

Town of **Ryegate** Vermont

2016 Annual Report



Blue Mountain Cemetery

Please bring this report to
Town Meeting
On Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Dedication

November 15, 1948 – December 29, 2016



Gary Mason grew up in Ryegate and was very proud of his Town. He was a decorated US Army veteran, receiving many service medals, including the honorable Purple Heart, for wounds inflicted in Vietnam. He owned and operated his own business, Gary's Plumbing & Heating. For many years, he monitored the South Ryegate Wastewater System, taking monthly reports and repairing it as needed. Gary enjoyed his friends and neighbors and was good to them. He went out of his way to help them if needed. He was a member of the Ross-Wood American Legion Post #20.



September 13, 1924 – December 29, 2016

Ryegate lost another citizen on December 29th. Virginia Peterson Phelps died in North Haverhill, NH. She worked for the US Postal Service and was Postmaster in South Ryegate. She was the first woman elected to the Ryegate Select Board and served in that capacity from 1986 until 1989, acting as Town Clerk for a period of time, and helping to train the current one. Virginia had a keen interest in people and a sharp eye for what was fair and right.

The Report of the Officers of the

Town
of
Ryegate
Vermont

In preparation for Town Meeting Day

On

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

2016

Annual Report
Of Town Officers
For the Year Ended
December 31, 2016

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Selectboard Narrative

2016 saw the Town receive a new town truck. We went back to an International this time due to the fact of a very generous trade in allowance on the old truck. We now are on track to follow our capital needs chart, hopefully keeping each truck 8 or 9 years. We now have an all diesel fleet, so have removed the gas tank and pump at the town garage.

We have just signed an extended warranty for the loader, hoping this will give us 4 or 5 more years on this piece of equipment without a lot of unexpected expense.

The Witherspoon Road Project was completed this fall with the final coat of blacktop. We also received a Better Back Roads Grant to fix the outlet end of the big culvert on North Bayley-Hazen Road. We will continue to apply for this type of grant.

The Terry Hill Bridge Project has been on our radar for some time now. A study was done by the Water Resource People and advised us that whatever we do would not address the flooding condition further down the brook. Their report is included elsewhere in the report, on page 23.

A small piece of property was purchased in South Ryegate to clean up an environmental hazard. This land will be incorporated into the Hillside Cemetery at a later date.

We believe the contracts with the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department and the Vermont State Police are working well. Remember, it's only as good as what they see. If you see something, report it. The Sheriff's Department is helping out with our dog problems. If you know of a problem location let us know so we can tell them.

The Women's Club has bought three new "Welcome to Ryegate" signs that will be installed this spring in each of the villages. We thank them for this addition to the Town.

A big thank you to the Road Crew who put in long hours to keep our roads in great shape, also to the Town Clerk, Listers, Treasurer, Auditors, Ballot Clerks and anyone else who keeps this Town running so well. You make our job so much easier.

The Select Board

Auditors' Narrative

In accordance with Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 24, Section 1681, the board of auditors has verified the existence of cash balances, and examined the accounts and records of town officers. To the best of our knowledge, the financial statements, reports of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities contained in this annual report present an accurate record of the funds handled in the year ending December 31, 2016.

The auditors as a group verify bank accounts and fund balances on a quarterly basis. Individually auditors are verifying accounts and other financial activities conducted by the town commissions, departments, and officers. We reconcile the Grand List and the property information files involved in transfer of ownership and changes of appraised value annually. Following a town wide reappraisal of property the auditors will do a complete verification of all properties. The auditors also performed verification of tax collections, and dog license sales.

During the year the issue of accounting software used by the treasurer came up and much discussion took place. The current software is approximately 10 years old and was designed for personal and small business use. The user tech support provided by the company is very time consuming and in order to prepare some reports duplicate entry of data is required. The Selectboard has included a line item in the budget which will exist for a three year period which all parties believe will permit the installation of the new system designed for use by municipalities during the 2018 calendar year.

We thank the town officers and officials for cooperation in assisting us as we performed our duties.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Dole Richard Fraser Richard Hodgson

Vermont Election Information

Last year, Secretary of State Jim Condos announced the launch of VT's new Elections Management Platform. This streamlined the elections administration process, providing voters with greater access to voter specific information. Over 25,000 Vermonters registered to vote online in 2016. For the November General Election, nearly 6,500 Vermonters requested an absentee ballot through the My Voter Page.

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- Check registration status;
- View information on upcoming elections;
- Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;
- View a sample ballot;
- Request and track an absentee ballot;
- and much more.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>

Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

Towns Officers Appointed by the Selectboard

Road Foreman	Nelson Elder
Clerk for the Select Board	Marsha Nelson
Fence Viewers	The Select Board
Pound Keeper	North Danville Pet Hotel
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber	Bruce Beauvais
Weigher of Coal	Bruce Beauvais
Tree Warden	Darcy Nelson
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Dean Rowden
Town Service Officer	J Paul Coates
Health Officer	Stephen Genereaux M.D.
Animal Control Officer	Josephine Guertin, retired 12/31
Energy Officer	Marsha Nelson
Green Up Chairmen	Darryl Perkins & Makayla Perkins
NEK Waste District	Gene Perkins, Supervisor Andrew Smith, Vice Super

Planning/Zoning Commission

Term expires 2017: Alice Allen,
Stephen Genereaux

Term Expires 2018: Mary Dole,
Catherine Davie, Fremont Nelson,
Regina Hazel

Term expires 2019: Walter Bragg,
Richard Colby II, Nancy Perkins

Zoning Administrator	William Elder
Northeastern VT Development	Claudette Sortino
Connecticut River Joint Comms.	Mary Dole

Appointed by Town Clerk – Assistant Town Clerk – Elizabeth
Page

Appointed by Treasurer – Assistant Treasurer – Patricia Crocker

Town Officers 2016

MODERATOR	Regina Hazel
TOWN CLERK	Marsha Nelson
TREASURER	Cheryl Slayton

SELECT BOARD

Term expires March 2017 Paul Keenan
Term expires March 2018 Andrew Smith
Term expires March 2019 Claudette Sortino

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR	Dale Wright
FIRST CONSTABLE	Vacant
TOWN AGENT	John Zampieri
FIRST GRAND JUROR	Dean Rowden

LISTERS:

Term expires March 2017	Regina Hazel
Term expires March 2018	Elizabeth Beauvais
Term expires March 2019	Sally Wilson

AUDITORS :

Term expires March 2017	Thomas Dole
Term expires March 2018	Richard Fraser
Term expires March 2019	Richard Hodgson

LIBRARY TRUSTEES:

Term expires March, 2017	Richard Fraser
Term expires March, 2018	Marsha Nelson
Term expires March 2019	Jennifer Nelson
Term expires March 2020	Mary Dole
Term expires March 2021	Deanna Arnosky

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER:

Term expires March, 2017	William Nelson
Term expires March, 2018	Judy Gandin
Term expires March 2019	Richard Colby II
Term expires March 2020	Dan LaCoss
Term expires March 2021	Bruce Nelson

UNION SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Term expires March, 2017	Wade Parker
Term expires March, 2018	Joshua Souliere
Term expires March 2019	Paul Hazel
Term expires March 2019	Bruce Stevens

Accounts Administered by SelectBoard and Treasurer 2016

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
1) So. Ryegate Sewer					
#273086	\$1,586.17			\$0.80	\$1,586.97
2) Fire Dept Building Fund					
#634466	\$528.49			\$0.48	\$528.97
3) Fire Dept Eq. Repl.					
#632300	\$15,713.29	\$8,765.63		\$23.04	\$24,501.96
4) Machine Fund-Hgwy					
#612080	\$282,809.38	\$75,000.00	*** \$89546.00	\$220.78	\$268,684.16
		\$200.00	Sale of Utility Trailer		
5) Ryegate History Committee					
#524317	\$17,648.11			\$17.70	\$17,665.81
6) Nicole A. Hayne					
#528494	\$3,419.52	** \$5000.00	* \$653.00	\$3.28	\$7,769.80
#905929	\$9,611.96			\$38.64	\$9,650.60
7) M. Hall Library					
#195892	\$2,088.38	\$594.60	**** \$400.00	\$1.09	\$2,284.07
#905933	\$6,312.25			\$25.36	\$6,337.61
2076 Shares MFS/MIT	\$53,836.48				\$58,030.43
933 Shares Putnam	\$15,408.18				\$16,425.44
8) W. Sutton Memorial					
#552067	\$106.18			\$0.04	\$106.22
9) Fire Dpt Truck Repl	\$13,000.36	\$13,000.00		\$13.73	\$26,014.09
#673078					
10) E. Ryegate Library					
#9358817841	\$1,883.95			\$0.59	\$1,884.54
* E. Ryegate Playground Equipment					
** Donation By Gitta Weesner In Memory of John D. Weesner					
*** 2016 International Truck & Warranty					
**** South Ryegate Library					



Photo by Mary Lou Saxton

Accounts Administered by SelectBoard and Treasurer 2016

	Beginning Balance	Deposit	Withdrawal	Interest Credited	Ending Balance
11) John F. McColl Cemetery					
#810875	\$3,423.18			\$13.75	\$3,436.93
#905930	\$2,327.47			\$9.36	\$2,336.83
#234630	\$106.21			\$0.04	\$106.25
12) McDonald Cemetery					
#290409	\$320.34			\$0.16	\$320.50
13) Byrne-Buchanan Cemetery					
#304502	\$491.43			\$0.24	\$491.67
14) C A Park Cemetery					
#506625	\$697.75			\$0.36	\$698.11
15) Cameron Cemetery					
#702507	\$2,972.76			\$16.44	\$2,989.20
16) Ryegate Cemetery Fund					
#601600	\$11,078.98		* \$5259.82	\$11.04	\$5,825.20
			\$5.00	Svc. Chg.	
17) E. Hall Cemetery					
#195915	\$2,591.22	\$324.00		\$2.73	\$2,917.95
#905932	\$7,391.37			\$29.69	\$7,421.06
451 Shares Bank of NYMellon	\$18,549.00		*\$20,785.83		\$0.00
18) M. Hall Cemetery					
#195928	\$1,140.61	\$48.22		\$0.58	\$1,189.41
#905931	\$3,947.26			\$15.86	\$3,963.12
146 Shares Bank of America	\$2,219.43				\$2,440.83
29 Shares Bank of NYMellon	\$1,195.38				\$1,374.02
19) Ticklenaked Pond Checking					
#389315	\$5,461.63	\$530.00			\$5,991.63
20) BMU Little League					
#565393	\$663.21			\$0.32	\$663.53
21) Lind Homes Housing					
#565353	\$4,342.17			\$4.36	\$4,346.53
* Purchase of Paton Property in South Ryegate					

Capital Needs: Town Highway Machinery and Equipment

TOWN OF RYEGATE												
HIGHWAY MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT												
CAPITAL NEEDS ACTUALS AND ESTIMATES												
Capital Item	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013	Year 2014	Year 2015	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018	
2011 Loader--Trade 2001					55,500							
2004 Grader--Trade 1993												
2015 Truck --Trade 2006								132,464				
2016 Truck --Trade 2008									86,400			
2017 Truck --Trade 2009										90,000		
2009 Truck	109,131											
2011 Truck --Trade 2004			103,986									
Wood Chipper					3,500							
Other- Equip Fuel Tank		249.48										
Welder						2090						
Warranty on Truck									3,146	3,590		
Sale of Utility Trailer									200			
Balance in Savings Jan 1	72,660	58,888	133,895	105,163	180,428	196,636	264,740	340,005	282,809	268,684	250,344	
Annual Deposit	95,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	70,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	
Annual Expense	(109,131)	(249)	(103,986)	-	(59,000)	(2,090)	-	(132,464)	(89,346)	(93,590)	-	
Annual Interest Earned	359	256	254	265	208	194	265	268	221	250	250	
Balance in Savings Dec 31	58,888	133,895	105,163	180,428	196,636	264,740	340,005	282,809	268,684	250,344	325,594	

