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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
TOWN OFFICES
of
DALTON
NEW HAMPSHIRE



FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003



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Vera Smith

The Selectmen would like to dedicate this year's town report to Vera Smith. Vera worked for the town of Dalton as a Supervisor of the Checklist for many years. Her warm smile and friendly personality is appreciated by everyone who meets her.

TOWN OFFICERS

SELECTMEN

Dean Sweeney	Term Expires 2006
Victor St.Cyr	Term Expires 2005
Brian Hardy	Term Expires 2004

TOWN CLERK

Sandra B. York
Term Expires 2006

TREASURER

Eleanor Hart
Term Expires 2004

TAX COLLECTOR

Jessie Wentworth
Term Expires 2006

AUDITOR

Mercier Group

TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS

Tammy Letson, Barbara Candar, Anne Rush

POLICE CHIEF

John E. Tholl, Jr.

ROAD AGENT

Robert C. Wentworth, Jr.

MODERATOR

Charles Packard

FIRE CHIEF

Charles Packard

HEALTH OFFICER

Kevin Sweeney

CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICER

John E. Tholl, Jr.

LIBRARIAN

Doris Mitton

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Jessie Wentworth	Term Expires 2006
Jean Abbott	Term Expires 2005
Nancy Comeau	Term Expires 2004

PLANNING BOARD

John Letson, Chairman	Appointment Expires 2006
William Howe	Appointment Expires 2006
Sandra York	Appointment Expires 2005
Linda Cloutier	Appointment Expires 2004
Dean Sweeney (ex-officio)	Appointment Expires 2004

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Jessie Wentworth	Term Expires 2008
Sara Martineau	Term Expires 2006
Doris Mitton	Term Expires 2004

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PHONE NUMBERS

To Report Any Emergency	DIAL 911
Canine Control Officers, Kathy & Ted Barden	837-9402
Fire Department - non emergency	837-3100
Highway Garage	837-9821
Library	837-2751
Police Department - non emergency	837-2703
Selectmen's Office	837-2092
Tax Collector	837-9802
Town Clerk	837-2092
Fax Line	837-9642

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Highway Dept.	7 AM - 3:30 PM	Mon-Fri
Library	2 PM - 5 PM	Mon & Wed
	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Wed
	10 AM - 12 noon	Saturday
Police Department	5 PM - 8 PM	Monday
Selectmen's Office	11 AM to 5:45 PM	Monday
& Town Clerk	7 AM to 5 PM	Tues,Wed,Thur
Tax Collector	4 PM to 7 PM	Monday
	9 AM to 12 noon	Thursday
	First Saturday of each month	10 AM to 12 noon
Transfer Station	12 noon - 5 PM	Tuesday
	8 AM - 5 PM	Saturday

Selectmen meet every Monday (except holidays) at 6:00 PM
at the Town Hall

Planning Board meets the 1st Wed. of the month at 7:00 PM
at the Town Hall

DALTON TOWN WARRANT

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in Dalton, NH on Tuesday, the ninth day of March 2004, to act upon the itemized subjects to follow. The polls will open at 8 a.m. in the forenoon and will close at 7 p.m. The business meeting will be held at the Dalton School Gymnasium and will be opened at 7 o'clock in the evening.

1. To elect all necessary officers for the year.
2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Forty Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars (\$543,369) for general Town operations.
3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purchase and replacement of highway equipment. Selectmen recommend this article.
4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be added to the Sewer Pump Renovation and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund previously established. Selectmen recommend this article.
5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Fire Department Major Vehicle Equipment Capital Reserve Account previously established for the purchase and replacement of fire equipment. Selectmen recommend this article.
6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund Account previously established for the purchase of a new cruiser. Selectmen recommend this article.

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) for the purchase of a new Highway Department Truck and to authorize the withdrawal of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) from the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose and further to authorize taking Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) from the unexpended fund balance for 2003. Selectmen recommend this article.

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) for work related in bringing the "Cross Rd" section of the Miller Rd to Class V specifications.

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be added to the Pay Per Bag Replacement Expendable Trust Fund Account previously established for the repurchase of bags for the "Pay Per Bag" system. The source of these funds will be 25 cents from each bag sold. Selectmen recommend this article.

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) for the final closure of the landfill and to authorize the withdrawal of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) from the Landfill Closure Trust Fund created for that purpose. Selectmen recommend this article.

11. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Landfill Closure Trust Fund to the Transfer Station Repair, Replacement & Equipment Trust Fund and to appoint the Selectmen to act as agents to expend this fund. A 2/3 majority vote is required. The Selectmen recommend this article. The balance in this account after using \$3,000 for article #10 is \$31,435.06.

12. To see if the voters will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 (One Thousand Five Hundred dollars) to help support The Caleb Group Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver Program that serves the needs of elderly and disabled people in the community. Petitioned article. The Selectmen recommend this article.

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Six Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$695) to pay Dalton's share of the operating budget for the Mount Washington Regional Airport; (The towns which are members of the Regional Authority are Bethlehem, Dalton, Littleton, Franconia, Jefferson, Lancaster, Sugar Hill, Twin Mtn., Whitefield and N. Woodstock.) The Selectmen recommend this article.

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$1,200) for the purchase of "Welcome to Dalton" signs.

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) for reconstruction of the old section of the Cushman Cemetery.

16. Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28 II & IV, for an optional veterans tax credit of \$300 on residential property and replace the standard tax credit in its entirety?" Petitioned article. Selectmen recommend this article.

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$575) for the Hospice of Littleton program to help support hospice and bereavement services for Dalton residents.

18. To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 215-A:7, II for all Class VI roads in said town of Dalton, N.H., and allow all Class VI Roads to be groomed and used for snowmobile traffic from December 15 through April 15 of each year. Petitioned article.

19. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dean Sweeney
Brian Hardy
Victor St.Cyr

Budget for 2004

General Government	Appropriated 2003	Actual 2003	Estimated 2004
Executive	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 6,459.72	\$ 7,200.00
North Country Council	878.00	877.99	921.00
Lunenburg, Gilman, Concord Senior Meals	400.00	400.00	400.00
Juvenile Diversion Program	528.00	---	---
Town Clerk	6,000.00	5,443.51	9,000.00
Voter Registration	500.00	323.31	2,000.00
Election	500.00	310.50	2,000.00
Financial Administration	60,000.00	60,024.73	65,000.00
Legal Expense	10,000.00	6,896.76	10,000.00
Social Security	11,500.00	9,983.06	12,000.00
Medicare	3,500.00	2,334.76	3,500.00
State Unemployment Tax	1,500.00	568.46	1,500.00
Workers' Compensation Fund	2,601.00	2,768.11	6,400.00
Employee Health Insurance	45,500.00	37,285.24	40,000.00
Planning & Zoning	1,300.00	1,113.59*	1,500.00
General Govt. Bldgs.	8,000.00	7,545.06	10,000.00
Cemeteries	4,000.00	3,123.26	4,000.00

*Planning Board reimbursed \$889.76 for subdivision costs

Property-Liability Insurance

	12,000.00	11,905.13	13,000.00
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Public Safety

Police	28,650.00	28,267.00	28,560.00
Ambulance	5,380.00	5,380.00	5,380.00
Fire	22,350.00	16,594.48	25,400.00
Fire Lanes	500.00	496.00	----
Emergency Management	500.00	500.00	750.00
Forest Fire Control	500.00	184.00*	500.00

Highways & Streets

	197,000.00	196,727.38	197,000.00
Street Lighting	1,000.00	809.40	1,000.00

Sanitation

Solid Waste	34,500.00	31,645.39	32,500.00
Solid Waste Cleanup	5,000.00	571.90	3,000.00
Sewage	12,000.00	12,518.52	12,000.00

Health

Health Administration	750.00	264.23	750.00
Health Agencies	4,227.00	4,227.00	4,227.00
Animal Control	1,000.00	----	1,000.00

*Forest Fire Control reimbursed - \$95.00 from State of NH

Welfare				
Direct Assistance	2,000.00	185.68		2,000.00
Community Action Program	800.00	800.00		800.00
Culture and Recreation				
Parks & Recreation	500.00	515.96		500.00
Library	9,400.00	9,400.00		10,406.00
Patriotic Purposes	200.00	---		200.00
Conservation Commission	700.00	700.00		1,075.00
Debt Service				
Principal-Long Term Notes	18,890.00	18,899.31		19,500.00
Interest-Long Term Notes	3,652.00	3,723.46		2,400.00
Interest-Tax Anticipation Note	10,000.00	---		5,000.00
Capital Outlay	1,000.00	---		1,000.00
TOTALS	\$ 536,406.00	\$ 489,772.90		\$ 543,369.00

