



WASHINGTON

2004

1779 - 2004

TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion Gage Zumpf Post #87
Daughters of the American Revolution
Devereux-Glenholme School
Dramalites
First Congregational Church of Washington
First Ecclesiastical Society of New Preston
Gunn Memorial Library & Museum
The Gunnery School
Judea Cemetery Commission
Lake Waramaug Authority
Lion's Club of Washington
New Milford Visiting Nurse Association
New Preston Boys & Girls Club
New Preston Cemetery Association
New Preston Congregational Church
New Preston Women's Club
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Parent-Teacher Organizations
Rotary Club of Washington
Rumsey Hall School
Salem Covenant Church
Scouts-Boy & Girl
Shepaug Valley Middle-High School
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
St. John's Episcopal Church
Steep Rock Association
Village Improvement Society
Visiting Nurse & Home Care NW
VNA Thrift Shop
Washington Ambulance Association
Washington Art Association
Washington Board of Education
Washington Board of Finance
Washington Board of Selectmen
Washington Business Association
Washington Cemetery Association
Washington Citizen's Scholarship

Washington Community Fund
Washington Community Housing Trust
Washington Conservation Commission
Washington Democratic Town Committee
Washington Environmental Council
Washington Garden Club
Washington Grange #11
Washington-Gunnery Hockey Association
Washington Inland Wetlands Commission
Washington Historic District Commission
Washington Montessori School
Washington Parks and Recreation Commission
Washington Planning Commission
Washington Primary School
Washington Republican Town Committee
Washington Senior Center
Washington Volunteer Fire Company
Washington Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary
Washington-Warren-Kent Salvation Army
Washington-Warren Food Bank
Washington Zoning Commission
Washington Zoning Board of Appeals





The "Democracy Cup" for the highest voter turnout in the state of Connecticut 2003!

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TOWN CALENDAR 2004-2005

July 1	Beginning of fiscal year. First payment of property tax due during July.
August 2	Interest begins on unpaid taxes.
September 30	Military discharge to be recorded by new residents for tax exemptions.
Oct. 1 – Nov. 1	All personal property, excluding cars, to be listed with Assessor.
October 4	Annual Town Meeting.
November 2	Election Day.
December 1	Gregory Seeley Bryan Birthday (1868).
January 1	Happy New Year! Second payment of property tax due during January.
Feb. 1 – Oct. 1	Additional veteran's exemption applications received (income requirements).
February 2	Interest begins on unpaid taxes.
February 20	Board of Assessment Appeals must receive written appeals for hearings scheduled during March.
Feb. 1 – May 15	Elderly or disabled homeowners apply for tax credit (income requirements).
May 5	Annual Town Budget Hearing.
May 15 – Sept. 15	Elderly or disabled renters apply for Tax credit (income requirements).
May 19	Annual Town Budget Meeting.
June	Dog license fees payable during this month.
June 30	Fiscal year ends.

MEETINGS OF TOWN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Selectmen
Every other Thursday 4:30 p.m.

Board of Finance
3rd Monday of each month 5:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
1st Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Commission
4th Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals
3rd Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Inland Wetlands Commission
2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission
1st Wednesday of each month 5:00 p.m.

Historic District Commission
3rd Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission
2nd Monday of each month 7:00 p.m.

Building Official
Daily 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Sanitarian
Monday and Wednesday 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Board of Education
2nd Monday of each month 7:30 p.m. and as posted.

- Please check Town Clerk's notice board for changes due to holidays and special meetings.
- Bryan Memorial Town Hall is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
- The Land Use Office is open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily.
- The Agent for the Elderly is available Tuesday at the Senior Center; however it is suggested specific appointments be made.
- The Probate Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., or by appointment.
- The Senior Center is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

TOWN OFFICERS AND OTHERS

SERVING IN A DIFUCIARY CAPACITY

As of July 1, 2004

Animal Control Officer
(appointed)
Cynthia F. Brissett

Board of Assessment Appeals
(4 year term-elected)
Ann Fisher Bruzzi, Chairman
John J. Allen
Roderick M. Wyant III

Assessor
(4 year term-appointed)
Barbara S. Johnson

Auditor
Charles P. Heaven & Company

Building & Property Commission
(3 year term-appointed)
John J. Allen, Chairman
David Showalter
Reese Owens

Building Official
William T. P. Jenks

Conservation Commission
(3 year term-appointed)
Susan F. Payne, Chairman
Phillip Markert
Elizabeth Corrigan
Joseph Gitterman III
Kelly Boling
Diane M. Dupuis, alt.
Linda Frank, alt.
Vacancy

Emergency Management
(appointed)
Robert J. Tomlinson
Thomas L. Hearn

Board of Finance
(6 year term-elected)
Michael C. Jackson, Chairman
John Boyer
John H. Field
Craig G. Schoon
Rexford H. Swain
Mark Lyon
Lisabeth D. Adams, alt.
John J. Allen, alt.
Barbara Brown, alt.

Fire Chiefs
Mark Lyon, Chief
Dick Murchison, 1st Asst. Chief

Fire Marshal
(appointed)
Donald S. Etherington

Health Director
(appointed)
Michael A. Crespan

Historic District Commission
(5 year term-appointed)
Paul Graney, Chairman
William H. Smith
Alison G. Picton
Charles Treadway
Peter Talbot
Elizabeth R. Rives, alt.
Jane Boyer, alt.
Ronald K. Chute, alt.

Inland Wetlands Commission
(3 year term-appointed)
Mark E. Picton, Chairman
Dorothy G. Hill
Marguerite Purnell
Helen Gray
Charles LaMuniere
Kathryn E. Coe, alt.
Anthony J. Bedini, alt.
Candace A. Korzenko, alt.
Michael Ajello, Enforcement Officer

Judea Cemetery Commission
(5 year term-appointed)
Dennis Hussey, Chairman
Georgia P. Whitney
Phyllis Allen
Ellen J. Condon
Ruth M. Alex

Justices of the Peace
(elected)
Frank Adams
Randall J. Breeckner
Ann Fisher Bruzzi
Matthew Cain
Kenneth Cornet

Edith C. Johnson
Adam J. Korpalski
Daniel J. Leab
William T. McTiernan
John J. Muckstadt
Joseph A. Mustich
John Olear
Joshua M. Weiner

Lake Waramaug Authority
(3 year term-appointed)
Sandra Papsin
Edwin S. Matthews, Jr.
Dean Sarjeant

Land Use Coordinator
(appointed)
Janet M. Hill

Probate Court Judge
(4 year term-elected)
Judge Victoria M. Cherniske

Municipal Agent for the Elderly
(appointed)
Pamela F. Collins

Open Burning Official
(appointed)
Vincent Ives

Parks and Recreation Commission
(3 year term-appointed)
Sheila M. Anson, Chairman
Timothy A. Cook
Joseph B. Fredlund
Joan M. Gauthey
Holly Z. Haas
Raymond W. Reich
Christopher J. Kersten
Louis Magnoli

Planning Commission
(5 year term-appointed)
George Bender, Chairman
Dimitri Rimsky
Frederick Byerly
Adelaide Roberts
Christopher D. Charles
Paul Frank, alt.
R. William Fairbairn, alt.
Robert C. Buck, alt.

Police
(appointed)
Stephen Sordi,
Resident State Trooper
Ronald Dorazio,
Full Time Officer
Patrick J. Kessler,
Full Time Officer
Caleb I. Shropshire,
Full Time Officer
John Wyshynski,
Part Time Officer
Herbert Fuhman,
Part Time Officer

Treasurer
(2 year term-elected)
Linda L. McGarr

Region #12 Board Education
(Washington Representatives)
(4 year term-elected)
Irene S. Allan, Chairman
Jay H. Hubelbank
Michelle Gorra
Valerie J. Andersen
Lawrence H. O'Toole
James D. Hirschfield

Registrars of Voters
(4 year term-elected)
Constance P. Kaylor
Patricia A. Stoeffler

Board of Selectmen
(2 year term-elected)
Richard C. Sears, First Selectman
Nicholas N. Solley
Harry H. Wyant

Senior Center Director
(appointed)
Pamela F. Collins

Tax Collector
(2 year term-elected)
Tanya J. Wescott

Town Clerk
(4 year term-elected)
Sheila M. Anson

Tree Warden
(appointed)
William C. Bader

Zoning Commission
(6 year term-elected)
Henry Martin, Chairman
Valerie Friedman
A. Cecilia Page
David L. Owen
Gary Fitzherbert
Luis Abella, alt.
Andrew Shapiro, alt.
James Brinton, alt.
Janet M. Hill, Enforcement
Officer

Zoning Board of Appeals
(4 year term-elected)
Edmund J. White, Chairman
Mary J. Roberts
Bradford J. Sedito
Katherine K. Leab
Randolph W. Snook
Georgia P. Middlebrook, alt.
Todd Catlin, alt.
Mark R. Averill, alt.

Herman Margulies and Phemy C. Avendano
Washington April 27, 2004

David A. H. Sherman and Deborah M. Necio
Warren May 7, 2004

Walter W. Wirag, Jr. and Brandy L. Millard
New Milford May 22, 2004

Christopher Piantadosi and Melissa H. Jackson
Washington June 12, 2004

Keith R. Lipinsky and Sarah L. Lyon
Washington June 26, 2004

Daniel H. Tuz and Jessica A. Sorak
Washington June 30, 2004

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004
29 children born to Washington residents

MARRIAGES: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004
50 marriages (partial list)

Fletcher C. Thomson and Maraidh A. Ross
Washington July 11, 2003

Donald F. Ukers III and Christine T. Dowling
Washington July 12, 2003

Michael J. Litter and Katharine L. Bradley
Washington July 12, 2003

Wolfe W. McClurg and Eleanor M. Dexter
New Fairfield July 17, 2003

Randall J. Carreira and Nancy L. Alexander
Bridgewater July 18, 2003

George F. Waterhouse III and Trisha A. Ely
Brookfield July 19, 2003

Richard A. Butler and Elizabeth F. Wilson
Washington August 2, 2003

Chester J. Kason and Cynthia A. Hecken
Norwalk August 16, 2003

Joshua S. Kirschenbaum and Mandie S. Green
Washington October 4, 2003

Peter T. Desmond and Melissa L. Mikolaycik
Washington October 11, 2003

William M. Seguin and Cynthia P. Beck
Washington October 18, 2003

Scott E. Trowbridge and Jennifer L. Sullivan
Washington November 8, 2003

James F. Picton and Paula C. McGray
New Milford November 8, 2003

Kevin J. Dolan and Alison E. Nelson
Washington November 29, 2003

Richard Hutton and Conni Hutton
Naugatuck December 31, 2003

William D. Fell and Nancy B. Maxfield
Redding April 10, 2004

DEATHS: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004
36 deaths

Bruce Bailey, Jr.	July 11, 2003
Nina L. Millard	July 23, 2003
Ruth Lieberman	August 1, 2003
Patricia Doran	August 6, 2003
Raymond F. Wescott	August 14, 2003
Edwin Wright	August 15, 2003
Betty Longley Keeler	August 18, 2003
George R. Pinney	August 28, 2003
Logan Jared Price	September 9, 2003
Stuart A. Moureau	September 17, 2003
Susan R. Kovacs	September 22, 2003
Helen Wersebe	September 30, 2003
Madeleine Herman	October 4, 2003
Catherine A. Tompkins	October 12, 2003
Ruth T. Brunhuber	October 21, 2003
Monika Lisa Swanson	October 22, 2003
George Arthur Murphy	December 2, 2003
Helena M. McGrath	December 6, 2003
David Simmons	December 13, 2003
Jean Putsche Averill	December 23, 2003
Louis Forese	January 5, 2004
Virginia M. Poulson	January 5, 2004
Frederic W. Cheney, Sr.	January 26, 2004
Margaret Alice Brimelow	February 6, 2004
Mary Jane Fecke	February 7, 2004
Agnes M. Anderson	February 5, 2004
Kenneth J. Reger	February 17, 2004
Herbert Witthoft	February 26, 2004
William James Moreland, Jr.	March 1, 2004
Alfred Wendland	March 22, 2004
Barbara Ann Wagner	March 29, 2004
Janice W. Swanson	April 6, 2004
Judith A. Stevens	May 1, 2004
Ralph H. Lyons	May 10, 2004
Mason Smith	May 16, 2004
Donald Simpson	June 21, 2004

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

This past year was a time to look back at our rich heritage and look ahead to a promising future. The Town Plan of Conservation and Development was completed in November. This document recalls our tradition as a rural New England village and guides us in preserving the small-town quality of life that we enjoy.

The Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Commissions, along with the Board of Selectmen began to implement recommendations of the POCD. Zoning began to address the 20+ suggested regulation revisions. Planning began to choose a consultant to launch a Washington Depot Village Center study. Conservation created an *Open Space Committee* to increase permanently preserved open land. The Selectmen appointed a *Housing Diversity Committee* to increase affordable housing.

Election Day 2003 saw Washington turn out the highest percentage of registered voters in any of the 169 towns and cities in Connecticut. We won the "Democracy Cup" and were personally congratulated by Secretary of State, Susan Bysiewicz, who came to Town on January 9, 2004. I took office in late November. I am extremely grateful for the support and patience of the many people who have assisted me as I have settled into the job of First Selectman. I especially want to thank the Selectmen's Assistants, without whom no one could succeed in this office: Kathy Gollow, Maryann Greene, and Phyllis Allen.

225th Anniversary – The Board of Selectmen appointed a Celebration Committee to commemorate Washington's anniversary year "by solemn assembly, by parades, fireworks, illuminations and seemly recreation in gratitude for the past, in high hopes for the future." The yearlong celebration began with an Art show in May that featured child and youth artists. The robust committee planned a calendar of exciting events including a Parade and Picnic slated for August.

Roads and Highways—The town's Highway crew does a fine job keep our roads in good repair. The Selectmen, Board of Finance and Highway Foreman have developed a 10-year capital plan for replacement of machinery and upkeep of roads. This year, Sandstrom and a section of Nettleton Hollow Road were repaved and eight other roads were chip-sealed with oil and stone. Washington supports its public works efforts by providing excellent machinery (a dump truck, road sweeper, and police vehicle were purchased this year) and an adequate budget for materials to rebuild and resurface roadways. The citizens of Washington appreciate the men who drive the snowplows and maintain our

highways.

Discontinuance of Roads—The Board recommended the discontinuance of portions of Old Litchfield, West Mountain, Potash Hill, Curtis, and Bantam River Roads. Town Meetings approved these recommendations.

Municipal Facilities—Under the able direction of the Building and Property Committee, repairs were made to Bryan Memorial Town Hall, the New Preston Pavilion Hall, and the Firehouse at Bryan Plaza. Grants for handicapped access and an elevator for Bryan Memorial Town Hall and road and sidewalk upgrades in Washington Depot and New Preston were formally secured from the Small Cities (federal grant) program and the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (State of Connecticut). Construction on these projects will begin in 2005.

Scenic Roads—An ordinance was passed at the Town Meeting on October 10, 2003 to allow the designation of scenic roads. By June 30th Buffum, Turner and Gunn Hill Roads became designated as "Scenic Roads" by action of the Planning Commission.

I wish to take a moment to recognize the hundreds of volunteers who enrich the quality of life we so enjoy in Washington. The broad picture of volunteerism includes those who serve churches, all sorts of associations and non-profit organizations. In addition to our dedicated 'first responders' (ambulance and fire company members), I particularly want to mention the nearly 100 individuals who serve as appointed or elected members of our boards, commissions, and committees. Hats off to all volunteers in Washington for what you do for our town!

Richard C. Sears
For the Board of Selectmen



Dignitaries on the reviewing stand

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER DOG WARDEN

During the fiscal year of 2003-2004 this office responded to over 1500 animal related complaints and calls. Roaming, barking and nuisance dogs made the top of the list with cat related problems next. The remainder of calls concerned everything from reports of cruelty/neglect, animal bites to humans as well as to other animals, wandering cows and horses, sightings of mountain lions, bobcat, bear, coyote, fox and other assorted wildlife. Concerns about West Nile virus, rabies and other diseases were high on the list as well. It was a very busy year.

In order of health issues there has been a new addition to the list. Snakes. Due to the large amount of excavation and renovation being done in the area, it has disturbed a few isolated nesting grounds of copperheads, which are poisonous. Although rattlesnakes are known to inhabit area towns, as well as ours, they are rarely seen. Copperheads are aggressive and will make their presence known. They are often confused with the milk snake, which is harmless. If you can't tell the difference, keep your distance and call for assistance. At this writing, Sharon Hospital had the anti-venom for both species of snakebites.

As for rabies, the amount of people having to undergo the series of shots/treatment has tripled. Ages of those receiving treatment range from a 10 day old baby to senior citizens. Bats are the main reason for the increase. Incidence of rabies is still high in all other wildlife.

Only 13 dogs were actually impounded this year, while the approximately other 150 turned in were returned to their owners immediately due to being easily identified by their licenses. Dog licenses, which are due each June, can be purchased at the Town Clerks office. This is an inexpensive form of ID.

If you have any questions, call me at 868-2870.

Cynthia Brissett
Animal Control Officer

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

With the completion of the October 1, 2003 revaluation, the Grand List grew to 912,541.18, a forty-seven per cent increase over the previous Grand List. This increase reflects the market which has continued to grow since the previous revaluation, unlike the period after the 1999 revaluation when the market dropped precipitously.

The State Statute regarding revaluations has changed once again and Washington is scheduled for the next one in 2008. At that time, all properties will be physically inspected as they were in 1999.

The State no longer funds the additional veterans' exemption but does mandate that the towns continue to grant this exemption. For last year, this meant that an additional \$8,000.00 had to come from local taxes rather than offset them.

Elderly or disabled homeowners and renters may be eligible for some tax relief. These programs, which have an income requirement, are handled through this office. Please call (860-868-0398) or visit our office for further information.

The cooperation of everyone in the land use offices helps so much with the duties of this office. Thank you.

Barbara S. Johnson, CCMA II

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Fiscal Year 2003-2004 has once again exceeded all of my expectations and set new records. I had sincerely expected the previous years decline in construction to continue for this fiscal year. Instead of a decline, Washington construction increased and we broke the \$40 million dollar mark beating our previous record by just under eight million and pushing the four year average to just under thirty million per year!

The following is a four year comparison:

FISCAL YEAR:	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04
# Permits	699	573	560	623
# New Houses	27	31	17	29
Permit Fees	\$143,774	\$202,544	\$145,872	\$253,426
Total Value	\$21,487,773	\$32,224,970	\$22,928,157	\$40,170,567
Average				
Permit Value	\$30,714	\$56,239	\$40,943	\$64,479

Eleven of the new dwelling units are the latest Washington Community Housing Trust project at the old Montessori School site on Church Street. This project is well under way and I should be issuing Certificates of Occupancies before winter.

At this point I won't attempt to predict what next fiscal year will bring!

William T. P. Jenks
Building Department

ELECTIONS

The Elections Department of the Town of Washington:

- Held two mandatory Voter Registration sessions in October 2003.
- Would like to thank all that voted in the November 2003 Town election and helped Washington win back the Democracy Cup for the highest voter turn out in the State. Also, thank you to our great group of poll workers.
- Mailed the state-required canvass in February 2004. Your prompt returns were greatly appreciated.
- Sent the registrars, a moderator and a candidate for Moderator to a moderator training session to be certified and re-certified.
- Will hold mandated Voter Registration sessions for the November 2004 election at Bryan Memorial Town Hall on Saturday, October 16, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 19, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is the last day to register to vote. * Only new residents, new citizens and residents who turn 18 after October 19th may register on Monday, November 1, 2004 from 9:00a.m. to noon.
- Reminds all residents that November 2, 2004 is Election Day and the polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please be sure to bring ID with you as this will help eliminate waiting time in line.

Patricia A. Stoeffler, Republican Registrar
Constance P. Kaylor, Democratic Registrar

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)/Citizen Corps Council

Your community continues to prepare. Your emergency first responder services continue preparing, training, and updating their status. The town has an excellent emergency communications and alert notification system with Litchfield County Dispatch, which is connected with the federal, state and regional resources and information network.

Northwestern CT Council of Governments and Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials formed the Regional Public Safety Task Force to address local and regional issues related

to domestic (all hazard) preparedness. The Task Force is working to develop a spending plan for the \$760,520 in Homeland Security Grant Funds allotted for this region; Washington's share is \$32,730. Nine projects have been identified to enhance the local and region emergency capabilities:

- Enhance the Capabilities of Local Emergency Operation Centers.
- Provide a Comprehensive Training Program for Town Officials, Police, Fire, Public Health, Emergency, HazMat and other First Responders.
- Develop a Regional Emergency Operations Plan with Standard Operating Procedures
- Develop and Implement a Regional Shelter Management Plan
- Strengthen the Capabilities of Local Emergency Shelters.
- Strengthen the Existing Region Wide System for Emergency Notification for Emergency Responders, Town Officials, Citizens, and Businesses.
- Develop a Regional Emergency Operations Center with Mobile Capabilities.
- Equip a Multi-discipline Regional Response Team with Enhanced and Interoperable Equipment to Respond to Chemical type incidents.
- Participate in Regional and State Exercises

One of this year's local objectives is the formation of a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) in Washington. CT Homeland Security Department has authorized an additional \$5,000 for CERT training which promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. Successful CERT teams have been trained and are active in Danbury through the efforts of the American Red Cross, Vista Volunteer and Council of Governments. CERT teams are currently being formed in Litchfield Hills and Northwest CT Council of Governments.

CERT Goals

- If a disastrous event delays response, CERT members can assist by applying the skills they learned during training.
- These skills can help save and sustain lives following a disaster until help arrives.
- CERT skills also apply to daily emergencies.

PLEASE POST YOUR PROPERTY! Help us help you - clearly display your house number.

In a true emergency, DIAL 911. If a 911 call fails, or for other non-emergency calls or information, use the Town of Washington's emergency telephone number 860-868-7300.

If I can be of any assistance or answer any questions, please feel free to contact me at 868-9942 or my day number is 203-792-8200.

Robert "Rocky" Tomlinson
Emergency Management Coordinator

Families can—and do—cope with disasters and other emergencies by preparing in advance and working together as a team. Knowing what to do is your best protection and your responsibility. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Family Protection Program and the American Red Cross Disaster Education Programs are nationwide efforts to help citizens prepare for disasters of all types. Request free family protection publications from FEMA, P.O. Box 70274, Washington, D.C. 20024 or contact your local American Red Cross Chapter, 40 Main Street, New Milford, CT 06776, telephone 860-354-3415.



