

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE TOWN OF
STOCKBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS



INCORPORATED 1739

FOR THE YEAR ENDING
December 31, 2003

Dedication



Ira Bender

Treasurer
1996-2003

Zoning Board of Appeals
1997-2003



Contents

Dedication	2
Information and Officers	5
General Information of Town of Stockbridge	6
Business Hours of Town Offices	7
Town Officers of Stockbridge	8
Appointees and Committees	8
Town Clerk's Report	11
Statistics	12
In Memoriam	14
General Services	15
Selectmen	16
Police Department	18
Fire Department	21
Highway Department	22
Cemetery Department	22
Water and Sewer Commission	23
Parks and Recreation	24
Emergency Management	25
GIS/IT Information Technology Director	26
Health, Education and Social Services	27
Board of Health	28
Tri-Town Health	29
Lee Visiting Nurse Association	31
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services of the Berkshires	31
Lee Ambulance Service	32
Education	33
Stockbridge Council on Aging	34
Stockbridge Library Association	35
Stockbridge Housing Authority	36
Committee on Affordable Housing	37
Veterans' Services	38
Planning and Aesthetics	39
Planning Board	40
Zoning Board of Appeals	41
Tree Warden	41
Building Inspector	42
Stockbridge Historical Commission	42
Conservation Commission	43
Stockbridge Cultural Council	44
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	45
Memorial Day Committee	46
Memorial Day Address	47
Historical Preservation Task Force	48

Community Preservation Committee	50
Laurel Hill Association	51
Laurel Hill Speech	52
Stockbridge Land Trust	55
Stockbridge Bowl Association	56
Finances	57
Accountant	58
Balance Sheets	59
Board of Assessors	78
Town Collector	79
Treasurer	82
Finance Committee	84
Town Warrant	85
Warrant	86

Information and Officers



David Dudley Field with his grandsons.

“I have decided to build a Tower in Stockbridge, with a peal of bells, in the name of my Grandchildren -living and dead- to be called “The Children’s Chimes.”

“It will be a memorial to those who are enshrined in my heart, while the ringing of the chimes at sunset, I trust, will give pleasure to all those who live in this peaceful spot.”

General Information of Town of Stockbridge

Chartered	1737
Incorporated	1739
Population	1,987
Registered Voters	1,531
Form of Government	Open Town Meeting
Tax Rate	\$9.70
Annual Town Meeting	Third Monday in May

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward M. Kennedy, Boston John F. Kerry, Boston

CONGRESSMAN

John W. Olver

STATE SENATOR

Andrea Nuciforo

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

William Smitty Pignatelli

COUNTY TREASURER

Peter G. Arlos

The Children's Chimes Tower

We pray those bells in Stockbridge chime
Right on until the end of time
In their granite monolith they've hung
More than a century they have rung.

For this gift of David Dudley Field
In gratitude these bells have pealed
From blossom time till frost they ring
At eventide much joy they bring.

Melodies played rouse fond recall
The mood of the hour is felt by all
Tho dusk brings silence, as of yore,
Tomorrow, God willing, they play once more.

Alfred D. Kelly, Albany, N.Y.

Published in the Berkshire Courier - Thursday, July 7, 1983

Business Hours of Town Offices

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF
9 a.m. to Noon; 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday

BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
7:30 p.m. 2nd Thursday of
each month

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
7 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of
each month

COUNCIL ON AGING
4 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month
at the 1st Congregational Church

FINANCE BOARD
As necessary

HEALTH, BOARD OF
7 p.m. 1st Thursday of each month

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
As necessary

HOUSING AUTHORITY
7 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month
at Heaton Court

PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
As necessary

PLANNING BOARD
7:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of
each month

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF
7 p.m. Monday

TOWN CLERK
9 a.m. to Noon, Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.
1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday

TOWN TREASURER
9 a.m. to Noon, Tuesday-Friday

TOWN COLLECTOR
9 a.m. to Noon, 1 to 4 p.m.
Monday-Friday

VETERANS' AGENT
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday
Great Barrington Town Hall

WATER and SEWER COMMISSION,
4:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday of each month

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
7 p.m. 2nd Thursday of each month

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Berkshire Hills Regional School District	274-6400
Monument Mountain	528-3346
Searles Middle School	528-4743
Plain School	298-3021
Council on Aging	298-3118
Fire Department	
Burning Permits	298-5562
Glendale Station	298-3242
Hose Company No. 1	298-4866
Interlaken Station	298-4956
Highway Department	298-5506
Police Department	298-5520 or 298-5530
Town Offices	298-4714
Accountant	298-4534
Assessors	298-3509
Building Inspector	298-3233
Town Clerk	298-4568
Town Collector	298-3890
Treasurer	298-4534
Water and Wastewater Department	298-4067

Town Officers of Stockbridge

Moderator

Gary D. Johnston, 2006

Selectmen

J. Cristopher Irsfeld, 2004
Deborah S. McMenamy, 2006
George E. Shippey, 2005

Board of Assessors

William Campbell, 2004
Cecilia K. Killfoile, 2006
John A. Miller, 2005

Town Clerk

Linda Hunt, 2004

Town Collector

Joseph P. Ruggio, 2005

Board of Health

Cara B. Davis, 2006
Todd LePine, 2004
Gregory M. Pilling, 2005

Sewer and Water Commissioners

Robert Bugley, 2004-Resigned
Donald Schneyer, 2006
Thomas Schuler, 2005
Peter Socha, 2004

Planning Board

Robert Bartle, 2004
Allan Blau, 2006

Paul Coates, 2007

Barbara Cohen-Hobbs, 2007
Gary Pitney, 2006
Eric M. Plakun, 2005
Douglas J. Rose, 2004

Treasurer

Ira Bender, 2005-Deceased
Karen Williams, 2004-Appointed

Tree Warden

Peter Curtin, 2006

Parks and Recreation

Robert Flower, 2005
Mary Hart, 2006
Philip Heller, 2004

Housing Authority

D. Ann Beacco, State Appointee
Patricia Beacco, 2006
Pauline Pierce, 2008
William A. Selke, 2004
Kenneth Shearn, 2005

Regional School Committee

Paul Coates, 2006
Martha M. Muir, 2006
Caroline Irsfeld, 2004

APPOINTEES AND COMMITTEES FOR 2003

Accountant

Elaine Markham, 2005

Building Inspector

Ned Baldwin

Veterans' Agent

Al Adams, District Director, 2004

Highway Superintendent

Clinton E. Schneyer, Jr., 2004

Plumbing Inspector

Gregory M. Pilling

Emergency Management

Arthur D. Dutil, Director
Richard B. Wilcox, Deputy Director

Wire Inspector

Robert Clausen

Executive Secretary

Jorja-Ann P. Marsden, 2004

Fire Chief

Louis J. Peyron
C. Joseph Tracy, Deputy

Gas Inspector

Gregory M. Pilling

Local Cultural Council

Linda Barbadoro
Shirley Blanchard
Sarah Horne
Cheryl Hutto
Dawn Lane, Co-Chair
Belle Fox Martin
Julie McCarthy
Allison S. Rachele, Co-Chair
Janice Shields