2016 Town Employee Compensation

Employee Name	2016 Pay Rate	Gross Wages	Retirement	Bonus	Health Insurance	FICA	Total Compensation
Nelson Elder	20.65 Hourly	46,004.71	3,342.64	100.00	7,909.69	3,499.37	60,856.41
Road Foreman							
Stan Kosakowski	16.19 Hourly	1,748.58				133.75	1,882.33
Road Crew PT							
Larry Welch	17.34 Hourly	38,502.37	2,798.75	100.00	7,909.69	2,932.37	52,243.18
Road Crew							
Bruce Boyce	16.50 Hourly	35,533.70	2,583.43	100.00	7,909.69	2,688.78	48,815.60
Road Crew							
Tom Gould	15.00 Hourly	3,896.35	282.48			298.07	4,476.90
Road Crew							
Jason Sulham	16.00 Hourly	33,335.68	2,423.99	100.00		2,524.25	38,383.92
Road Crew							
Darcy Nelson	15.00 Hourly	225.00				17.22	242.22
Road Crew							
Marsha Nelson	418.85 Weekly	21,964.65	1,599.69	100.00	8,385.00	1,687.81	33,737.15
Town Clerk							
Cheryl Slayton	332.17 Weekly	17,130.46		100.00	8,385.00	1,318.08	26,933.54
Treasurer							
Patricia Crocker	11.00 Hourly	1,321.00		100.00		108.68	1,529.68
Asst. Treas.							
Khristine Elder	10.00 Hourly	40.00				3.06	43.06
Asst. Town Cl.							
Elizabeth Page	11.00 Hourly	718.00		100.00		62.59	880.59
Asst. Town Cl.							
Mary Dole, As. T Cl	10.00 Hourly	80.00				6.12	86.12
Richard Fraser	12.49 Hourly	193.60				14.82	208.42
Auditor							
Thomas Dole, Aud	12.49 Hourly	437.16				33.44	470.60
Richard Hodgson	12.49 Hourly	306.01				23.41	329.42
Auditor							
Dale Wright	8% Collect. Fee	11,876.60				908.57	12,785.17
Tax Collector							
Regina Hazel	15.09 Hourly	4,424.65				338.48	4,763.13
Lister							
Elizabeth Beauvais	15.09 Hourly	3,858.29				295.16	4,153.45
Lister							
Sally Wilson	15.09 Hourly	3,963.42				303.20	4,266.62
Lister							
Gene Perkins **	10.00 Hourly	4,475.00				342.35	4,817.35
Recycling							
Andrew Smith	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Claudette Sortino	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
Paul Keenan	Annual	1,000.00				76.50	1,076.50
Selectboard							
		233,035.23	13,030.98	800.00	40,499.07	17,769.08	305,134.36
		Additional Employer Costs:		Worker's Compensation Ins.			10,825.92
				Road Crew Uniforms/Laundry Service			4,996.22
**Town of Groton Reimbursed \$2237.50 for their share.				Unemployment Ins.			168.00
				TOTAL EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION			321,124.50

Balance Sheet Comparison

Current Assets:	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
Wells River - Checking	\$ (7,104.53)	\$ 11,137.79
Petty Cash	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Wells River Savings- Debit Card Account	\$ 13.55	\$ 22.05
Wells River Savings - Money Market Account	\$ 408,958.78	\$ 436,931.08
Woodsville Savings- Money Market Account	\$ 161,899.64	\$ 162,386.17
Passumpsic Savings Bank- Money Market Acct	\$ 201,619.63	\$ 201,992.62
2013 Property Tax	\$ 2,195.09	\$ 659.46
2014 PropertyTax	\$ 43,822.71	\$ 7,525.42
2015 Property Tax	\$ 118,927.90	\$ 46,453.28
2016 Property Tax		\$ 112,355.18
So. Ryegate Sewer Rec.	\$ 1,433.42	\$ 4,666.23
East Ryegate Sewer Rec	\$ 3,449.68	\$ 3,065.23
Town of Groton- Recycling Rec.	\$ 1,998.25	\$ 2,255.32
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 937,244.12	\$ 989,479.83
Current Liabilities:	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
Accounts Payable		\$ 555.00
Fica Withheld	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.04)
State Withheld	\$ (3.19)	\$ (4.01)
Prepaid Property Tax 2016	\$ 1,325.53	
Prepaid Property Tax 2017		\$ 1,946.55
Zoning Admin Fees		\$ 641.00
Due To Other Accounts	\$ 7,765.63	\$ 12,434.00
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 9,087.93	\$ 15,572.50
Fund Balances:	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
Fund Balance-Prior Year	\$ 551,532.36	\$ 561,711.59
Fund Balance- Reappraisal	\$ 65,445.75	\$ 71,948.25
Fund Balance- Town Highway	\$ 99,906.72	\$ 152,679.39
Fund Balance- So. Rye Sew	\$ 44,861.65	\$ 39,410.92
Fund Balance- Roads	\$ 91,995.51	\$ 91,995.51
Fund Balance- Creamery Road Bridge	\$ 42,633.77	\$ 42,633.77
Fund Balance- 68 Church Street	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Fund Balance- External Audit	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,500.00
Fund Balance- Zoning/Planning		\$ 2,011.08
Fund Balance- Restoration	\$ 14,101.20	\$ 14,344.43
Current Year Earnings	\$ 10,179.23	\$ (13,827.61)
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 928,156.19	\$ 973,907.33

Comparative Budget REVENUES

	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Property Taxes (minus BMU school pymts.)	829,951.00	724,145.54	843,187.00
PILOT (Paymt. In Lieu Of Taxes)	1,500.00	1,814.75	1,500.00
Property Tax Adj. from prior year	-	14,790.07	-
Interest, Delinquent Taxes	10,000.00	18,908.28	10,000.00
Tax Collectors 8%	-	11,876.50	-
Liquor Licenses	70.00		70.00
Permits - Zoning & Planning	200.00	512.00	200.00
Marriage Licenses	200.00	255.00	200.00
Creamery Road Bridge Grant	-	93.90	-
State Aid for Highways	120,000.00	123,102.27	120,000.00
Current Use/Hold harmless - State of VT	-	43,250.00	-
Town Clerk Fees	8,000.00	9,904.00	8,000.00
Dog Licenses	1,600.00	1,825.00	1,600.00
Interest Income	2,500.00	2,407.07	2,500.00
Traffic Control	200.00	379.05	200.00
Grant Revenue	-	15,575.00	-
VLCT PACIF - Refund	-	787.00	-
Fire Dept. - W/C Refund	-	266.00	-
Town of Groton - Recycling Building	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Equ Ed Gr List Main.	-	1,155.65	-
Revenues Total:	975,721.00	972,547.18	988,957.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Elected and Appointed Officials	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Animal Care	500.00		500.00
Auditors Salary	1,200.00	936.77	1,500.00
Auditors Supplies	50.00		50.00
Ballot Clerk Salaries	1,000.00	1,370.25	1,000.00
Cemetery Appropriation	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,300.00
Cemetery Fencing & Repair	2,000.00	1,682.00	-
Cemetery Stone Restoration			5,000.00
Dog Catcher Expense	1,500.00	289.00	1,500.00
Dog Catcher Supplies	-		-
Health Officer Expense	50.00		50.00
Lister's Computer Support	2,400.00	2,084.97	2,400.00
Lister's Salaries	15,000.00	12,246.36	15,000.00
Lister's Supplies & Expenses	500.00	285.21	500.00
Lister's Telephone	450.00	438.84	450.00
Lister's Purchased Services	-		-
Selectman's Salaries	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Selectman's Clerk			3,000.00
Tax Collector's 8%	-	11,876.60	-
Tax Collector's Expense	275.00	195.00	275.00
Town Officer's - Conf/Mtgs	1,500.00	1,127.00	1,500.00
Town Patrol - State Police	20,000.00	17,807.82	18,000.00
Town Patrol Sheriff Contract	3,000.00	5,040.00	5,000.00
Zoning - Salaries	-	829.04	1,000.00
Zoning Advertising	-	172.00	100.00
Zoning/Planning Comm.	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Board Of Civil Auth. Expense	-		
Recycling Coordinator	2,500.00	2,237.50	2,500.00
Accounting Software Fund			5,000.00
Elected & Appointed Officials Total:	66,925.00	70,615.36	79,625.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Town Offices	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Marriage License Fees	-	250.00	-
Medical Benefits	16,500.00	16,770.00	17,500.00
Retirement Benefits	1,525.00	1,599.69	1,650.00
State Dog license Fees	1,000.00	910.00	1,000.00
Machinery & Equipment, Repair	200.00	75.00	200.00
Machinery & Equipment, Purchase	1,000.00		2,000.00
Town Officers - Dog Fees	400.00	364.00	400.00
Fuel Oil	2,500.00	1,034.23	2,000.00
Ground Work	2,000.00	2,030.00	2,000.00
Postage	1,200.00	988.40	1,200.00
Town Clerk Salaries	22,050.00	21,700.65	22,000.00
Assistant Town Clerk Salaries	1,300.00	1,359.00	1,300.00
Town Treasurer Salaries	17,850.00	17,230.46	20,000.00
Assistant Town Treasurer Salaries	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,300.00
Supplies	1,700.00	1,740.11	1,700.00
Telephone & Internet	1,100.00	867.92	1,100.00
Utilities	900.00	878.63	900.00
Computer Support	2,000.00	2,296.62	2,000.00
Website	420.00	395.77	154.00
Workers Compensation	452.00	451.08	471.00
Town Offices Total:	75,097.00	71,942.56	78,875.00
General			
Ambulance	16,646.00	16,646.00	18,942.00
Appraisal Consulting	1,500.00		1,500.00
Beach Repairs & Maint.	2,000.00	1,468.30	1,500.00
Cemetery Flags	250.00	113.43	250.00
County Tax	15,056.00	15,056.00	14,828.00
Elections Telephone	325.00	312.31	-
Elections Advertising	150.00		150.00
Fast Squad - Groton/Ryegate	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
FICA - Employer	18,000.00	17,769.08	18,000.00
Fire Warden Expense	300.00	279.48	400.00
Legal Fees	2,000.00	298.17	2,000.00
External Audit	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
Tax Sale Expense	-	167.62	-
Meeting/Bid Advertising	100.00		100.00
Recycling	2,700.00	3,537.10	3,500.00
Recycling Building & Maintenance	1,000.00		1,000.00
Ryegate Green Up	100.00	104.63	100.00
Ryegate Green Up - Disposal	500.00	110.00	500.00
Ryegate Historical Society	200.00	200.00	200.00
Tax Maps	-		1,575.00
Town Building Repair & Maintenance	5,000.00	4,697.87	2,500.00
Town Report	2,000.00	1591.24	2,000.00
Town Report - Delivery	200.00	218.64	225.00
VLCT Dues	2,241.00	2241.00	2,318.00
VLCT PACIF Insurance	21,287.00	21,287.00	22,065.00
Misc. Grant Expense	-	15575.00	
General Total:	103,055.00	113,172.87	105,153.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Fire Department	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
Fire Truck Replacement Fund	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
Bldg - So. Ryegate	1,000.00		1,000.00
Bldg - Ryegate Corner	2,800.00	1,475.88	2,800.00
Diesel	1,500.00	1,097.58	1,500.00
Dispatch	1,825.00	1,512.53	1,800.00
Dry Hydrant	1,000.00	291.60	1,000.00
Dues	1,075.00	1,178.55	1,000.00
Dumpster	200.00	180.88	200.00
Equipment Replacement Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Fuel Oil - Ryegate Corner	3,500.00	1,495.69	2,500.00
Fuel Oil - So. Ryegate	1,000.00	528.16	800.00
Gasoline	100.00	166.53	100.00
Insurance/Accident	2,000.00	1,951.00	2,000.00
Mach. & Equip. - So. Ryegate			
Mach. & Equip. - Ryegate Corner	10,000.00	7,970.05	10,000.00
Repairs	7,000.00	7,003.02	7,000.00
Supplies	1,500.00	878.93	1,500.00
Telephone/ Internet	1,000.00	1,103.71	1,000.00
Training	3,000.00	1,255.00	3,000.00
Utilities - Ryegate Corner	1,000.00	1,129.23	1,200.00
Utilities - So. Ryegate	400.00	347.92	400.00
Admin.	6,000.00	5,996.74	6,000.00
Workmans Comp	1,770.00	1,770.00	1,700.00
Dry Hydrant Grant Refund	-	2,097.00	
Fire Department Total:	61,670.00	49,236.00	60,500.00
Trnsfr to/(from) Fire Dept. Equip. Replacement Fund	-	12,434.00	
Fire Department Grand Total:	61,670.00	61,670.00	60,500.00
Contributions	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
American Red Cross	200.00	200.00	200.00
Little League	100.00	100.00	100.00
Catamount Arts	400.00	400.00	400.00
4th of July Committee	200.00	200.00	200.00
Groton Food Shelf	500.00	500.00	500.00
Home Health Care	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00	500.00	500.00
Libraries	200.00	200.00	200.00
Little Rivers Health Care	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
NEK Human Services	500.00	500.00	500.00
NEK Learning Services	200.00	200.00	200.00
NEK Youth Services	250.00	250.00	250.00
Contributions - VT Rural Fire	100.00	100.00	100.00
No. VT Development Assoc.	500.00	500.00	500.00
Oxbow Senior Independence	300.00	300.00	300.00
Rural Community Transport	850.00	850.00	850.00
Umbrella	800.00	800.00	800.00
VT Cent. For Indep. Living	265.00	265.00	265.00
VT Green-Up	25.00	25.00	25.00
VT Office of Aging	300.00	300.00	300.00
VT Vet. Mem.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Baldwin Library			200.00
Community Restorative Justice Center			250.00
Groton Public Library			200.00
Contributions Total:	9,290.00	9,290.00	9,940.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Highway Department	2016 Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
2011 Loader	4,000.00	2,780.76	4,000.00
2004 Grader	8,000.00	7,881.61	8,000.00
2008 Int'l Truck	3,000.00	768.82	-
2009 Int'l Truck	6,000.00	4,460.06	6,000.00
2011 Int'l Truck	6,000.00	6,336.27	6,000.00
2015 Kenworth Truck	6,000.00	171.72	3,500.00
2016 Intl. Truck	-	3,322.28	3,500.00
2008 Int'l Truck Plow & Sander	1,000.00		-
2009 Int'l Truck Plow & Sander	2,000.00	1,697.92	2,000.00
2011 Int'l Truck Plow & Sander	2,000.00	453.87	2,000.00
2015 Kenworth Truck Plow & Sander	2,000.00	400.00	2,000.00
2016 Intl.Plow & Sander	-	41.36	2,000.00
Wood Chipper	500.00		500.00
Culvert Steamer	250.00		250.00
Class IV Roads	5,000.00	3,923.50	5,000.00
Highway Dept. Computer/printer	1,000.00	1,046.42	-
Cold Patch	1,000.00	1,210.95	1,000.00
Diesel Fuel	45,000.00	24,167.83	35,000.00
Equipment Rental	6,000.00	2,975.00	6,000.00
Heating Oil	4,500.00	2,115.14	4,500.00
Gasoline	1,000.00	429.63	1,000.00
Gravel	56,000.00	66,031.22	56,000.00
Guard Rails	3,500.00	394.50	3,500.00
Machine Fund	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
Highway Dept. Advertising	100.00		100.00
Medical Insurance - Roads	26,500.00	23,729.07	26,500.00
Motor Oil	2,000.00	1,613.07	2,000.00
Physicals - Road crew	500.00		500.00
Repairs - Other	500.00	272.69	500.00
Retirement - Town Highway	11,000.00	11,431.29	12,000.00
Road Repairs	15,000.00	1,040.20	15,000.00
Road Resurfacing	100,000.00	82,876.13	100,000.00
Road Signs	500.00	304.40	500.00
Roadside Mowing	6,000.00	5,925.30	6,000.00
Summer Road - Calcium Chloride	12,000.00	11,816.56	12,000.00
Summer Road - Culverts	4,000.00	3,381.20	4,000.00
Summer Road - Labor	68,000.00	64,744.15	68,000.00
Supplies	5,000.00	4,117.07	5,000.00
Telephone	650.00	537.88	900.00
Tires	9,000.00	10,267.56	7,000.00
Tools	1,000.00	1,473.71	1,500.00
Town Garage Upkeep	2,500.00	4,011.00	2,500.00
Training	250.00	60.00	250.00
Tree Removal/Brush Cutting	1,500.00		1,500.00
Uniforms	4,500.00	4,996.22	5,000.00
Utilities	1,650.00	1,639.29	1,650.00
VLCT Unemployment	558.00	168.00	410.00
Winter - Labor	100,000.00	94,902.24	100,000.00
Winter Road - Salt	18,000.00	22,460.92	26,000.00
Winter Road - Sand	18,000.00	11,801.90	18,000.00
Workers Comp. - Road Crew	10,826.00	10,825.92	11,304.00
Road project - Engineering Terry Hill	1,400.00	6,150.00	
Road project - Wetherbee Culvert	-	6,448.00	
Road project - Witherspoon Road	-	115,524.08	
Witherspoon Road Grant	-	-97,986.38	
Highway Department Total:	659,684.00	610,140.33	654,864.00
Transfer to/(from) Highway Fund Balance		49,543.67	
Highway Dept. Grand Total:	659,684.00	659,684.00	654,864.00