George Washington pays a visit

BOARD OF FINANCE

Our budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year was based on a Grand List that increased by \$14,930,880 or just under 2.5%. While the Region 12 budget for the past year increased \$760,700, or just under 5%, our Town's share increased \$44,322 or less than 1% to \$7,261,942. Our student population in the Region actually decreased slightly over the prior year. After credit for Education grants from the State and reimbursements from the Region, our actual Educational expense increased \$185,907 or 2.8%. Actual Town operating expenditures increased \$240,394 or .08% to \$3,288,101, while the Town's capital budget increased

\$444,035. Given the increase in the Town and Region's overall expenditures, the Board increased the mill rate to 16.

The 2004-2005 year's budget is based upon a new revaluation increase in the Grand List by \$284 million. The Region's budget increase was \$797,098 or 4.8% before debt service. Our Town's share would increase \$282,084 or 4.8% to \$7,544,026 before grants and reimbursements. After these credits, we had a .04% increase. The increase in the Town's operating budget was \$26,051 or .8% to \$3,232,051 before debt service. The Town's capital budget increased to \$1,028,576. Given the substantial increase in the Grand List for the year, your Board felt it prudent to decrease the mill rate to 11.00. Given the changes in administration of Region 12, the Board is hopeful that future increases in the Region's budget will be limited to the increase in the Grand List.

Again, this year I would like to thank the returning members of the Board of Finance, Jack Boyer, Rex Swain, Jack Field, Liddy Adams, Craig Schoon, Barbara Brown and Mark Lyon for their dedication and participation and welcome John Allen as a new member.

Michael C. Jackson
Chairman

FIRE MARSHALL

Total fire loss for the year was approximately \$263,000. Most of this resulted from two structure fires which were quickly contained by the Washington Fire Department.

The Washington Montessori School is open and well protected by a built-in sprinkler system. Sprinkler systems provide life and property protection for all and result in lower insurance costs for all protected structures including private dwellings.

Town and local citizens are encouraged to provide water sources for the fire department when and where ever possible. Dry hydrants in ponds or buried storage tanks with hydrants are the best choices. Ponds require maintenance against silting and/or animal life which has the possibility to plug the fire department strainers, as well as freezing in the winter weather. The Town is urged to take a proactive approach to providing storage tanks wherever possible.

Donald S. Etherington
Fire Marshall

JUDEA CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Judea Cemetery is a Town of Washington cemetery, maintained by the Town and a commission of five volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen. At present, Dennis Hussey, Nelly Condon, Dolly Whitney, Ruth Alex and Phyllis Allen serve as members on the Judea Cemetery Commission. Sexton David Swanson maintains the grounds and does the burials.

The annual meeting took place on June 4, 2004 in Bryan Memorial Town Hall. Lots may be purchased by residents of Washington and by nonresidents who have a community interest in the Town. Much interest in lot sales and burials has taken place this fiscal year. Records show that there were fourteen burials and eighteen plots purchased. Future plans are to add one hundred more plots in the cemetery grounds.

The cemetery is located one mile from the Congregational Church on the Green on Judea Cemetery Road. It is situated at the top of the hill in a very rural and picturesque part of town. Washington and its residents take pride in having this serene and beautiful site to bury our loved ones.

Dennis Hussey, Chairman

MUNICIPAL AGENT

The office of the Municipal Agent is responsible for assisting elders by providing information and referrals to services and benefit programs. In the calendar year 2003, this office received approximately 239 inquiries from seniors and the disabled. The services of this office are available to all residents of the Town of Washington over the age of 60 and their families, as well as the disabled. There are no fees or income limitations. My office is open on Tuesdays or by appointment. The phone number is 860-868-0735.

Pamela Collins
Municipal Agent for the Elderly

REPORT FROM THE NEW MILFORD VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

The New Milford Visiting Nurse Association has once again seen a large increase in activities during the past fiscal year in the Town of Washington. We are pleased to be able to care for clients in Washington and very grateful for the continued support of the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the people of the Washington community.

During this year a full time R.N. served the patient population in Washington. In total, 1,008 visits were made to Washington residents. These visits were made by RNs, physical, occupational and speech therapists, medical social workers, and home health aides. We continue to visit the elderly in our Health Promotion Program, an essential community preventive program in which the visiting nurse checks in on a healthy person every month or two to help clients prevent serious health problems. We also continue to offer Well Child Clinic to Washington residents. This well-respected program of the New Milford VNA provides uninsured and underinsured children with examinations and immunizations from birth through 18 years of age. We have also been very busy with our Lyme Disease Education Program, which is available to all within our service area.

Volunteers are an important component of our agency's outreach, and many hours of volunteer work were given to Washington residents both in our Care of the Sick and Hospice Programs. Six Hospice volunteers are residents of the Town of Washington and they provide support in many ways for the terminally ill and their families.

Community Health Nurse Geri Rodda has participated in community programs such as Senior Auditory Screening and Senior Stroke Screening and at the Washington Health Fair. We continue to be part of the Greater New Milford Breast Care Coalition along with New Milford Hospital and its Regional Cancer Center, the New Milford Health Dept., and the American Cancer Society to form the Greater New Milford Breast Care Coalition. Utilizing a grant from the Susan Koman Breast Cancer Foundation, this group is expanding breast care education, providing one-on-one instruction of how to do breast self-examination and education on the importance of mammography. This service is available to anyone in our service area.

NMVNA is the largest provider of flu and pneumococcal vaccines in this area, and we are pleased that in the coming year we will be holding another flu clinic in Washington at the Town Hall on Saturday, October 30, 10-12 Noon, for the convenience of Washington citizens.

Because many of the services and programs provided by NMVNA are non-reimbursable through insurance or are programs offered free of charge to the community, fundraising is an important component of our non-profit

agency. This past year Washington residents enthusiastically supported both our New Milford VNA Foundation fundraising drive and our annual “Tree of Life” campaign. Although the ceremonies were cancelled in 2003 because of inclement weather, we are very grateful for the support of Washington citizens, and look forward to this year’s ceremony which will take place on December 12 at 4:30 p.m. Many thanks to Kathy Gollow, Barbara Johnson and Helen Dutton of Washington who worked so hard putting their committee together for this project for the second year.

New Milford VNA continues to be a state of the art provider of home health care and community health programs. We were re-accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) in April, and re-licensed by the State of Connecticut for all of our homecare programs in June.

A very important initiative in which we are involved is the preparation of a mass vaccination clinic in the event of an emergency.

2003 – 2004 Washington Annual Statistics:
The following information details all home care services provided by the New Milford Visiting Nurse Association to the Town of Washington during the period covering July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004:

Home Care	# Visits
Total:	1,008
Skilled Nursing	313
Occupational Therapy	1
Home Health Aides	482
MSW	11
Speech Therapy	15

WASHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION

The Washington Parks & Recreation begins every fiscal year with the annual 4th of July fireworks extravaganza and road race. The weather was hot and humid, and the winners of the road race were our own Mike Hall and Pam Quist. The holiday picnic ended with a spectacular fireworks display. Summer programs offered by the Parks & Recreation Commission were our very popular Summer Rec Camp (for grades PK-5th), Ace Baseball Camp, Tennis Lessons, Berkshire Field Hockey Camp, Dimensions Basketball Camp, Spartan Hoop School, and Soccer Camp, all well attended. A beautiful beach season and a smooth boat inspection process on Lake Warmaug kept our facilities in full use. The threat of a late season hurricane had residents scrambling to

remove their boats in mid October. Luckily we were spared any high winds and the boat removal went smoothly.

Our usual fall/winter programs included Basketball for grades 1-8 and evening adult open play as well. Swimming lessons for children, Morning Adult Swim and Adult Volleyball in the evening are also offered. Kezia Hearn has offered After School Arts & Crafts Classes for the primary school children with a different theme once a month. Two Yoga classes, Cardio Kickboxing, and Tai Chi keep the upstairs at the Bryan Memorial Town Hall hopping.

Winter brought us Holiday in the Depot (always the second Friday in December), a wonderful town-wide holiday celebration for young and old alike. This annual event is a combined effort with the Washington Business Association, and includes Boy Scouts, the Gunn Memorial Library, the Girl Scouts, and the Washington Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, just to name a few. The crowd was entertained by Washington Primary School children singing Christmas Carols and the Shepaug Valley High School Jazz Band. The weather cooperated to make this event again very successful!

Springtime is busy with Baseball, Softball, T-Ball and Diamond Ball programs.

Bus trips included a trip to Yankee Stadium in September to see the New York Yankees beat the Boston Red Sox and a winter trip to the Broadway play “Mama Mia.”

In September, the Washington Parks & Recreation Commission “kicked off” a fundraising effort to maintain the Pavilion at River Walk Park and add a much needed bathroom facility. We feel this addition will greatly enhance our already beautiful park, and make the park and pavilion more attractive to residents for their personal use. Town residents were asked for donations to help fund this very important project. We are overwhelmed with everyone’s generosity! Our goal is just short of being met and we are confident with your help this project will be built and in use before the next annual report!

As always, the Commission would like to thank all the volunteers who work tirelessly for us and make all our programs a huge success. Remember to thank the coaches, instructors or helpers and let them know how much they do for the good of our Town.

- Lisa A. Easter, Coordinator
- Sheila M. Anson, Chairman
- Tim Cook, Vice Chairman
- Joe Fredlund, Vice Chairman
- Joan Gauthey
- Holly Haas
- C.J. Kersten
- Ray Reich
- Lou Magnoli

PROBATE

On April 27 the Probate Judges and staff gathered at the Supreme Court in Hartford for the annual meeting of the Probate Court Assembly.

Chief Justice Sullivan addressed this distinguished group with praise for the probate system's commitment to the welfare of Connecticut's citizens, noting the people suffering from mental illness and children. He commended the Melissa Project, which coordinates health care and mental health services to wards under Conservatorship in the Waterbury area, and the Regional Children's Court, a pilot program in New Haven striving to improve services to children's matters.

The cost of the pilot program was reviewed and deemed by the Chief Justice as and will be an additional burden to the Probate System, termed "easily" affordable.

The poignant aspect of the Chief Justice's speech centered on the future of the Probate Court System and its alleged financial problem. He made it perfectly clear that the system should not look to the Judicial Branch, its constituents nor the State Comptroller for financial assistance. The work load of the Courts is uneven; the greatest amount of work is done by a small number of Courts. Meanwhile he commented that the work of the large city courts is increasing as their revenue seemingly decreases. The "substantial reserves" of the system should not be relied on to operate the system as money will be needed to operate the children's courts.

At present the 123 courts are not expected to be sustained, according to the Chief Justice. He directed the Probate Administrator to develop a plan addressing all the problems of the probate court system and report to him by October 1, 2004.

A copy of that report is available at the office of the Washington Probate Court. Office hours are from 9 A.M. to noon and 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. An appointment can be arranged by telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,
Hon. Victoria M. Cherniske
Judge of Probate
District of Washington

SENIOR CENTER

Washington Senior Center was established to provide services and activities to senior citizens of the town. The Senior Center serves as a resource for the community, providing information on aging for family caregivers and for assistance in addressing aging issues.