Board of Registrars

Linda Hunt
Anne M. Sparks, 2006
Margaret N. Tracy, 2004
Nancy Ann Wilcox, 2005

Cable Advisory Committee

J. Christopher Irsfeld
Neil Holden

Police Chief

Richard B. Wilcox, 2004

Historical Commission

Maria Carr
Linda Jackson, Chairman
Pauline D. Pierce
Martin Torodash

Memorial Day Committee

Deborah Coleman
Fred Coleman
Mary V. Flynn
Deborah S. McMenamy, Chairman
Jorja Marsden
Lindy Searing

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority

John L. Cronson, Delegate, 2004

Zoning Board of Appeals

Ira Bender, 2003-Deceased
Linda Day, 2008

James Murray, 2005
Thomas Schuler, 2007
William Selke, 2006
John H. Spencer, 2004
David Adler, Associate
Patricia Flinn, Associate

Berk. Regl. Planning Commission

Barbara Cohen-Hobbs, Delegate
Joseph P. Ruggio, Alternate-Resigned
Craig Berger, Alternate

Town Counsel

J. Raymond Miyrares

Conservation Commission

Joseph DeGiorgis, 2004
Don W. Deno, 2004
John Hart, 2005
John J. Pensivy, Commissioner Emeritus
Cathy Plakun, 2005
Steve Shatz
George Shippey, 2006
Sally Underwood-Miller, 2006

Finance Board

Raymond R. Blair
Mary Bertocci
James McMenamy
John Morse
Keith Raftery
Holly Rhind
Jean Rousseau, Chairman
Holly Huggins Rhind

Community Preservation Committee

Thomas Stokes, Chairman, for Selectmen
Susan Klebel, V. Chair, for Finance
Michael Blay, Treas, for Assessors
David McCarthy, for Selectmen
Allan Blau, for Planning Board
Sally Underwood-Miller, for Con. Com.
Linda W. Jackson, for Historical Com.
Robert Flower, for Parks and Rec
Ann Beacco, Housing Authority

Constables

Robert F. Nielson, 111, 2004
Louis J. Peyron, Sergeant, 2004
Brian A. Shaw, 2004
Michael J. Stanton, 2004

Bruce J.Stringer, 2004
Richard B. Wilcox, 2004

Council On Aging

Paula Almgren, 2005
Lillian Bender, 2004
Virginia Schwartz, 2004
Joan Selva, 2006
Patricia Tarrant, 2006
Elizabeth McCormack, Director

Dog Officer

Donald Holmes

Historic Preservation Task Force

Carl Sprague, Chairman
Peter Williams, Secretary
Linda Jackson, Historical Comm.

Jorja-Ann Marsden, for Selectmen
Sue Bonak
Marty Bullwinkel
Everett Jassy
Carole Owens
Pam Sandler
Andrea Savana

Plain School Reuse

John Spencer, Chairman
Suzanne Tracy, Secretary
Everett Jassy
Larry Kurber
Leslie Rathbun
Joseph Ruggio
Clinton E. Schneyer, Jr.
Rosemary Schneyer



Children's Chime Tower - Work in progress.

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Town Clerk's Report



Children's Chime Tower

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Town Clerk

VITAL STATISTICS

Population	1,987
Registered Voters	1,531
Number of Births	11
Number of Marriages	20
Number of Deaths	24

At the recommendation of the Registry of Vital Records and the United States Department of State, we will no longer be printing vital records in the town report. This will help to protect the privacy of individuals as well as help to curb identity theft.

RAFFLE PERMITS

Raffle Permits	1
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DOG LICENSES

Males	15
Neutered Males	57
Females	11
Spayed Females	66
Kennel	0
Replacements	2
Transfers	<u>0</u>
Totals	151

\$754.00 Paid to the Town Treasurer for Dog Licenses

Fees amounting to an additional **\$2,542.50** were also turned over to the Town Treasurer for the sale of certified birth, marriage and death records, the filing of marriage intentions, the recording of business certificates, pole locations, the sale of street lists, bylaws, raffles permits and miscellaneous searches.

FISH AND GAME LICENSES

License Class Issued	Total	Net
Resident Fishing	37	\$ 814.00
Resident Fishing Minor	1	6.00
Resident Fishing 65-69	4	43.00
Handicapped Fishing	15	-0-
Non-Resident Fishing	7	224.00
Non-Resident Fishing 3-day	3	54.00
Resident Fishing 3-day	0	-0-
Resident Citizen Hunting	7	154.00
Resident Hunting 65-69	1	10.75
Non-Resident Hunting, Big Game	1	94.00
Non-Resident Hunting, Small Game	2	120.00
Resident Citizen Minor Hunting	1	6.00
Resident Sporting	43	1,698.50
Resident Sporting 65-69	4	78.00
Resident Sporting over 70	21	-0-
Duplicate Sporting	1	2.50
Archery Stamps	28	140.00

Waterfowl Stamp	5	23.75
Primitive Firearms Stamp	15	75.00
Wild. Conser. Stamp (Res.)	94	470.00
Wild. Conser. Stamp (Non-Res.)	17	<u>85.00</u>
Totals		\$4,098.50

2003 ELECTIONS AND TOWN MEETINGS

The Annual Town Election held on May 19, 2003 brought out 182 registered voters and the Annual Town Meeting on the same evening had 136 voters in attendance. On July 22, 2003 we held a Special Town Meeting. We had 81 voters turn out for that meeting and then had that same number attend the September 22, 2003 Special Town Meeting.

In processing the Street List forms that have been returned to me so far, a few things have repeatedly come up, so I hope that by addressing them here, everyone will have a better understanding.

Re: Glendale as your residential address

Since Stockbridge is the name of the town and Glendale is considered the name of a village (as is Interlaken), Stockbridge is the proper way to give your legal residential address. Your mailing address will use Glendale if you receive your mail through the Glendale Post Office, but when you are completing your street list forms, please know that the residential address should read Stockbridge. When you sign nomination papers or petitions, you will be signing papers for Stockbridge and using your correct street number and street name for your legal residential address. That is the only way that your signature can be certified on that kind of document.