2003 Under Budget by \$46,633.10

Transfers from General Fund to Capital Reserve Accts. (2003 Warrant Articles: # 3, 4, 5,)	42,000.00	42,000.00
Other 2003 Warrant Articles:		
911 Street Signs # 8	3,000.00	2,616.95
"Pay Per Bag" Replacement Fund #9	5,000.00	3,055.00
Cross Rd #10	10,000.00	6,743.72
Revaluation of the Dam #12	3,000.00	3,000.00
Generator Grant #13	2,665.00	2,165.00
Caleb Article #14	1,500.00	1,500.00
Mt Washington Regional Airport #15	695.00	695.00
Cemetery Care & Maintenance #17	1,000.00	262.50

ASSESSMENTS

Executive	\$ 7,200.00
Other General Government	1,806.00
Election, Registration, Vital Statistics	7,000.00
Financial Administration	60,000.00
Legal Expenses	10,000.00
Personnel Administration	19,101.00
Employee Health Insurance	45,500.00
Planning & Zoning	1,300.00
General Government Buildings	8,000.00
Cemeteries	4,000.00
Property/Liability Insurance	12,000.00
Police	28,650.00
Ambulance	5,380.00
Fire	22,350.00
Fire Lanes	500.00
Forest Fire Control	500.00
Emergency Management	500.00
Highway	197,000.00
Street Lighting	1,000.00
Solid Waste	39,500.00
Sewage	12,000.00
Health Agencies and Hospitals	4,227.00
Health Administration	750.00
Animal Control	1,000.00
Direct Assistance	2,000.00
Community Action Program	800.00
Parks & Recreation	500.00
Library	9,400.00
Patriotic Purposes	200.00
Conservation Commission	700.00
Capital Outlay	1,000.00
Principal - Long Term Debt	18,890.00
Interest - Long Term Debt	3,652.00
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	<u>10,000.00</u>
Total Appropriations	\$536,406.00

ESTIMATED REVENUES AND CREDITS

Land Use Change Tax	1,100.00
Timber Yield Taxes	10,000.00
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	36,000.00
Other Taxes	8,150.00
Inventory Penalties	3,000.00
Excavation Tax	740.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	125,000.00
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	2,400.00
Capital Reserve & Special Revenue Funds	81,400.00
Shared Revenue	7,638.00
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	28,726.00
Highway Block Grant	72,648.00
Water Pollution Grants	7,746.00
Generator Grant	6,495.00
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	703.00
Railroad Tax	2,304.00
Income from Departments	1,500.00
Other Charges	18,000.00
Sale of Municipal Property	1,000.00
Interest on Investments	1,200.00
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	15,500.00
Fund Balance To Reduce Tax Rate	50,000.00
Trust and Agency Funds	<u>1,300.00</u>
Total Revenues and Credits	\$482,550.00
Net Town Appropriations	\$248,774.00

SELECTMEN'S REPORT SUMMARY INVENTORY

Current Use Land	\$ 1,410,375.00
Residential Land	15,897,900.00
Commercial/Industrial Land	564,400.00
Residential Buildings	25,534,000.00
Manufactured Housing	3,883,600.00
Commercial/Industrial Buildings	4,749,530.00
Public Utilities	<u>1,084,830.00</u>
Total Valuation Before Exemptions	\$53,124,635.00
Less Elderly Exemptions	<u>233,800.00</u>
Net Valuation	\$52,890,835.00

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Hall Land, Building and Contents	\$ 190,000.00
Furniture and Equipment	60,000.00
Police Department Equipment	50,000.00
Library Furniture and Equipment	125,000.00
Fire Station Building and Contents	175,000.00
Fire Department Vehicles	175,000.00
Town Highway Garage and Contents	198,900.00
Highway Department Vehicles	450,000.00
Transfer Station, Equipment and Contents	45,000.00
Parks and Playgrounds	18,000.00
Pump Station and Contents	<u>134,000.00</u>
Total Town Property	\$1,620,900.00

TAX RATE COMPUTATION

Appropriations	\$702,373.00
Less Revenues	(482,550.00)
Less Shared Revenues	(7,179.00)
Add: Overlay	24,630.00
War Service Credits	11,500.00

Approved Town Effort **\$248,774.00**

Due to Regional School District	\$1,380,828.00
Less Adequate Education Grant	(534,827.00)
State Education Taxes	(218,142.00)

Approved School Effort **\$627,859.00**

State Education Taxes **\$218,142.00**

Due to County	\$247,612.00
Less Shared Revenue	(1,412.00)

Approved County Effort **\$246,200.00**

Total Property Taxes Assessed	\$ 1,340,975.00
Less War Service Credits	(11,500.00)

Total Property Tax Commitment **\$ 1,329,475.00**

Approved Tax Rate

\$25.44

Town - \$4.71 Local School - \$ 11.87 State School - \$4.21
County - \$4.65

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance General Checking Account - 12/31/2002	
	\$ 37,487.61
2003 Receipts	
Tax Collector	\$ 1,676,289.13
Town Clerk	135,700.50
Selectmen (\$3,009.61 - 2002 income)	<u>168,918.73</u>
Total Receipts	\$ 1,980,908.36
Transfers to Laconia Trust Account from General Checking Account	(1,037,000.00)
Transfer from Laconia Trust Account to the General Checking Account	810,200.00
Bank Interest Earned	64.79
Adjustments	<u>1,365.54</u>
	1,793,026.30
2003 Payments - Order of Selectmen	\$ 1,749,155.90
Balance Checking Account 12/31/2003	\$ 43,870.40
Balance Laconia Trust Account -12/31/2002	\$ 91,397.51
Transfers from General Checking Account	1,037,000.00
Transfers to General Checking Account	(810,200.00)
Bank Interest Earned	<u>1,435.98</u>
Balance Laconia Trust Account 12/31/2003	\$319,633.49

Eleanor Hart, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dalton Conservation Commission Account

Balance 12/31/2002	\$ 2,048.47
Deposits	3,302.38
Transfer from Trust Account	1,500.00
Payments	(4,606.80)
Interest Earned	+ <u>1.56</u>
Balance 12/31/2003	\$ 2,245.61

Dalton Conservation Commission Trust Account

Balance 12/31/2002	\$ 8,518.52
Transfer to Conservation Checking Account	(1,500.00)
Interest Earned	<u>64.00</u>
Balance 12/31/2003	\$ 7,082.52

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Unfortunately with the slow economy the funds have not done as well as hoped. We will continue to invest in cash management accounts as they keep our money safe no matter what the economy may do.

The following is the breakdown of the funds in our care:

CAPITAL RESERVES:

FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Balance as of 01/01/2003	35,509.03
Funds Deposited:	
2003 Warrant Article	16,000.00
Interest on Investments	338.53
Funds Withdrawn by 2003 Warrant Article:	
Purchase and maint of Support Unit	<u>12,988.35</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>38,859.21</u>

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Balance as of 01/01/2003	26,332.29
Funds Deposited:	
2003 Warrant Article	25,000.00
Sale of Two Trucks	4,112.99
Interest on Investments	293.50
Funds Withdrawn:	
Purchase of Case Loader	<u>13,500.00</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>42,238.78</u>

SEWER PUMP RENOVATION & REPLACEMENT

Balance as of 01/01/2003	12,043.88
Funds Deposited:	
2003 Warrant Article	1,000.00
New Connection	615.00
Interest on Investments	<u>118.83</u>
Funds Withdrawn: None	
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>13,777.71</u>

POLICE CRUISER

Balance as of 01/01/2003	26,425.15
Funds Deposited:	
2003 Warrant Article (Cruiser Sale)	2,111.00
Interest on Investments	94.60
Funds Withdrawn:	
2003 Warrant Article (Cruiser Purchase)	<u>26,400.00</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>2,230.75</u>

GENERAL FUND TRUSTS

LANDFILL CLOSURE TRUST FUND

(Formerly Transfer Station Repair, Replacement & Equipment Trust Fund)

Balance as of 01/01/2003	40,951.25
Funds Deposited:	
Interest on Investments	383.81
Funds Withdrawn:	
Landfill Closure Costs	<u>6,900.00</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>34,435.06</u>

PAY PER BAG REPLACEMENT FUND

Balance as of 01/01/2003	7,551.60
Funds Deposited:	
2003 Warrant Article 12,220 @ .25	3,055.00
Interest on Investments	47.14
Funds Withdrawn:	
Purchase of Bags	<u>4,453.61</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>6,200.13</u>

CEMETARY CARE AND MAINTENANCE FUND

Balance as of 01/01/2003	
Funds Deposited:	
Sale of Cemetary Plots	262.50
Funds Withdrawn: None	
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>262.50</u>