During the past year the following programs and activities were provided:

- Regularly Scheduled Activities offer fun and socialization. Bridge and Scrabble games, knitting and quilting are among the regular activities. Luncheons are held, often with speakers or entertainment. This year's topics included an overview of the new Medicare Reform Act and Lyme disease and its prevention.
- Creative Writing Workshop: Instructor Natalie Bates, author and editor, has been conducting writing workshops for over 15 years. The workshop offers an opportunity for members to develop their creative potential, to learn, share and be inspired by other writers. Also this year, we had an expressive painting class taught by Pamela Hochstetter M. Div.
- Fitness: The Senior Center exercise program continues with regular 40-minute low impact aerobics video workout at 9:00 daily. The exercise programs are free of charge.
- Computer Technology: Individual computer instruction continues to be available at no charge on the computers at the Senior Center. Additional support is offered through the Center's Computer Club that meets monthly.
- Health: Blood pressure screenings continue to be held at the Senior Center on the third Thursday of each month by Visiting Nurse and Homecare Northwest, who also conducted the annual flu clinic in the fall and a bend and stretch exercise program designed to improve balance and prevent falls. In addition, the New Milford VNA conducted a cholesterol screening. Veralyn Davis, audiologist with Hearing Aid Specialist of CT, conducted a free hearing screening. The Senior Center also sponsored a vision screening this past May.
- Trips continue to be very popular. This past year saw trips to the Aqua Turf Club, the Spinning Wheel Inn, sailing aboard a schooner in Mystic, the Mark Twain House and Wadsworth Atheneum, the Log Cabin in Holyoke, MA. and Radio City Christmas Show.
- Senior Van Transportation: The town van provides free transportation for seniors and disabled

persons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. In addition, shopping trips to the Danbury Fair Mall take place monthly. Reservations for the van may be made by calling the Senior Center at least one day ahead.

- **Northwest Corner Chore Service:** This program has been enthusiastically received and continues to grow. The service is available to anyone. Chore Service workers provide light and heavy housekeeping, shopping, laundry, cooking, yard maintenance and minor home repairs. Suggested client contribution is based on a sliding scale of monthly income.
- **Volunteers:** Volunteers play a vital role in the workings of the Senior Center. Our dedicated volunteer staff offers their time and expertise in newsletter preparation, web site development, computer instruction, office tasks and assisting with programs.

We invite those who may not currently participate to stop in or call for information.

Pamela Collins
Senior Center Director

The full statistical report for fiscal year follows:

Service:	Service Town Paid	Paid Service By Other Payor
Blood Pressure		
Screening Clinic	21.0 hours	
Community Liaison50 hours	
Flu Clinic		7.75 hours
Nursing:		
Adult Health Guidance ..	104 visits	
Skilled Nursing		447 visits
Physical Therapy		274 visits
Medical Social Worker		26 visits
Occupational Therapy		3 visits
Speech Therapy		0 visits
Home Health Aide		230.50 hours
Bath Aide		0 hours

Program: Bend and Stretch 6 one hour sessions
Please contact our website: www.vnanw.org for more information.

VISITING NURSE AND HOME CARE NORTHWEST, INC.

Visiting Nurse and Home Care Northwest, Inc. (VNA Northwest) provided a variety of health care services to Washington residents during the past fiscal year, including:

- 447 skilled nursing visits
- 274 physical therapy calls, and:
- 230.50 home health aide hours.

Six sessions of bend and stretch, a program which has been found to build muscle strength, improve balance and prevent falls, were offered. All participants responded positively to the experience on questionnaires.

Monthly blood pressure screenings have continued at two locations, the Washington Senior Center and the NewMil Bank. These sessions have been found to be invaluable in early detection of a wide range of health problems.

Eight FISH volunteers provided a total of 83 rides to five individuals in need. Additionally, 39 volunteers staffed the Route 202 Thrift Shop throughout the year.



Washington Volunteer Ambulance Company

WASHINGTON AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

The Washington Ambulance Association responded to 305 requests for emergency medical services during the year 2003. These ranged from standbys at fire calls and minor incidents to major trauma or serious illness. The Regional Paramedic was automatically dispatched or requested by us for 107 of those calls. Lifestar Aero Medical Service was used six times for transport of a patient to a Level 1

Trauma Center. Most of our patients went to New Milford Hospital unless we were in a part of town where Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington was closer.

We would like to thank the Washington Lions Club for their support and guidance and the Washington Police and Fire Departments for their assistance when responding to calls. While many services around the State have started billing patients, we do not. We are still able to operate through funding provided by donations and the support of the Lions Club. Those contributions are greatly appreciated and allow us to provide quality service to our community.

This year (2003) has seen a significant increase in our emergency calls. The ambulance has been very fortunate in having personnel available during the day while other towns have struggled. Our personnel are highly trained and dedicated (over 2,000 hours) in order to serve the Town of Washington. We continue to serve the Town in so many other ways, for example, medical coverage at several public events in town and providing speakers for first aid instruction while visiting schools.

The Ambulance Association with the cooperation of the Lions Club has succeeded in getting more AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) placed in different locations around town.

We are always looking for more help, especially during the daytime hours. If you are interested in joining us, please call 860-868-7913 or come to one of our meetings which are held at the Depot Firehouse every third Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

Susan D. Wallace
Chief of Operations

WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In the calendar year 2003 the Washington Volunteer Fire Department responded to 199 emergency calls as follows:

Structure Fires	5
Electric Alarms	100
Chimney Fires	3
Smoke Investigations	8
Car Fires	1
Brush Fires	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	40
Wires Down	13
Rescue Calls	6
Hazardous Material Spills	5
CO Alarm Investigations	4
Service Calls	6
Mutual Aid to Neighboring Towns	5

The Washington Volunteer Fire Department also held 12 monthly meetings, 12 monthly company drills and had several members complete a variety of state certified courses. Our new Engine #6, purchased with a combination of town and department funds, was placed in service and has worked well at numerous calls.

The Department once again hosted an annual carnival and several other fundraisers which were enjoyed by members as well as townspeople.

The Washington Volunteer Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to thank all of Washington for their continued support!

Mark E. Lyon, Chief

Washington Volunteer Firefighters



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

From July 2003 through June 2004 the Zoning Board of Appeals accepted 22 applications for variances. Of those, three were withdrawn, five were denied and fourteen were approved. Issues of coverage, setbacks and nonconformity accounted for three-quarters of applications. This is typical and due to the fact that many old properties in Washington pre-date the adoption of zoning and thus are now nonconforming. Setbacks from wetlands, footprints of accessory buildings, the location of noise-generating equipment and signage issues accounted for the remaining quarter of applications.

During this period, the ZBA refined and implemented new application forms, along with guidelines for requesting a variance. These are available on the Town's website, as well as from the land use office. Most notably, the new application requires all applicants to submit an A-2 survey. There has been much discussion about this requirement, as it is often a large expense in relation to what are often modest requests for small improvements. However, since a variance runs forever with the land, and since requesting scale plans has not produced the necessary level of detail and accuracy on most applications, it was decided, after comparing Washington's application with others around the state, that this is a reasonable and prudent requirement.

In March, members attended a workshop on "Roles and Responsibilities of Land Use Commissioners." The ZBA continued working with the Zoning Commission to develop changes to the zoning regulations relating to the modification of old and historic nonconforming structures, which have now been adopted as section 17.5 "Special Exceptions for Nonconforming Structures."

The Zoning Board of Appeals has been sued by two separate parties in response to variance denials. One suit has since been dropped, and the other is on-going, with attorney Michael Zizka representing ZBA.

In July 2003, Reese Owens resigned from the board after many years of thoughtful, articulate and distinguished service; and Todd Catlin joined the board as an alternate. In the November elections, Randolph Snook was elected as a regular member, and Mark Averill was elected as an alternate. In January, Ed White was once again elected chairman and Polly Roberts was elected vice chairman.

Respectfully submitted,
Edmund J. White, chairman
Polly Roberts, vice chairman
Katharine K. Leab
Bradford Sedito
Randolph W. Snook
Mark R. Averill, Alt.
Todd B. Catlin, Alt.
Georgia Middlebrook, Alt.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2004

The Conservation Commission was created by Town Ordinance #7096, effective January 1, 2000. Its powers and duties are those set forth in Section 7-131a of the CT General Statutes.

Activities during fiscal year 2003-2004

We accepted the resignation of Elaine Luckey with great thanks and made Elaine an honorary member of the Conservation Commission.

Referrals from other land use commissions are appreciated; our role is advisory.

An Ordinance Authorizing Acquisition of Open Space Land with an Open Space Acquisition Fund was approved at the Fall 2003 town meeting. At the May 2004 Town Meeting, a \$25,000 allocation was approved in the FY04-05 Town budget.

Road Discontinuance Subcommittee chaired by Kelly Boling is working with the Planning Commission to evaluate roads to be discontinued, reserving the right for future use for passive recreation. Portions of Old Litchfield, West Mountain, Potash Hill and Curtis Roads were discontinued by town meeting.

The Scenic Roads Ordinance was adopted at the Fall 2003 town meeting. How-to-propose-a-road-for-scenic-designation information packets are available in the Land Use Office. Applications are made to the Planning Commission. Approved scenic roads include Buffum Road, Turner Road and portions of Shinar Mountain Road and Gunn Hill Road.

An Open Space Committee was established in March 2003 to assist in the implementation of the 2003 Town Plan of Conservation and Development. The chair is Dan Sherr, with Patte Doran, Diane Dupuis, Rod Funston, Phil Gorrivan, Phil Market, Colleen Moriarty, Susan Payne, Dimitri Rimsky, Chick Treadway, Diane Williams and Jack Field as advisor. The Open Space Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5 PM in the Land Use room.

The Welcome/Land Use Brochure Committee of Tony Bedini, chair, Siggie Hildmann, Kelly Boling, Jane Boyer, Susan Payne, and Candace Korzenko completed its brochure that will be published October 2004 and distributed to town residents. An enormous thanks goes to Candace Korzenko for layout, design and production. We also owe the Watts Fund of the First Congregational Church our great thanks and appreciation for funding this project.

Standing* Subcommittees:

- Cell Tower-Phil Markert, chair, Diane Dupuis
- Data Management for Land Use Needs-Kelly Boling, chair, with George Blake, Dimitri Rimsky, Fritz Byerly and Chris Charles.
- Flora & Fauna/Invasives, Endangered Species & Bird Identification – Betsy Corrigan, chair; Natalie Dyer, Diane Dupuis, Robbie Barnett, and Linda Potter
- Greenway – Susan Payne, chair, with Bob Williams, Addie Roberts, Elisha Dyer, Bonnie Matthews, Bob deCourcy, Kelly Boling, Linda Potter, Dan Sherr and Dorothy Wilson.
- Greenway is on Town Web Site
- Historic Points-of-Interest Trail Guide planned for publication spring 2005. Cindy Brissett has volunteered as its illustrator and designer.
- Annual trail monitoring needs volunteers.
- Monitoring of Town properties -Linda Frank.
- Open Space Committee – Dan Sherr
- Road Discontinuance- Kelly Boling.
- School Connection/ways to involve public and private school students –Linda Frank
- Water Resources – Phil Markert, chair, Randy Bernard, Susan Payne

*Representatives from other town commissions are invited to participate. Volunteers always needed.

The commission is most grateful for the expert services of Pam Osborne as our secretary.

Susan Payne, chair; Kelly Boling, vice-chair; Betsy Corrigan, Joe Gitterman, Phil Markert; alternates: Linda Frank and Diane Dupuis. One alternate vacancy.

The Conservation Commission meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5PM in the Land Use Room.

THE GUNN MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Firmly rooted in the history of a remarkable town, Gunn Memorial Library and Museum continues to play an integral role in the lives of the townspeople. Not only have we stood the test of time, but we also continue to meet the needs of the present, while addressing the challenges of the future.