Re: Street names

Some street names have changed over the past few years particularly when Stockbridge went through setting up the 911 addresses. If you are unsure of your "Legal" residential address, please contact the Town Clerk for clarification. This can affect your voting and signing of petitions and nomination papers.

Re: Unit Numbers in your address

Because of the process used to number houses for 911, there have been homes constructed where there was no gap in the numbers. These homes have been given a letter, usually an A for 911 purposes. This is considered your legal residential address. The only way to track that particular piece of property as people move in and out, is to fill in the computer field "Unit" and give it a letter. We do understand that this is a separate residence in cases such as this, but this is how the system is set up and so we will continue to have Unit A, B, etc. appear as the residential addresses when we do the street listing and mailings.

Re: Cats on the Street List form

Currently, the state does not require us to track or license cats, so although that field is on the Street List Information Form, we will not be entering that information into the system.

Re: Party changes

There are specific forms that must be used for changing your voter registration party affiliation and these forms are available at the Town Clerk's office. This information cannot be changed by marking the Street List Information Form.

Re: Unenrolled voter

Massachusetts does not use the term “Independent” for voter registration. The U that is printed on the Street List Form stands for “Unenrolled”. This means that a person is registered to vote but has not chosen or enrolled in a particular party. Those people can sign nomination papers for any recognized party, i.e. Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Green-Rainbow (coded with the letter J). These are the only “parties” recognized in Massachusetts. Anything else is considered a “designation” not a party and is not eligible to vote in a primary.

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA HUNT, **Town Clerk**

In Memoriam

Ira E. Bender

Treasurer
1996-2003

Zoning Board of Appeals
1997-2003

Evelyn E. Dietrich

Arts Lottery Council
1983-1986

Robert N. Faber, Jr.

Tree Warden
1969-1995

Volunteer Fireman

William Gray

Election Worker
Volunteer Fireman

Bernard P. Mallon

Creator and Baker of the 250th Anniversary (1989) Cake
which was in the shape of the Indian Burial Monument

Carlton E. McCormick

Compactor Attendant
1996-1999

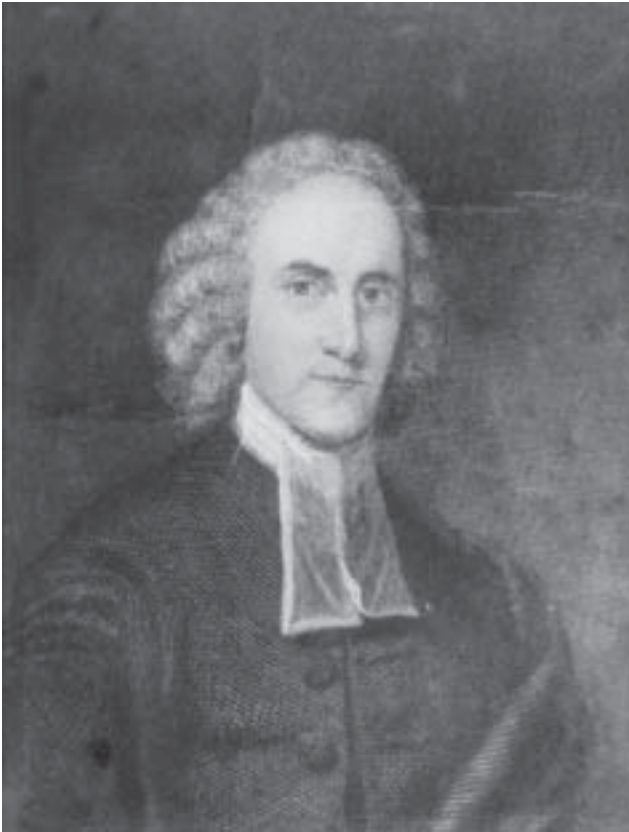
Jessie Bertha McCormick

Oldest Female Resident

William A. Schneyer

Fence Viewer
Election Worker
Volunteer Fireman

General Services



Jonathan Edwards - Born 1703 - Missionary to the Stockbridge Indians - 1750 to 1757.

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Selectmen's Report

To the Citizens of Stockbridge:

We are constantly amazed at how many things that need our attention can go on in such a little town. This past year has been very busy. Many milestones were reached, some sad and some happy; but as they say. . . life does go on and in Stockbridge life is pretty darn good.

We lost a number of friends this past year. Ira Bender, our wonderful Town Treasurer, died suddenly last March 26. He was a great asset to the Town and has been sorely missed. Bill Harris also passed away in July. Bill served on our Zoning Board of Appeals. We lost Bill "Peaches" Schneyer who served on our Fire Department for over 50 years, was our elected Fence Viewer and was an Election Worker. Another long time Fire Department member and Election Worker, William Gray passed away. Bob Faber, our long time Tree Warden and Fireman died. We appointed Karen Williams interim Treasurer and she's been doing a fine job. Karen will be running for the position this May. Tom Schuler took Bill's place on the Zoning Board of Appeals and David Adler was appointed as an Alternate. Peter Socha was appointed to the Water & Sewer Board.

Many projects that have been in the works for years finally came to fruition. Construction is well under way on the Sewer Treatment Plant upgrade, and by the time you read this report two crews will be laying sewer pipe in Glendale and on Mahkeenac Road. The two new schools are going up and we are told they are on schedule and on budget. The students will be moving in January 05. With that in mind, the Selectmen have decided, after reviewing the Plain School Reuse Committee's report, to move Town Offices and the Police Department into the old school. We then plan to launch a fund raising campaign to pay for the restoration of Proctor Hall to its original glory. The Hall will be used for Town Meetings and other Town events. Our beloved Clock Tower received a ground up restoration this past summer. The work is complete and the chimes will be rededicated this spring.

Last year the Town had to fight off another attempt to construct a full interchange onto the Turnpike. The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission reintroduced the idea in its transportation plan update. This proposal made it all the way to the "fine screening" stage. We aggressively opposed this idea and were successful in getting support from the Chairman of the Turnpike Authority. Mr. Matthew Amorillo sent a letter opposing any interchange on Route 7. The next day Berkshire Regional Planning Commission dropped the idea from their master plan. We can assure you that the Selectmen will continue to defend the integrity of our Town.

