secure a business plan and improve marketing products; and hosting "Yarns from Farms and Forests," a series of four storytelling evenings held around the county.

BCCD is administered by a five-person board of supervisors from five county towns. It employs one permanent part-time staff person and works closely with and provides office space for the USDA-NRCS district conservationist. Except for an annual appropriation from the state (which in FY 2004 totaled \$8925), the district's budget depends entirely on proceeds from an annual tree sale, grants, donations, and support from county communities.

## **SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING**

The Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging provided the following services in the town of Sandgate during the past year:

### ***Senior Meals:***

Through contract, the Council, helped make available meals that were prepared and could be delivered to the homes of older persons in your community. This service is often referred to as "Meals on Wheels". We also provided "Blizzard Bags" containing "shelf-stable" meals to Meals on Wheels participants and other isolated elders, for use in a weather related or other emergency situation. 15 Sandgate elders participated at one or more of the luncheon sites available in our region, enjoying 397 meals.

### ***Case Management Assistance:***

Several elders in your community received help from SVCOA Case Management staff. Case Managers provided help with applications and problem solving around programs such as Fuel Assistance, SSI, Medicaid, Food Stamps, etc. Case Managers also helped frail elders facing long term care placement, helping those who wanted to remain independent connect with available in home assistance, including Medicaid Waiver support for those who were eligible.

### ***Other:***

In addition, the Council provided: 1) Telephone assistance through our "Senior HelpLine" (786-5991 or 1-800-642-5119). The HelpLine provided easy phone access to elders and others in need of information about programs and supports available to older persons; 2) Health benefit counseling information and form filing assistance through our SHIP Program; 3) Legal service assistance through a contract with the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Written information about elder issues via the weekly "Elder Connection" column appearing weekly in the Bennington Banner; 5) Nutrition education and counseling

**GREEN UP VERMONT!**  
**GREEN UP DAY, MAY 7, 2005 - 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!**

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

Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501© (3) organization that works to enhance our state's natural landscape and waterways and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the benefits of a litter free environment

Well over 15,000 Vermonters participated in Green Up Day 2004, using over 35,000 Green Up bags, collecting hundreds of tons of trash, piles of mixed metals and tires. Green Up Vermont arranged widespread promotional support in excess of \$25,000.

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

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

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

[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org) [greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org)

## TOWN REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Rep. Lawrence E. Molloy

The legislative session of the Vermont State Legislature convened on January 5, 2005. I will be serving as ranking member on the Institution's Committee. It is our Responsibility to put together the capital budget for the year, appropriating and allocating funds for various purposes in capital construction. We will also be working on problems within the correctional system throughout the state.

This year the legislature will be aggressively looking at ways to lower health care costs, and trying to stabilize the cost of education so that we can lower property tax throughout the state.

I will continue to fight for issues and concerns affecting my district and can be reached in Montpelier at: 1-800-322-5616 or at home at 802-375-2300. My e-mail address is: lbmolloy@sover.net. I welcome hearing from my constituents in Arlington, Sandgate, Sunderland and West Rupert.

### **BENNINGTON COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS, INC.**

Kendy Skidmore, Executive Director

The Bennington Coalition for the Homeless gratefully acknowledges the town's appropriation in support of the 6 Bank Street Shelter for Families in Transition.

The 6 Bank Street Shelter is the only shelter in Bennington County and provides transitional shelter for families that are homeless. A family's average stay is 3 months and during that time they participate in programs designed to move them toward self-sufficiency. Last year we served 22 families consisting of 70 individuals (33 adults, 37 kids). Families participated in parent education groups, budget counseling, work search and/or education programs, and cooking and nutrition education classes. The children also participated in a program introducing them to arts and entertainment, building self-esteem, skill building and establishing healthy relationships. We continue to visit them through an aftercare program, which has helped 100% of those families maintain their housing.

The Bennington Coalition for the Homeless has also purchased a 4-unit apartment building that is used for long-term transitional housing for families completing the program at 6 Bank Street who cannot find affordable housing and still need continued supports. One unit is designated for Youth Housing, serving up to 4 youths. The Youth Housing is a collaboration between BCH, Dept. of Children & Families, BROCC, & UCS Transitional Living Program. In addition, we continue to research possibilities for sheltering homeless individuals.



## CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Marianne Kennedy Esq., Executive Director

In 1979 Court Diversion began as a program that offered a community's response to juvenile offenses as an alternative to the formal court procedure. The Diversion Review Board, a volunteer board of community citizens, strives to respond to the needs of the victim by mandating apologies and restitution, to the community by requiring public service and donations, and to the offender by demanding participation in programs that may change behavior such as job training, parenting skills, GED tutoring, alcohol & other drug screening, therapy, etc.

Over the years this opportunity has been expanded to include adults; other programs have been added as well. Today Court Diversion is an agency sponsoring several grant-funded programs; Juvenile Restorative Probation Program, and Community Support and Supervision Program (Street Checkers) which provide support and supervision to at-risk adolescents, as well as traditional Diversion. Additionally, in July 2000 the Teen Alcohol Safety Program (TASP) was established in response to a change in legislation that decriminalizes first-offense Possession of Malt Beverage charges. The Court Diversion Program was designated as the administrator of TASP by the State. Now a civil ticket, the legislature mandated that every young person be assessed and treated, if necessary, for their alcohol use. We believe prevention, education, and treatment, as well as enforcement, will help to stem the tide of underage alcohol consumption.