NON-EXPENDABLE TRUSTS

CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

Balance as of 01/01/2003	20,066.40
Funds Deposited:	
Interest on Investments	167.05
Funds Withdrawn:	
Income to offset the care of cemetery	<u>167.05</u>
12/31/2003 Balance	<u>20,066.40</u>

Respectfully Submitted,
Tammy York-Letson, Bookkeeper, Trustee of Trust Funds

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2003

DEBITS

Motor Vehicle Permits Issued:

2003 Permits Issued	<u>\$132,977.00</u>	\$132,977.00
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Dog Licenses and Penalties Collected:

Licenses	\$ 2,042.50	
Penalties	550.00	
Less Fees	<u>(295.00)</u>	
		2,297.50

Filing Fees		8.00
Vital Statistics		<u>418.00</u>

TOTAL DEBITS		\$135,700.50
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CREDITS

Remittances to Treasurer:

Motor Vehicle Permits	\$132,977.00
Dog Licenses and Penalties	2,297.50
Filing Fees	8.00
Vital Statistics	<u>418.00</u>

TOTAL CREDITS	\$135,700.50
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Motor Vehicle Permits Issued in 2003	1,435
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Respectfully submitted,
Sandra York, Town Clerk

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2003

PREVIOUS UNCOLLECTED TAXES AS OF 1/1/03:

Property 2002	308,358.73
Land Use Change Tax	0.00
Sewer Taxes	1,700.00
Yield Taxes	666.88
Excavation Tax	0.00
Penalties	2,750.00
TAXES COMMITTED 2003:	
Property	1,332,632.00
Land Use Change Tax	11,317.50
Yield Tax	10,679.39
Sewer Tax	8,500.00
Excavation Tax	1,473.52
Penalties	6,550.00
Overpayments 2003	2,877.13
Overpayments 2002	807.74
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	<u>21,782.40</u>
TOTAL DEBITS	\$ 1,710,095.29

REMITTED TO TREASURER:

Property 2003	1,067,631.38
Property 2002	307,578.47
Land Use Change Tax 2003	5,547.50
Land Use Change Tax 2002	0.00
Yield Tax 2003	8,808.06
Yield Tax 2002	666.88
Sewer Tax 2003	8,332.10
Sewer Tax 2002	425.00
Interest on Delinquent Taxes	21,782.40
Excavation Tax 2003	1,403.00
Excavation Tax 2002	0.00
Penalties 2003	3,350.00
Penalties 2002	2,750.00
Current Levy Deeded	0.00

Abatements 2003	3,051.52
Abatements 2002	1,588.00

UNCOLLECTED TAXES OF 12/31/03

Property	264,944.65
Yield Tax	1,871.33
Sewer Tax	1,445.00
Excavation Tax	0.00
Penalties	3,150.00
Land Use Change	<u>5,770.00</u>

TOTAL CREDITS	\$1,710,095.29
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SUMMARY OF TAX LIENS REDEEMED

As of December 31, 2003

DEBITS

	2002	Prior
Balance of Unredeemed taxes as of Jan. 1, 2003		\$207,457.57
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	\$ 78,484.86	871.46
Interest Collected After Lien	<u>3,382.91</u>	<u>11,800.95</u>
TOTAL DEBITS	\$ 81,867.77	\$220,129.98

CREDITS

Remittances to Treasurer	\$ 44,317.68	\$188,512.80
Interest & Costs After Lien	3,382.91	11,800.95
Abatements		1,980.33
Excess (Debits) Credits	(.63)	38.46
Liens Deeded to Town		
Unredeemed at Close of Year	<u>34,167.81</u>	<u>17,797.44</u>
TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 81,867.77	\$220,129.98

REVENUE FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Highway Block Grant	72,647.79
Revenue Sharing	16,259.00
State Aid-Sewer	7,746.00
Railroad Tax	2,304.29
Rooms & Meals	28,725.56
Generator Grant	6,492.00
EOC Grant	4,065.00
Forest Fire Reimbursement	95.00
Forest Lands	<u>703.05</u>
TOTAL	\$139,037.69

REVENUE FROM SELECTMEN

Transfer from Cemetery Acct. to General Fund	167.05
Donations	150.00
Sale of Town Property	525.00
Income from Departments	1,804.76
Copy Money	472.10
Refuse Charges	3,015.60
Sale of Garbage Bags	17,095.00
Dividends & Reimbursements	3,110.18
Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>531.74</u>
Total	26,871.43
Grand Total	\$ 165,909.12

STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Executive

Board of Selectmen	4,500.00
Printing & Public Notices	1,255.80
Dues	552.00
Miscellaneous	<u>151.92</u>

Total Executive **\$ 6,459.72**

Other General Government

Lunenburg, Gilman, Concord, Senior Meals	400.00
North Country Council	<u>877.99</u>
Sub Total	1,277.99

Mount Washington Regional Airport	695.00
Caleb - Warrant Article #14	<u>1,500.00</u>

Total Other General Government **\$ 3,472.99**

Property-Liability Insurance **\$ 11,905.13**

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Fees	2,858.00
Town Clerk Salary	1,000.00
Department of Agriculture	582.00
Office Expenses	269.51
Deputy Town Clerk	304.00
Dues	20.00
Payments to State Vital Records	<u>410.00</u>

Total Town Clerk **\$ 5,443.51**

Voter Registration

Supervisors' Salaries	171.50
Supplies & Postage	95.81
Public Notices	<u>56.00</u>

Total Voter Registration **\$ 323.31**

Election

Election Workers	234.50
Meals	<u>76.00</u>

Total Election **\$ 310.50**

Financial Administration

Administrative Assistant Salary	23,226.00
Tax Collector Fees	4,022.00
Tax Collector Salary	4,000.00
Deputy Tax Collector	72.00
Auditor	4,300.00
Treasurer	4,150.00
Deputy Treasurer	194.00
Trustee of the Trust Funds	500.00
Assessor	8,817.04
Dues	40.00
Registry Fees	292.67
Maintenance & Repairs	2,698.98
Office Supplies	4,166.01
Postage	2,381.55
Mapping	700.00
RSA's	<u>464.48</u>

Total Financial Administration **\$60,024.73**

Dam Revaluation **\$ 3,000.00**

Legal Expenses **\$ 6,896.76**

Personnel Administration

Social Security	9,983.06
State Unemployment Tax	568.46
Workers Compensation Fund	2,768.11
Health Insurance	37,285.24
Medicare	<u>2,334.76</u>

Total Personnel Administration **\$52,939.63**

Planning & Zoning

Public Notices	139.20
Postage	189.81
Recording Fees	246.00
Secretary Salary	250.00
Miscellaneous	<u>288.58</u>
Sub Total	1,113.59
Master Plan	<u>93.89</u>

Total Planning & Zoning **\$1,270.48**

General Government Buildings

Telephone	2,193.52
Heat	1,980.04
Electric	1,296.16
Custodian	1,077.89
Maintenance & Repairs	<u>997.45</u>

Total General Government Buildings **\$ 7,545.06**

Total Cemeteries **\$ 3,123.26**

Cemetery Care & Maintenance Fund **\$ 262.50**

Police Department

Chief's Salary	12,000.26
Equipment	1,088.92
Specials Pay	6,453.14
Fuel	1,240.39
Telephone	1,069.89
Dues, Conventions	200.00
Equipment Maintenance	1,242.41
Reference Material	562.60
Office Expenses	1,841.05
Vehicle Expense	<u>2,568.34</u>

Total Police Department **\$ 28,267.00**

Ambulances	\$ 5,380.00
Emergency Management	
Civil Defense	500.00
EOC Center	3,738.81
Generator	<u>9,224.90</u>
Total Emergency Management	\$ 13,463.71
Fire Department	
Building Maintenance	104.50
Maintenance, Refills & Repairs	7,286.26
Telephone	358.43
Training	600.00
New Equipment	2,072.85
Equipment Repair	230.00
Heat	1,829.49
Electric	655.21
Chief's Salary	500.00
Salaries	2,444.00
Custodian	32.00
Fire Prevention Supplies	87.63
Gas & Diesel	336.77
Office Supplies	<u>57.34</u>
Total Fire Department	\$ 16,594.48
Fire Lanes	\$ 496.00
Forest Fire Control	\$ 184.00
Street Signs	\$ 2,616.95
Cross Rd Project	\$ 6,743.72
French Rd. Project	\$ 24,582.42

Highway

Administration

Highway Salaries	81,351.19
Building Maintenance & Repairs	2,665.37
Uniforms	750.00
Electric	1,015.36
Telephone	575.31
Office Supplies	1,640.45
Shop Supplies	3,657.84
Dues	80.00
Tools	<u>845.43</u>
Sub Total Administration	\$ 92,580.95