Comparative Budget EXPENSES

Municipal Expenses Total:	975,721.00	986,374.39	988,957.00
Current Earnings:			
School Appropriation			
BMU School		1,693,996.02	
School Appropriation Total:		1,693,996.02	
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	975,721.00	2,680,370.41	988,957.00

Fund Balance Changes

Fund	Entry	Start of Year	Increase	Decrease	End of Year
Reappraisal	Beginning Balance:	\$ 65,445.75			
	FY16 per parcel payment from State of VT:		\$ 6,502.50		
	Ending balance:				\$ 71,948.25
Town Highway	Beginning Balance:	\$ 99,906.72			
	Insurance pymt. for damage due to vehicle accident		\$ 3,229.00		
	"Budget to Actual" transfer to Highway Fund		\$ 49,543.67		
	Ending balance:				\$ 152,679.39
S. Ryegate Sewer	Beginning Balance:	\$ 44,861.65			
	Sewer Charges:		\$ 11,700.00		
	Repairs and Maintenance:			\$ 8,028.35	
	Utilities:			\$ 345.88	
	Engineering Study			\$ 8,776.50	
	Ending balance:				\$ 39,410.92
Roads	Beginning Balance:	\$ 91,995.51			
	Ending balance:				\$ 91,995.51
Creamery Rd. Bridge	Beginning Balance:	\$ 42,633.77			
	Ending balance:				\$ 42,633.77
68 Church Street	Beginning Balance:	\$ 500.00			
	Ending balance:				\$ 500.00
External Audit	Beginning Balance:	\$ 7,000.00			
	2016 Contribution:		\$ 3,500.00		
	Ending balance:				\$ 10,500.00
Restoration	Beginning Balance:	\$ 14,101.20			
	Percentage of Town Clerk Fees Collected:		\$ 858.00		
	Town Land Record Books:			\$ 614.77	
	Ending balance:				\$ 14,344.43
Zoning & Planning	Beginning Balance:	\$ -			
	"Budget to Actual" transfer:		\$ 2,011.08		
	Ending balance:				\$ 2,011.08
General	Beginning Balance:	\$ 551,532.36			
	2015 Earnings/Loss:		\$ 10,179.23		
	Ending balance:				\$ 561,711.59

Listers' Report

The Listers determine all property values within the Town of Ryegate. Additionally, we maintain an accurate Grand list by reviewing and updating all property transfers, tax maps, permit work, deeds, surveys, and the Current Use Program.

As of January 2017, Ryegate's CLA (Common Level of Appraisal) remained stable at 105.55% up from 104.25% in 2016. Although the economic predictions for 2016 sounded encouraging, Ryegate sales remained below assessed values. Because of the low number of valid sales and most sales below assessed values in the category of residential with 6 ac. or less, our COD (Coefficient of Dispersion) went from 8.88% to 15.62%.

September 2015 tax maps are on display at the Town Office along with orthophoto aerial maps. We strongly recommend that you check your property location and acreage on the tax map; let us know if you feel there is an incorrect information. Tax maps will be updated in 2017.

IMPORTANT: Taxpayers must file a Vermont Homestead Declaration every year by April 15th. The state form is HS-122 and also contains the Property Tax Adjustment Claim. Forms can be obtained online (www.tax.vermont.gov), or from the Income Tax Return booklet or your tax preparer. Property owners can also file their homestead directly online.

REMINDERS:

Property changes: Please notify the Listers of any change of address, or any changes to your property—including new construction, or major renovations to basements, attics, or unfinished areas. In addition, let us know of any removal of property including tear downs and blow downs.

Surveys: Certified surveys are important in creating accurate tax maps and are considered the strongest determinant of parcel ownership, i.e., exact location, size, acreage, etc. Please file any surveys you have for your property with the Town Clerk.

Building Permits: A building permit is required for any structure 64 square feet or larger. Permits are obtainable from the Town Clerk, or on the town website: www.ryegatevt.org.

Current Use: The Current Use Program has changed their application form and process. New applications are available in the Town Office or online at www.tax.vermont.gov/content/form-CU-301. Questions about the program can be directed to Property Valuation and Review at 802 828-6637.

9-1-1 Program: Please notify the Listers' office to obtain a 9-1-1 number for new construction.

Listers Office hours are Tuesdays, 9 am – 3 pm. Stop by or make an appointment. You may also leave messages at 584-4247.

Ryegate Listers: Betty Beauvais, Regina Hazel, Sally Wilson

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Your property tax bill is broken down to show education, highway and town taxes and their respective rates. Your total tax rate is the sum of these rates.

The tax rate is per \$100 of your assessment; therefore, to figure the tax you owe, first move the decimal point in your assessment two places to the left, then multiply that number by the total tax rate.