1% of Court Diversion referrals and 1% of TASP referrals are Sandgate residents. 91% of all referrals are under the age of 21. 86% of Diversion participants successfully completed the requirements of their Diversion contract. Over 90% of those who complete their requirements do not commit further criminal acts. In addition, Court Diversion participants have returned over \$78,000 in restitution and donations to their communities and performed over 33,000 hours of public service work. The Senior Meals Program, American Red Cross, Bennington Project Independence, Second Chance Animal Shelter, Equinox Terrace, Riley Rink and Manchester Parks and Recreation are some of the organizations or projects that have benefited from Diversion clients' community service work or charitable donations.

Although the Juvenile Restorative Probation Program and the Community Support and Supervision Program (Street Checkers) are self-sustaining through grants from the Agency of Human Services, the Court Diversion Program and Teen Alcohol Safety Program must rely on local fundraising to supplement the appropriation from the legislature and client fees.

We thank the voters of Sandgate for their support and look forward to continuing our commitment to provide programs that respond to the needs of the victim, the community and the offender.

## **ARLINGTON RECREATIONAL & PARK COMMITTEE, INC.**

We feel much was accomplished in the 2004 season. Thanks to generous donors and grants, ice rink renovation funding is complete. We expect to complete the skating rink in the spring and are continuing fundraising to add a more year-round area for roller blade/skateboard use. A playground committee has studied the playground facilities and is developing and funding means to improve the equipment and developing a better and safe toddler's play area. Grants have been requested.

New park equipment was acquired to eliminate the need for costly annual repairs. The over-seeder and new mower tractor will improve maintenance of the grasses and save time and money.

The Park Supervisor has completed State certification in Integrated Pest Management, and installed a weather station to track weather/moisture conditions for grass seeding with maximum germination and economy.

Each expansion and improvement adds costs. As we continue to improve the park and add new facilities, we must budget for adequate staffing and maintenance. For example, the popular and much used walking path was resurfaced with mulch, which added material and labor costs. Grants and major donations have become significant and necessary revenue sources for major improvements and new facilities. Unfortunately, few grants are available that provide for operating expenses and maintenance.

## **ARLINGTON COMMUNITY CLUB**

The Arlington Community Club, Inc. currently offers rooms for use to private individuals and non-profit organizations. In addition to housing the Martha Canfield Library Book Sale, these rooms are used by such groups as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Arlington Garden Club, the Shriners, and the Arlington Area Nursing Association. While use fees are not charged, donations are encouraged.

We are currently exploring other possible uses for our historic building; one possibility would be to house an Arlington Historical Society. We are always looking for new members. Please contact Ken Nicholson, President, if you are interested in joining us.

## **BURDETT COMMONS**

Jim Sullivan President

Burdett Commons has served as an active community center for residents of Arlington, Sunderland, and Sandgate since its opening in 1999. Our conveniently located and comfortable building has provided meeting space for local groups, has served as a youth center, and has hosted numerous programs and special activities that benefit a wide range of residents. A part-time director actively works with organizations and youth groups to bring a range of important programs to the community. Among those programs are:

- Full Circle Youth Program: activities and discussions designed to help prevent risky behavior among area youth.
- Youth Night: twice monthly social gatherings for area youth in a supervised and safe setting featuring music, movies, games, and fun.
- Programs: gatherings for youth during vacation times have included activities such as pottery painting, pizza and movie day, sleigh rides.
- Holiday Celebrations: music, fun activities, and friendship for all ages at Christmas, Easter, Halloween, and other holidays.
- Mom to Mom Program: four groups offering information and support for mothers.
- SASSIES (Sandgate, Arlington, Sunderland Seniors) coffee hours and movies.
- Regular meetings for several area self-help and community service organizations.

Burdett Commons will continue to serve as an important resource for these people and organizations and will strive to be open and available to the community as often as possible. The Board of Trustees actively pursues funding through grants, community outreach, and special activities to cover the considerable cost of building maintenance and to improve our facilities and expand program offerings. We look forward to continued service to the community. For more information about Burdett or any of our programs, call our Director, Tessa MacDonald, at 375-6515.

## **BENNINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL COMMISSION**

Robert M. Hartwell, Chairman  
Rex Burke, Executive Director

The BCRC is composed of Commissioners appointed by the legislative body (2 per town, 1 per village, 1 from Glastenbury), and at-large by action of the Commission. Funding sources include a combination of federal, state, and local grants and assessments. The website is [www.rpc.bennington.vt.us](http://www.rpc.bennington.vt.us). The work program is divided into ten overall tasks:

- **Administration – Management**
- **Municipal Technical**
- **Regional Plan and Programs**
- **Transportation**
- **Economic Strategies**
- **Geographic Information System and Mapping**
- **Emergency Management**
- **Grant Assistance and Administration**
- **Special Projects**

### **I.S.W.A.P.**

#### **Integrated Solid Waste Applications Program**

To comply with state requirements, the regional Solid Waste Implementation Plan has been rewritten and submitted to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources for approval. The regional Solid Waste Implementation Plan includes the ISWAP member towns.

The household hazardous waste (HHW) collection program continues to be a priority. HHW collection protects the environment, as hazardous waste is collected and disposed of properly and safely. This year, two HHW collections were held at the Manchester Elementary School, with the help of local students.