Paving & Reconstruction

Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs	23,908.80
Maintenance & Supplies	7,940.18
Asphalt, Gravel, Dust Control	46,483.48
Gas/Diesel	<u>11,889.30</u>

Sub Total Paving & Reconstruction \$ 90,221.76

Snow & Ice Control \$ 13,924.67

Total Highway \$ 196,727.38

Street Lighting \$ 809.40

Solid Waste

Disposal Fees	16,590.72
Martin's Food Basket (blue bags)	600.00
Supplies	178.79
Utilities	478.96
Maintenance & Repairs	164.52
Training	150.00
Well Testing	571.90
Salaries	<u>13,482.40</u>
Sub Total	32,217.29

Pay Per Bag Replacement Fund	<u>3,055.00</u>
Total Solid Waste	\$ 35,272.29

Sewage Disposal

Superintendent Salary	1,971.25
Payments to Lunenburg	7,360.00
Utilities	2,189.17
Office Supplies	116.14
Maintenance & Repairs	<u>881.96</u>
Total Sewage Disposal	\$12,518.52

Health Administration

Dues	10.00
Mileage & Postage	14.23
Salaries	<u>240.00</u>

Total Health Administration	\$ 264.23
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Health Agencies	\$ 4,227.00
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Total Animal Control	\$ ---.---
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Welfare

Direct Assistance	185.68
Community Action Program	<u>800.00</u>

Total Welfare	\$ 985.68
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Culture & Recreation

Library	9,400.00
Parks & Recreation	515.96
Patriotic Purposes	<u>---.---</u>

Total Culture & Recreation	\$9,915.96
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Conservation Commission

Annual Appropriation	700.00
5% Current Use	<u>277.38</u>
Total Conservation Commission	\$ 977.38

Principal-Long Term Debt

Shawmut/NHMBB-Sewer Bond	10,000.00
Caterpillar Financial	8,357.13
FHA-Sewer Note	<u>542.18</u>
Total Principal	\$ 18,899.31

Interest-Long Term Debt

State St. Bank/NHMBB-Sewer Bond	1,118.00
Caterpillar Financial	1,780.64
FHA-Sewer Note	<u>824.82</u>
Total Interest	\$ 3,723.46

Refunds **\$ 3,635.00**

Adjustments from 2002 **\$ 2,592.57**

Transfers from General Fund to Capital Reserve Accounts

Payment to Highway Department
Capital Reserve Account 25,000.00

Payment to Fire Department
Capital Reserve Account 16,000.00

Payment to Sewer Pump Renovation
& Replacement Capital Reserve Account 1,000.00

Total Transfers to Capital Reserve Funds **\$ 42,000.00**

Taxes Paid to County	\$ 247,612.00
Taxes Paid to School	\$ 829,205.00
Tax Lien	\$ 78,484.86
2003 Payments-Order of Selectmen	\$1,749,155.90

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Acting on the 2003 town meeting vote, the Town of Dalton has completed the realignment of the so-called "Cross Road" section of the Miller Road. The realignment phase, conducted by Alpine Land Surveying Company of Littleton, involved comprehensive research of maps and deeds dating to the 19th Century, field survey work and monumentation.

Mr. Neil Brodien of Alpine presented his findings at a public hearing on January 12th before more than 40 residents and landowners. The realignment was required before the town can move forward in re-classifying this section of Miller Road to Class V dual use road that can accommodate safely the needs of the motoring public and snow machine users. Private citizens and the snow machine community have already pledged funds and manpower to help reconstruct portions of Miller Road.

We feel that upgrading Miller Road will improve response times by emergency vehicles in addition to providing a safe and secure snow machine corridor. We believe snow mobilizing is an important aspect of the North Country economy that does not present a threat to individual land owner rights.

The Board agreed to sponsor a \$535,000 Community Block Grant to support the re-start of the Gilman paper mill. The action does not impact local taxes. While negotiations and administrative oversight have been slow, progress is being made to restore from 80 to 100 jobs at the mill.

Thanks to a change in state law the town will save more than \$300,000 in connection with the closure of the former Whitefield Road landfill. The area has been fenced in and it will be loamed and seeded this year. The town will be required to monitor groundwater quality.

This was a difficult year for road crew personnel as one worker was seriously injured in a roller accident on Mountain Road and remains on workmen's compensation. It was the first serious injury to a town employee in memory. A second crewman was called to active duty causing a manpower crisis. Road Agent Bob Wentworth deserves praise for managing the department while being shorthanded.

Police Chief John Tholl deserves credit for procuring Emergency Response grants and funds that procured an emergency generator at the town building and for his renovation of the former selectmen's office into an emergency response office.

The town is facing some development pressures as housing starts increased in 2003. This year we hope that the Planning Board will finish the Master Plan update and that the Board will work closely with the Conservation Commission. Working together, the boards can ensure that development and preservation of natural resources can co-exist.

Several personnel changes have occurred in town. Reg Roger has been assigned to the transfer station on a part-time basis. The town has already seen a sharp reduction in demolition disposal costs and the transfer station itself is clean and orderly. Trash bags may now be purchased at the transfer station.

Christina Bryant has been named Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Tax Collector.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the retirement of Eleanor Hart as Town Treasurer. Town funds were safe and secure during Eleanor's years in town service. She will be missed.

Once again, we thank Administrative Assistant Sandy York and Jessie Wentworth for their work preparing the town report.

Dean Sweeney
Brian Hardy
Victor St.Cyr

The Mercier Group
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION OF
REPORTABLE CONDITIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

In planning and performing our audit of the Town of Dalton for the year ended December 31, 2003, we considered the Town's internal control structure in order to determine the scope of our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. Our review of these systems was not intended to provide assurance on the internal control structure and should not be relied on for that purpose.

Under the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Town's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities, in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited, may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might constitute reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We are pleased to report that, during the course of our review of internal controls, no material weaknesses in the Town's accounting systems and records were identified. Minor weaknesses or other considerations coming to our attention were generally procedural in nature and dealt with administrative or record keeping practices. In these instances, we made specific recommendations or provided instruction to those individuals involved during the course of our audit fieldwork. Areas of opportunity for further consideration include:

Continued preparation for GASB 34 reporting requirements.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and others within the administration. This restriction is not intended to limit distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

The Mercier Group

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT 2003

Two major projects were started in 2003; both will continue into 2004 and in one instance beyond.

First, we applied for (and were awarded) what is called a "Moose Plates Grant" from the State of New Hampshire to do a comprehensive conservation study of that section of town known as *Chase Bog* - a large and significant wetlands area that embraces many acres and is owned by a number of Dalton taxpayers (not all of whom are Dalton residents). A "Moose Plates Grant" is funded by the surcharge New Hampshire residents pay when they elect to purchase "Conservation" {"Vanity"} license plates for their vehicle (as a means of assisting the state in funding special conservation projects and also for showing their support for Conservation issues). The grants are highly competitive and often are awarded "below the Notch" to more populated towns.

We approached "*Watershed to Wildlife, Inc*" (the same Whitefield firm that did such a superb job of doing the recent study of the John's River Watershed in Dalton) and jointly wrote the grant proposal. We were awarded \$4,650 for the project which includes field study on site along with compilation of digitalized data (maps, graphs, existing compilations of pertinent information, on-site photographs, aerial photographs and data from several other conservation data bases) -- all of which will be carefully brought together, edited, enriched with fresh narrative description and published both in "hard copy" and digitalized (CD) form.

When the project is completed, public information sessions will be held for all who *are* interested; copies of the study will be given to the Dalton Library, Planning Board, Select Board and Town Clerk's office to enable key Dalton officials and Dalton residents/taxpayers to have access to this highly significant study which can only greatly facilitate protection of this large tract which contains a wealth of plant and animal habitat, some of which is regarded by the state as "at risk". In particular, those charged with reviewing proposed land developments in the area will have at their fingertips hard data with which to make careful and enlightened decisions to protect this important land-and-water treasure in Dalton.

Second, using funds that have accumulated in a special account which *only* the Conservation Commission can expend (whose source is a percentage of the penalties paid by landowners when they take land *out* of "Current Use"), we have entered into contract with the same "*Watershed to Wildlife, Inc*" to do Dalton's "Natural Resources Inventory." Their role will include doing the necessary field work and massive gathering of data from all the sources available, including data used in the *Chase Bog* and John's River Studies, a recently privately completed field census of animal and bird habitat along Dalton Ridge, data compiled by Connecticut River Joint Commissions, other studies done by "*Watershed to Wildlife, Inc.*" that included Dalton information in their data base and all federal, state, regional and accessible private data bases.