Our patrons and users represent all walks of life in our extraordinary town. New residents connect, seniors

interact, and young mothers meet peers as toddlers commence a journey to the wonders of books. Current events are discussed, political concerns are addressed, health issues are investigated, and the classic joys of reading are savored. Students of all ages are supported in their studies. Passive recreational needs are met with our multitude of media offerings. The past is kept alive through judicious preservation and exciting, interactive exhibits.

A dynamic presence, Gunn Memorial has moved forward and remains influential in the community and the lives of its residents. Whether as a place to study and learn, explore and investigate, engage and socialize, or simply relax, we provide the opportunity for a diverse population to pursue varied interests. Our quest to meet the mission of our forefathers continues with a strong and solid commitment, as we adapt to fulfill evolving expectations. The accomplishments of this year are representative of many past years, and set an example for our future achievements.

Space constraints require concise reporting; so various statistics are highlighted below. Please contact the Library or Museum for additional information.

Items of note during the past year include:

- Our total annual circulation increased to 64,790 items, 2.3% increase from last year.
- 481 interlibrary loans were borrowed from other libraries for our patrons.
- The GML loaned 165 items to other libraries on interlibrary loan.
- The book sale raised a record sum of \$ 20,840!
- A total of 3,475 townspeople are registered in the library as patrons.
- An average of 613 people used the library each week.
- 2,675 registered to use the Internet in the adult library.
- 4,917 new items were added to the collection and 2,611 items were deleted.
- 932 items were requested and held for patrons.
- In the adult library, the GML continued to offer outstanding programming to our patrons. A total of 1,480 patrons attended 47 varied programs.
- Our faithful volunteer corps rose to 81 people.
- In the Junior Library, a total of 134 programs were offered for three age groups (ages 0-2's, ages 3-5's, and ages 6-14) with a total attendance of 2,156.
- A successful after-school game club for 3rd through 5th graders began in February and ran through the end of the school year.
- Supported by a dedicated crew of volunteers, our Childrens' Holiday Sale was very successful. Even with a snow day cancellation, we drew 140 shoppers with sales of \$1,346.32!
- The Summer Reading Program entitled "Take Flight

With Reading” honored the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers’ historic first flight. There were 262 readers logging 5,583 hours read and over 60 local businesses and individuals donated 145 prizes.

- Museum attendance totaled 1,722 visitors.
- The Museum hosted three major exhibits: Picture Perfect: The Art of John Folinsbee; Under The Big Top; and Game Today! 100 Years of Baseball in Washington, 1860-1960.
- With the help of several museum volunteers, restoration work began on a 200-year old barn-frame loom in the museum’s collection , which was assembled in a second floor gallery.
- Despite three weekend snowstorms in December, the Museum’s popular holiday exhibition on the circus attracted 913 children and adults in just six weeks!

We look forward to your continued visits and welcome those of you who are not yet regular patrons

Jean Chapin
Executive Director

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The public health service agreement between the Town of Washington and the Town of New Milford was updated and continued during this fiscal year. The services provided cover all basic services related to environmental and public health. These include permitting and approval of subsurface sewage disposal systems and private wells for any building activity, inspections of food service establishments, investigation of complaints, water testing at the Town Beach and follow-up on cases of reportable disease.

Service hours in the Town of Washington are held on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Office hours are from 9:30 to 10:30 AM and field inspections are conducted after office hours and at other times. Business may also be conducted during the regular hours of the New Milford Health Department, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

The activities performed by the Department for the current fiscal year were as follows:

Septic Permits Issued:	
New	24
Repair.	16
Private Well Permits Issued.	17
Food Service Inspections.	29

The total amount of permit fees collected for all Health Department activities was \$7,270.00

Several bathing water samples were collected at the Washington Town Beach during the year. Results showed that the water quality continues to be excellent for bathing.

In regard to reportable diseases, there was a change in reporting procedures for Lyme disease during the year, which resulted in a reduction in the number of reports received. There were fourteen (14) reports received from area physicians and medical laboratories. The disease that was reported most frequently was Lyme disease (7 reports).

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Historic District Commission conducted twelve regular meetings, twenty seven public hearings concerning applications for Certificates of Appropriateness, four special meetings and one site visit. Eleven Certificates of Appropriateness were issued.

William Smith stepped down as Chairman in February, but will remain on the Commission. He was a dedicated, energetic leader for fifteen years. The members of the Commission are grateful to him for his exceptional and thoughtful service.

The Commission elected Paul Graney as their new Chairman. Five years ago Paul was recruited as an alternate on the strength of his background in historic preservation and contracting.

As one of his first official duties, he introduced a new element of communication from HDC to residents living in the three historic districts. A memo will be sent to all residents within a district notifying them when a public hearing is scheduled for an application for Certificate of Appropriateness. The purpose of this notification will be to allow all residents of an historic district to have a voice in the protection of the architectural and cultural character of their district.

Paul Graney, Chairman
Charles Treadway, Vice Chairman
Peter Talbot, Secretary
Alison Picton
William Smith
Jane Boyer, Alternate
Ronald Chute, Alternate
Elizabeth Rives, Alternate

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

The Inland Wetlands Commission is mandated by State Statute to protect the Town's wetlands and watercourses from degradation and pollution.

Its members give many hours of their time, in addition to the twice monthly meetings, to attend educational seminars and to review on-site conditions where regulated activities are proposed. 51 site inspections were made in the latter regard in fiscal year 2003-2004. During that period, the Commission approved 67 applications (2 after-the-fact), denied 8 (usually due to incomplete information), ruled that 2 applications were eligible for exemptions, and "seconded" 6 approvals by its agent, Wetlands Enforcement Officer Michael Ajello. One application was withdrawn before action was taken. Eleven violations were the subject of ongoing discussion; 8 of those, some of which had been on the agenda for many months, were resolved.

Mr. Ajello provided invaluable, knowledgeable back-up to the Commission and Land Use Secretary Katherine Moquin was a cheerful presence, ever ready to help the public.

Commission members as of June 30, 2004 were Dorothy Hill, Chairman, Mark Picton, Vice Chairman, Helen Gray, Charles LaMunier, and Marguerite Purnell; alternate members were Anthony Bedini and Candace Korzenko. Alternate Robert Weber had resigned in December 2003 due to his work schedule.

Early in July 2004, Mr. Picton was elected Chairman and Mrs. Korzenko Vice Chairman by the Commission.

Dorothy G. Hill, Chairman
Helen Gray
Charles LaMunier
Marguerite Purnell
Mark Picton
Candace Korzenko
Anthony Bedini
Kathryn Coe

LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

2003-2004

The Lake Waramaug Authority is responsible for ensuring that Lake Waramaug is used safely for all recreational activities. To that end, the Lake Waramaug Authority Marine Patrol conducts random patrols on the lake during the summer months, and in the early spring and autumn season. They enforce the State of Connecticut Boating Regulations, conduct safety checks, provide emergency assistance, rescue and transport, and support the inspection of watercraft on the lake. The Lake Waramaug Authority was established to ensure that the Lake remains a safe and enjoyable site for sport and recreation throughout the year.

The Lake Authority supports the most significant change by the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Law that states it is now illegal to transport a vessel or trailer used in fresh water without first inspecting it for the presence of invasive vegetation and removing that vegetation. The penalty is a court appearance and a fine of up to \$100. It is the consensus of the Lake Authority Members that the continuing procedure of inspecting boats at the Washington Launch Site is most effective and for the most part, boaters have been cooperative and understand the importance of this action for the prevention of the introduction of invasive species into Lake Waramaug.

In conjunction with the Lake Waramaug Association and The Task Force, the clear definition of docks and floats was established this year. Plans for any dock extending more than 40 ft. into the lake will first approach the Lake Authority for approval and then approach The Town of Washington Zoning Commission. No re-grading or contouring will be allowed, nor will masonry or stonework, and stairs may be no wider than 5ft. Docks may not have a roof, a raised platform or other apparatus, and must adhere to the side yard setback regulations that are currently in



Papa Joe and friends

place. New boathouses are strictly for storage and may not contain any type of plumbing, inflow or outflow of water, nor may they be for human habitation.

Representatives of the Lake Waramaug Authority are appointed in the Town of Kent and Washington and elected in the Town of Warren. Representatives from Kent are Treasurer Gary Davis, Kevin Brady and Tim Hannen. Appointed representatives from Washington include Secretary Sandy Papsin, Ed Matthews and Dean Sarjeant. Elected members from Warren are Chairman Ed Berner, Bill Hopkins, and Gary Curtiss. Washington Resident Trooper Steve Sordi has been instrumental in implementing an extensive schematic emergency preparedness plan for the Lake that has proved effective and functional for large scale events on the Lake including the spring crew races and regattas. Steve works closely with the Lake Authority and the Marine Patrol Staff.

Sandy Papsin
Lake Waramaug Authority Secretary

Anniversary parade judges



PLANNING COMMISSION

The Washington Planning Commission meets on the first Tuesday of each month, except in November when it meets on the first Wednesday. Regular Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. in the Land Use Meeting Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, Ct.

During the past fiscal year the Planning Commission conducted the following business:

- 12 Regular Meetings were held.
- 15 Special Meetings, including 6 to work on the Plan of Conservation and Development, 7 site inspections, and 2 to work on the Washington Depot Business District Study, were held.
- 6 Public Hearings were conducted.
- 7 Referrals from the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Commission, and Conservation Commission were considered.
- 4 Preliminary Discussions were held.
- 5 Subdivision and Resubdivision applications were considered.
- 6 Lots were approved.

George Bender, Commission Chairman, reported to the Board of Selectmen on January 5, 2004 that the Commission had completed the update of the 2003 Plan of Conservation and Development on time and under budget. Throughout the summer and early autumn the Commission regularly scheduled extra meetings to focus on completion of the Plan. A public informational meeting was held in July and a public hearing on the final draft was held on October.

On December 2, 2003 the Plan was formally adopted. The Commissioners extend their gratitude to Planimetrics, the Town staff and commissions, and all of the members of the public who so willingly gave their time and input to help the Commission draft this important document.

Late in 2003 the Conservation Commission referred the draft Town Scenic Road Ordinance to the Commission for its review, and this was subsequently approved at a Town Meeting. In December the Planning Commission designated Turner Road as a scenic road, the first road to be protected under the new Town Ordinance. Other scenic roads designated throughout the year were .9 of a mile of Gunn Hill Road and Buffum Road. An application for Shinar Mountain Road was pending at the end of June.

With the completion of the Plan of Conservation and Development, the Commission began work to implement one of its major recommendations to conduct a detailed study of the Washington Depot Business District area. The study will address many significant issues such as: what measures can be taken to improve parking and traffic circulation, how can the Depot become more "pedestrian friendly," what is the most appropriate use of the old Town garage property on Titus Road, how

can the Town best promote small businesses in the area, what methods can be used to encourage mixed use of Depot properties, what impact will development have on the existing septic and water facilities, and how can the character of the Depot area be enhanced and preserved. In May the Commissioners met with planners from UConn and Yale to get advice on how to get the study underway. At the end of the fiscal year they were drafting a request for a proposal letter to be sent to prospective consulting firms. It is hoped a consulting firm will be hired before the end of 2004 so that work on the study may begin early in 2005.