The Bennington County Regional Commission and ISWAP member towns once again sponsored a nonprofit compost bin sale. This year, 38 Kitchen Compost Collector bins were sold.

The Integrated Solid Waste Applications Program includes the Towns of Arlington, Dorset, Manchester, Rupert, and Sandgate.

**ARLINGTON RESCUE SQUAD, INC.**  
PO Box 295  
Arlington, VT 05250  
Phone 802-3 75-6589 Fax: 802-3 75-2 716  
Robert Burgess, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Arlington Rescue Squad, as of November 30th, had a total of 358 calls. We had 14 calls in Sandgate. We have an average response time of 7.1 minutes, which is 2.8 minutes faster than last year and the fastest response time in Vermont District 12.

Arlington Rescue Squad is continuing to improve our services to those communities who have graciously supported us over the years. Approximately ½ of our members are trained in the new advanced procedure at the Intermediate level of care. These are additions to the current treatment techniques that are currently available such as IV therapy, advanced patient assessment skills and cardiac monitoring and defibrillation. All these advancements will help increase the chances of survival in critical patients.

We continue to strive to offer the best pre-hospital care possible. However, without your support, these goals would not be obtained. We urge you to continue to show your support by voting yes for the appropriations requested to appear on the town ballot in March 2005.

## THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

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

An estimated one in five Vermonters has a disability. VCIL, a private nonprofit organization, is Vermont's first and only cross-disability center for independent living and the first organization in the state to be directed and staffed by a majority of people with diverse disabilities.

Statewide, from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004, VCIL responded to over 2,000 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information and referrals on a broad range of subjects related to living with a disability. We provided one-on-one peer counseling to 355 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and life opportunities; provided 401 households with financial and technical assistance for making their bathrooms and entrances accessible to a disabled family member; provided over 345 with personal assistance and/or assistive technology; provided communications equipment to 76 Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired individuals through the Vermont Equipment Distribution Program, and delivered meals to almost 555 Vermonters through VCIL's Meals on Wheels program for Individuals Under 60 with Disabilities.

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

During FY 2004, VCIL's direct services were available to residents of the Town of Sandgate and other Vermont residents statewide utilizing the following services/programs:

### Information & Referral

Home and Community Access Program

Meals on Wheels (for people with disabilities under 60)(MOW)

Peer Advocacy Counseling (PAC)

Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)

To learn more about VCIL, call toll-free at 1-800-639-1522

## **ARLINGTON COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE INC.**

Sheila W. Hoyt, President

The Arlington Nursing Service has been conducting Public Health Nursing Services in Arlington, Sandgate and Sunderland for 58 years. Our purpose is to promote programs to improve the health of individuals, of families and of our schools. We make these services available to all age groups in all economic and social circumstances-to those who can afford to pay full or partial fees, as well as those who cannot.

We offer financial support toward the schools' health education programs and specific equipment. We employ a Dental Hygienist to provide screenings on all elementary aged children in the Arlington and Sunderland schools.

Our biggest financial commitment to our three-town community is our contract with the Manchester Health Service to provide visiting home nursing care. In full or in part it is the Arlington Nursing Service that contributes to the availability of home health care in Arlington, Sandgate and Sunderland. All this is done in the strictest confidence.

We offer scholarships to those individuals pursuing degrees in health related fields. For high school seniors and adults, applications can be obtained through the AMHS Guidance office.

The Nursing Association meets eight times a year and the date of the meeting is published in the Bennington Banner. The meetings are open to the public.

We appreciate the support of the Arlington community and hope you will continue your support in the future.

**SANDGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

***Board of Directors***

***Annual Officers Report***

Report on 2004-2005 (FY2005)

Jeanne Zoppel, (Chair), Allan Tschorn (Clerk), Cheri Weber

The Sandgate School District currently has 43 students attending nine different schools in three states. The Sandgate School District provides transportation to the Arlington School District where 25 students attend. Eighteen students attend other schools. Fourteen students are in the elementary (k-6) programs, fourteen are in the middle school (7 / 8 grade) programs, and fifteen are in the high school (9 - 12) programs. Tuition rates are based on grade level, and the tuition to Arlington for elementary is \$8,800; tuition for middle school is \$9,600; and tuition for the high school is \$9,800. The Sandgate School District pays the prevailing tuition rate to public schools and up to the announced State average to private or independent schools. Currently, the State average for elementary tuition is \$7,523; the State average for middle level is \$8,165; and the State average for high school is \$8,490. It is important to note the State averages are only among larger union schools and do not average in the higher tuition rates common to smaller non-union schools.

Article 2 on the annual warning asks the voters to approve \$6,000 for the bus sinking fund. Currently the bus sinking fund has a value of approximately \$33,000. The bus is four years old and in its fifth year of operation. The cost of the existing bus was approximately \$54,000. The current bus seems a bit oversized for the average number of riders of 15 per run and the Board will examine rider needs when the time comes to replace the existing bus. Never the less, smaller buses do not seem to be proportionally smaller in purchase costs and the board feels it would be appropriate to continue funding the sinking fund if the district is to maintain a transportation system.