This highly detailed and exhaustive examination, recording, describing and illustrating the full range of natural assets that occur within Dalton will, once more, document for landowners, the general public, Town decision makers, developers and all interested parties the presence, location, extent, amount, individuality and inherent value of "what physically constitutes Dalton from edge to edge." The implications for land use, wildlife habitat and protection, development and use of what lies within our borders cannot be overstated.

The effort will take more than a year. In fact, properly published, it can be re-edited, added to, enriched, corrected and enlarged to make it (over time) **the** most significant document for use by the Town besides a Master Plan.

In other matters this year, requested on-site inspections pertaining to the state permitting processes, consultations requested by individual land owners and complaints of observed violations (most often: wetlands violations) took up the rest of the Commission's time. *Residents need to understand four things: Anonymous complaints of violations do not meet state requirements for action. Next, that the Conservation Commission is not the Conservation Police (our powers are greatly limited by law: we cannot even go on someone's property without permission!). Further, our role is to observe, gather facts, educate, attempt to explain the regulations and reason with persons who violate state regulations, and only as a last resort to*

"call Concord" to file an official complaint. Finally, private citizens may themselves call the Dept. of Environmental Services (NHDES) to lodge a complaint (271-3503) but need to understand that if they do that, they will have the extensive forms to fill out and sign, and that NHDES will begin by asking this Commission to investigate and report back on the situation. NHDES is so understaffed that it can directly investigate only the most serious of complaints and will rely on the local Commissions to try to work things out before calling in a NHDES inspector to the site. Call us first, identify yourself and tell us what you observe to be a violation and we will take it from there.

If land is wet, if there is standing water, running water, water in lakes, ponds, pools, rivers, brooks, streams...If there's a culvert involved...or shoreline or a dock, **THERE'S A PERMIT** needed from NHDES **before** anyone does anything on that site! That's the law! Please, call us before you start; we can be of help and can certainly save you from misunderstandings and hassles with NHDES; and, at worst, from the fines imposed by NHDES for violations of state regulations.

Mrs. Trish Hey resigned this fall from the Commission, leaving a vacant position that needs to be filled. Interested persons are invited to contact the Town Hall or the Chairman to get information about the work of the Commission and/or the procedures for being considered as a candidate. We thank Trish for her several years of service to the Town.

Commission members at present include Nancy Comeau, Irene Valliere and Helen Delage besides myself. I thank them too for their faithful services.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard L. Rush, Chairman (837-9869)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2003 was an important year for the town of Dalton. During 2003 we drafted and completed an All Hazard Mitigation Plan through the hard work of the members of the committee. 2003 also saw the purchase and installation of a 15,000 watt emergency generator for the town hall. Final set up and operational check out will commence soon. This was accomplished with a grant from the Office of Emergency Management and matching funds from the town. An Emergency Operations Center was also constructed utilizing funds from the Office of Emergency Management and a soft match from the town.

Respectfully submitted
John E. Tholl, Jr.
Emergency Management Director

DALTON FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Dalton Fire Department responded to 15 calls in 2003. These calls consisted of numerous automobile accidents, fire alarm activations, chimney fires, etc.

We had a total of 12 training sessions in 2003, one of which was a mutual aid training session with Whitefield and other towns.

On July 1, 2003, Allen Blakslee chose to step down as Chief of the Department and after going through the process of picking a new chief, the new slate of officers is as stands: Charles Packard, Chief; Aaron Packard, Asst. Chief; Bob Wentworth, Captain; Tom McVetty, Captain; Richard Abbott, Lieutenant; John Bean, Lieutenant.

We had two new members join this year. Mike Streeter joined as a traffic controller and Patricia Packard joined as a beginning fire fighter.

We began work on our new support vehicle and it is still an on going project, which should be completed by the end of 2004.

During the year of 2004 we plan to have a vigorous recruiting program in hopes of filling up many vacant spots on our roster and in hopes to induce some new and younger blood into the department. With new members comes new ideas and prosperity for the department. We hope 2004 can be as fire free as 2003. Job well done by all the members and towns people alike.

Charles J. Packard
Dalton Fire Chief

2003 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Highway Department had several setbacks in 2003. We had a serious incident with one employee, and lost another employee when he was called for duty in the service of our country.

A mishap with the Mack truck added to the challenging task of keeping up with road maintenance and snow removal for the highway crew, but we have and will continue to move forward.

I would like to thank the many people who took the time to call and let us know of hazards on our roads. Those calls are always appreciated and very helpful. I would also like to thank those dedicated townspeople and contractors who have helped us out in both summer and winter.

The highway department looks forward to a safe, productive 2004. The number to call with questions or concerns is 837-9821.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert C. Wentworth Jr, Road Agent

LIBRARIAN REPORT 2003

CIRCULATION:

Adult Materials	1,296
Children's Materials	1,104
Magazines, Videos, etc.	<u>128</u>
TOTAL CIRCULATION:	2,528

New Borrowers	23
Regular Hours Open	480
Volunteer Hours-Open	146

ACCESSIONS:

Adult materials	89
Children's materials	127
Reference materials	4
Video / Audio	17
Periodicals	<u>14</u>
TOTAL ACCESSIONS:	251

The library was unable to hold its annual Mud Run in April due to lack of volunteers. Plans are underway to resume the race in 2004. If you would like to volunteer before or during the event help is always welcomed.

The summer reading program for 2003 was entitled **READING ROCKS THE GRANITE STATE**. The children learned about rocks and rock collecting. The children collected rocks for their own collections. A rock identification program was held with Allan Bean providing his experience with rocks. Volunteers also brought in their personal collections for display during the summer. Crafts and stories were held weekly. There were four children who completed the program.

The library participated in a book sale in August; the annual Silver Tea in November and held a craft day for children in December. Many thanks to all the volunteers to help make it a great success. The Memory Tree was once again co-sponsored by the Ladies' Aid. Their contributions and recognition has been great for the library.

The Gates Foundation Grant money has provided the library with a computer, printer, and a scanner for public use. Please stop by and use the computer during library hours. An Internet connection is available also for public use.

Thanks are extended to all who helped with the many activities this year. The support and encouragement of the community has been outstanding. We wish to thank all our friends for their donated books, magazines, gifts and time to the library.

Respectfully submitted,
DORIS MITTON, Librarian

Trustees
JEAN ABBOTT
NANCY COMEAU
JESSIE WENTWORTH

DALTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
TREASURER'S REPORT - DECEMBER 31, 2003

Beginning balance - Jan 1, 2003

Children's programs & services fund CD	\$10,000.00
Savings acct.-reference fund	513.13
Checking account	9,794.39
Less PR taxes due	(143.20)
Undeposited funds	<u>117.45</u>
	\$20,281.77

Receipts:

Town of Dalton-appropriation	\$ 9,400.00
Fees & Fines	90.19
Donations	306.40
Book Sale	228.01
Sale of computer	250.00
Interest on savings account	1.42
Interest on ChP&S fund CD	239.83
Sale of T-shirts - ChP&S fund	<u>13.50</u>
	\$10,529.35

Expenditures:

Salary	\$ 5,928.00
Payroll taxes	453.51
Education & conference expenses	465.00
Association dues	155.00
Telephone expense	1,365.79
Supplies	235.87
Books, periodicals, audio	667.51
Internet access	241.20
Notices for bids on computer	90.00
Software renewal fee	399.00
Gateway & Staples from Gates Foundation Grant	5,105.00
Summer reading program, books from Chp&S fund	<u>1,209.25</u>
	\$16,315.13

Ending balance - Dec. 31, 2002

\$14,495.99

Breakdown of ending balance:

Children's P&S CD	\$10,000.00
Savings account - reference	514.55
Checking account	<u>3,981.44</u>
	\$14,495.99

Jean Abbott, Treasurer

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

688 Master Plan surveys were mailed out in 2002 and 274 were returned. This is approximately 40 percent which is an outstanding number. Generally surveys only see about 33 percent returned. Thank you to the many people who returned their surveys making the effort a worthwhile success.

Tabulations of this survey have been conducted and are available at the Town Office for any who wishes to review them. We have also compared these tabulations to the results of the 1989 survey used to create the current Master Plan. The surveys returned this time will be used to update the Master Plan by the end of 2004 to work toward the needs of the people of Dalton.

The surveys indicated for the most part people are pleased with the services offered by the Town. There were a few services which people indicated could use some updating. This information was forwarded to the Board of Selectmen who will look into what can be done to improve these areas.