In 2003-2004 the Planning Commission lost two valued Members and welcomed two new Alternates. The resignation of Dirk Sabin was regrettably accepted. Dirk had previously served on the Conservation Commission and as Chairman of the Inland Wetlands Commission and his vast experience in land use matters is sorely missed. In December long time Member and friend, Jean Averill, died. Jean was first appointed to the Planning Commission in March of 1985. She served for many years as the Commission's representative to the Northwest Ct. Council of Governments and as Secretary of the Commission, and was a recipient of the Ct. Federation of Planning and Zoning Commissions' distinguished service award. It will be a most difficult task to replace her years of experience and knowledge of Town history. Addie Roberts was moved up from Alternate to Member and Bill Fairbairn and Paul Frank were appointed as Alternates.

George Bender, Chairman
Chris Charles, Vice Chairman
Fritz Byerly
Dimitri Rimsky
Addie Roberts
Alternates:
Robert Buck
Bill Fairbairn
Paul Frank

Jean Hough, Jack Muckstadt - anniversary parade grand marshalls



POLICE

Today's society dictates the importance of Police presence. Positive interaction between the police and the residents whom live, visit and enjoy the town of Washington is the answer to a safer community. The Resident Trooper Office continues to identify and address the needs of the Washington area.

The Resident Trooper office continues to offer the following programs and services:

- **Child Safety Seat Inspections:** Car seat installation by a NHTAS certified car Instructor
- **Connecticut Safety Boating Course:** License issued upon completion.
- **Residence Vacation Checks**
- **National Child Identification Program:** This program is in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, American Football Coaches and other law enforcement agencies across the US. The program includes fingerprinting, photographing and collecting a DNA sample from your child. All information collected is given to the parent for their safekeeping.
- **D.A.R.E :** Drug Abuse Resistance Education: Introduced to students at the fifth grade level.
- **The Shepaug Youth Patrol.** An opportunity for the youth of the Shepaug region to receive specialized training and assist police while interacting with the community in a positive manner. This program is offered to the Region 12 high school students.

During the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the Resident Trooper Office hired Patrick Kessler full time. Officer Kessler worked as a part time constable for the town of Washington for the previous five years. Officer Kessler is a certified car seat technician and has extensive past experience dealing with motor vehicle statutes. Officer Kessler helped establish and is currently an advisor for the Shepaug Youth Patrol. Officer Kessler is a member of the Lake Waramaug Marine Patrol.

Detailed Statistics for the 2003-2004 Fiscal year are as follows:

Residential Alarms (Unfounded):	461
Medical Assists	45
Robberies	1
Burglaries	11
Assaults	16
Criminal Mischief	8
Narcotics	9
DUI's	14
Larcenies	18
Motor Vehicle Accidents	114
Missing Persons	3

I would like to thank the townspeople for their continued support of the Police Department. The statistics stated in this report indicate the efforts of the community, as well as, the Police Department continue to help reduce the amount of crime within the town.

I would request that all homeowners who utilize residential burglar alarms have them serviced on an annual basis. Last year we responded to 461 unfounded alarms. A good percentage of these false alarms were due to poor maintenance or user error.

I would also request that all homeowners clearly mark their residence with their assigned street number. The numbers should be visible from the road, during both the day and night. Your assistance with this matter will allow the department to offer the quickest response time.

Trooper Stephen Sordi
Washington Resident Trooper



“The Pride of Washington” a family farm float

**SHEPAUG VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT #12**

Introduction

The 2003-2004 school year was marked by significant student achievement and by progress in other important areas. Students, again, outperformed their peers in the state and in their reference group in all statewide assessments. Other significant advances occurred as the board of education initiated a strategic planning process and made progress in addressing the condition of the elementary

school facilities in the district. Finally, Shepaug Valley Regional High School hosted the decennial visit of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to assess the school’s accreditation. The very positive report from this group on the manner in which the school meets its standards was yet another highlight of the year. It will be evident in this report that Regional School District No.12 continues to address the academic, social, and emotional needs of its students at very high levels.

Among the major projects undertaken by the school district were: a review of the facilities needs on the elementary school level, the search for a new Director of Finance, the search for a new elementary school principal, a review of methods of communicating effectively with the public including a new website, the passing of a budget for the 2004-2005 school year, a thorough review of the language arts curriculum in grades K-5. Each of these initiatives absorbed the time, effort, and energy of board of education members, staff, and the community. First, however, I shall highlight the achievement of our students during the 2003-2004 school year.

2003-2004 Student Achievement

- 91% of the class of 2002 will be continuing their formal education
- 87% will be attending four year colleges/universities
- 4% of the class will be entering the workforce and/or postponing college for one year

Top “10” Seniors/Class of 2004

Name	College/University Attending
Reid Folger Allen	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Kyle Kellogg Azeved	Johns Hopkins University
Rachael Anne Cooke	Connecticut College
Lauren Michelle Eddy	Central CT State University
Cesira Kathleen Farrell	Savannah College of Art and Design
Anne Elizabeth Griffin	Denison University
Kara A. Haragdon	Barnard College
Anne Catherine Linley	Siena College
Sarah Elizabeth Prendergast	Bucknell University
Lindsay Michelle Young	Providence College

Student of the Year

Amanda Easter

Teacher of the Year for RSD #12 (2003-2004)

Michele Segerson –Booth Free School Teacher – Grade 2

Superintendent's Awards (CAPSS)

WPS	5th grade, Matthew Griffith
BES	5th grade, Hayley Berg
BFS	5th grade, Rosemary Galinski
MS	8th grade, Jessica Bisignano
HS	11th grade, Alexandra Gross
HS	12th grade, Anne Linley

Western Connecticut Superintendent's Awards (CAPSS)

HS	11th grade, Claire Wescott
HS	12th grade, Reid Allen

CABE (CT Association of Boards of Education) Student Leadership Award (HS)

12th grade, Rachael Cooke / Ian Kimball

CAS (CT Association of Schools) Scholar-Athlete Awards (H.S.)

Anne Linley / Pierce Clair

CAS (CT Association of Schools) Scholar Leader Awards (M.S.)

Eleanor Curren / Zachary Gross

President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Emma Dzamko / Anna Halkiotis

High Honors all year for Academic Achievement at High School

Grade 9	Nora Allen, Brianna Cleary, Christina Fernandez-O'Toole, Conor Galligan, Rebecca Hora, Susannah Horton, Ashley Kraft, Tara O'Connell-Santos, Caitlin Ronan, Christina Wells
Grade 10	Kristie Anderson, Ashley Cartagena, Colby Chapin, John Lent, Kevin Richardson, Justin Wright
Grade 11	Jessica Alex, Camille Bevans, David Breeckner, Christopher Carlson, Aubri Gillespie, Alexdra Gross, Aaron Kaufman, Jessica Randall, Kevin Uniacke, Claire Wescott
Grade 12	Katie Anderson, Kim Anson, Kyle Azevedo, Theresa Braccio, Rachael Cooke, Lauren Eddy, Cesira Farrell, Anne Griffin, Kara Hargadon, Anne Linley, Christopher Murray, Sarah Prendergast, Amanda Wells, Lindsay Young

National Honor Society Members at High School

Present Members:

Whitney Ale, Blair Allan, Katie Anderson, Kim Anson, Kyle Azevedo, Theresa Braccio, Pierce Clair,

Eliza Connolly, Rachael Cooke, Angela DiChiaro, Emmanuella Drakatos, Amanda Easter, Lauren Eddy, Cesira Farrell, John Fitch, Aubri Gillespie, Anne Griffin, Alexandra Gross, Kara Hargadon, Travis Horrigan, Rebecca Horton, Aaron Kaufman, Ian Kimball, Anne Linley, Ryan McGorty, Angela McHan, Christopher Murray, Jennifer Osborne, Sarah Prendergast, Jessica Randall, Jonathan Taylor, Kevin Uniacke, Amanda Wells, Claire Wescott, Lindsay Young

Newly Elected Members:

Jessica Alex, Blair Allan, Sean Allan, Camille Bevans, David Breeckner, Nacole Brown, Christophe Carlson, Elizabeth Clinton, James Edwards, Courtney Hora, Megan Mausolf-Mark

Athletic Achievements/Information

Number of Athletes by Season

Fall	65 (Male)	89 (Female)
Winter	64 (Male)	63 (Female)
Spring	108 (Male)	85 (Female)
Totals	237	237

Combined Records

38	wins	20 losses	10 ties
54	wins	18 losses	
82	wins	30 losses	
Totals	174 wins	67 losses	10 ties

Athletic Programs Offered

Female:	Field Hockey, Cross County, Soccer, Basketball, Swimming, Cheerleading, Track, Tennis, Softball, Golf (10 programs)
Male:	Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Swimming, Ice Hockey, Track, Tennis, Baseball, Golf (9 programs)

CIAC State Champion

Boys Cross Country

Berkshire League Championships

Field Hockey / Boys Cross Country
Swimming / Boys Tennis / Boys Track

First Place Sportsmanship Awards from Berkshire League

Boys Basketball / Golf / Softball / Girls Track / Baseball

Michaels Cup Award

Shepaug Valley High School was named as the overall Michaels Cup Award winner for the State of Connecticut for 2003-2004

Charles McGinnus Award (top male athlete)

Max Steinmetz

Joseph Babcock Award (top female athlete)

Brittany Taylor

Northern Regional Music Festival

Rachael Cooke / Nicole Thorpe

Connecticut Association of Schools (Top Fine Arts)

Martin Curnan / Lauren Eddy

Outstanding Academic Achievement (Middle School) (8th Grade)

Zachary Gross

Facilities

After an exhaustive review of many alternatives to address space needs issues in the elementary schools, the board of education decided to pursue a course of renovating and possible adding on to these aging structures. Members of the Boards of Selectmen and Finance in all of the three towns offered the opinion that a single, new consolidated school would not be in the best interest of their communities. The lack of availability of suitable land to build such a school was also a factor in the board's decision. Thus, the process of seeking funding for the design and reconstruction of these facilities commenced in the late spring of 2004.

Elementary School Principal Search

Mrs. Sharon Beitel resigned as principal of Booth Free School and Burnham Elementary School effective at the end of the 2003-2004 school year. Mrs. Beitel provided excellent service to the children of Bridgewater and Roxbury during her tenure among us. She was a strong and vocal advocate for addressing the space needs in both schools and for maintaining up-to-date curriculum and instructional methods.

A screening committee of staff members and parents was formed to review application materials and to interview candidates. That committee made recommendations to the superintendent who proposed a finalist to the Board of Education. That finalist was Ms. Cathy G. Colella.

Ms. Colella is an experienced and a child-centered school administrator. She served for the previous ten years as principal of Bungay Elementary School in Seymour, CT. While leading that school, she was responsible for raising the achievement levels of her students on standardized tests and on all other measures of academic success. She oversaw the extensive renovation of her school building, and she was responsible for developing a parent support/volunteer group that numbered in excess of 200 people. Students and staff are very pleased to have such an accomplished professional among us.