The total budgeted expenditures for FY2005 were \$532,804 and at this time our anticipated expenses are \$504,888. Anticipated income for FY2005 is in line with last years budgeted revenue, and the anticipated budget surplus this year is estimated to be around \$28,000. The FY2006 budget uses \$20,000 of the anticipated budget surplus to reduce the amount needed to be raised in taxes. Article 3 on the annual warning asks that any unanticipated surplus be added to the special reserve fund established to help defray over-expenditures in the areas of special education or tuition. The anticipated value of the reserve fund at the close of this fiscal year is estimated to be \$45,000. The proposed budget uses \$15,000 of the special reserve fund to further reduce the amount needed to be raised in tax revenue. The balance in the special reserve fund to cover any



unanticipated expenses in tuition or special education costs for FY2006 will be approximately \$38,000 to \$40,000.

Article 4 on the annual warning reflects the budget approved by the board of \$522,722 to be voted on at the annual meeting. If both articles 2 & 4 on the warning are approved, the total budgeted expenses for FY2006 will be \$528,722. This proposed budget is \$4,082 less than the approved budget for FY2005.

Though the budget for this year is down, Act 68 looks like it may not be as kind to the Taxpayers of Sandgate as it was last year. The three year average Common Level of Appraisal has dropped to 74.6%. The CLA increases the anticipated homestead tax rate from \$1.363 to \$1.827. Last years tax rate was \$1.496. The CLA is a reflection of assessed property values in comparison to actual selling prices. Properties in Sandgate are now regularly selling for approximately 25% above assessed value, and that is, under Act 68, being reflected in the tax rate.

The annual holiday gathering was held on December 2nd this year. It was the traditional pot luck format open to all residents of Sandgate. To avoid crushing too much into our schedules closer to the holidays, this gathering has been slated for the first Saturday in December. Watch the bulletin boards, or contact a School Board member for more details on the 2006 party.

To be sure that tuition payments are not delayed, we ask that parents notify the School District of tuition requests or changes in receiving schools as soon as possible. If you have recently moved to Sandgate, even if your child has not changed schools, please notify the School Board.

Our meetings are always open to the public and are generally scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month. To accommodate various schedules, our meetings are held late afternoon and the actual time may vary from month to month. Please, if you have a concern that you feel needs to be addressed at a School Board meeting let one of the board members know, and if needed, a meeting will be scheduled to address your concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Tschorn, Clerk  
Sandgate School District  
January 25, 2005

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Charles F. Sweetman, Jr.

The 2004-2005 year has been another very good year for the Sandgate School District, our students, and our positive relationship with the Arlington School District. There continues to be a significant increase in attention in curriculum, coordination, organizational structure, student achievement, and leadership with the Arlington School District that has positive impact on Sandgate and its students.

The Sandgate Board continues to work with the Arlington School District Board and the Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union Board to build upon our successes, while at the same time developing significant goals and objectives for the present and for the coming school year. Obviously what happens in Arlington and at the elementary school, middle school and high school is of significant interest to the residents of Sandgate and the Sandgate Board.

The year in review report that was distributed publicly in August 2004 outlined in detail the achievements of that school year along with those plans for the 2004-05 year. Those achievements in fact helped all of our school boards develop approximately 70 goals, objectives and initiatives to be undertaken during the 2004-05 year. Clearly some of those initiatives will, in fact, carry over to the 2005-06 year. Those goals and initiatives were distributed in the district newsletter that was mailed to residents this past fall. As has been the case over the past two years, those goals and initiatives encompassed 6 major areas: curriculum, communications, and public relations, student achievement, culture, climate and cooperation, organizations and systems, budget finance and operations.

This particular year we are most excited about having our 6th graders officially joining the 7th and 8th grade at Arlington Memorial. That 6th through 8th grade middle school has been extremely successful thanks to all staff and administrators who made that such a success in year one. In addition Fisher Elementary School is now able to concentrate its efforts and its growth and improvement on a K-5 basis. There also has been a significant reorganization at Fisher in terms of staffing and leadership. That growth and improvement is taking place in a most notable fashion in many areas already. Gay Thimm, our previous elementary Principal, has taken over the responsibilities of Special Education Director and a new principal, Kristin Hubert, started at Fisher in July. Those areas in the school system under their leadership have also made major steps forward in growth and improvement for our students and programs. At the middle school level we have also established an accelerated program for our students in grades 6 through 8. That program will continue to grow and expand for our secondary students.

Under finances and financial operations, we continue to be pleased to report that the auditors gave the school system high marks for its organization, financial operations and a strong level of professional accountability in our financial and business areas. This year we were also selected by the State for an in-depth review of our federal grants. We also received high marks there. I continue to thank all of the staff members who are involved in this section of our school system.

I am also happy to report that the school board in Arlington has again developed a curriculum review cycle of 4 years so that appropriate level of planning and attention is given to all curricular areas.

The system has purchased and implemented a new reading program K-6 in September 2004. In addition a new handwriting program was also purchased for our students K-3.

At the high school level, we now have 9 advanced placement courses encompassing the following disciplines: English, calculus, art, biology, foreign language and history. It should also be noted that curriculum frameworks were completed for all courses at the middle school/high school level grades 6-12 and at the elementary level K-5. Those frameworks and curricular outlines complement initiatives, grade expectations, and standards at the State level.

The 5-year technology plan has just been developed and approved by the Arlington School Board and the State of Vermont Department of Education. That technology plan will be utilized over the next 5 years as a blueprint and for our system, our schools, and our students.

In the area of student achievement, our high school demonstrates one of the top percentages for high school graduation in the State. There continues to be significant improvement and growth in our standardized testing results and student achievement at all elementary, middle level and high school levels. We are moving in a productive, beneficial direction as a system.