Sample Tax Bill:

<u>Your Assessment</u>	<u>Tax Rate (per \$100)</u>	<u>Tax Due</u>
\$200,000.00 (Homestead)	2.1328	\$4265.60
\$200,000.00 (Non-Residential)	2.0455	\$4091.00

List of Vendors

Vendor	Amount	Vendor	Amount
646 Fairpoint Communications	3,291.29	E-Z Steel & Fabrication	270.00
656-FairPoint Communications	45.95	Elizabeth Page	365.40
AE Commercial Diving Svc	15,020.00	Endyne, Inc	310.00
Aflac	2,018.45	Everett J. Prescott, Inc	3,494.90
Agway	17.97	Fisher Auto Parts	1,644.15
American Red Cross	200.00	F F R S	314.91
Apex Software	215.00	Foggs Hardware	1,039.04
B K Electric, LLC	65.00	Flanders Signs	400.00
B-B Chain, Inc	2,384.00	Fremont Nelson Lawns	890.00
B & B Septic	775.00	G & B Electric	399.37
Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT	31,223.87	G & K Services	4,996.22
BDS Waste Disposal, Inc	3,073.20	Gene Perkins- Fire Dept.	377.54
Bergeron Protective Clothing	535.78	Gene Perkins-Fire Dept Supplies	510.54
Blue MedicareRx-VT	4,240.00	Golden West Industrial	820.87
Blue Mountain Little League	100.00	Grafton County Sheriff's Dept	1,500.00
Blue Mountain Union School	1,693,996.02	Green Mountain Kenworth	3,351.19
Bond Auto Parts	697.59	Green Mountain Power	4,232.38
Brandon Perkins-Fire Dept	193.16	Greg Murray - Fire Dept	566.31
Brendan Smith	700.00	Groton - Ryegate Fast Squad	8,000.00
Bruce Boyce-Town Hgwy Supplies	156.00	Groton Food Shelf	500.00
C. Ainsworth Trucking	4,945.00	Harold Scott	690.00
Caledonia County Sheriff's Department	2,040.00	Horne Excavating, LLC	11,639.00
Caledonia Home Health	1,000.00	Howard P. Fairfield, LLC	13,778.74
Caledonian-Record	332.00	IDS	124.29
Calkins Portable Toilets	525.00	Innovative Municipal Prod	11,610.86
Capital Fire Mutual Aid	250.00	Interstate Battery System	434.52
Cargill, Inc.	22,460.92	J T B Towing & Recovery	175.00
Carroll Concrete	640.00	J & B International Trucks	1,152.33
Catamount Arts	400.00	Jared S Field	537.59
Champlain Oil Co., Inc.	166.53	Jason Sulham-Town Hgwy Supplies	72.63
Vermont Center for Independent Living	265.00	Jo Guertin	289.00
Charles Fisher- Fire Dept.	737.52	Joe's Repair	144.71
Cheryl Slayton -Medicare Reimbursement	2,517.60	John Bogie	784.42
Chief Crushing & Excavation	22,165.72	John Deere Financial	65.18
Christle Page	100.00	Journal Opinion, Inc	335.25
Christopher Chartier	897.41	K&T Environmental Equipment, Inc.	4,741.20
Clark's Truck Center	92,022.36	Ken Achilles	3,060.00
Copies & More	1,090.59	Khristine Elder	253.75
County Treasurer	15,056.00	Kingdom Animal Shelter	500.00
CVC Paging	1,086.80	Kofile Preservation, Inc	609.77
Dads 4 By Tool and Supply	225.04	Kristin Morrison - Fire Dept	425.83
Darlings Service Center of Ryegate, LLC	264.90	Lauren Nelson	481.36
Daryl Madigan	325.00	Levi Welch- Fire Dept.	338.03
Darryl Perkins- Fire Dept.	250.23	Lilian Colby - Fire Dept	561.92
Dept. of Public Safety #7	17,807.82	Little River's Health Care	2,000.00
Mary Dole	304.50	Lowell Mcleods, Inc.	1,849.67
Donna Longmoore	100.00	L G Page Roofing	500.00
Doug Murray Enterprises	230.00	Larry Welch-Town Hgwy Supplies	10.00
Dufresne & Associates	11,512.85		

List of Vendors

Maine Oxy		150.00	Gary Mason		590.00
Makayla Perkins- Fire Dept.		307.30	May & Davies		682.50
Makayla Perkins-Reimbursement		104.63	McCullough Crushing, Inc.		32,161.50
Manchester Brook Materials		28,400.60	State of Vermont		279.48
Marsha Nelson-Supplies,Retire&MediReimb		4,211.70	State of Vermont- Wastewater Testing		200.00
Meyers Container Corp.		7,857.37	Steve Kimball Repair		1,907.33
Napa Auto Parts/FMS Auto		3,184.73	Tenco New England, Inc.		295.59
Northeast Agriculture		92.00	Thomas Cole - Fire Dept		403.88
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services		200.00	Thomas Fadden - Fire Dept		359.98
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management		1,277.07	Tiffany Fisher - Fire Dept.		179.99
Northeast Kingdom Youth Services		250.00	Todd Colby – Fire Dept		386.32
NEMRC		3,282.99	Town of Ryegate		96,765.63
Nelson Elder – Town Hgwy Supplies		227.92	Trend		122.87
New England Truck Tire		10,347.76	Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Assoc.		1,379.17
New England Water System		2,800.00	U I Insurance Services Inc.		1,951.00
NEK Mental Health		500.00	Umbrella		800.00
NVDA		1,298.92	United States Postmaster		1,393.04
Oakes Brothers, Inc.		2,030.37	Vt Rural Fire (VACD)		100.00
Oxbow Senior Independence Program		300.00	Vermont Area Office on Aging		300.00
PIK.Comm		869.00	Vermont Department of Health		7.50
Patricia Crocker		365.40	Vermont Fire Extinguisher		135.00
Paul Keenan		766.43	Vermont Green Up		25.00
Penny L. Lezer - Fire Dept		386.32	Vt Recreational Surfacing		2,064.50
Pete's Rubbish		1,062.75	Vermont State Treasurer		1,160.00
Pike Industries, Inc		190,198.16	Vermont Department of Taxes		5,696.00
Power Plan		7,554.57	Veterans Memorial		100.00
Rural Community Transportation, Inc		850.00	Viking – Cives USA		445.82
Regina Hazel-Lister Supplies		1,798.90	VLCT		2,601.00
Repro Digital/Champlain Valley		1,109.88	VLCT Prop & Casualty Interm. Fund, Inc.		34,334.00
Reynolds & Son, Inc		189.82	VLCT Employment Ins Trust Inc		168.00
Rick Colby		1,170.00	VMERS DB		27,198.76
Robert Davis		31.60	VMHA		60.00
Robert Zambon		30.00	Vermont State Firefighters' Assoc.		302.00
Ross Business Center		75.00	Vt Career Fire Chiefs Assoc		200.00
Rowden Bros. Co., Inc.		2,363.00	Walter E. Jock Oil Co., Inc.		30,654.22
Ruggles Engineering		6,150.00	William Elder		1,088.04
Ryegate Cemetery Commission		9,000.00	Winget's Ground Maintenance		880.00
Ryegate Fire Dept		4,148.00	Woodsville Guaranty Savings		2,100.00
Ryegate Historical Society		200.00	Woodsville Area Fourth of July Com.		200.00
Scott Stuart		215.00	Woodsville Fire District		16,646.00
South Ryegate Library		600.00	Work Safe		304.40
Stan's J. Kosakowski, Jr		3,115.00	Various- Tax and Payable Overpayments		10,552.29
			TOTAL		2,626,067.94

Town Clerk's Dog License Report

Total dog licenses sold: 182 licenses Total Receipts: \$1,825.00

Less Fees Paid Town Clerk: \$364.00

Less Fees Paid State of Vermont: \$910.00

Net Revenues: \$551.00

All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies. The Town Clerk is required to see evidence that all dogs are currently protected against rabies. The law requires that a dog of less than 2 years of age shall have been vaccinated within the past 12 months. After its second rabies shot, an adult dog should be vaccinated every 36 months (3 years). A dog must wear its tag. Due date: License fees may be paid after January 1 and are due April 1 and subject to a 50% penalty after April 1. Fee: Due to State regulations and a state increase, licensing fees are \$13 for males, females or wolf hybrids. \$9 for each neutered dog or wolf hybrid. Beginning July 1, 2015 - \$5 from each license is forwarded to the State Treasurer. Remember: Ryegate enforces a Civil Dog (leash law). Our Animal Control Officer has retired. If anyone is interested in applying for the job, please contact the Town Office at 802-584-3880.

Delinquent Taxes

South Ryegate Village Lighting District

South Ryegate, VT 05069

Delinquent Tax Report

Carolyn Adams	2005, 2006 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 2014, 2015, 2016
Karen and Donna Bickel	2014, 2015, 2016
Robert Davis	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 2015, 2016
William and Christy Dickey	2016
Michael and Marilyn Farris	2014
Daniel and Mary Florentine	2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
Robert and Brenda Gelsliechter	2015, 2016
Robert and Christine Hanaford	2016
William and Lorin Hosmer	2014, 2015, 2016
Dennis Hurley	2016
Ryan Karpuska	2016
John and Roxanne Knox	2016
JAAB, Inc. (Alley's Market)	2015, 2016
Timothy Menk	2014, 2015, 2016
Angela Paye	2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
Douglas and April Paye	
<i>Hall Road Parcel</i>	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
<i>Creamery Road Parcel</i>	2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
Tracy and Sherri Phelps	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
Richard and Kathy Roy	2015, 2016
Troy Sanborn	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
Leonard and Susan Spencer	2015, 2016
Shane and Heidi Temple	2016
Terrance and Molly White	2015, 2016

Delinquent Taxes

SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER USERS TAX DUE		2015 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		2016 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES	
2014 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES		Johnson, Robert C. Jr.		Jackson, Mark & Brenda	
Chartier, Christopher		Karpuska, Ryan		Kalnins, Peter & Michelle	
Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 333.00	Katsenes, William		Karpuska, Ryan	
Total Paid Since 12/31/16		Laundry, Marshall Life Lease		Katsenes, William	
Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 333.00	Livesey, Lance		Larrabee, Roger & Sylvia	
2015 South Ryegate Sewer Taxes		Makris, Victor Trustee		Laundry, Marshall Life Lease	
Spencer, Leonard & Susan		Menk, Timothy		Livesey, Lance	
Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 1,000.00	Murphy, Judy A		Longmoore, Andrew	
Total Paid Since 12/31/16		Murray, Gordon & Patsy		Loso, Randy & Christine	
Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 1,000.00	Patneaud, Steve		Maher, James	
2016 SOUTH RYEGATE SEWER TAXES		Phelps, Tracy & Sherri		Mann, Melissa	
Knox, John		Potter, Bradley & Beth		Makris, Victor Trustee	
Spencer, Leonard & Susan		Potter, Lana L.		McLure, Jared & Katherine	
Temple, Shane & Heidi		Spencer, Leonard & Susan		Menk, Timothy	
Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 2,000.00	Sulham, Jason Robert		Minard, Susan	
Total Paid Since 12/31/16	\$ 1,000.00	White, Randy & Barbara		Murphy, Judy A	
Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 3,000.00	Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 42,362.08	Murray, Gordon & Patsy	
PROPERTY TAXES DUE		Total Paid Since 12/31/16	\$ 4,091.20	Patneaud, Steve	
2013 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 46,453.28	Paye, David & Elizabeth	
Makris, Victor Trustee		2016 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		Paye, Douglas & April	
Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 659.46	Allen, Earl & Donna		Perkins, Darryl & Dottie	
Total Paid Since 12/31/16	\$ -	Bailey, Phillip & Jo		Phelps, Tracy & Sherri	
Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 659.46	Beaulieu, Priscilla		Phoenix Paper Co	
2014 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		Bishop, John		Potter, Bradley M & Beth	
Fortunato, Michael		Blood, Brian		Potter, Lana L.	
Johnson, Robert C. Jr.		Caswell, Kathy		Ricker, Harvey	
Makris, Victor Trustee		Coley, Frederick & Joyce		Robertson, Walter J	
Patneaud, Steve		Crawford, Bruce & Risa		Hanaford, Robert	
Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 6,284.00	Currier Family Real Estate LLC		Shaw, Ronald J	
Total Paid Since 12/31/16	\$ 1,241.42	Darling, Barak		Sheppard, Topaz	
Total Due 12/31/16	\$ 7,525.42	Davis, Robert L.		Spencer, Leonard & Susan	
2015 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES		Emerson, Brenda		Sulham, Jason Robert	
Beaulieu, Priscilla		Englert, George E.		Temple, Shane & Heidi	
Bishop, John		Esposito, Jerry P. Jr.		Touchette, James	
Blood, Brian		Farley, Daniel & Barbara		Walker, Leslie	
Coley, Frederick & Joyce		Florentine, Jerod & Dawn		White, Randy & Barbara	
Davis, Robert L.		Gilman Housing Trust		White, Terrance & Molly	
Fortunato, Michael		Graton, Emily		Wright, James & Patti-Jo	
Hartson, Ray & Shirley		Hartson, Ray & Shirley		Yeaton, Kirk	
Haskell, Elizabeth		Haskell, Elizabeth		Zwicker, Leon P.	
J.A.A.B. Inc.		Hencler, Andrew		Total Due by Report Printing	\$ 101,603.76
Jackson, Mark & Brenda		J.A.A.B. Inc.		Total Paid Since 12/31/15	\$ 10,751.42
				Total Due 12/31/15	\$ 112,355.18
Due to the Vermont Supreme Court decision on the disclosure of confidential tax bill information, we have not included the amount of the delinquency for any individual property.					