The one and only Mary Flynn was the honored speaker on Laurel Hill Day. It was Laurel Hill's 250th anniversary and the following day a beautiful new trail along the Housatonic River was dedicated the Mary Flynn Trail. This past year we successfully ended years of negotiations with the various cell phone companies. Two towers, one on either end of Town, have been erected. Neither one can be seen from any roads.

You can't help but notice the aggressive tree program that our Tree Warden, Peter Curtin, has undertaken. Dozens of sick or dying trees have been replaced around Town and this past winter a lot of pruning has taken place. The Town has never looked better. Our thanks to Clint Schneyer and his crew for their heroic efforts in dealing with the heavy snowfall this past winter. Stockbridge has the best maintained roads in the Berkshires.

As always, a great big thank you to Jorja-Ann Marsden for all of her hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. CRISTOPHER IRSFELD, **Chairman**
DEBORAH S. MCMENAMY
GEORGE E. SHIPPEY



**Jonathan Edwards Monument - Presented to the Town
by his descendants in 1873.**

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Police Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit a report of the activities of the police department for the year 2003:

In an effort to better communicate with those in need of police services the police department purchased a new telephone system in July of 2003. The purchase of that new system was in response to numerous complaints that messages left with the dispatcher were not reaching us. We became aware of as many as 10 calls a day being dropped. The Berkshire County Sheriff's Communication Center, which dispatches for the Stockbridge Police is also responsible for dispatching for a majority of the 32 cities and towns police, fire and EMS services. Given the volume of calls they handle we thought the best way of improving service was through the use of the much hated voice mail system. Unfortunately it took six months of fighting with the different telephone companies to get it into working order.

After a number of years of differing levels of success with the hiring of summer traffic officers we lost our 2003 summer help at mid-summer from what appeared to be boredom from lack of traffic during most week days. For summer of 2004 we will attempt to make use of full time officers using Community Policing Grant money.

After much debate the nightmare on Elm Street traffic problems are being addressed by enforcement and not by making Maple Street one-way. Since October officers have issued 196 motor vehicle citations on Elm Street. It appears to have had little impact on speed nor has it discouraged the use of Elm Street as a shortcut. We suspect that as long as drivers believe they can make that short cut in less time than they can by going on South and Main Street the problem will continue. Obviously we need to give it more time before declaring the enforcement effort a failure. During discussion regarding speeding cars on Elm Street it was acknowledged that parking violations could not be ignored. Enforcement of parking violations for the Post Office and Abdalla building drive-ways and the delivery zone were met with the protest that a prior warning would make it fair. Everyone should now consider themselves warned.

A stop sign was installed at West Main Street and South Street with the goal of improving traffic flow in the intersection and allowing easier egress for Pine Street and South Street vehicles making left turns out of those streets. It appears to be very effective and the negative comments have for the most part been regarding the loss of convenience for regular travelers on West Main Street.

Between inclement weather and time demands the horse patrol never materialized last summer. We hope to start again in the spring of this year. As someone expressed concern about the cost of the program I will again remind town residents that no tax payer money is or has been used for that program and that Joyce and I will continue to pay any expenses out of our own pocket.

We had a number of house breaks this year, which were solved by the arrest of two people, who were supporting a heroin addiction. We are grateful for the help of the Mass State Police in Lee, in particular Sergeant George Hamilton. In addition Officers Stanton, Shaw and Stringer expended a number of hours work-

ing on all the investigations. Western Mass Law Enforcement has seen a significant upsurge in heroin use and heroin of a greater purity. We encourage you to use your alarm system if you have one and call us if you expect to be away for extended periods so that we can check your home.

We have been the recipient of a number of grants. We applied for and received a \$12,000 Community Policing grant. That grant was written to address speeding problems on various streets within the town, downtown traffic issues, and more police presence in the Mahkeenac Lake area, including Tanglewood. We applied for and received a \$7,000 grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau, \$4,000 for seat belt and OUI enforcement and \$3,000 for equipment. The seat belt enforcement is being done on Elm Street to address the speeding problems and because seat belt enforcement is a secondary enforcement requiring another violation as a reason for the stop. In addition we received a grant for gun cable locks which are now available to any gun owner at no cost.

I received an appointment from Governor Romney to serve as a member of the Massachusetts Police Training Committee, one of five chiefs statewide, to provide oversight for all municipal police training in the Commonwealth. I was also asked to serve as President of the Berkshire County Law Enforcement Council, which received a \$205,000 grant to improve interoperability issues within the county. Additionally I was asked to serve as 1st Vice President on the Western Mass Law Enforcement Council where we were fortunate enough to obtain a 2.3 million dollar grant to improve the communications infrastructure for Western Mass.

In an effort to try and clear up some confusion about donations I want to share with you that the Stockbridge Police Association is made up of union membership within the department, and they have traditionally solicited for donations and then dispensed that money for a number of worthy causes within the community. I generally do not have any knowledge of those donations, either who is sending them or what they are used for. Donations to the Stockbridge Police Department go into an account managed by the Town of Stockbridge and are only used for the purchase of items which will benefit the police department.

Category	2003	2002	2001	2000
Calls For Service	9,245	9,545	9,913	9,023
Investigations	485	374	436	282
Motor Vehicle Accidents	149	151	142	117
Uniform Crime Report Offenses	124	112	115	105
Motor Vehicle Citations	491	280	322	255
Parking Tickets	74	36	79	65
Alarm Calls	517	563	423	346
Business Doors & Windows Found Open	6	14	11	15

NIBRS Reported Offenses (National Incident Based Reporting System)

Rape of Child With Force	1
Assault & Battery	12
Assault & Battery W/Dangerous Weapon	2
Assault	4
Indecent A&B On A Child Under 14	1

Annoying Telephone Calls	2
Threat To Commit A Crime	20
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	1
B&E Building in the Night Time for Felony	1
B&E Misdemeanor	5
B&E Daytime Felony	8
Shoplifting by Asportation	1
Larceny From a Building	1
Larceny Under \$250.	1
Larceny Under \$250. by False Pretense	1
Larceny Over \$250.	36
Larceny Over \$250. by Single Scheme	3
Larceny Over \$250.	27
Larceny Of a Motor Vehicle	2
Use of a Motor Vehicle Without Authority	3
Counterfeit Note, Possession	1
Utter a False Instrument	1
Receive Stolen Property	1
Tagging Property	1
Vandalize Property	8
Destruction of Property Over \$250.	7
Destruction of Property Under \$250.	3
Malicious Damage to Motor Vehicle	1
Firearm Possession Without FID Card	1
Larceny by Check Under \$250.	1
Disorderly Conduct	15
Disturbing The Peace	3
Lewd, Wanton & Lascivious Conduct	3
OUI- Liquor	3
OUI Liquor 2 nd Offense	2
Chins: Runaway	8
Trespass	9
Hunt/Fish in Closed Season	1
Dog, Fail to Muzzle/Restrain	2
Abuse Prevention Order, Violation	5
Missing Person	58
Civil Rights Violation	2
Criminal Harassment	2
Breaking & Entering Intent to Commit a Misdemeanor	6
Trash, Litter	2
Trash, Litter From a Motor Vehicle	1
Indecent Exposure	1
Abandon Motor Vehicle	10
License Suspended For OUI	1
License Suspended	3
Registration Suspended	1
Leave the Scene of a Property Damage Accident	10
Speeding Citations	371

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD B. WILCOX, **Chief of Police**

Fire Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby submit my report for the Stockbridge Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 2003.