We are also pleased to report that the John Hopkins University talent search resulted in the highest number ever of our middle school students being recognized for excellence by reaching the 97 percentile. I should also report that the high school has implemented its first year of a block scheduling format with increased instructional time and increased contact with teachers. Approximately 40% of the high school courses are in the block format; this allows for added educational opportunities for our students along with greater in depth understanding.

The Sandgate school budget for 2005-06 as presented by the school board represents approximately \$4,000 less than the 2004-05 budget.

In closing I would like to once again thank the residents of Sandgate, parents and school board members for their cooperation and support. The strength of communities providing quality education for their students is a concept that requires and benefits greatly from community involvement. Fiscal and educational responsibility and accountability are crucial concepts for our community, for our children and for their futures. I fully enjoy representing the Sandgate board, members, residents and students of Sandgate.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Board  
Sandgate Town School District

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Sandgate Town School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Town management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these basic financial statements based on our audit.

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

In our opinion the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Sandgate Town School District as of June 30, 2004, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The management discussion and analysis on pages 2 through 7 and the supplementary information on pages 21 through 23 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements referred to above and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Manchester, Vermont  
Registration No. 444  
January 3, 2005

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Cash Receipts & Disbursements – Sandgate School District

Fiscal Year – July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/2003 (all funds) ..... \$ 155,218

#### School General Fund

Balance on 7/1/03 .....\$ 32,685

Receipts:

Interest ..... 1,715

Voted Property Taxes ..... 544,649

State ..... 16,273

Voted from Reserve ..... 25,000

**Total receipts** ..... \$587,637

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 620,322

Disbursements:

School Directors' orders #1-33 ..... 607,288

(Includes \$6,000 voted 3/03 to bus; audited surplus of \$2,483  
voted to Reserve.)

Balance to account for (6/30/04) ..... \$ 13,034

Accounted for as follows: In Banks ..... \$ 13,034

#### Bus Fund

Balance on 7/1/03 ..... \$ 21,074

Receipts:

Interest ..... 100

Voted ..... 6,000

Donation ..... 5

**Total receipts** ..... \$ 6,105

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 27,179

Balance to account for (6/30/04)..... \$ 27,179

Accounted for as follows: In Banks ..... \$ 27,179

#### Reserve Fund

Balance on 7/1/03 ..... \$ 101,459

Receipts:

Interest ..... 941

Voted 3/03 surplus ..... 2,483

**Total receipts** ..... \$ 3,424

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 104, 883

Disbursement:

Amount voted to reduce taxes 3/03 .. 25,000

Balance to account for (6/30/04) ..... \$ 79, 883

Accounted for as follows: In Banks ..... \$ 79,883

**TOTAL BALANCE – ALL FUNDS (6/30/04)** ..... \$ 120,096

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**Cash Receipts & Disbursements – Sandgate School District**  
 Fiscal Year – June 30, 2004 through December 31, 2004

Balance in Bank 7/1/2004 (all funds) ..... \$ 120,096

**School General Fund**

Balance on 7/1/04 ..... \$ 13,034

Receipts:

Interest ..... 1,256

State ..... 24,993

Voted taxes ..... 452,691

**Total receipts** ..... \$ 478,940

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 491,974

Disbursements:

School Directors' orders #1-16 ..... 265,488

Balance to account for (12/31/04) ..... 226,486

Accounted for as follows: In Banks ..... \$ 226,486

**Bus Fund**

Balance on 7/1/04 ..... \$ 27,179

Receipts:

Interest ..... 307

Voted ..... 6,000

**Total receipts** ..... \$ 6,307

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 33,485

Balance to account for (12/31/04) ..... 33,485

Accounted for as follows: in CD @ 2.05% ..... \$ 33,485

**Reserve Fund**

Balance on 7/1/04 ..... \$ 79,883

Receipts:

Interest ..... 415

**Total funds available** ..... \$ 80,298

Balance to account for (12/31/04) ..... 80,298

Accounted for as follows: in Banks ..... \$ 80,298

**TOTAL BALANCE – ALL FUNDS (12/31/04)** ..... \$ 340,270

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by DOE

District: **Sandgate**  
 County: **Bennington**

LEA: **181**  
 S.U.: **Battenkill Valley**

	Act 60		Act 68	
	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
<b>Expenditures</b>				
1. Budget (local budget, excluding special programs reported in line 3, full tech expenditures, and any Act 144 expenditures)	\$549,119	\$529,557	\$526,804	\$522,722
2. Block grant paid by State to tech center in prior years under Act 60	\$3,284	\$5,345	not applicable	not applicable
3. Special revenue program expenditures (federal dollars, restricted grants, etc.)			\$526,804	\$522,722
4. <b>Locally adopted or warned budget</b>	\$552,403	\$534,902		
5. 1. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	\$6,000	\$6,000
6. 2. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
7. 3. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	-	-	-	-
8. <b>Act 68 locally adopted or warned budget</b>	\$552,403	\$534,902	\$532,804	\$528,722
9. <b>Gross Act 68 Budget</b>				
10. plus Union school or joint school district assessment	-	-	-	-
11. plus Prior deficit reduction if not included in budgets	-	-	-	-
12. <b>Gross Act 68 Budget</b>	\$552,403	\$534,902	\$532,804	\$528,722
13. S.U. assessment (included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	\$30,826	\$29,339
14. Prior deficit reduction (if included in local budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-
<b>Revenues</b>				
15. Local revenues (categorical grants, donations, unions, surplus, etc., including local Act 144 tax revenues)	\$94,265	\$88,813	\$87,081	\$71,997
16. Capital debt aid	-	-	-	-
17. Special program revenues (if not included in local budget; included in FY2006)	-	-	-	-
18. minus Prior deficit reduction if included in revenues	-	-	-	-
19. <b>Total revenues</b>	\$94,265	\$88,813	\$87,081	\$71,997
20. <b>Adjusted local revenues</b>				
21. minus Fund raising (if any)	-	-	-	-
22. <b>Adjusted local revenues</b>	\$94,265	\$88,813	\$87,081	\$71,997
23. <b>Education Spending</b> (Act 68 definition)	\$458,138	\$446,089	\$445,723	\$456,725
24. <b>Equalized Pupils</b>	\$4,522	\$2,611	\$0,777	\$4,939