Front Porch Forum

Local Talk on Front Porch Forum

Have you joined our local Front Porch Forum? FPF helps neighbors connect and build community by hosting a statewide network of online local forums. More than half of Vermont households participate with hundreds more joining every month. People use their FPF to find lost animals, offer assistance to neighbors, organize local projects, share crime reports, draw crowds to events, highlight small businesses, seek contractor recommendations, and much more. Started 10 years ago, FPF is a free service and it's based in Vermont. Learn more at <http://frontporchforum.com>

Ryegate Fire Department Report

This past year has been interesting, as well as informative. We attended training on meth labs, informing us as firefighters to be extremely careful on our responses to structure fires, due to the possible presence of a meth lab. We never thought we would see such a thing in Ryegate. Yet, on June 21st, we responded to a camper fire. Upon entering the scene, the fire crew members, through their training, were very cautious around it due to items found on the scene. State Police determined it was a meth lab. The next day a half dozen members, along with an engine and tanker, stood by to assist the State Hazmat Team as they investigated and determined that it was as we thought. In September another meth lab was discovered on the Ryegate-Newbury town line. Wells River covered that and assisted the Hazmat Team. On October 14, 2016, Ryegate responded to the same residence for a structure fire, and firefighters found material they felt was suspicious, and the second lab was discovered. Structure firefighting is always very dangerous, but with the addition of meth labs, it is even more so, due to the possible presence of the incident being booby-trapped. I would advise residents to be extremely careful about picking up any closed containers out of place, as they may contain material with the potential to explode.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Perkins, Fire Chief

Incident Report	Ryegate	Mutual Aid
Structure	2	3
Chimney	2	0
MVA Accidents	8	1
Wild Land	2	1
Medical Assist	1	0
Smoke Investigation	5	1
CO Alarms	3	0
Auto Fire	1	1
Unpermitted Burn	2	
DART Landing	1	1
Smoke Alarm		1
Propane Explosion		1
Assist HazMat Team	2	
Meth Lab Incidents	3	
Cancelled En Route		13

Ryegate Fire Warden Report

Ryegate had two wild land fires in 2016. Both occurred off the Ryegate Road, one on the Ryegate-Wells River line and the other on the roadside north of East Road. The cause was undetermined for both fires.

Please, if you wish to burn, call for a permit. When you are issued a permit to burn, we in turn notify Dispatch with your address. The Dispatch team can then inform a caller that we have a permit out in your area, and Dispatch will question us before calling out the Fire Department to respond which saves us from responding to an issued permit. To request a permit, contact Fire Warden Gene Perkins at 584-3611 or Fremont Nelson at 584-3667.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Perkins, Fire Warden

Town Property & Equipment Inventory

Real Estate

Town House & Contents	\$388,769.00
Town Office & Contents	293,028.00
Storage Shed	20,183.00
Corner Fire Station	292,383.00
South Ryegate Fire Station	202,712.00
Town Garage & Contents	604,817.00
Whitelaw Hall (Historical)	371,723.00
Recycling Building	147,896.00
Ballfield (Property in the Open)	52,595.00
Playground Equipment (" ")	51,263.00
TOTAL REAL ESTATE	<u>\$2,425,369.00</u>

Highway Equipment

2011 John Deere 524 Loader	\$95,500.00
2004 John Deere 672 Grader	131,104.00
2009 International Truck & Plow	109,131.00
2011 International Truck & Plow	103,986.00
2015 Kenworth Truck & Plow	132,464.00
2016 International Truck & Plow	85,685.00
Wood Chipper	3,500.00
Culvert Thawer & Trailer	8,000.00
TOTAL HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT	<u>\$669,370.00</u>

Fire Equipment

2005 International Tanker	\$250,000.00
1997 Ford Pumper	125,000.00
1980 Forestry Equipment Truck (South Ryegate Station)	60,000.00
1987 International Equipment Trk	53,000.00
TOTAL FIRE EQUIPMENT	<u>\$488,000.00</u>

TOTAL ALL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT \$3,582,739.00

Allocation of 2016 Taxes

<u>Rate Name</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>	<u>X Grand List</u>	<u>Total Raised</u>
Non-Residential	1.4724	669,577.35	985,885.
Homestead Educ.	1.5597	626,816.48	977,645.
Local Agreement	.0033	1,293,631.31	4,268.
Highway Tax	0.4172	1,293,631.31	539,702.
Town Tax	0.1526	1,293,631.31	197,408.
		TOTAL TAX	2,704,908.

Cemetery Commissioners Narrative

Our Commission met on our regular schedule in 2016. Officers elected remain the same as last year. There was one lot sold in Blue Mt. and none in Pinehurst this year. There were several burials at both locations. Mowing for all four cemeteries was again contracted to Wingets Lawn Service, of Groton. We thank Jim and his crew for their timely and professional service to our cemeteries. They are beautifully mowed and trimmed during the Spring, Summer and Fall. Jim and his crew pay special attention to Memorial Day and July 4th holidays, knowing the cemeteries are frequently visited, many family members traveling long distances. His efforts are gratefully appreciated. The Board also thanks cemetery attendants, Tony Dennis, Blue Mt. and Harvey Ricker, Pinehurst and Hillside for their efforts in handling burials and requests in a timely manner. Overgrown brush and tree removal projects were contracted in Blue Mt. (upper side) this summer. Nelson and his crew cut and removed a tree near the Miller lot that had seen its' better days. Another section of Blue Mt. was cleaned this Fall. Cleaning, straightening and repair are ongoing projects the Commission considers each year.

The Hartmann Family approached us with a design plan for landscaping the entrance of Pinehurst Cemetery as a memorial gift to honor their Dad, Richard Hartman, who cared deeply about Pinehurst. They thoughtfully designed a professional plan, hiring a landscaping firm to install the beautifully chosen trees and shrubs. Maintained and watered on a regular basis, the plantings acclimated wonderfully to their new environment. Ryegate is so fortunate to be the recipient of their gift. For those who may not know or recall, in 2001, Richard Hartman gifted the cemetery with an artesian well to restore water to the cemetery. A beautiful Memorial Garden followed for all to enjoy at the water access near the entrance and to this day is maintained by the family. Our sincere thanks to the Hartman family for their generous memorial that will beautify the cemetery for many years to come. Please stop by and take a look. It's well worth your time.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ryegate Cemetery Commissioners

Rick Colby, Chairman 584-3159
Bruce Nelson, Vice Chairman 584-3487
Bill Nelson, Treasurer 584-3296

Judy Gandin, Clerk 584-3832
Dan Lacoss, Member at Large 584-3120

Cemetery Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 1/1/16.....41,833.17

Income for 2016

Town of Ryegate.....	9,000.00
Sale of Lots.....	690.00
American Funds.....	292.42
Misc.....	<u>20.00</u>
	<u>\$10,002.42</u>
Total Income for 2016	\$11,835.59

Expenses for 2016

Jim Winget for Lawn Care.....	7,850.00
Cleaning & Maintenance.....	1,900.00
Electricity.....	187.51
Gandin Bros. – Posts.....	200.00
Service Work.....	124.67
Supplies-Gandin.....	85.00
Total Expenses for 2016	<u>\$10,347.18</u>

Balance on Hand 12/31/2016 (Checkbook Balance) \$1,488.41

Savings/Investments 12/31/2016

CD#907623.....	51,420.51
CD#907624.....	20,337.94
CD# 907625.....	29,901.14
CD#811855.....	10,720.58
Savings Acc't 566388.....	906.98
American Funds.....	16,140.41
Total Investment Income:	

Interest Earned in 2016

	154.42
	40.75
	44.94
	32.20
	.74
	<u>292.42</u>
	\$565.47

Planning Commission/ Zoning Board Report

We have been quite active during the past year. Right after Town Meeting Regina Hazel agreed to serve on the board filling our open position

In the spring, Donna Longmoore resigned as Zoning Administrator and Bill Elder, a member of the board, agreed to do the job. He has had a busy summer with many applications and learning the ropes. A big thanks to Donna for the time she spent as Zoning Administrator.

When Bill resigned from the board to assume his new duties it left another open position which Kate Davie agreed to fill. We welcome both her and Reggie to the board. Kate has also assumed the duties of the clerk for the board, for which we are all grateful!

With the help of Alison Low, from Northeastern Vermont Development Association, we have completed our Zoning By-Laws update and will start work this year on updating the Town Plan. With the help of Alison Low, we applied for and received a Planning Grant for the Town Plan. This plan will be for a period of eight years when adopted. The past plan was for five years and will run out this summer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Fremont Nelson, Chairman 584-3667, Alice Allen, Walter Bragg, Richard Colby II
Kate Davie, Mary Dole, Stephen Genereaux, Regina Hazel, Nancy Perkins

Zoning Administrator Bill Elder, 584-3612

Bridge Replacement Study

BRIDGE 21 – TERRY HILL ROAD OVER SCOTT BROOK

Ruggles Engineering conducted a topographic study including Terry Hill, Church Street, the bridge and stream channel. This was conducted to see what should be done, if anything, to correct a flooding problem involving Church Street. The existing condition analysis found the critical location for the study is about 40 feet upstream of the bridge where Church Street is only 3 feet above the bottom of the stream channel. This means the stream overtops the stream bank at 10% AEP and above and will run down Church Street until it runs back into the stream below. The next analysis dealt with replacement of the bridge with a 90 square feet opening and found the stream would still overtop the stream bank at 10% AEP and above, and will run down Church Street until it runs back into the stream below. The third analysis was as if the bridge was removed entirely and the channel was widened to match the existing terrain upstream of the bridge and the northerly wall was removed to allow the channel to match the shape just below the northerly clock wall downstream. Results show the stream will still overtop the stream bank at section 5 during the 10% AEP event. Conclusions were, if a new structure was installed there will only be a slight improvement at the critical section upstream from the bridge. Flooding will still occur at 10% AEP and damage from flood waters will occur downstream of the site. Two recommendations: There needs to be improvements to the channel width downstream from the bridge. There is no need to increase the waterway opening at the bridge site when the channel downstream will immediately restrict the stream flow. Secondly, the ground between the stream bank and Church Street needs to be raised upstream from the bridge in order to direct the stream flow into the structure on Terry Hill Road. It was recommended to leave the existing bridge in place until its useful life has been used up. The full report can be seen at the Town Office.

2016 Report of S Ryegate Public Library, Inc (to account for Revenue Sharing Funds only)

Revenue Sharing Funds in Treas. 1-1-16.....\$.00
Received Town of Ryegate Nov 2016.....\$200.00
Expended toward operating expenses (2016)..\$200.00

Revenue Sharing Funds in Treas. 12-31-16.....\$.00

2016 Report of Marion Hall Trust Fund S Ryegate Public Library, Inc

Balance in Treas. 1-1-16.....\$835.24
Received Town of Ryegate 2016.....\$400.00
Total Receipts.....\$1,235.24
Books Purchased.....\$644.17
Balance in Treas. 12-31-16.....\$591.07

2016 Report of Ryegate Corner Library

Balance in Checkbook 1-1-15.....\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 12-31-15.....\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 1-1-16.....\$121.99
Balance in Checkbook 12-31-16.....\$121.99

The Library Commission is considering closing out this account and turning the money over to the South Ryegate Library which is currently the only library in town. The Commission urges you to read to your kids and talk about what you have read. There's nothing like a book.

Justices of the Peace

Justices of the Peace, elected to office on November 3, 2016, make up the Board of Civil Authority. The new term begins February 1, 2017 and continues to February 1, 2018.