Mastery Testing Scores

At the elementary and middle school level the Connecticut Mastery test results for grades 4, 6 and 8 are as follows (taken fall 2002) (index scores as reported by state):

Math	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	62	64	67
State Average	58	62	56

Reading	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	67	74	71
State Average	54	62	67

Writing	4th Grade	6th Grade	8th Grade
RSD #12	71	73	63
State Average	66	63	62

In addition, the Connecticut Mastery Test results lead to the following important information for our district:

(excellence (highest) level only in parentheses)

% of RSD #12 4th Graders at levels of proficiency or excellence

Math	80(62)	Reading	79(67)	Writing	77(71)
------	--------	---------	--------	---------	--------

% of RSD #12 6th Graders at levels of proficiency or excellence

Math	86(64)	Reading	84(74)	Writing	91(73)
------	--------	---------	--------	---------	--------

% of RSD #12 8th Graders at levels of proficiency or excellence

Math	86(67)	Reading	84(71)	Writing	92(63)
------	--------	---------	--------	---------	--------

SAT Scores

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Verbal					
RSD #12	548	554	513	532	542
State	510	510	508	509	509
Nation	505	505	505	506	504

Math					
RSD #12	524	527	519	522	538
State	509	509	509	510	509
Nation	512	511	514	514	516

Combined					
RSD #12	1072	1081	1032	1054	1080
State	1019	1019	1017	1019	1018
Nation	1017	1016	1019	1020	1020

2004 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT)

CAPT Test	Math	Reading	Science	Writing
ERG Rank*	5th	3rd	9th	11th
State Rank**	41st	26th	55th	49th
% Mastery	60.9	68.5	54.8	63.7
% Prof.	89.2	88.1	95.7	88.0

* ERG - Educational Reference Group: Districts determined by the state to be similar to Region 12 in terms of many socio- economic factors.

**State ranking out of 122 districts



Prize-winning "cherry pie" float

2003-2004 Enrollment Information

Burnham School	128
Booth Free School	145
Washington Primary School	184
Middle School	277
High School	402

The space issues at Booth and Burnham continue to be a concern. The board of education, through its budget for 2003-2004 has added modular classrooms to Booth and has converted interior space at Burnham to temporarily address this problem.

Financial Information

1. The appropriated 2003-04 budget was \$16,481,938. The unaudited/unofficial 2003-04 budget ended with a surplus of \$48,358.
3. The bond rating for the district remained at AA (Fitch rating).
4. % distribution between towns for student population and budget payments - (assessment) for 2003-04 based upon Oct. 1, 2002 student population:

Bridgewater	Roxbury	Washington
24.93%	31.01%	44.06%

5. Recent history of budget increases and enrollment increases over previous years.

	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04
Enrollment	3.5%	0.4%	1.9%	1.2%	.6%	.5%
Budget Incr.	4.9%	4.74%	6.07%	7.31%	8.97%	4.84%

Note: The budget increase for 2004-2005 is 4.83%

Board Of Education – Regional School District No. 12 2003-2004

		Term Exp.
Irene Allan (Treasurer)	Washington	2005
Valerie Andersen	Washington	2005
David Baron	Roxbury	2005
Mardie Ford	Bridgewater	2007
Sheila Gross (Secretary)	Roxbury	2007
James Hirschfield	Washington	2005
Jay Hubelbank (Chair)	Washington	2005
Daniel Leab	Washington	2007
Lawrence O'Toole	Washington	2007
Laszlo Pinter	Bridgewater	2007
Gary Steinman	Roxbury	2007
Fred Stern (Vice Chair)	Bridgewater	2005

As was stated at the beginning of this report, this was a year of great change. It was also a year of great progress and achievement.

Richard E. Carmelich, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Santa visits the "Holiday in the Depot"

**SHEPAUG VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2004**

Whitney Virginia Ale	Rebecca Kate Horton
Blair Elizabeth Allan	Mark William Jackson
Sean G.Allan	Adam David Johnson
Reid Folger Allen	Kris R. Kaczowski
Katie M.Anderson	Ian J. Kimball
Kimberly Scott Anson	Logan M. Kjep
Kyle Kellogg Azevedo	Anne Catherine Linley
Luke Matthew Bedini	William Handel May
Michelle Lynn Bernardi	Angela Mae McHan
Tracy Birkins	Christopher Anthony Moore II
Theresa J. Braccio	John Henry Munson
Nacole Lynn Brown	Christopher Mellace Murray
Jason R. Cable	Wesley T. Murray
Melanie Nicole Carreira	Kyle Peter Neukom
Tyler Benjamin Chappius	John David O'Donnell
Jason Lewis Cheney	Brett Michael Olivieri
Deborah Mary Cherniske	Jennifer Lee Osborne
Pierce Alexander Clair	John Bartholomew Pascal
Nicole Marie Cloutier	Tyler Andrew Pinkos
Eliza A. Connolly	Daniel M. Pirone
Rachel Anne Cooke	Dana Alexis Polley
Vincent Philip Cossuto	Ana Belen Porras
Katie Alicia Crandall	Lauren Mary Pratt
Martin Charles Curnan	Sarah Elizabeth Prendergast
Lindsay Rae Darling	Ania Elizabeth Przygocki
Collin Nelson Daulong	Robert Repko
Matthew Galen DeMado	Brian J. Rossiter
Ronald Francis DeRosa	Sam Robert Sabin
Angela Marie DiChiaro	Zachary L. Schoenholtz
Emmanuella Drakatos	Christopher Durant Smith
Emma Jay Dzamko	Christie L. Spillane
Amanda Marie Easter	Paul Michael Steinmetz
Lauren Michelle Eddy	Brittany J. Taylor
Cesira Kathleen Farrell	Seth M. Temple
John M. Fitch	Nicole L. Thorp
Anne Elizabeth Griffin	Joseph M. Tompkins
Lourdes Noemi Guaman	Christopher John van Rooyen
Anna Marie Halkiotis	Joshua Z. Weiss
David Brice Hargadon	Amanda Cathryn Wells
Kara A. Hargadon	Alexandria Wheeler
Ashley Suzanne Haverly	Sydney Michel Worobel
	Lindsay Michelle Young

ZONING COMMISSION

The Washington Zoning Commission schedules regular meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Land Use Meeting Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall. These meetings are open to the public.

During the 2003 - 2004 fiscal year, the Commission held 12 Regular Meetings, 3 Special Meetings, and 19 Public Hearings to consider Special Permit applications and revisions to the Zoning Regulations. The Zoning Department processed a total of 195 applications. Of these, 178 were acted on by the Zoning Enforcement Officer and 17 Special Permit applications and renewal requests were considered by the Commission. Five applications were denied and three were evaluated as incomplete and returned.

Applications Evaluated

Type	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04
New House	12	14	11	12
Attached Acc. Apart.	4	0	1	2
Detached Acc. Apart.	6	3	3	3
Additions/Alterations To exist. Dwellings	55	43	40	53
Accessory Structures New/Repair	25	33	28	39
Swimming Pools	17	15	12	12
Gravel Mine Or Excavate	0	0	0	0
Commercial	7	11	4	8
Tennis and Sports Courts	2	0	1	0
Change of Use	1	2	7	6
Demolition	4	2	4	7
Signs, Fences, etc	16	17	18	15
Bed and Breakfast	3	1	0	0
	+1 renewal	+1 renewal		2 renewals
Creation of Building Lot	1	2	1	1
Home Occupation	3	3	0	1
		+1 renewal	+2 renewals	
Temporary: Tents, Events ¹	0	0	1	0
Affordable Housing	0	0	1	0
Other	5	4	10	19
Lot Line Revisions		2	6	7

¹ Does not include Tag Sale permits

Again this year, the Zoning Commission's main focus was on updating and improving the Washington Zoning Regulations. The Commissioners met with a planning consultant, consulting engineer, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and members of the Lake Waramaug Association and Task Force, consulted with the Director of the NW Ct. Council of Governments, and conducted several public hearings to obtain public input on the proposed revisions. Three significant revisions to the Regulations were approved, work on a fourth is nearing completion, and efforts to make further revisions to help implement the 2003 Plan of Conservation and Development are in progress. These revisions include:

- Definitions for Lot Coverage and Setback. These definitions, which were added to Section 21, clarify what is counted as lot coverage and specify how setback measurements are calculated. The result is that the Commission, the ZBA, and the public are now dealing with these requirements in a uniform manner.
- Special Exceptions. Special Exceptions and the procedure to obtain them were established under Section 17.5, effective 2/23/04. Like a variance, a Special Exception may be granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals only under specific circumstances to permit enlargements or modifications that otherwise are not permitted under the current Zoning Regulations to existing nonconforming single family dwellings that exceed the coverage limitations and to single family dwellings and nonconforming culturally or historically significant accessory structures that do not meet the setback requirements. Unlike a variance, a hardship need not be proven for a Special Exception.
- Regulations to Help Preserve the Water Quality of Lake Waramaug. Effective 12/22/03, Section 6, the regulations governing the Lake Waramaug Residential District, was revised with the goal of protecting the water quality of the lake. This District was expanded to include the entire watershed of the lake and the revised regulations apply throughout this enlarged area. All new construction occurring between 50 and 75 feet from the shoreline of Lake Waramaug, including additions or enlargements of existing structures, now requires a Special Permit. Landscaping and storm water management plans were added as application requirements for this Special Permit. The definitions for docks, rowing shell docks, and floats were clarified and strict construction criteria for these structures and changes in the application process were implemented. The Commission hopes these efforts will help to protect the shoreline from construction damage.
- Strengthened Standards for Site Plans. The Commission is currently finalizing an update of Section 14, Site Plan Requirements. The revised

regulations will require more detailed plans for proposed development and construction based on environmental factors such as steepness of slopes and proximity to inland wetlands and watercourses. Requirements for landscaping plans, storm water management plans, and erosion and sedimentation control plans will also be specified.

- Revisions to Implement the Town's 2003 Plan of Conservation and Development. The Commission is currently working on revisions and additions to the Zoning Regulations to address the following issues: 1. Section 5, the Washington Green District. Under consideration are the expansion of the District boundary lines to more closely match those of The Green Historic District, updating of the sections governing accessory buildings and uses, and establishment of development options for Special Permits that would allow an increase in lot coverage and a waiver of parking requirements under specific circumstances if criteria for building design and site design are met. 2) Preservation of Scenic Resources. The Commission is considering regulations that protect view sheds by creating a Scenic Resource Overlay Zone. It consulted with a representative from the Housatonic Valley Association in June about how to map the zone, and will soon decide on the criteria to be used to delineate it. Included in the new Special Permit regulations will be requirements that applicants demonstrate the proposed development in the new zone will protect scenic vistas, scenic roads, large trees, stone walls, etc., that building materials for new structures be selected for low reflectiveness, that utilities be installed underground, that site

development be designed to minimize impacts on sensitive natural areas and scenic views, and that site lighting be minimized. 3) Opportunities for Housing Diversity. The Zoning Commission discussed this issue at length during the spring of 2004. It is presently waiting for final recommendations from the Housing Diversity Committee before deciding what direction it will take to address this need. 4) Bulk and Height Regulations. The Zoning Commission has scheduled a public hearing on October 25, 2004 to consider revisions to the Regulations that would lower the maximum height permitted for primary structures from 45 feet to 40 feet and would allow an accessory structure to be taller than the primary structure on the same lot if the accessory structure was smaller in ground floor area, volume, and scale and was subordinate in use to the primary structure.

Other business handled by the Commission during the past year included consideration of a proposal by The Gunnery School to construct a driveway on its South Street property, approval of a request by the Washington Montessori School to modify its landscaping plan, approval of Special Permits for the Rumsey Hall and Devereux Glenholme Schools for expansion of their facilities, approval of the application submitted by the Town for restrooms at the Pavilion on School Street, approval of the Mayflower Inn Garden Spa, and approvals of various other Special Permit applications for detached accessory apartments, fences on Lake Waramaug, shop and storage use, a commercial horseback riding establishment, and a pool store in Marbledale.