25.	mmv	Less eligible construction costs (or P&I) per equalized pupil	Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$8,479	not applicable	\$8,779	25.	\$9,323	25a.	
26.	plm	Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)		not applicable						
27.		Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment		not applicable		\$8,779	26.	\$9,323	27.	
28.		District spending adjustment (minimum of 100% spending amount of \$6,975 is subject to Legislative approval.)		not applicable		129,107%	28.	133,663%		
29.		Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized (133.66% x \$1.02)		\$1,843	\$1,750	based on \$6,975	29.	\$1,363		
30.		The base education homestead tax rate of \$1.02 and the income percentage cap of 1.85% are based on the recommendation of the Governor's Office and are subject to Legislative approval.	Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)	100.96%	93.80%	based on \$1.02	30.	74.60%		
31.			Estimated homestead tax rate, actual (\$1,363 / 74.60%)	\$1,790	\$1,870	based on \$1.02	31.	\$1,827		
32.			Household Income Percentage for income sensitivity (133.66% x 1.85%)	3.35%	3.18%	based on 1.85%	32.	2.47%		

The projected base education spending amount of \$6,975 is subject to Legislative approval.

The base education homestead tax rate of \$1.02 and the income percentage cap of 1.85% are based on the recommendation of the Governor's Office and are subject to Legislative approval.

DOE/School Finance/03/01/12/2005

Prior Years Comparison

J:\77006\Reports\146\108 f.d5a



**==Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union==  
2005 / 2006 Budget**

<b>SUPERVISORY UNION BUDGET SUMMARY</b>				
	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
Board Services	\$12,022	\$8,395	\$5,810	\$6,446
Administrative Services	169,212	176,614	173,200	177,035
Building Operation	4,624	7,460	6,257	\$6,710
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$185,858</b>	<b>\$192,469</b>	<b>\$185,267</b>	<b>\$190,191</b>
Special Ed. Admin.	71,123	73,982	77,328	62,683
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$256,981</b>	<b>\$266,451</b>	<b>\$262,595</b>	<b>\$252,874</b>
Less Prior Years Carry Over & Interest Earned	-13,355	-10,000	-17,463	-10,000
<b>TOTAL (ASSESSED)</b>	<b>\$243,626</b>	<b>\$256,451</b>	<b>\$245,132</b>	<b>\$242,874</b>

**Projected 2005/2006 District Assessments**

DISTRICT	S. U. BUDGET ALLOCATION	SPEC ED BUDGET ALLOCATION	TOTAL BUDGET ALLOCATION	Last Year's Assessments Comparison Only
Arlington	158,423.93	55,110.89	213,534.82	225,625.59
Sandgate	21,767.07	7,572.11	29,339.18	30,825.41
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>180,191.00</b>	<b>62,683.00</b>	<b>242,874.00</b>	<b>256,451.00</b>

**State Special Education Grants**

<b>State Special Education Block Grant</b>				<b>State Essential Early Education Grant</b>			
	03/04	04/05	05/06		03/04	04/05	05/06
<b>Arlington</b>	124,999	128,711	131,363	<b>Arlington</b>	15,073	13,193	14,564
<b>Sandgate</b>	16,915	18,726	17,392	<b>Sandgate</b>	1,401	2,167	1,105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>141,914</b>	<b>147,437</b>	<b>148,755</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,474</b>	<b>15,360</b>	<b>15,669</b>

The above grant funds are generated by and allocated to the school districts as indicated.

# Sandgate School District 2005 / 2006 Budget

<b>SANDGATE BUDGET SUMMARY</b>				
	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
Board Services	37,979	40,684	37,358	37,868
Regular Instruction Services	438,180	444,227	429,470	449,177
Special Ed Services	40,849	47,893	38,060	41,677
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$517,008</b>	<b>\$532,804</b>	<b>\$504,888</b>	<b>\$528,722</b>

<b>SANDGATE REVENUES</b>				
	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
Prior Year Surplus Applied- (lower taxes)	25,000	10,000	10,000	20,000
Transfer from Special Reserve	25,000	40,000	40,000	15,000
Property Taxes (Local Share property taxes) *	140,425	0	0	0
General State Aid (Statewide property taxes)	300,319	445,723	445,723	456,725
Transportation Aid	12,050	12,000	12,529	12,500
General Fund Donation	75	0	0	0
Interest	1,487	2,500	2,000	2,500
Refund of Prior Year Expenditure	1,419	0	0	0
Mainstream Block Grant (Special Ed)	16,915	18,726	18,726	17,392
Intensive Reimbursement -Prior Year	207	0	234	0
Intensive Reimbursement	6,228	1,688	1,688	3,500
Essential Early Education Grant	1,401	2,167	2,167	1,105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$530,526</b>	<b>\$532,804</b>	<b>\$533,067</b>	<b>\$528,722</b>

\*Local Share property taxes eliminated in 2004/05 budget under Act 68.