Todd Colby

Catherine Davie

Jamie O'Connor

Darcy Nelson

Nancy Perkins

Jennifer Nelson

Robert Rowden

Ryegate Historical Society

We began 2016 by developing an exhibit for the Vermont State History EXPO. This year's statewide theme was "The Power of Water in Vermont History", which led us to explore the history of Ryegate's grist mills and saw mills, as well as the Ryegate Paper Mill. Another part of the exhibit was on Ticklenaked Pond, known both for its ice harvesting business, as well as the celebration of our town through the Annual Winter Carnival. This exhibit, which was presented at the EXPO in June, is housed at Whitelaw Hall. In July, Hod Symes entertained us with a talk on the early settlement of Wells River, based on his book "The Cross-Road: A History of Wells River". In August we co-sponsored, with the Newbury Historical Society, an evening with Stephen Long discussing "The Hurricane of Thirty-Eight". At our October meeting, Peggy Pearl explained her task of establishing the St. Johnsbury History & Heritage Center, for the preservation of the town's history.

For the first time, the RHS held a series of Open Houses at Whitelaw Hall, one Saturday each month in the summer. This afforded the opportunity for visitors to peruse our collections, ask questions, add stories and bring donations. We plan to continue this next summer. One of our highlights this year was presenting the Ryegate Cane to Madeline Chase Batten Chaffee, who regaled us with stories of her fascinating life. She was born in 1920 and is still an active member of the VFW & works with the Civil Air Patrol. Soon we are going to order reprints of both Ryegate history books, The History of Ryegate Vermont by Miller and Wells and The Down of the Thistle by Dwight White. We would be very appreciative if people could read these books and let us know of any corrections or additions. We've continued our work on the organizing and cataloging of the collections and made excellent progress; and we are extremely grateful for all gifts of artifacts and photographs donated to expand our collection. Donations pertaining to Ryegate's history may be made through any board member. As a final note, we would encourage your membership and support of the Ryegate Historical Society. The annual dues are minimal and are used to help support our efforts to maintain the historical records of our town. For your membership you will receive our Newsletters, information about meetings and lectures and the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve Ryegate's history. For more information, please contact any board member
Board Members: Molly Fisher, Dover Ford, Linda Libuda, George Murphy, Marsha Nelson, Melvin Nelson, Ginny Ross, Peter Sinclair and Tim Wilson.

Northeastern Vermont Development Association

The NVDA- the State's only regional planning commission and economic development corporation- has been serving Ryegate for more than 60 years. We continue to assist local officials with land use, transportation, and emergency planning, and we serve the businesses of the Kingdom, promoting sustainable economic growth.

How is this relevant Ryegate? In 2016, NVDA worked with the planning commission to revise local regulations. We also provided support to the Ryegate Solar Project, facilitated business referrals to a manufacturing facility owner, assisted with the Local Emergency Operations Plan adoption, and conducted traffic counts on town highways.

Ryegate has been confirmed as a planning community by the NVDA board, which allows your community to benefit from a number of planning initiatives. We look forward to pursuing these opportunities with you in the coming year.

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, owned by its member municipalities and directed by a 13-member Board of Directors comprising municipal officials from across the state, elected by the membership. VLCT's mission is to serve and strengthen Vermont local government. All 246 Vermont cities and towns are members of VLCT, along with 138 other municipal entities, including villages, solid waste districts, regional planning commissions and fire districts. Vermonters use local government services on a daily basis – highways, police, fire, recreation, libraries, sewer, and water. These local efforts are led largely by volunteer elected and appointed municipal officials. VLCT provides the following services to its member cities and towns, to assist them in providing their citizens with quality services at affordable costs:

- Legal, consulting, and education services.
- Advocacy representation at the state and federal levels to ensure that municipalities have the resources and authority needed to serve their citizens.
- Opportunities to provide purchasing of needed services at the lowest cost.

Ticklenaked Pond Association Report

2016 was a very exciting year for Ticklenaked Pond. We kept our fingers crossed to see if the pair of nesting loons would return to the lake after last year's unsuccessful incubation. There was much anticipation to see if the lake would remain as clear as it had been in 2015 after all the efforts to get the Alum treatment. Visibility varied throughout the summer with depths of 6 meters to the delight of swimmers, boaters and all who use the lake for recreation. The water levels were extremely low due to the lack of rain, and this made it a little easier to pull invasive plants.

The Association continues to battle the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), which chokes and clogs our waterways, crowding out native plants and entangling propellers, fishing lures and the arms and legs of swimmers. In 2016 the Town of Ryegate was awarded \$13,580.00 from the State of Vermont (Department of Environmental Conservation) for an Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant-in-Aide grant to manage and remove EWM, which first appeared at Ticklenaked Pond in 2010. A & E Commercial Diving Co. was engaged for 13 days this past summer to harvest EWM through hand pulling and suction harvesting. This was a matching grant, and members of the lake association matched 30% of this award by providing equivalent man-hours to search, hand pull and remove EWM from the lake and shore and administer the project. Collectively, they worked on the lake a total of 317 hours.

All parties were unsure of the impact the alum treatment would continue to have upon the EWM population. 2015 showed results that reducing phosphorus levels in the lake also appears to have starved the invasive species of a source of nutrients and the EWM was depleted drastically. Unfortunately in 2016 the EWM population increased again and A & E Commercial Diving Co. removed more than 141- 20 gallon buckets of Milfoil, compared to 19 in 2015. On a positive note, many native plants continue to spread along the bottom of the lake, competing with the EWM. We have once again applied for a grant in 2017 in order to continue to monitor and manage this invasive nuisance.

We are happy to announce that our pair of loons did return and successfully hatched two large tan speckled eggs on Ticklenaked Pond in 2016. They built a nest in the spring on the field to the left of the State boat ramp. One of the two young loons did not survive. The Vermont Loon Conservation Project informed us that this is not unusual and that we should expect to see them back in the spring to nest again. The conservation group put up signs and roped off an area around the nest so that boaters did not come too close. This is yet another sign of the lake becoming healthier and we are keeping our fingers crossed for their success next summer.

The Ryegate community can help the health and enjoyment of Ticklenaked Pond in several ways;

- 1. Wash off your boat before putting it in the lake and after taking it out.** This will ensure the plant is not being transported to or from another body of water.
- 2. Remove any floating pieces of EWM you see on the lake.** Fragments that are not attached to the stemmed plant will reestablish themselves as a new plant. A picture and information about EWM is at the State boat launch.
- 3. Pick up any EWM plants on the shoreline.** The plants need to be removed from the beach area, composted or bagged and thrown away.
- 4. Please do not take a motorboat or paddle through a dense patch of EWM.** Each fragment can drop to the bottom of the lake, root and become another plant.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Inc.

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. (NEKLS) has served the residents of Caledonia, Orleans, and Essex counties for almost 50 years by providing free services through five Community Learning Centers, a mobile computer lab, and various on-site and in-home educational programs. The residents of these counties that have utilized NEKLS services have worked on and received a high school diploma or GED, gained job skills, prepared for college courses, received family and child support services of various kinds and much more. NEKLS has also provided prevention programming aimed at reducing underage alcohol and tobacco use.

State and federal budget challenges continue to impact funding of community nonprofits such as NEKLS. Town appropriations are vital in keeping services free for the hundreds of community members we work with each year, helping to make their goals a reality. Funding helps to maintain high quality services as they are and to introduce new instructional options as well.

NEKLS is requesting a town appropriation of \$200.00 to help support programs that we deliver in your area.

We hope you will continue to support NEKLS as we look forward to another year of being an important partner in your community. Thank you for your consideration.

Catamount Arts

The residents and voters of Ryegate played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts during 2016. Through the support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the films and performances offered throughout the year, the citizens of Ryegate helped to keep the Arts vital and available to all of the residents of the Northeast Kingdom. In the past year, Catamount has invited and encouraged the residents of Ryegate to participate in many of its community offerings, including the Community Film Series, Independent Lens, the free Children's Summer Film Festival and gallery exhibits and receptions. These free events were funded in large measure through appropriations from communities in our area. During 2016, Catamount Arts was able to present more than 200 films and 100 live performances, in large measure due to the generosity of the voters of Ryegate. Your appropriations helped to underwrite the costs of these presentations as well as helping Catamount pay for such general operating expenses as heating and electricity. As part of our mission to promote lifelong community engagement in the arts, Catamount Arts offers a wide range of classes, workshops and camps for people of all ages. Learning opportunities at Catamount range from conga drumming, Claymation, and bookbinding, to tango, French and filmmaking. Catamount Arts partners with local elementary, middle and high schools to provide in-school and out-of-school creative learning activities. We also partner with local Head Start programs to provide arts integration activities and professional development for teachers. In addition, more than 4,500 students and teachers enjoy shows by professional performers in our School-Time Performance series.

With the continuing growth of its many cultural offerings and Arts Education program, Catamount and its patrons also directly and indirectly contribute more than \$1,500,000 each year to the local economy while also securing a meeting space for local Masons for generations to come.

Request= \$400.00

Caledonia County FY 2017 Town Tax Amounts

Tax Year	Town	Municipal Grand List	Tax Rate	County Tax
2015	Barnet	2,340,800	0.0122	28,558
2015	Burke	2,579,572	0.0122	31,471
2015	Danville	2,824,142	0.0122	34,455
2015	Groton	1,091,278	0.0122	13,314
2015	Hardwick	1,849,475	0.0122	22,564
2015	Kirby	584,610	0.0122	7,132
2015	Lyndon	3,564,332	0.0122	43,485
2015	Newark	869,009	0.0122	10,602
2015	Peacham	1,224,780	0.0122	14,942
2015	Ryegate	1,234,106	0.0122	15,056
2015	St. Johnsbury	5,230,028	0.0122	63,806
2015	Sheffield	994,370	0.0122	12,131
2015	Stannard	191,156	0.0122	2,332
2015	Sutton	901,621	0.0122	11,000
2015	Walden	944,373	0.0122	11,521
2015	Waterford	1,763,702	0.0122	21,517
2015	Wheelock	561,345	0.0122	6,848
			TOTAL	350,734

Groton Ryegate FAST Squad

Groton- 88 Calls Ryegate- 92 Calls (as of 12/1/16)

We hosted an EMT class at BMU this fall. Students will be taking written and practical tests in December and January.

PLEASE INSTALL A 911 SIGN ON YOUR HOME. PLEASE PUT YOUR HOUSE NUMBER ON BOTH SIDES OF YOUR RURAL MAILBOX. WE SPEND MANY PRECIOUS MINUTES TRYING TO FIND YOU WHEN YOU DIAL 911.

We have been doing research on replacing the current Rescue Rig. The Groton Capital Plan has it to be replaced in 2018. We purchased the unit used many years ago and it is showing signs of wear. Our plan is to dedicate the next R1 to Jordan Smith who was the Head of Service for the FAST Squad at the time of his tragic passing in March 2016.

FAST - GROTON RYEGATE FAST SQUAD ACCOUNT	2016
NOTE: This account is not funded by taxpayer dollars. These funds are from fundraising efforts and donations but the account is maintained by the Town Treasurer and listed under the Town's Federal ID number.	
MB FAST Squad Money Market account	
Bank account balance on 12/31/15	2,234.83
Interest received	1.12
Donations received	
Purchased "First In" packs	
Bank account balance on 12/31/16	2,235.95

Little Rivers Health Care

Little Rivers Health Care would like to request appropriations funding from the Town of Ryegate again this year to help support the primary care services we provide the community. As in past years, we are asking for \$2,000 for the upcoming year. Little Rivers provided services for 323 Ryegate residents last year which represents ~28% of the town inhabitants. As the only safety net health care provider in our area, Little Rivers is likely the only option for many residents who are Medicaid beneficiaries or uninsured. We provide a sliding fee scale for those under 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, making deeply discounted medications available to those who can't afford them otherwise. We are very grateful to the Town of Ryegate for its part support of our mission and health care services and we hope that you will continue to support us in the future. Thank you very much.