The Fire Department answered 137 calls during 2003, and they were:

65 False Alarms	1 Broken Water Pipe Call
28 Box Alarms	1 Gasoline Leak Call
9 Motor Vehicle Accidents/ Jaws of Life used in 4 of these calls	1 Rescue Dog from River Call
8 Trees and Electrical Wires Down During Storms	1 Oil Burner Problem Call
7 Mutual Aid Calls to Other Towns	1 Electrical Problem Call
3 Brush Fires	1 Hot Brakes on Tractor Trailer Call
2 C.O. Detector Calls	1 Assist Train Engine out of Water Call
2 Medical Assist Calls	1 Water Rescue for Boat Overturned in River Call
1 Propane Fire Call	1 Chimney Fire Call
1 Hay Wagon with Bales of Hay Fire Call	

The 137 calls resulted in a total of 1,208 man-hours. During the year the members spent another 1,159 man-hours in training. We continue to take training classes with the Mass. Fire Academy and in house training. This also involves C.P.R. and First Responder classes and DeFib training.

The Fire Department Companies again in 2003 awarded monies in scholarships to high school seniors at graduation in June.

I would like to thank all the people who gave donations to the Fire Department during the past year. We continue to upgrade our equipment and replace firefighters gear with these funds.

I would like to thank all the surrounding communities for their assistance during the year as well as the Staff of the Berkshire County Dispatch Center who handle all our emergency calls at 470.

I would like to thank all the active members of Hose Company #1, Glendale Company #3 and the Interlaken Company #4 for their time and cooperation during the year, which is all volunteer to the Town of Stockbridge.

This year I am asking the Town to start putting away the sum of \$50,000.00 and continue to do this for the next several years in order to have the funds available when the next New Engine needs to be ordered.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS J. PEYRON, **Fire Chief**

Highway Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Highway Department procured a reclaimer which has performed as planned. It seems like I'm always saying we finally completed something, this year it was Shamrock Street with plans to finally reconstruct Park Street. In the future, after the extension of the sewer lines are completed, the plan is to expend the Chapter 90 monies saved for the last few years to resurface those areas where construction took place.

Dam repairs were completed at the Stockbridge Bowl Dam, and engineering is almost completed for the repairs of the Averic Lake Dam, both of which were mandated by the DEM.

The harvester was in operation and regular maintenance was performed.

Thank you to the Highway personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

CLINTON E. SCHNEYER, JR.
Highway Superintendent

Cemetery Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

I submit my annual report for the interments in the cemeteries and monies for perpetual care fund for the year of 2003.

Interments	\$3,000.00
Perpetual Care Fund	<u>\$2,425.00</u>
Grand Total	\$5,425.00

All requests were taken care of pertaining to burials and the index of cemeteries is up to date.

Respectfully submitted,

BILL CAMPBELL
Cemetery Consultant

Water and Sewer Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The past year has been one of significant accomplishment. In August, the Town received approval from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the Sewer System Expansion and Upgrade Project. This permitted the Town to award construction contracts for the project. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade contract was awarded to J. H. Maxymillian of Pittsfield. The Sewer Collection System contract for Mahkeenac, Goodrich and Glendale areas was awarded to Ludlow Construction of Ludlow. The total cost of the project is approximately 20% less than estimated.

Construction of the upgrade of the Waste Water Treatment plant began in Nov. 2003. Construction of the Sewer Collection System is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2004 in the Glendale area.

Other accomplishments over the past year include sewer installation on Vine Street and the construction of a new fence on Lake Averic. Consistent with the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Forests and Parks, we plan to log a 30 acre parcel on the Lake Averic watershed in 2004.

We acknowledge the contributions of past Commission Chairman Bob Bugley and welcome new Commissioner Peter Socha.

Finally, we acknowledge the tireless efforts of Mike Buffoni, Tony Campetti, and Peter Barenski who supervise, manage and maintain our water and sewer systems.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD SCHNEYER, **Chairman**
THOMAS SCHULER
PETER SOCHA



—*Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection*

Parks and Recreation Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town:

The Parks and Recreation Commission is charged with the maintenance and management of the town's parks and recreation facilities. The past year has been a successful year for the Commission. The Commission employed three lifeguards who kept the town beach safe for the 2003 season. The water quality at the town beach was monitored weekly, with water samples being tested under the supervision of the Tri-Town Health Department. The water quality has improved appreciably over the last year as the geese impact on the beach has been reduced. The Commission established written procedures for the operation of the beach. The Little League field has been re-sodded and new clay has been installed on the infield. New bases and a home plate have been installed, and the outfield has been cleared of brush. The skateboard park continues to be a major success with large numbers of skateboarders and roller bladers using the equipment. As a result of the protracted cold weather, a portion of the skateboard park was able to be converted into an ice skating rink this winter. The athletic programs at the Plain School monitored by the Commission have continued to be a success. A new canoe access has been established at the Park Street park in conjunction with the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife. The Commission has budgeted funds for the repair of the Pine Street tennis courts and the continued maintenance of the Plain School and Interlaken parks.

The Commission wishes to thank all of the volunteers who have contributed their efforts toward making the town's parks and recreation facilities first rate, and especially those who volunteered to create the ice skating rink and repair the Little League field. As always, a special thanks to Clint Schneyer and his crew for a great job.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY HART, **Chairman**
PHILIP F. HELLER, **Clerk**
ROBERT FLOWER

Emergency Management

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

This past year the Stockbridge Emergency Management applied for and received certification of the towns Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) from the Mass Emergency Management Agency. This certification acknowledges that the town has a group of citizens that are aiding town government in evaluating its risks and how to mitigate any threats.