Not reflected in the school district budget are amounts raised for the Vermont State Education Fund. The additional amount paid for the 2004/05 fiscal year was: \$120,114

**SANDGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR INSTRUCTION**

	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
Elementary Tuition-Arlington	69,304	61,600	69,115	71,800
Kindergarten Tuition-Arlington	0	8,800	8,800	8,975
Elementary Tuition-All Others	65,835	53,000	32,462	28,500
Secondary (H.S.) Tuition-Arl.	157,484	146,000	150,300	169,885
Secondary (H.S.) Tuit.-All Others	95,844	113,100	106,692	107,400
Tutoring	0	1,000	500	500
Prior Year Tuition Adjustment	20,730	25,000	24,423	24,350
Sec. (H.S.) Vocational Tuition	3,113	3,200	4,049	4,500
Tech Center F.T.E. payment to State*	0	5,241	5,561	4,675
Bus Driver Salary	12,090	13,348	13,348	13,724
Bus Driver Substitute Salary	897	355	355	365
Social Security	993	1,048	1,048	1,078
Workers Comp. Insurance	976	1,000	1,177	1,200
Unemployment Insurance	27	35	18	25
Bus Insurance	669	900	322	600
Bus Repair/Maintenance	1,856	1,500	2,300	2,300
Tires	824	1,000	800	1,000
Bus Fuel	1,516	1,900	2,100	2,100
Bus Supplies/Other Expense	12	100	50	100
Bus Driver CDL/Testing Expense	10	100	50	100
SUBTOTAL (w/o Sinking Fund)	432,180	438,227	423,470	443,177
Bus Sinking Fund Transfer	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>438,180</b>	<b>444,227</b>	<b>429,470</b>	<b>449,177</b>

\* Under Act 60, funds sent by the State of Vermont on the behalf of the school district to the Career Development Center were **not** included in your local budget. Under Act 68 those funds are now recorded as part of the budget.

<b>SANDGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT - SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>				
	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
S.U. Spec. Ed. Assessment	9,090	8,893	8,893	7,572
Spec. Ed. Program Service-Elem	7,269	10,000	0	4,000
Spec. Ed. Program Service-HS	21,889	20,000	24,500	25,000
Spec. Ed. Contract Service	0	500	0	500
Spec. Ed. Contract Testing	1,200	1,500	1,500	1,500
Spec. Ed. Counseling/Therapy	0	2,500	1,000	2,000
Spec. Ed. Transportation	0	1,000	0	0
Spec. Ed. Contract Tutoring-HS	0	2,000	0	0
EEE Tuition/Services	1,401	1,500	2,167	1,105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,849</b>	<b>47,893</b>	<b>38,060</b>	<b>41,677</b>

<b>SANDGATE SCHOOL DISTRICT - BOARD SERVICES</b>				
	2003/04 Actual	2004/05 Budget	2004/05 Anticipated	2005/06 Budget
Board Salaries	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Social Security	176	176	176	176
Board Supplies	44	100	100	100
Audit	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,750
Legal	6,335	10,000	10,000	10,000
Advertising/Printing/Publishing	0	250	250	250
Dues & Memberships	250	250	250	250
Board Travel	0	50	50	50
Errors & Omission Insurance	2,316	2,500	481	1,000
Comprehensive Insurance	1,176	1,300	0	0
Computer Supplies	0	175	168	175
Bank Fees / Charges	75	0	0	0
Fixed Assets Inventory	50	50	50	50
S. U. Assessment - Regular Svc.	23,757	21,933	21,933	21,767
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,979</b>	<b>40,684</b>	<b>37,358</b>	<b>37,868</b>

## SANDGATE TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT WARNING

Legal voters of the Town School District of Sandgate, County of Bennington, State of Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet at 10:00 A.M. at the Sandgate Town Hall on Tuesday, March 1st, 2005 to transact the following business:

To be acted upon on March 1, 2005.

- Article 1. To hear and act on the report of the School District Officers.
- Article 2. To see if the Sandgate School District will vote the sum of \$6,000 into the existing reserve fund for replacement of the school bus when necessary.
- Article 3. To see if the Sandgate School District will vote to place any unanticipated surplus from the 2004-2005 fiscal year into the existing Reserve Fund for tuition and special education purposes.
- Article 4. To vote a sum of **\$522,722** necessary for the support of the School District for the fiscal year July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006.
- Article 5. To authorize the School Board to borrow money by issue of notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year.
- Article 6. To transact any other business proper to be brought before said Town School District Meeting.
- Article 7. To elect Town School District officers for the ensuing year by Australian Ballot on March 1, 2005.

Absentee voting is permitted on all matters to be voted upon by Australian ballot. For purposes of Australian balloting, the polls will be open from 10:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 1, 2005.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2005

Sandgate Board of School Directors:

Jeanne Zoppel, Chairperson  
Allan Tschorn  
Cheri Weber

**TOWN OF SANDGATE ANNUAL MEETING WARNING  
FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1, 2005**

The legal voters of the Town of Sandgate are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Sandgate Town Hall on Monday, February 28, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of acting on the articles set forth below. Article #1 will be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 1, 2005. The polls will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE 1: To vote the following Town and School Officers (by Australian Ballot).