Another item indicated by the survey is the possibility of zoning. People wish to retain control of the growth and development in town. Thereby necessitating the beginning of limited zoning. Through a zoning ordinance the Town can guarantee the preservation of the rural, forested, quiet life of Dalton regardless of the growth of the surrounding towns.

Any person interested in volunteering to help, in any capacity, in the updating of the Master Plan would be greatly welcomed. You can contact any of the Planning Board members or attend a regular meeting. The Planning Board meets the first Wednesday night of each month at 7 pm in the Town Hall. You can also send any inquires to the Town Office.

The Master Plan Committee

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board had a very busy year in 2003. First was a shift in members. The chairman of many years, Leon Cloutier, stepped down in the spring. The Planning Board wants to take this time to thank Leon for his many years of service to the Town. His knowledge and dedication will be missed. The Board also lost Mike Loughnane and Michelle Rzeppa. Dean Sweeney continues to fill the ex-officio position. Bill Howe and Sandy York joined the board to fill in two of the empty position. Linda Cloutier moved from an alternate to a full board position filling in the third position. Finally John Letson moved from a board member to the position of chairman. The Board is missing its two alternate positions and is looking for any interested resident. It only requires one monthly evening meeting with the possibility of another evening work session. Anybody with questions or suggestions can inquire at the Town Office or by contacting a current board member.

The Planning Board attended many seminars and workshops this year educating the new members as well as old on different state laws. The process of education will be an on going process as many new laws and outlooks on old laws change every year. Many different issues were brought before the Board in the 2003 year. Some were dropped by the inquirer while others were carried through to the end. While the first half of the year only saw one sub-division, the second half became more active. The total approved activity broke down as follows:

Subdivisions	4
Lot Line Adjustments	3
Excavation Permits	2
Merger	1

Finally the Board has met at several work sessions as well as their regular meetings discussing the results of the survey for the Master Plan. The results of this survey have been compiled and can be found at the Town Office.

John Letson, Chairman

DALTON POLICE REPORT

The police department investigated 37 criminal incidents during 2003. Those incidents break down as follows:

Insurance Fraud	1	Simple Assault	5
Criminal Trespass	3	Criminal Mischief	7
Criminal Threatening	2	Burglary	4
Theft	9	Aggravated DWI	1
Rec Stolen Property	1	Habitual Offender	1
2nd Degree Assault	1	Op After Revocation	1
Sexual Assault (F)	1		

Members of the department investigated 23 motor vehicle accidents and made 111 documented traffic stops.

The department members spent 345 hours answering non-criminal requests and worked more than 1970 hours during 2003 of which 829 were patrol hours.

As always the police department reminds the residents to please call 911 whenever an emergency occurs. Calling a non-emergency number slows the response of emergency responders. Thank you for your support during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Tholl Jr.
Chief of Police

2003 Report for the Transfer Station and Recycling

By now ALL Dalton residents should have 2004 "Dump Stickers" affixed to their windshields. No sticker? No admittance to the Transfer Station! Stickers are available from the Town Clerk (bring your vehicle's registration with you).

Some good news and some-not-so-good this year. **We sent more to the Bethlehem landfill in 2003 than 2002, but the increase was better than 1/3 less than the increase we sent in 2002 over 2001;** (11.72 tons more in 2003 over 2002; but in 2002 we sent 35.1 more tons than we did in 2001). That's a chunk of the "good news" !!

The "not-so-good" news is that some of us are still dragging our feet about recycling *some* of the easily separable items. Look below at the figures for the individual categories.

Note: a "Gaylord Bin" (such as we use at the Transfer Station measures 40" x 48" x 36"); we measure most of what we recycle in Gaylord amounts using average full Gaylord weights supplied to us by the State).

In 2003, we sent 3 less Gaylords of newspapers (that's .85 ton). We sent 7 less Gaylords of "mixed paper" (that's 2.37 tons). We sent only 9 Gaylords of glossy magazines and catalogs instead of 12 (that's 1.35 tons). We sent 3.4 less tons of flattened corrugated cardboard boxes and cartons. That all adds up to 8.97 tons (call it **9 tons**) that we sent the previous year in just these "paper" categories which we didn't send this year.

In 2003 we sent 144.29 tons of trash to the landfill by dumpster; in 2002 we sent 132.57. That's an 11.72 ton increase...and **9 of those 11.72 tons were likely paper and cardboard we chose not to recycle this year.**

But look at the measurable *improvements* in tonnages and Gaylords recycled of #1 plastic, milk jugs, galvanized cans and the dramatic increase in glass being recycled. Industry publications tell us that the *use* of #1 plastic bottles and containers by marketers has exploded (and will continue to grow); our own figures reflect that trend. Dalton residents do well in recycling these items (and reasonably well in recycling aluminum cans and #2 plastic). *It pays us to recycle!!* None of that volume and weight goes into our dumpster (or into the landfill!).

Recycled: NOT hauled to the landfill: (in full Gaylord bins unless otherwise noted)

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
<i>Newspaper</i>	33	35	38
<i>Mixed Paper</i>	52	59	61
<i>Glossy Magazines</i>	9	12	13
<i>#1 plastic</i>	61	29	40
<i>#2 plastic</i>	39	40	47
<i>Milk Jugs</i>	55	52	62
<i>Aluminum Can</i>	24	23.5	32.5
<i>Glass (measured in <u>tons</u>)</i>	20.8	10.4	31.0
<i>Galv. Metal cans(in tons)</i>	2	1.5	.9
<i>Corrug. Cardboard(tons)</i>	10.8	14.2	31.0

There's other interesting statistics you should know. If you add together the 144.29 tons of "household trash" that went to the landfill by dumpster and the 35.06 tons of "C&D" (Construction & Demolition){+ old stuffed furniture, old appliances etc.} materials that you pay special fees to "dump", Dalton sent 179.35 tons to the landfill (call it 180 tons).

If you add up all the weights of the Gaylords of recycled materials, plus the weights of the glass, aluminum, corrugated cardboard and a modest estimate for the weight of the scrap metal pile (*all of which is kept out of the dumpster*), it comes to approximately 60 tons. **In other words....**

- (1) **We are recycling 25% of the Dalton municipal waste stream at present.**
- (2) **If the 60 tons that we recycled had gone to the landfill in the dumpster, it would have cost Dalton taxpayers an additional over \$4,000 more than it did.** Currently we pay \$66.82 per ton dumped (plus trucking charges).

Bear in mind as well

Recycled aluminum scrap and aluminum cans were sold and brought in another \$677.10 to Town general funds.

Fees charged to persons wishing to dump "C&D" materials (including painted wood, roof shingles, old sofas and mattresses, old appliances etc.) brought in another \$2,338.50 to the Town general funds.

The sale of blue plastic trash bags brought in \$17,125 (\$14,685 for 979 rolls of large bags; \$2,440 for 244 rolls of small bags: a total of 12,230 individual blue bags). By Town vote, we must escrow 25 cents per bag sold to save up for the cost of the next order we place for blue bags; that means we escrow \$3057.50 (and deduct it from the total sale of blue bags [\$17,123]. *Net income to the general funds of the Town from the sale of blue bags in 2003 is thus \$14,067.50.*

That's a total of \$17,083.10 in "offsetting income" to the Town generated at the Transfer Station..

Bearing in mind that State law requires that all these offsets be assigned to the "General Income Funds of the Town" (and not *directly* applied against the operating cost of operation of the Transfer Station), the fact still remains that against its 2003 operating cost of \$31,045.39*, the Transfer Station generated \$17,083.10 (which offsets the amount of money to be raised in taxes) **and** additionally saved the Town significantly more than \$4,000 by direct recycling. **You should know that!**

*Note: The asterisk (above) reminds us that this figure does not include the periodic and ongoing well testing at the closed former dump site.

You are to be congratulated; and at the same time admonished to be even *more* careful about thorough recycling (especially of various paper and cardboard materials).

Respectfully submitted, Dick Rush (volunteer) 837-9869

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF COUNCIL DISTRICT ONE

It is a pleasure to report to you now in my 25th year of serving the 98 towns, 4 cities and Coos, Carroll, Grafton, Sullivan and Belknap counties of New Hampshire. All together there are 249,000 people who I consider my customers, clients and constituents. It has always been a pleasure to respond, as my duties within the Executive Branch of your state government mandate, to inquiries for information, relief and assistance as provided in NH state law and budget. It is an honor to serve you as a public servant.

Below are listed several documents that are available to citizens and I find them to be a valuable NH resource.