Chief Wilcox and I have been taking classes offered by the State and are trained as instructors for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). These classes will be taught to the area cultural institution and businesses.

We also are meeting with Emergency Services of Berkshire County to prepare for an area wide event.

On October 29th a mock disaster drill and evacuation took place at the Stockbridge Plain School involving the local Fire, Police and EMS with the Stockbridge Emergency Management and LEPC acting as observers to help critique the event.

Selectman Deb McMenemy represents the Town on the South County Medical Reserve Corps and has completed its required training.

We were able to obtain the following grants for use by Emergency Management and the newly formed CERT Team. These grants, which can be used for equipment purchase, training and in some cases salary are: All Hazards Grant for an upgrade of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP); a Citizens Corp Grant, used to create a Citizen's Corp and a CERT Grant of which we have actually been awarded three, one each for FY02, FY03 and FY04.

Citizen's Corp and CERT Teams are designed to function in much the same manner as the old Civil Defense. We have borrowed people from the town's LEPC and Stockbridge Cultural Alliance so as not to place additional demands on the limited pool of Stockbridge volunteers. We are extremely grateful to all of those people who have given of their time and energy to make Stockbridge a safer place.

We continue to ask all citizens to be prepared to take care of their family and neighbors during a natural or man made disaster until the arrival of paid professional help is able to assist. To that end we will be providing self-help informational packets for emergencies to townspeople.

We want to thank the Selectmen and departments of the Town Government in their support in protecting the citizens of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR DUTIL, **Director**

CHIEF RICHARD WILCOX, **Deputy Director**

Information Technology Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The GIS mapping project continues. The Water and Sewer Department is being especially helpful in providing data about the Sewer Expansion, and in the spring Town water lines and hydrants are due to be mapped. In cooperation with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, an Official Road Status Map is being developed for the Town to consider. This will ensure that state, regional, and local entities all have the same information regarding road maintenance and ownership. We are also working closely with an outside vendor to digitize Town parcel data, a key first step in bringing property tax, land use, zoning, and all related information into a computerized format.

The Tax Collector's office, Town Treasurer, Accountant, and the Assessor's office are completing upgrades of their software which will streamline their operations. This will give them much faster turnaround and significantly more flexibility in the printing and distribution of tax bills and collection of Town revenue.

The Police Department recently upgraded its telephone service to a PBX system, giving them more reliable operation, quicker response from Dispatch, and voice mail capabilities for individual officers.

The Town website, <http://www.townofstockbridge.com>, continues to be updated regularly with information relevant to all Town residents. Meeting minutes, Town government and Board contact information, public notices, forms, a history of the Town, and links to relevant State and Federal information sites are available twenty-four hours a day.

Respectfully submitted,

ERNEST LOWELL

Information Technology Director



This house built in 1737, at Stockbridge, Mass., was once the residence of Jonathan Edwards and the one in which he wrote “The Freedom of the Will.”

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Health, Education and Social Services



Goodrich Memorial Bridge - Property of Laurel Hill

—Photo by David Milton Jones

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Board of Health

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

During the year 2003, the Board of Health held their regular meetings at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of the month, reviewing health related issues. We had quarterly meetings with the Tri-Town members. With Tri-Town Health Department and members we addressed issues concerning smoking, implementing a smoking ban in all work places, and updated sanitary septic tank installation requirements. A major set back for Tri-Town was the reduction of the Tobacco Awareness program with 85% of the funding from the State being taken away.

Any complaints brought to the Board's attention were investigated by a Board member or the Tri-Town Health Department inspectors. All routine inspections were carried out by Tri-Town Health Department agents, under the direction of Peter Kolodziej. The agents test the water for any beaches and public pools in town, all restaurants, rental housing and massage establishments.

Any communicable diseases were reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with follow up by the VNA. As agents for the Board of Health, the VNA provides health screening, clinics, immunizations, including flu clinics and monthly blood pressure screenings.

The Town Animal Inspector inspected any barn animals and the premises where they are kept. He also investigates any animal bites and scratches. All reports are filed with the Division of Animal Control.

We reviewed two sets of subdivision plans and reviewed and granted six applications for massage licenses. We set a moratorium on well variances for the areas of Town slated for the new sewer line. Variances for wells will not be needed when the new sewer is installed.

The Board of Health members attend the Berkshire County Boards of Health meetings twice a year. We are also active in the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards.

After seventeen years of dedicated service to the Stockbridge Board of Health, Ann Beacco decided to step down. She will be missed. We were fortunate, however to have Cara Davis run for and be elected to fill the vacancy.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY M. PILLING, **Chairman**
CARA DAVIS
TODD LEPINE, M.D.

Tri-Town Health Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

I hereby submit my annual report for the fiscal year 2003.

Community Septic Management Program: The Tri-town Health Department Septic System Installer Certification training program continued to be popular with area contractors. Trainings held in Lee and Williamstown certified approximately one hundred participants.

State Title 5 regulations, which govern the installation of septic systems, are currently being reviewed for changes. One major change, which becomes effective January 1, 2004, is the increase in the percolation rate (soil permeability test) for new construction from 30 minutes per inch to 60 minutes per inch. This will create new building sites that may have been viewed previously as unsuitable.

Food Service Sanitation Program: This office continues to sponsor food sanitation training programs for area food establishments. Establishment compliance with respect to employing trained individuals has been excellent.

West Nile Virus: The Tri-town Health Department remains the designated Berkshire drop-off point for the Boards of Health submitting samples of dead birds for analysis. For this reporting period, the Tri-Town region had nine reports of dead birds, only one of the samples was approved for analysis by Public Health and that sample was negative for West Nile.

Pool & Spa Monitoring Program: The Health Department has stepped up the frequency at which pools and hot tubs are inspected and sampled. In the majority of cases establishment owners have embraced this program as an important prevent program that ensures water quality and safety for their patrons.

Tobacco Awareness Program: This program continues to be an important part of Tri-Town Health activities despite major State budget reductions. Our program is the only remaining program in Berkshire County and one of approximately 26 programs Statewide. Despite these major reductions, this office will continue our efforts in reducing youth access to tobacco products and ensuring a smoke free clean environment in the workplace.