There were no changes in personnel for the Zoning Commission this year.
Henry Martin, Chairman
David Owen, Vice Chairman
Cecilia Page, Secretary
Gary Fitzherbert
Valerie Friedman
Luis Abella, Alternate
James Brinton, Alternate
Andrew Shapiro, Alternate



"It was a great parade, Jim"

TOWN OF WASHINGTON

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND DISCUSSION -- JUNE 30, 2004

The Town of Washington is pleased to present this narrative overview of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004.

Financial Highlights

- Town assets of \$13,940,342 exceeded liabilities of \$956,326 at June 30, 2004, resulting in total net assets of \$12,984,016. Of this amount, unrestricted assets represented \$2,685,787 and were available to meet ongoing government obligations. \$1,225,197 was restricted for Non-Recurring Capital Expenditures. \$8,637,687 was invested in capital assets, net of related debt and \$435,345 was restricted for the Special Revenue Funds. The Town's net assets increased by \$354,746 or 2.8% during the fiscal year.
- The Town's governmental funds reported, on a current financial resources basis, a combined ending fund balance of \$4,283,321 for an increase of \$537,582 from the prior fiscal year. The general fund operating surplus for the year was \$79,724. General Fund fund balance was \$2,622,779.
- The 2003-2004 Adopted Budget projected Revenues and Expenses of \$10,387,196 and \$11,173,277 (including \$892,025 of transfers) respectively. Actual Revenues were \$11,108,824, exceeding expectations by \$721,628. Actual Expenditures (\$11,029,100) was less than the adopted budget by \$144,177 for net Revenues in Excess of Expenditures of \$865,805.
- The Town's long-term debt was \$722,430 as of June 30, 2004, with \$58,000 due within one year.

Overview of the Financial Statements

It is important to note that the Town implemented the new reporting requirements set forth in GASB 34 effective July 1, 2003. GASB is the Government Accounting Standards Board and is the rule making-body for state and municipal accounting. The financial statements contained within this report as of June 30, 2004 are the Town's first report using the new reporting model. As allowed under GASB 34, the Town elected not to present all required comparative data for this year of implementation. Next year's report will contain more comparative information.

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town's basic financial statements. The audited financial statements are comprised of three components: I. Government wide financial statements, II. Fund financial statements, and III. Notes to the financial statements.

I. Government-Wide Financial Statements

Government-wide financial statements give a broad overview of the Town's finances in a manner similar to private-sector business. All of the resources the Town has at its disposal are shown, including major assets such as buildings and infrastructure. A thorough accounting of the cost of government is presented because the statements present all costs, not just how much was collected and disbursed. They provide both short-term and long-term information about the Town's overall financial status.

The **Statement of net assets** presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as an indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating. It speaks to the question of whether or not the Town as a whole is better or worse off as a result of this year's activities. Other non-financial factors will need to be considered, however, such as changes in the Town's property tax base and the condition of the Town's infrastructure, to assess the overall health of the Town.

Town of Washington
Statement of Net Assets
June 30, 2004

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Current assets :	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,190,645
Investments	1,257,045
Prepaid expenses	22,000
Property Taxes Receivable - net	282,965
Capital assets, net of depreciation of \$11,794,246	9,187,687
Total Assets	13,940,342
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	87,939
Performance bonds held	69,227
Due to State of Connecticut	3,570
Prepaid property taxes	48,424
Accrued interest	24,736
Noncurrent liabilities :	
Due within one year	58,000
Due in more than one year	664,430
Total Liabilities	956,326
Net Assets	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	8,637,687
Restricted for :	
Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure	1,225,197
Judea Cemetery	49,603
Road improvements	214,853
Park and recreation	146,578
Senior center	13,342
Greenway committee	10,969
Unrestricted	2,685,787
Total Net assets	\$ 12,984,016

The **Statement of activities** presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flow in some future fiscal period. Uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave are examples of these types of items.

Governmental activities of the Town encompass most of the Town's basic services and include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, parks and recreation, education, library and other activities. Property taxes, charges for services and state grants finance most of these activities.

**Town of Washington
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2004**

Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2004		Program Revenues			Total Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
Functions/Programs	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities:					
General government	\$ 1,235,481	\$ 609,965	\$ 7,000	\$ ---	\$ (618,516)
Public safety	591,735	74,190	---	---	(517,545)
Highways (public works)	1,466,313	---	89,036	23,195	(1,354,082)
Sanitation	401,987	57,166	---	---	(344,821)
Social services	2,784	---	---	---	(2,784)
Health	78,091	9,220	643	---	(68,228)
Parks and recreation	341,094	283,249	2,980	---	(54,865)
Education	6,999,142	---	158,053	---	(6,841,089)
Other	253,265	36,957	---	35,000	(181,308)
Interest on long-term debt	24,736	---	---	---	(24,736)
Total governmental activities	\$ 11,394,628	\$ 1,070,747	\$ 257,712	\$ 58,195	(10,007,974)

General
revenues:

Property
taxes

10,158,458

Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs

117,422

Investment earnings

61,754

Lease income and other miscellaneous

25,086

Total general revenues

10,362,720

Change in net assets

354,746

Net assets - beginning

12,629,270

Net assets - ending

\$ 12,984,016

II. Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control and accountability over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Washington, like other local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Both the **Governmental fund balance sheet** and the **Governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances** provide a reconciliation to facilitate a comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Town of Washington
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2004

	Major Funds			
		Non-Recurring		
		Capital	Other	Total
	General Fund	Expenditure	Governmental	Governmental
		Fund	Funds	Funds
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,416,837	\$ 360,952	\$ 412,856	\$ 3,190,645
Investments - at fair value	1,254,204	-	2,841	1,257,045
Receivable, net	282,965	-	-	282,965
Prepaid expenditures	-	-	22,000	22,000
Due from other funds	14,126	890,025	-	904,151
Total Assets	\$ 3,968,132	\$ 1,250,977	\$ 437,697	\$ 5,656,806
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 73,933	\$ 11,654	\$ 2,352	\$ 87,939
Performance bonds payable	69,227	-	-	69,227
Due to other funds	890,025	14,126	-	904,151
Due to State of Connecticut	3,570	-	-	3,570
Prepaid property taxes	48,424	-	-	48,424
Deferred property tax revenue	260,174	-	-	260,174
Total Liabilities	1,345,353	25,780	2,352	1,373,485
Fund Balances:				
Designated for subsequent				
Years expenditures	-	2,248,942	-	2,248,942
Undesignated	2,622,779	(1,023,745)	435,345	2,034,379
Total Fund Balances	2,622,779	1,225,197	435,345	4,283,321
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 3,968,132	\$ 1,250,977	\$ 437,697	\$ 5,656,806

Town of Washington
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Major Funds			
	General Fund	Non-Recurring Capital Expenditure Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 9,947,299	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,947,299
Interest and lien fees on property taxes	88,237	-	-	88,237
Intergovernmental	287,084	65,195	65,483	417,762
Contribution in lieu of taxes	66,187	-	-	66,187
Investment income	52,932	5,675	3,147	61,754
Lease income - Town building	18,900	-	-	18,900
Licenses and permits	759,766	-	-	759,766
Fines and penalties	21,069	-	-	21,069
Program fees and other receipts	14,891	-	310,981	325,872
Total Revenues	11,256,365	70,870	379,611	11,706,846
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,205,612	-	-	1,205,612
Public safety	402,131	-	-	402,131
Highways	764,197	-	-	764,197
Sanitation	404,987	-	-	404,987
Social services	2,784	-	-	2,784
Health	76,981	-	-	76,981
Recreation	113,734	-	219,576	333,310
Education	6,999,142	-	-	6,999,142
Other	232,947	-	21,275	254,222
Capital outlay	-	583,728	60,069	643,797
Debt service	82,101	-	-	82,101
Total Expenditures	10,284,616	583,728	300,920	11,169,264
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	971,749	(512,858)	78,691	537,582
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Operating transfers	(892,025)	890,025	2,000	-
Excess of Revenues And Other Sources Over Expenditures and other Financing uses	79,724	377,167	80,691	537,582
Fund Balance - beginning of year	2,543,055	848,030	354,654	3,745,739
Fund Balance - end of year	\$ 2,622,779	\$ 1,225,197	\$ 435,345	\$ 4,283,321

State law requires a statement in this Annual Town Report that shows the amount of state aid the Town receives for road maintenance and repair. Revenue and expenses for the Town Aid Road Fund are shown below in the **Special Revenue Funds** report.

Town of Washington

Nonmajor Governmental Funds - Special Revenue Funds

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances

Year Ended June 30, 2004

	Judea Cemetery Fund	Town Aid Road Fund	Park and Recreation Fund	Senior Center Fund	Greenway Fund	Totals
Revenues:						
Governmental grants	\$ -	\$ 62,503	\$ 2,980	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,483
Investment income	433	2,142	483	60	29	3,147
Program fees and other receipts	14,390	-	274,024	22,567	-	310,981
Total Revenues	14,823	64,645	277,487	22,627	29	379,611
Expenditures:						
Highways	-	60,069	-	-	-	60,069
Cemetery expenditures	5,145	-	-	-	-	5,145
Programs and Activities	-	-	219,576	16,125	5	235,706
Total Expenditures	5,145	60,069	219,576	16,125	5	300,920
Excess of revenues over expenditures	9,678	4,576	57,911	6,502	24	78,691
Other Financing Sources:						
Operating transfers in	2,000	-	-	-	-	2,000
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources over Expenditures and Other Uses	11,678	4,576	57,911	6,502	24	80,691
Fund Balance - beginning of year	37,925	210,277	88,667	6,840	10,945	354,654
Fund Balance - end of year	<u>\$ 49,603</u>	<u>\$ 214,853</u>	<u>\$ 146,578</u>	<u>\$ 13,342</u>	<u>\$ 10,969</u>	<u>\$ 435,345</u>

The Town adopts an Annual Appropriated Budget for its general fund. A detailed, year-end budgetary comparison statement to demonstrate compliance with the authorized budget is included in the Town of Washington Audited Financial Statements available from the Selectmen's office or on the Town's Website: www.washingtonct.org. A condensed schedule, which shows the approved budget and actual results follows:

Town of Washington
Condensed Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures
Budget and Actual
June 30, 2004

	Actual	Final Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Property taxes and interest and liens	\$ 10,035,536	\$ 9,743,992	\$ 291,544
Charges for Services	624,975	247,913	377,062
Operating Grants and Contributions	376,481	343,474	33,007
Investment Earnings	52,932	35,000	17,932
Lease Income	18,900	16,817	2,083
Total Revenues	11,108,824	10,387,196	721,628
Departmental Expenditures:			
General government	1,032,194	1,128,239	96,045
Public safety	402,131	404,075	1,944
Highways (Public Works)	764,197	764,995	798
Sanitation	404,987	411,898	6,911
Social services	2,784	3,457	673
Health	76,981	77,044	63
Parks and Recreation	113,734	117,331	3,597
Education	7,022,352	7,022,352	---
Other	235,614	269,760	34,146
Interest and principal- Long Term Debt	82,101	82,101	---
Transfers:			
Judea Cemetery	2,000	2,000	---
Non-recurring capital expenditures fund	890,025	890,025	---
Total Expenditures and Transfers	11,029,100	11,173,277	144,177
Net Revenue - (Expenditures)	79,724	(786,081)	865,805
Fund Balance:			
Beginning of year	2,543,055	786,081	1,756,974
End of year	\$ 2,622,779	\$ ---	\$ 2,622,779

III. Notes to the Financial Statements

Copies of Audited Financial Statements and Supplemental Financial Notes are available from the Selectmen's Office, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794 or on the Town's Website: www.washingtonct.org.