The 2003-2004 state telephone directory of state departments and personnel. This 180 page directory includes TDD access numbers, office information, coordinators, map of location of state buildings, legislative listings, judicial branch listings, department listings, personnel listing and a topical listing. This is available for a cost of \$6.00 plus \$2.50 postage. Make checks payable to the State of N.H., or order on line at www.gencourt.state.nh.us/visitorcenter The entire directory is available at <http://www.state.nh.us/government/agencies.html>

The 2003-04 NH County Directory of all NH County officials is free and available by calling (603) 224-9222. This is also on the web at www.nhcounties.org

Also available at no cost from the Secretary of State Office at 271-3242 or at elections@sos.state.nh.us or mail at Secretary of State, State House Room 204, Concord, NH 03301 are the following publications:

The NH Election Procedural Manual for 2004-2005

The NH Election Laws for 2004-2005

The NH Political calendar for 2004-2005

The duties of the NH Executive Council, The NH Tour Guide book, the official tourist map and the NH Constitution are always available from my office at 271-3632 or 747-3662 or ray.burton4@gte.net

As long as I'm around as one of your elected officials never ever feel you are alone in your hour of need. Contact me anytime!

Raymond S. Burton, Executive Councilor

The Caleb Group Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers

The Caleb Group, a not-for-profit organization, which was established in October of 1995, continues to provide services to older adults in 8 northern NH communities. Caleb's heartfelt mission is to enhance independent living for the elderly, infirm and homebound by relieving isolation and assisting with friendly visits, care and supportive services through a network of volunteers and the fostering of varying communities.

In 2003, The Caleb Group assisted more than 252 Bethlehem, Dalton, Groveton, Jefferson, Lancaster, Littleton, Twin Mountain and Whitefield seniors. Caleb's 85 active volunteers donated over 3,600 hours and drove 29,000 miles to help their older neighbors remain independent! Without these dedicated volunteers, The Caleb Group would not exist. Transportation to medical appointments and shopping, is one of the most requested services through The Caleb Group. Caleb volunteers provide other services as well; friendly visiting, telephone reassurance, help with chores, paperwork, light housekeeping are to name a few. Caleb volunteers also assist with various other community programs, such as, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. This Program is available, every other month to NH seniors that are 60+, and that financially qualify. Caleb volunteers help distribute this food to elders who are totally homebound. The Caleb Group is still working in conjunction with Shaw's Supermarket of Littleton. Shaw's provides day old bread and Caleb volunteers deliver it to seniors in the various communities. The Caleb Group has also been working with Wal-Mart, and the Above the Notch Humane Society of Littleton, and Companion Animal Care of St. Johnsbury, Vermont, regarding Caleb's Pet Food Project. Since the Pet Food Project began in October of 2002, (less than a year and a half ago), The Caleb Group has given out over 2 tons of pet food/litter to help seniors feed their pets! Last but not least, Caleb still provides training for seniors who want to learn how to use computers. Computer classes are held every Wednesday morning at the Highland House Computer Lab. Without the various services that Caleb provides, many of the older adults who need just a little extra help to continue living independently, might have had to go into a nursing home.

There are no fees for the services that are provided by The Caleb Group. The program is funded through grants, fundraising, donations and generous appropriations of the towns in which the services are provided. We want to thank the residents of Dalton for their support and for making it possible for us to continue to provide these much needed services to the area's elders. The \$1,500 appropriated at last year's Town Meeting was greatly appreciated, and we ask for your continued support in 2004.

Volunteers are always in great demand, so if you would like to be a volunteer, request a volunteer, or know someone who would benefit from our services, please call the Caleb Office at 837-9179 or contact anyone on the Advisory Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Gaudes
Program Director

Advisory Board Members

Eleanor Brauns, Twin Mountain
Myra Emerson, Lancaster
David Glover, Whitefield
Carl Rod, Jefferson
Rev. Cliff Vendt, Whitefield

LUNENBURG, GILMAN, CONCORD SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER REPORT

The Senior Center, independently run, is located on Riverside Avenue in Gilman, Vermont.

Our kitchen served 10,000 meals this year to people 60 years old and their spouses. This includes Homebound deliveries in Lunenburg, Gilman, Concord, and Guildhall. Congregate and Homebound meals are served Tuesdays-Fridays at 12:00 noon, to members in the area, including a good number from Dalton.

Homebound meals are delivered by volunteers, with their vehicles. The Area Agency gives them a mileage reimbursement. An advocate from the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont, located in St. Johnsbury, is available to help people with food stamps, fuel assistance, Social Security, and Medicaid/Medicare. Volunteers are available to help with Tax Rebates, and Companionship. Information about these programs is available by calling the Area Agency on Aging at - 1-800-642-5119.

The Center sponsors many events that are open to the public. On the last Friday of the month after lunch Pokeno is played.

The fourth Thursday of each month is "Bookmarks" at the Alden Balch Library in Lunenburg. Programs, books and refreshments on special occasions are available through this program.

Also available is the Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) which is for people over 60 years old or older. This is delivered in the parking lot the 4th Thursday of the month. For information please call the Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-642-5119 or the Food Bank for an application at 1-800-241-4648.

Our famous "Boutique" is open Tuesday through Friday 9:00 am to 1:30 pm or by appointment. Clothing donations are gratefully accepted and all sales are on a donation basis.

Continued community support for the center will go a long way to help keep services for the elderly available, where and when it is needed. For more information call (802) 892-6616.

Algenia Merrow, Chairman of the Board of Directors

Report From Mount Washington Regional Airport To Towns in Regional Authority

The Mount Washington Regional Airport has operated since the mid-1900s as a resource for business and recreational fliers. The airport boasts strong attributes that leave us poised for sustained growth and effective operations. Among these are its positioning in a location convenient for business people and tourists visiting northern New Hampshire and northeastern Vermont. It is within minutes of major economic, industrial and residential hubs in the North Country, which also offers local businesses and individuals easy access via general aviation to areas within and outside the state. And it is located in a neighborhood with one of the most spectacular wildlife refuges in the region, as well as an industrial park set up for easy access via road, rail and air.

As North Country residents, we often take for granted what is in our back yards. The Airport is no exception. Sometimes it is by talking to visitors "from away" that we can begin to realize just what we have to offer. We were fortunate to have many such visitors to the airport this year, and their comments were encouraging. One guest thanked us for painting the mountains so nicely--a reference to the beauty and grandeur of our White Mountains in spectacular fall colors. Another, who stopped by to reminisce--and return to his roots after moving from the area decades and decades ago--shared with us how accessible the airport made his trip, and how much he appreciated it being here.

A couple "from the big city" raved about their ability to hop in their plane, fly up here, pitch a tent and just unwind. Two brothers came by just this week from Vermont after visiting the Airport previously and falling in love with our new terminal. They showed up with tape measures in hand, measuring every nook and cranny. One of the brothers wants to replicate the building as a summer home for his North Country retirement. And the head of a statewide aviation group - a commercial pilot who flies into airports throughout the US and abroad--described Mount Washington Regional Airport as "a jewel" waiting to be

discovered, referring to our prime location, the quality of service we provide and the progress we are making to further improve the airport.

Such positive comments reinvigorate us as a commission, as we work to strengthen the economy and quality of life here in the North Country. But it's not just people from out of the area that appreciate what we offer. Local business people use the airport regularly to more easily reach prospective customers and existing clients. Local residents are learning to fly; on many a day--well, dry day--you can see student pilots carefully taking off, performing a series of touch and go maneuvers, then landing back at home after putting in hours toward their pilot's license. The same holds true for experienced pilots.

During the past year, the Airport Commission has performed significant work on behalf of the users, our neighbors and the residents and businesses--your constituents -- in our region. We completed major safety improvements, including installation of a new rotating beacon on the Northeast side of the airport, substantial clearing of obstructions, both on and off airport property, improved signage to enhance security at the facility and new snow removal equipment designed specifically for airport use.

We reached out to the business and individuals in the region in a variety of ways. We moved forward with a marketing analysis in support of our soon-to-be-updated Airport Master Plan. We held focus group sessions with users, to find out what they liked about Mount Washington Regional Airport and what they thought could be improved.

The commission started Web site link exchanges with major tourist attractions and hotels in the area, bring them to the attention of pilots looking to get away with their families for a few days, and letting potential visitors know there are ways to get to our region that don't involve interstate highway travel.

We've affirmed our commitment to the Capital Improvement Plan implemented several years ago, and are in preparation stages for expanding the runway and safety area for the airport. Such a move will tremendously increase not just the functionality of the airport, but its visibility in trade literature and guides, which direct pilots to airports with runways that meet certain safety-related criteria.

As we move forward, we expect to continue our track record of success in applying for and obtaining grants that cover the lion's share--95 percent--of the cost of improvements to the airport. Ninety percent of the cost of improvements is covered through a Federal program funded by user fees paid by individuals who fly on commercial flights. Five percent comes from state funds, much of which is generated by airport users. And the balance--just five percent--comes from the sponsoring organization, in this case, Mount Washington Regional Airport.