The Community for Restorative Justice

The Community Restorative Justice Center respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2017 warning for the Ryegate Town Meeting:

Shall the Town vote the sum of \$250 to support the operation of The Community Restorative Justice Center during the ensuing year? The CRJC believes in preventing and resolving conflict in the community using victim and community needs as guiding information in repairing harm and restoring right relations. We work with schools, neighborhoods, and the criminal justice system to respond to community needs as it relates to justice being served. In this process, we use community members to work with their neighbors to resolve conflict and repair harm.

The Community Restorative Justice Center holds restorative justice panel meetings for cases referred directly from law enforcement as well as cases referred from the Department of Corrections. Cases that go through the CRJC have a 27% reduction in recidivism. In the past 12 months, the CRJC heard 2 restorative justice cases involving Ryegate residents. We also support restorative practices at schools in the area. Appropriations from the Town of Ryegate would also give technical support to neighborhood associations as requested. The CRJC mission states that we are committed to providing a safe environment for neighbors and parties to resolve conflict in our communities, to restore relationships, and to take responsibility to repair harms caused. We promote the principles of victim-informed restorative justice that transforms practices in workplace, school, institution, and living spaces throughout Caledonia and southern Essex Counties.

Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

Vermont State Police- Bradford Barracks

The Vermont State Police continues to provide dedicated police coverage for the Town of Ryegate. Throughout 2016, Troopers responded to a broad range of calls for service and the total number of cases generated by the Vermont State Police was 205. Please see the full list of offenses at the Town Clerk's office.

Caledonia County Sheriff Annual Report

DEAN SHATNEY, SHERIFF CALEDONIA COUNTY
1126 MAIN STREET SUITE 2 ST. JOHNSBURY, VT 05819
802-748-6666 FAX 802-748-1684
E-MAIL: dean.shatney@vermont.gov www.caledoniasheriff.com
ANNUAL REPORT For 2016

We completed another audit for our office this past year and it resulted in no findings or problems of any kind. The state of the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department is very good. We have kept our rates for service the same for the past few years as we know the times are tough and we want people to feel that they can still afford our services. We continue to add vehicles to our fleet, replacing cars that have served us well. We have thirteen marked cars, a 2014 van for prisoner transports, one unmarked car being used for civil process service. We have a large enclosed trailer that we use as an office at the fair and other security details. This trailer may be utilized as a command post at a mass casualty incident as well. We have an ATV, two golf carts, and two snowmobiles that we use for our snowmobile patrols. With project (ROAD), Responsible Operators Against Distractions, we want to continue to educate operators about phone use and texting while driving. We continue to do town patrols and we feel that the towns that we patrol are a safer place to live & drive in because of our presence. The patrols are community based. Which means each town is different, so the patrols may be different. We are taking a proactive response instead of a reactive response. This effort has helped with both fighting crime and communications with the towns. The Sheriff's Department has eighteen Law Enforcement Officers to start the new year. We have become more active with local schools to ensure the safety of students and staff. We have been involved with drills and evacuation plans and will continue to assist as needed. We continue to look at 24 hour dispatching for the county, in the county, but are unable to do that right now. I'm looking into a different location for the department's office because of the high rent the state wants to charge the county for our current location. If anyone has questions or concerns, please call me at the office. My door is always open. I look forward to serving this county as the Sheriff. We have continued with our great relationship with Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital and are helping them make certain that their patients and staff feel safe while in the hospital. We will again do snowmobile patrols throughout the county. Doing our best to keep the trails as safe as possible, and we will again answer snowmobile related complaints. Please check out our website listed at the top of this page, or our facebook page. Thank You.

Sincerely,
Sheriff Dean Shatney

Umbrella

Umbrella exists to ensure that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties offer safety, support and options for self-determination to women and families. To this end, we provide the following services:

The Advocacy Program is the essential safety net for people affected by intimate partner violence and sexual abuse. We meet the needs of victims in crisis while also offering preventative programming to local schools and youth groups with a focus on gender respect, consent, and healthy relationships. In 2016 we: supported 683 individuals with direct advocacy housed 16 adults and 16 children in our shelter for a total of 2,021 bed-nights, and reached 285+ adults and 1,100 youth with our prevention programming.

Kingdom Child Care Connection is the community-based child care resource and referral center for Caledonia and Southern Essex counties. In 2016 we: helped 108 families find high-quality child care at no-cost, and connected over 564 families with the State of Vermont's Child Care Financial Assistance Program. In addition to our work with families, we also interacted directly with the region's 92 child care providers, offering over 272 hours of professional development opportunities to make sure the people responsible for taking care of our communities' youngest citizens have the tools and resources they need to do their best.

The Family Room is a supervised visitation and monitored exchange center offering child-centered support for parents seeking to establish or rebuild relationships with their children. Last year we helped 110 children develop safe, healthy relationships with their non-residential parent. Additional services such as parenting education, counseling and mediation can also be arranged in order to help families address their unique goals and needs.

Cornucopia is our newest program geared towards helping women-in-transition achieve economic self-sufficiency. This 17-week job-skills training program introduces women to the culinary arts as they prepare Meals-on-Wheels for Newport-area seniors. After completing the program women are assisted with securing employment with a local business, in a position that fits their individual strengths and interests. This past year, Cornucopia trained 10 women in culinary arts while providing 33,000 nutritionally-balanced meals to homebound, Newport-area seniors and 2,000 meals at its weekly community meal site.

Given that some of our services are provided anonymously, it can be difficult to provide precise usage figures for towns. At least 21 Ryegate households and 3 child care providers were served directly by Umbrella in 2016, and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs at schools as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals. Community support is critical to sustaining our programming and discovering innovative new approaches to the work we do. We are deeply grateful for Ryegate's support.

Request= \$800.00

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice (CHHC) is Northern Counties Health Care's (NCHC) certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice division. Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice has proudly served the residents of Caledonia and Southern Essex counties since 1968. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of individuals and families by providing compassionate, accessible and affordable patient-centered health services to our community. In the last year, Caledonia Home Health and Hospice was honored to provide 990 visits to the town residents of Ryegate, VT. Our staff visited 52 homes of community members living in the Ryegate area. While working with residents, we provided physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We provided skilled nursing, medical social work, personal care attendants, and even home makers. We work together with primary care physicians so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

2017 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics Ryegate, VT

Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW) **561 visits**

Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) = **126 visits**

Maternal Child Health= **94 visits**

Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite) = **209 visits**

Total Visits in Ryegate, VT = 990 visits

Testimonials

"In the past 11 years of my care giving, home health has been my support at all times. They are the best! I could not have done it without them... I'm glad to have them on my side. They are a great team. We need more like them."

"My Physical Therapist and Nurse were methodical, practical, and explained things to me in terms I could understand. They were friendly, courteous, good listeners, and punctual as well as professional."

Request= \$500.00

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services

NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975. In 2016, NEKYS served 3088 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties, including 8 people in Ryegate. NEKYS is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Please call our office at 802-748-8732 if you have any questions or concerns. Request= \$250.00

Caledonia Home Health & Hospice

Caledonia Home Health & Hospice is Northern Counties Health Care's certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice Division.

2017 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics for Ryegate, VT

- Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW) 561 visits
- Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) 126 visits
- Maternal Child Health 94 visits
- Long Term Care 209 visits
- Total of 990 visits in Ryegate in 2016.

To learn more, please call us at 802-748-8116 or visit us at www.nchcvt.org

Request= \$1,000.00

Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging

The Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, formerly doing business as the Area Agency on Aging is a private, nonprofit organization serving the residents of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans counties. We support people age 60 and older in their efforts to remain active, healthy, financially secure and in control of their own lives. The agency connects older adults and their families with services they need to live with independence and dignity. During the past year, your support allowed us to provide assistance to 65 residents of Ryegate as well as more than 1000 seniors from across the Northeast Kingdom. Thank you for your support over the years and for your help in letting people know about the services we provide. To learn more, please call 802-748-5182.

Request= \$300.00

Groton Free Public Library

As you may know, our Library services not only the residents of Groton, but also residents of many of our adjoining towns, including most specifically, the Town of Ryegate and its associated villages. Approximately 11% of our documented patrons are residents of Ryegate. Although we do receive some funding from the Town of Groton, budget restrictions of the town have required us to continually identify additional funding sources. Historically, more than 60% of our yearly book budget and 100% of the yearly programming budget comes from donations and other fundraising efforts. We respectfully request a 2017 Town Appropriation of \$500 from the Town of Ryegate.

NEK Waste Management District Executive Report

The NEKWMD finished 2016 with a 2% decrease in recyclables processed compared to 2015. However, ten towns and eight schools reported increases in recycling. Recycling markets began the year on the low side, but rebounded during late summer and into the fall. Although commodity prices rebounded toward the end of the year, it was not enough to overcome the expenses incurred for equipment repairs in 2016. The District ended 2016 with a deficit of \$53,459. Revenues in 2016 were 5% below projections. While budgeted expenses were 2.4% above projections.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District in 2016. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

Vermont's Universal Recycling Law (Act 148) guided most of our activities in 2016 and will continue to do so for the next several years. 2017 will see more of the same in helping our member communities comply with Act 148. The NEKWMD will assist 11 Towns with establishing food scrap collection at their transfer stations before July 1, 2017.

The NEKWMD is entering 2017 with a proposed budget of \$755,527 – an increase of 5.3% compared to 2016, but only a 1.6% increase compared to 2015. The surcharge rate of \$23.25 will increase by \$1.00 for 2017 to \$24.25. Our surcharge on trash remains below the State average of \$25.07.

The NEKWMD was staffed by ten full-time and four part-time employees in 2016. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy. The member Towns are also represented through their ability to vote on the NEKWMD budget at their Town Meeting in March.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The nearly 50,000 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

NEKWMD Executive Committee

NEK Waste Management Supervisors Report

In our negotiations with the State for a better contract for the collection of e-waste we made out well with a \$.03 increase. This is providing that we separate TV and computer related items from the rest of the e-waste system. In our attempt to change the way we get our budget approved, the Supervisors turned down the proposal. The proposal would have allowed the Supervisors to vote on the budget versus the present system of each town that belongs to the District to vote on it at Town Meeting. Several towns do not have any other ballot questions. Thus, polls are open in that time period, with personnel being paid to be at the polls all day. The major issue was that the Supervisors felt the voters should be voting on the budget, rather than a Supervisor from each town. Residents should understand that the proposed budget does not come out of town funding. It is funded by the sale of recyclables, the surcharge on trash, and state grants.

Respectfully submitted, Gene Perkins, Waste District Supervisor

Groton/ Ryegate Recycling Attendants Report

This year has seen a considerable increase in the number of recyclers using the facility, the volume of materials received, and the amount of items dropped off as e-waste. Styrofoam has been discontinued, as the facility that we ship to closed down and we have been unable to find another location close enough to make it worthwhile continuing.

A Rule of Thumb: #1, #2, #4 and #5 plastic containers are recyclable. No other plastics, including coat hangers, straws, styrofoam and hard brittle items are acceptable.

Plastic Bags: Plastic bags #2 and #4 are acceptable, but need to be separate from containers. They are deposited with the shopping bags.

Operating Hours:

Friday 3:00pm to 6:30 pm year round

Saturday 8:00am to 12:00 noon year round

Respectfully submitted, Gene Perkins



NEK Waste Management District Budget Vote

WARNING

NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

WARNING

NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

MARCH 7, 2017

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by their municipality on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 to act on the following article.

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$755,527?

Joel Cyp	Robert P. Smith
Michon Simons	Robert Smith
John C. Smith	Elizabeth O. Hubbard
Kiara Flanders	John C. Smith
Clayton A. Phipps	
Al Wade	
Jack Sumner	
Steve Larrup	
Mrs. Daigle	
Robert P. Smith	
David Gaudin	
John C. Smith	
Deborah Hill-Louise	
Heather Bent	
Sue Jackson	
Fax Battledin	

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice
WARNING & NOTICE
BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #21
ANNUAL MEETING
AND
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

March 6 & March 7, 2017

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Blue Mountain Union School, Garvin Memorial Library in Wells River, Vermont on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business from the floor:

Article 1: To elect the following officers as required by law, and to authorize the Board of School Directors to fix their compensation:

Moderator
Clerk
Treasurer

Article 2: To hear and act on the reports of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 officers for the past year.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year.