Permits Issued: (Stockbridge only)

Permit Type	Numbered Issued
Food Service	44
Retail Food	17
Catering	17
Mobile Food	3
B & B	11
Bakery	2

Special Event Food Permit	37
Tobacco	2
Indoor Pool	3
Outdoor Pool	9
Hot Tubs	1
Frozen Desert	2
Milk/Cream Store	4
Milk/Cream Vehicle	2
Milk/Cream Dealer	3
Pasteurization	0
Disposal Works Installers	24
Septage Hauler	6
Garbage Hauler	5
Rec. Children's Camp	4
Motel/Hotel/Cabin/Trailer	0
Massage Practitioner	70
Massage Establishment	3
Biological Wastes	1
Disposal Works Construction	24
Well Permit	10
Beaver Permits	2

Many thanks to the Lee, Lenox and Stockbridge Board of Health for their guidance and support. Also, many thanks to the Tri-Town Health staff for their dedicated service to our member communities.

Inspections: (Stockbridge)

Food Service Inspections:	56	Children's Camps:	4
Health Fitness/Massage Establishments:	2	Misc. Complaints/Nuisances	2
Housing Inspections/Chapter II	2	Quality Control	28
Pool & Hot Tub Testing	161	Well Sampling	9
Water Testing Performed- Beaches	105	Ice Sampling	30

Budget Revenue Information 2003 (Stockbridge)

Total budget: \$ 33,808.68 Revenue generated: \$ 18,147.53

Breakdown: Permits	\$ 15,909.90
Water Testing	\$ 1,480.18
Septic	\$ 757.45
Total	\$ 18,147.53

Respectfully submitted,
PETER J. KOLODZIEJ R.S.
Director/Sanitarian
Tri-Town Health Department

Lee Visiting Nurse Association, Inc.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following is a report of the services performed in the Town of Stockbridge during the calendar year 2003:

Home Visits	Visits	Home Visits	Visits
Skilled Nursing	227	Medical Social Work	4
Physical Therapy	158	Maternal Child Health	1
Occupational Therapy	19	Home Health Aide	70

Non-billable health promotion - 1 home visit

Clinics	Sessions	Attendance
Flu/Pneumonia	2	154/5
Blood Pressure	11	87

Flu Clinics were held at three Stockbridge business locations.

Respectfully submitted,

PAULA SCHUTZMANN, RN, MSN
Interim Administrator

Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services of the Berkshires

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Our agency remains committed to providing high quality and comprehensive community mental health and substance abuse services to all residents of Berkshire County who need and request them, regardless of their ability to pay. We provided services to 87 residents of the Town of Stockbridge in 2003.

While we continue to receive state funding and allocations from local United Ways, these allocations are insufficient alone to cover the entire costs of the uninsured and underinsured persons who seek our services. For this reason, annual allocations from the cities and towns in Berkshire County, albeit small, remain an important ingredient in assuring that we continue to fulfill our mission of providing adequate services to all persons in need.

We wish to thank you for your past and continued support. If there are any questions regarding our agency or the services that we provide, please call 413-499-0412.

Respectfully submitted,

MARJORIE COHAN
Executive Director

Lee Ambulance Service

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

I hereby present the annual report of the Lee Ambulance Service.

In 2003 the Lee Ambulance Service responded to a total of 862 requests for medical assistance, of which 206 were to the Town of Stockbridge resulting in the transportation of 171 patients to area hospitals.

A breakdown of these calls is as follows:

Motor vehicle accidents	19 responses
Non motor vehicle injuries	42 responses
Illness/Transports	83 responses
Cardiac/Respiratory	44 responses
Miscellaneous	18 responses
Total	206 responses

My appreciation to our members who are residents of Stockbridge: Harold French, Roxanne McCaffrey, Scott and Ron Muir, Tim O'Brien and Dan Weston. In addition to their commitment to the Lee Ambulance Service, they provide a tiered response to medical calls in Stockbridge.

We would like to see more residents of Stockbridge become involved in pre-hospital medical care to the community and have requested that additional funds for EMT training be provided for Stockbridge residents. If you are interested in assisting with this service do not hesitate to contact any member or myself for information.

As always my appreciation to the Fire and Police Departments of Stockbridge for their continued support and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

KENNETH J. LaBIER, **Director**

Education

Report of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund

The Trustees of the Charles Denton Treadway Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships of \$200.00 to the following:

Danielle Boudreau	University of Rhode Island
Laurel Demagall	University of Rhode Island
Stephanie Dolson	Siena College
Sean Edwards	University of Vermont/BCC
Kate Feuer	University of Missouri
Jillian Hall	Lyndon State

Leigh Campetti (awarded \$200.00), University of Bristol, was deferred as she took a semester off. Emily Irsfeld (awarded \$100.00), Berkshire Community College, was deferred for one semester.

As of December 31, 2003, there was \$76,395.40 in accounts at Berkshire Bank and investments and stocks managed by Smith Barney Citigroup.

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN T. WILLIAMS, **Treasurer**

Report of the Charles M. Owen School Fund

The Williams High School Scholarship Committee as Trustees of the Charles M. Owen School Fund awarded \$400.00 scholarships to the following Stockbridge residents:

Danielle Boudreau	University of Rhode Island
Stephanie Dolson	Siena College
Kate Feuer	University of Missouri

As of December 31, 2003, there was \$30,221.42 in an account at Berkshire Bank.

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN T. WILLIAMS, **Treasurer**

JOHN F. CANNING, **Trustee**

Report of the Williams High School Scholarship Fund

The Trustees of the William High School Scholarship Fund awarded \$400.00 scholarships to the following:

Melinda Galisa	West Stockbridge	University of New England
Jillian Hall	Stockbridge	Lyndon State
Katrina Slosek	West Stockbridge	Bryant College
Tiffany St. John	West Stockbridge	Salve Regina

As of December 31, 2003, there was \$53,345.00 in accounts at Lee Bank.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. CANNING

Report of the William Academy Scholarship Fund

The Trustees of the William Academy Scholarship Fund awarded scholarships to eight college-bound Stockbridge residents who graduated from Monument Mountain Regional High School in June 2003. Each student will receive \$100.00 after successfully completing one semester of college. The recipients are: Danielle Boudreau, Leigh Campetti, Laurel Demagall, Stephanie Dolson, Sean Edwards, Kate Feuer, Jillian Hall, and Emily Irsfeld.

The Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation holds the funds of the Trust for asset management and award distribution. The balance of the fund as of December 31, 2003 was \$19,114.00.

Respectfully submitted,

CAROLINE IRSFELD
MARTHA MUIR
PAUL COATES

Council on Aging

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following is a report on the services and activities provided by the Council on Aging for the senior citizens of Stockbridge during 2003.