Town Moderator	one year
Selectman	three years
Selectman	one year
Selectman	one year
Constable	one year
Delinquent Tax Collector	one year
Auditor	three years
Lister	three years
Town Agent	one year
Town Grand Juror	one year
Cemetery Commissioner	three years
School Moderator	one year
School Director	three years

ARTICLE 2: To hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers. To see if the town will accept the Town Report as printed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004.

ARTICLE 3: Shall current property taxes be paid to the Town Treasurer on or before October 1, 2005?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow such sum or sums of money necessary to meet its expenditures prior to the collection of taxes?

ARTICLE 5: Shall line item balances, specifically for the following accounts: Records Restoration, Legal and Professional, Highway Fund Materials and Hauling (both summer and winter). Pavement Maintenance, and Bridge/Culvert Program, be carried over in the individual accounts into the following year?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town appropriate \$83,002.00 to defray the general expenses of the town; and if so voted, authorize the Selectmen to set the tax rate based on the final Grand List?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town appropriate \$218,052.00 to defray the highway expenses of the town; and if so voted, authorize the Selectmen to set the tax rate based on the final Grand List?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to use surpluses in the general fund and highway fund in the total amount of \$59,445.00 to reduce the total amount to be raised by taxes?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to transfer surpluses in the general fund and highway fund in the total amount of \$59,447.00 to the Tax Stabilization Fund?

ARTICLE 10: To transact any other business properly to be brought before said meeting.

ARTICLE 11: Adjourn.

Dated at Sandgate, Vermont this 17th day of January, 2005

Town of Sandgate Selectmen:

Stephen L. Saltonstall, Chair

Richard Zoppel

Charles Bentley, Jr.

Roy Gattlin

Christopher Barlow

**VITAL STATISTICS RECORDED IN 2004**

\* \* \*

**MARRIAGES**

**Kevin H. Leonard and Sara S. McWade  
At Sandgate on January 3, 2004**

**Jordan M. Chizick and Raquel Knabben  
At Sandgate on March 19, 2004**

**Bruce L. Saint Germain and Karen J. Wood  
At Manchester on April 16, 2004**

**Oscar E. Cabrera and Selene J. Camelio  
At Stratton, on August 14, 2004**

**BIRTHS**

**Adam Hunter Agresta on January 20, 2004  
Parents: Lisa J. Robinson and Scott J. Agresta  
At Bennington, Vermont**

**Marcel Emmanuel Ramos-Roux on April 16, 2004  
Parents: Rosamund W. Roux and Romulo A. Ramos  
At Sandgate, Vermont**

**Clare Elizabeth Monahan on October 17, 2004  
Parents: Mary B. Monahan and Philip S. Monahan  
At Bennington, Vermont**

**DEATHS**

**Roy Wilbert McBride  
At Ocala, Florida on May 13, 2004**

**Georgieanna J. Hunt  
At Sandgate on May 6, 2004**



## A GHOST STORY

Rocking, rocking, rocking, propelled by no visible means, the chair kept rocking.

John Sullivan and his friend had come for a fall weekend of hunting. They had arrived at the Johnson/Kulmane house in the Southeast Hollow, in the dark. Settling themselves in they lit the fire in the huge kitchen wood stove, brought in wood and supplies and saw to a quick meal and early bed. Then the rocking began.

When it stopped John felt a presence looking down at him. A shadow of a man stood over him. Then it left. So did John and his friend.

Telling his story to his wife, Anna, and her immediate family the Johnsons and Kulmanes, he learned that the ghost was the first in the family to own the house and had expressed a longing for his wife on several occasions.

The ghost vanished from sight with the death of his widow.

(As told to Sonja Jaffee)

**PLEASE HELP US TO AVOID FIRES  
REPORT ANY UNATTENDED FIRES  
NO SMOKING DURING TOWN MEETING**

Police ..... 442-5421  
Fire ..... 375-2323  
Ambulance ..... 375-6589

911 is for emergencies only. For other calls please dial:

**EMERGENCY (Police, Fire, Ambulance: 911)**

**Lynn D. Fielding -- 375-2211**

**FOR TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN CALL:**

For brush and forest fires burning out of control or threatening buildings call 911.  
During such time as the government forbids outdoor fires do not use your incinerator.

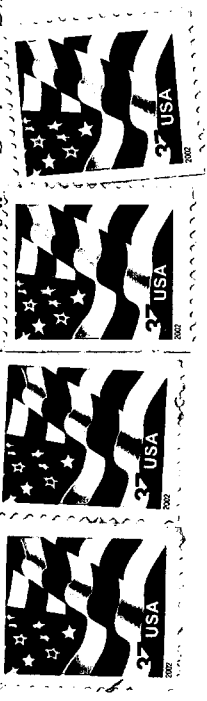
Burning can be done without a permit in any incinerator approved by your Warden. Approval to be given for a steel drum burning barrel with 1/4 or 1/2 inch wire mesh cover placed in the center of a cleared space at least 12 feet in diameter.

**A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FROM THE FIRE WARDEN FOR ANY  
OUTDOOR BURNING EXCEPT WHEN THERE IS SNOW ON THE  
GROUND AT THE SCENE OF THE FIRE.**

**FIRE WARNING**



Cutting the Corn, from a pastel by Anthony North



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