Article 4: To transact any other business thought proper under this warning.

Said meeting shall be followed immediately by a public informational hearing regarding the proposed budget and other business, to be voted on by Australian Ballot, on Tuesday, March 7, 2017.

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are further notified and warned to meet at the following locations:

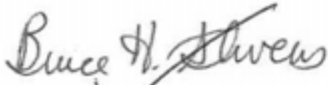
Ryegate: Town Hall in Ryegate Corner
Groton: Groton Community Building in Groton
Wells River: Village Garage in Wells River

BMU School District #21 Warning and Notice

On Tuesday, March 7, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. there will be a vote by Australian Ballot on the following questions:

Article #1: Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 approve the school board to expend \$8,404,844, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,184.01 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.6% higher than spending for the current year.

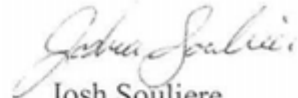
Signed by the Board of School Directors this 4th day of January, 2017 at Wells River, Vermont.



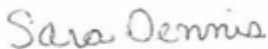
Bruce Stevens



E. Paul Hazel




Josh Souliere



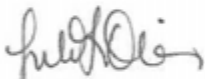
Sara Dennis



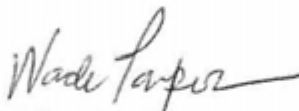
Kelsey Root



Judy Murray



Julie Oliver

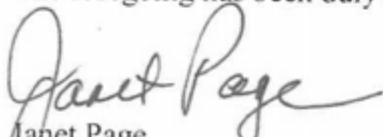


Wade Parker



Brent Abare

The foregoing has been duly recorded before posting.



Janet Page
Clerk

Waste Water Treatment Warning

The legal voters of the Town of Ryegate, Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Ryegate Town Office on March 7, 2017, between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00 A.M.) in the forenoon, at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00 P.M.) in the afternoon, at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following business, viz:

Article 1: Shall the Town of Ryegate, Vermont, authorize the Selectboard to borrow a sum of money in an amount not to exceed Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars (\$74, 999.00) for a term not to exceed Twenty (20) years for the purpose of financing the cost of renovations at the wastewater treatment facility, including filter bed replacement, septic tank filters and resetting of sampling wells.

Voting under this Article shall be by ballot in the following form:

BALLOT
TOWN OF RYEGATE, VERMONT
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY BORROWING

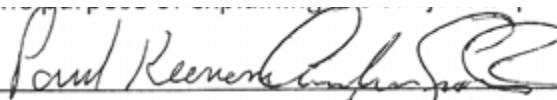
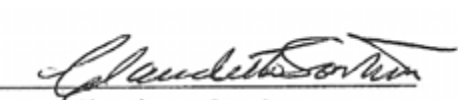
Shall the Town of Ryegate, Vermont, authorize the Selectboard to borrow a sum of money in an amount not to exceed Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars (\$74,999.00) for a term not to exceed Twenty (20) years for the purpose of financing the cost of renovations at the wastewater treatment facility, including filter bed replacement, septic tank filters and resetting of sampling wells.

If in favor of authorizing the borrowing, make a cross (x) in this square

If opposed to authorizing the borrowing, make a cross (x) in this square

The legal voters of the Town of Ryegate, Vermont, are further notified that voter qualifications, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be provided in Chapter 43 of Title 17 of Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Ryegate, Vermont, are further notified and warned that an informational meeting on February 27, 2017, commencing at seven o'clock (7:00 P.M.) in the afternoon for the purpose of explaining the subject improvements.

Select Board:  
Paul Keenan, Chair, Andrew Smith, Claudette Sortino

Recorded before posting: Attest:  Marsha Nelson, Town Clerk

Synopsis of March 1, 2016 Town Meeting

ARTICLE 1: Regina Hazel was elected Moderator, Marsha Nelson was elected Town Clerk

ARTICLE 2: The reports of the Town Officers were accepted.

ARTICLE 3: The town authorized a total general and highway fund expenditure for 2016 operating expenses of \$975,721.00.

ARTICLE 4: After discussion, the Town voted to raise money by taxation to meet the 2016 General Fund and Road Budget and authorized the Select Board to set a tax rate to provide the same.

ARTICLE 5: The Town authorized payment of real property taxes to the Town Treasurer in one installment, due September 10th and becoming delinquent on October 10th.

ARTICLE 6: The Town elected a Collector of Delinquent Taxes and that was Dale Wright.

ARTICLE 7: The Town elected Bruce Stevens and Paul Hazel to serve on the Board of Union School District #21 for a term of three years. Wade Parker was elected to a one year term to fill an unexpired term.

ARTICLE 8: The following people were elected to serve in the various offices: Treasurer: Cheryl Slayton, Select Board: Claudette Sortino, First Grand Juror: Dean Rowden, Lister: Sally Willson, Auditor: Richard Hodgson, Library Trustee: Deanna Arnosky, Cemetery Commissioner: Bruce Nelson

ARTICLE 9: Gene Perkins was recognized for fifty years of service to the Fire Department. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 PM.

Vital Statistics

Civil Marriages

Date	Name
5-28	Brian Page & Allana Ricker
6-04	Ethan Lawrence & Cory Dinsmore
7-02	Jason Loiselle & Beth Gary
10-09	Frank Chapman & Melissa Barton
11-28	Miles Currier & Cheryl Miller

Births

Date	Name	Parents
3-05	Marshall William Elder	Nelson & Megan Moulton Elder
5-24	Damien Michael Searl	Lee Searl & Hillary Hofman
7-22	Zayn Robert T J Saibou	Abdoulaziz Saibou & Vicki Burgess
8-17	Toby Allen Magoon	Christopher Magoon & Felicia Germain

Deaths

Name	Age	Date
Valora McLure	96	11-12-2015
Linda Pastelnick	71	1-18-2016
Betty Daniels	86	1-24-2016
Lola Murray	82	3-02-2016
Elizabeth Cary	96	3-19-2016
Richard Marquise	92	5-02-2016
Dora MacDonald	87	6-26-2016
Norman Boardman Sr	78	9-19-2016
Irene Johnson	92	10-27-2016
Gary Mason	68	12-29-2016
Virginia Phelps	92	12-29-2016

Warning Annual Town Meeting- Tuesday, March 7, 2017

The citizens of the Town of Ryegate who are legal voters in the annual town meetings are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town House in Ryegate on Tuesday, the seventh of March 2017 at one o'clock in the afternoon to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator and a Town Clerk.

ARTICLE 2: To review and act on the reports of the town officers.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town authorize a total general and highway fund expenditure for 2017 operating expenses of \$988,957.00

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town vote to raise money by taxation to meet the 2017 General Fund and Road Budget, including a sum of money (not less than \$50.00 per mile) for the maintenance of its highways and for the payment of installments due and to become due on equipment purchased by the Select board including such additional funds as may be appropriated under other articles at this meeting, and to authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town authorize payment of real property taxes to the Town Treasurer in one installment, due September 10th and becoming delinquent on October 10th with interest assessed on unpaid taxes pursuant to 32 VSA 4873?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes and take such action with respect to his/her fees and commissions as judged to be advantageous to the town.

ARTICLE 7: To elect by ballot one School Director to serve on the Board of Union School District No. 21 for a term of three years.

ARTICLE 8: To elect all other necessary Town Officers and direct the Select Board to fix their compensation.

ARTICLE 9: To transact any other nonbinding business that may properly come before this meeting.

Select Board:

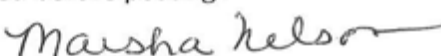


Paul Keenan

Andrew Smith

Claudette Sortino

Recorded before posting:

Attest: 

Marsha Nelson, Clerk

Important Telephone Numbers and Information

Emergency or Fire 911

RYEGATE TOWN WEBSITE- WWW.RYEGATEVT.ORG

Building Permits	584-3612 Bill Elder 802-584-3880 Town Office
Cottage Hospital	603-747-9000
E Ryegate Fire District #2	802-357-1021 Leah Smith
Fire Permits	802-584-3611 Gene Perkins 802-584-3667 Fremont Nelson

Historian

Ryegate Selectboard

Paul Keenan, Chair	802-757-3801
Claudette Sortino	802- 584-4263
Andy Smith	802-633-2260

Town Clerk	802-584-3880 Phone and Fax
Town Garage/Road Crew	802-584-3002
United Ways Agencies for VT	211
VT Center for Independent Living	802-639-1522
NEK Waste Management	800-734-4602
NEK Youth Services	802-748-8732

State Legislators

Sen. Joseph Benning- R 802-626-3600 office
Sen. Jane Kitchel- D 802-684-3482 home
Sen. Marcia Martel- R 802-748-9134 home

US Legislators

Sen. Patrick Leahy- D 800-642-3193 Action Line
Sen. Bernie Sanders- I 800-339-9834 VT office 202-224-5141 DC office
Rep. Peter Welch- D 888-605-7270 VT office 202-225-4115 DC office

Selectboard Meetings - 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7pm Town Office Building

Town Clerk- Mon 1-5, Tues 1-5, Weds 1-5, Fri 9-1

Recycling Center Friday 4-6 pm Saturday 8- noon

Photo Driver's License

Every Thursday (except holidays)
9-3:15 118 Western Ave, St Johnsbury

DEFEAT **RABIES** - Fight with **Facts**

Rabies Kills

animals and people!



Vermont

25-50 animals/year
positive for rabies

Around the world

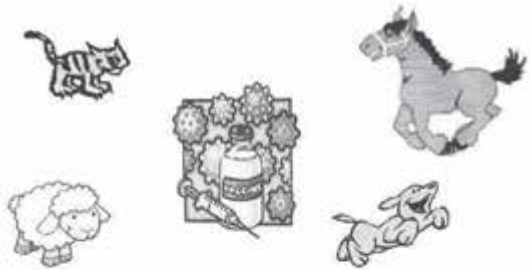
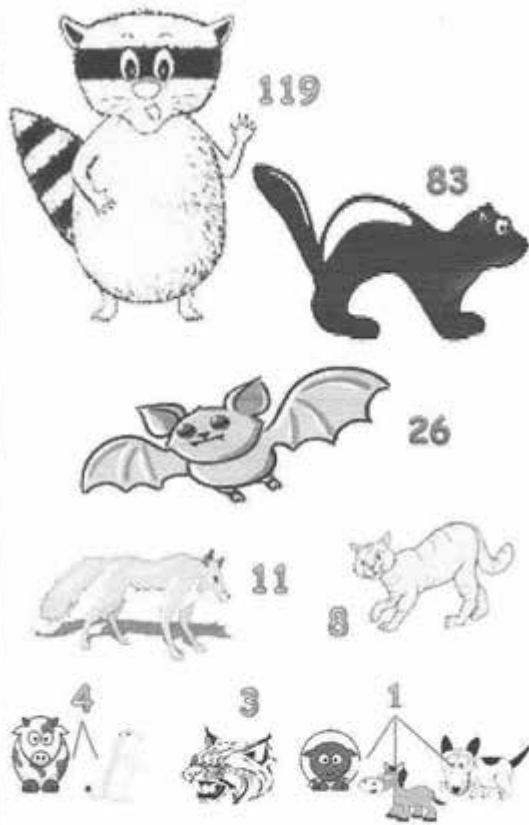


Rabies kills 1 person
every 10 minutes

RECOGNIZE RABIES

PREVENT RABIES

VT rabies cases since 2011:



Vaccinate your animals!

Avoid any weird-acting animals - then tell an adult!



TALK to your doctor
if you get bitten by an animal
or wake up to find a bat in
your house.