We are working to find ways to fund that five percent through a combination of private and public investment. We will be in contact with each of the commission's member towns to discuss these plans, and welcome any creative thoughts, ideas and support you can offer. Feel free to contact your town's rep on the commission, or call me directly at 444-1388.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the airport and the work we are doing for you.

David Willis, Chairman
Mt. Washington Regional
Airport Commission

NORTH COUNTRY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2003

It has been another busy year at North Country Council. We continued to complete a number of local and regional projects for all of our 51 communities throughout the region. Summaries of some of the major projects are as follows:

Transportation:

- Completed over 200 traffic counts during the spring, summer and early fall
- Completed the TIP process and sent a report to NHDOT with our region's priorities
- Coordinated the Transportation Enhancement process including a work session with the committee, project review based on set criteria, presentations by applicants, and a final review and prioritization and final report to NHDOT
- Began the updating of the regional transportation plan
- Coordination meetings with NHDOT on process of the Ten Year Plan
- Attendance and participation at the GACIT meetings throughout the North Country
- Assisted Community Planner with the update to two master plans' Transportation Sections
- Provided technical transportation assistance to the majority of the communities in our region
- Coordinated the North Country Transportation Committee

Economic Development:

- Successfully received \$1.5 million from EDA for the Mount Washington Valley Technology Village
- Coordinated the North Country District Economic Development Committee
- Successfully extended the EDA District to include all of Grafton County
- Successfully completed a \$2.6 million EDA application for the Dartmouth Regional Technology Village in Lebanon, currently hiring an engineer for the project.
- The CEDS Committee also undertook a major re-write of the CEDS document and held seven public meetings in order to educate the public about EDA and to gather input to economic issues in the region.

- . Wrote 34 grants, for a total of \$7,020,505 for the region in order to assist local communities. Of these grant applications \$4,567,830 have been funded and \$1,469,000 is still pending.
- . Applied for funding to assist with a telecommunications feasibility study, one of the major issues raised at the public advisory meetings in the spring.

Community/Regional Planning:

- . Provided technical assistance to over 20 towns throughout the region.
- . Participated in the update of 7 master plans and zoning ordinances for member communities.
- . Coordinated the Law Lecture Series for the NH Municipal Association.
- . Provided assistance to three (3) towns for the creation of Hazard Mitigation Plans.

Environmental Planning:

- . Provided technical assistance to over 25 communities in the area of solid waste and hazardous waste management.
- . Coordinated the Household Hazardous Waste Management collections for 23 communities.
- . Conducted solid waste and transfer station audits for 2 community transfer stations.
- . Conducted an ongoing fluorescent light collection program.
- . Conducted 2 electronic equipment collections.
- . Provided technical assistance in the National Flood Insurance Program throughout the region.

Many of these programs will continue into the year 2004. Major programs for the year 2004 will be completion of our Regional Transportation Plan, the development of a feasibility study for a Regional Hazardous Waste collection site and the continued assistance to all of our communities in grant writing, community planning and other community planning needs.

Our overall goal, however, remains the same: to provide support and leadership to the region, its governments, businesses and citizens.

Michael J. King, Executive Director

**RIVERBEND SUBCOMMITTEE
2003 ANNUAL REPORT
CONNECTICUT RIVER JOINT COMMISSIONS**

This year the Riverbend Subcommittee began to update our *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan* with a close look at water quality and water-related issues in our region, particularly the need for more complete information on the safety of the river for swimming, fishing, and boating.

The towns of Concord, Newbury, Littleton, Haverhill, and Bath have sent new representatives to the Subcommittee, bringing new ideas and interests to ensure that discussions continue to be well-balanced. There is currently a vacancy in Dalton's representation on the Subcommittee. Citizens interested in representing the town are invited to contact the Selectmen.

The Subcommittee has continued to carry out our legal obligation to provide information and assistance to the states, towns, and local landowners on projects near the river. We have advised the State of New Hampshire on the importance of keeping river flow gages in service to help with river management.

We have encouraged all towns in our region to review our current *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan*, and to incorporate its recommendations as they update town plans and revise their zoning ordinances, particularly for shoreland protection. The heavy rains of last August demonstrated the critical importance of giving rivers and streams enough room. All riverfront landowners should be aware that the NH Shoreland Protection Act now applies to the Connecticut River. Contact the town office for more information.

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

WEEKS HOME HEALTH SERVICE 2003 REPORT

Weeks Medical Center-Home Health and Hospice continues to provide Dalton Residents with a wide range of services. They include skilled nursing; physical, occupational and speech therapies; certified home health aids; homemakers; medical social services; intravenous therapies and care to the terminally ill.

Town funding is critically important and is used to assist families and individuals who are unable to pay for home health and hospice services and to support care where funding does not cover the agency's direct costs.

Our Community Outreach efforts continue to expand into Dalton as our staff members help secure medical and dental insurance coverage for some of your younger residents as well as provide pregnant mothers and their babies with nursing and educational services in their homes during pregnancy and the first year of birth.

The agency's Medicare Hospice program continues to provide excellent palliative care to the terminally ill. Over the last year, 16 hospice patients received care, support and love our nurses, aides and volunteers. To celebrate their memory, a luminary service was held and over 100 residents from area towns were in attendance.

Regional and Town Services - A Summary

	Skilled Nursing	Rehab Services	Home Hlth Aide	Home- makers	Total Visits &Units
Regional services by WMC - Home Health	8,265	1,174	8,617	30,307	48,363
Services to the Town Dalton	138	20	14	82	254

Thank you for your continuing support and confidence.

**BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF DALTON, NH
for the Year Ending December 31, 2003**

DATE	NAME OF CHILD	NAME OF FATHER	NAME OF MOTHER	PLACE OF BIRTH
Jan 20	Mariah Rae	Joyal, Matthew	Joyal, Hattie	Littleton, NH
Apr 06	Devin Michael	Hartshorn, Walter	Hartshorn, Michelle	Lancaster, NH
Jun 07	Connor Andrew	Pillsbury, Casey	Pillsbury, Tallya	Littleton, NH
Jun 14	Cohen Michael	White, Shawn	White, Nicole	Lancaster, NH
Sep 26	Kody Joseph	Whittum, Kevin	Whittum, Tanya	Littleton, NH
Dec 15	Ashley Marie	Bean, John	Bean, Kara	Littleton, NH

**MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF DALTON, NH
for the Year Ending December 31, 2003**

DATE	NAME OF GROOM	RESIDENCE	NAME OF BRIDE	RESIDENCE
Feb 03	Shawn C. White	Dalton, NH	Nicole M. Sena	Dalton, NH
Mar 01	Warren R. Harvey	Dalton, NH	Betty J. Riemer	Tifton, GA
Mar 15	Charles G. Nile	Dalton, NH	Megan, Nelson	Dalton, NH
Apr 24	Michael A. Rich	Dalton, NH	Rosalba Mantilla	Derry, NH
Aug 27	Michael P. Loughnane	Dalton, NH	Deborah J. Meyer	Dalton, NH
Aug 30	Donald G. Miriello	Bronx, NY	Jonna M. Crispens	Larchmont, NY
Sep 24	Paul E. Pinksten	Dalton, NH	Kali J. Esposito	Dalton, NH
Nov 15	Jay R. Moyer	Whitefield, NH	Rhiannon Wentworth	Whitefield, NH
Nov 22	Roger W. Hutchins	Dalton, NH	Alice K. Stoughton	Dalton, NH
Dec 09	Robert M. Fraser	Dalton, NH	Hannah M. Davis	Dalton, NH

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF DALTON, NH
for the Year Ending December 31, 2003

DATE	NAME OF DECEASED	PLACE OF DEATH	NAME OF FATHER	NAME OF MOTHER
Jan 11	Helen Whittum	Lancaster, NH	Unknown Blaken	Emily Unknown
Mar 21	Pauline E. Streeter	Lancaster, NH	Charles Belmore	Emily Pilotte
Jul 15	Maurice A. Lambert	Littleton, NH	Alfred Lambert	Rosanna Raymond
Aug 02	Dorothy E. Phillips	Lancaster, NH	Raymond Rooney	Grace Collins
Aug 16	Lillian H. Henry	Lebanon, NH	George Wright	Hazen Smith
Sep 02	Thomas Landry	Dalton, NH	Joseph Landry	Rose Pelotte
Nov 11	Herbert Hennessey, Jr.	Dalton, NH	Herbert Hennseesey Sr	Elinor Buke

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