Transportation for shopping, medical appointments, and personal needs continues to be a very important part of the Council on Aging's service. Other services provided by the COA include the Brown Bag Food Program, monthly blood pressure clinics provided by the Lee Regional Visiting Nurse Association, and bi-monthly clinics by the Countryside Nurse. The Moving Into Well-Being Exercise Program continues its classes, twice weekly community luncheons are served at Heaton Court, and Meals-On-Wheels were available to those in need of this service. Advocacy and referrals to appropriate agencies remained important services.

Stockbridge seniors were guests of Monument Mountain Regional High School for the annual Senior Fall Festival and Senior Dinner in the spring. The year ended with another fine Christmas luncheon at the Red Lion Inn generously given by the Fitzpatrick family.

The COA wishes to thank all who volunteered their services during 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH MCCORMACK, **Director**
PATRICIA TARRANT, **Co-Chairperson**
LILLIAN BENDER, **Co-Chairperson**
PAULA ALMGREN
VIRGINIA SCHWARTZ
JOAN SELVA

Stockbridge Library Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Another busy and productive year has passed at the Stockbridge Library. This year we are proud to report that out of a total 370 public libraries, we enjoyed the eleventh highest circulation rate per capita in the Commonwealth. Additionally, we rank fourth in our population group for hours of operation. These statistics clearly point out that we are indeed a very busy, very available library. As such, we run a very tight budget and greatly appreciate the support we receive from the town of Stockbridge and its citizens.

Keeping up with such heavy demand also keeps us working very hard at earning money. We have added two new fundraisers over the past year, bringing the total to seven separate events we hold to maintain the high quality of service we provide for the town of Stockbridge. We were honored in June by the appearance of United States Poet Laureate, Billy Collins, who entertained us for an afternoon with a reading of some of his wonderful and accessible poetry. Another highlight was our sale of rare and out of print children's books, generously donated to the library by a retiring local book dealer. It was a nostalgic and heartwarming fall weekend for many!

We also celebrated another thirtieth anniversary of employment. This year we thank Cathy Buffoni for her many evenings and Saturdays devoted to assisting our library patrons with skill and dedication, not to mention that irreplaceable smile behind the desk!

The Historical Room Renovation project is coming to a successful close. Upon completion, it will provide for a much needed improvement in environmental conditions and storage space for a unique collection of Stockbridge history which is patronized by locals as well as people from around the world. To date, we have raised approximately \$260,000 to finance the construction, and hope to raise still more to cover a modest endowment for operational and maintenance expenses of the new mechanical systems. Many thanks to Curator Barbara Alien, Historical Room Committee Chairman Jack Spencer, and so many who have contributed the time, talent and funding to see us through! Please do visit this beautiful new space and take home a renewed appreciation of all who have come before us to make Stockbridge the special corner of the world it is.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHANIE V. ADLER, President
Stockbridge Library Association

Stockbridge Housing Authority

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Housing Authority continues to manage housing programs for low-income senior citizens, families, and persons with special needs. The major program located in Stockbridge is Heaton Court, which is state-assisted housing for low-income elderly and disabled persons. Situated on the hill on Pine Street, Heaton Court has just completed the construction of a handicap-accessible ramp and the replacement of the second and third floor exterior walkways, through funding provided by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Although all apartments are occupied and there is a long waiting list, Stockbridge residents receive priority. Four Stockbridge residents and one former resident became new tenants at Heaton Court in 2003. Information on the eligibility criteria and the application process can be obtained by calling 298-3222.

The Housing Authority also assists younger individuals and families through the federal Section 8 rental assistance program. With only 41 vouchers, the Housing Authority is limited in the number of people who can be helped. Priority is given to those who live or work in southern Berkshire County, who are extremely low income, working, or homeless. Applicants who receive vouchers are not required to live in Stockbridge, but can take the voucher to any town in Massachusetts. In 2003 three Stockbridge residents applied for Section 8 assistance, and one resident continues to receive assistance.

In addition the housing authority serves as the landlord for an eight-bedroom facility which is rented to the state's Department of Mental Retardation for housing and services to assist severely disabled adults. The entrance and parking lot were improved and enlarged through ADA funding provided by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Residents who have housing concerns or are interested in the impact of the area's housing situation are urged to contact Marilyn Wightman, Executive Director, at 298-3222 for additional information.

The Board wishes to express its gratitude to the dedicated staff and to the town departments for their kind assistance to the residents at Heaton Court.

Respectfully submitted,

D. ANN BEACCO, **State Appointee**
PAT BEACCO, **Vice Chairman**
PAULINE PIERCE, **Treasurer**
WILLIAM SELKE, **Assistant Treasurer**
KENNETH SHEARN, **Chairman**

Committee on Affordable Housing

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The committee is pleased to report that construction should soon start on Pine Woods, the 30-unit rental housing project on Route 102. The plan, by the non-profit developer, CONSTRUCT, INC, has received recognition from CHAPA as a model example of smart growth. CHAPA, the Citizens Housing and Planning Organization, is the umbrella organization for affordable housing activities in Massachusetts. The conceptual design by *pro bono* architect, Joseph Wasserman, conserves the existing building, and places the new structures with particular sensitivity for the environment. The architecture, by Stephan Green, of Clark and Green, provides comfort and space, while limiting the cost, and is in harmony with its surroundings. Generous support by the Stockbridge Land Trust assures that the back 14 acres of the site will be preserved as open space, and a wide shielding setback will be maintained along Route 102.

Once in operation, the project will be managed by the Stockbridge Housing Authority. This will include tenant selection, as well as maintenance of the property.

The essential Comprehensive Permit was issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals in July, so construction can commence shortly after the completion of the financing. CONSTRUCT has been successful in winning very competitive grants and interest-free loans for the project from state and federal agencies. This funding is expected to close on June 1st. The remaining piece of the budget is money from the Community Preservation Act. You will have the opportunity to vote on this allocation at the coming Town Meeting.

We believe that the project is on its way to becoming an asset of which Stockbridge will be justifiably proud.

Respectfully submitted,

CARA DAVIS
DEBORAH MCMENAMY
CRAIG MOFFATT, **Vice Chairman**
WILLIAM SELKE, **Chairman**
WILLIAM SHERIDAN III, **Secretary**
STARBUCK SMITH
EILEEN TAFT

District Department of Veterans' Services

CALENDAR YEAR 2003

DDVS MGL Ch 115 Benefits Provision:	District	Town
Expenditures	\$24,500.08	\$5,741.54
Reimbursements from Veterans	.00	.00
Projected OCVS Reimbursements (75%)	18,375.06	4,306.16

DDVS Funded Provision:		
Office Operations (All Types)	8009.00	1050.00
Administrative Budget	76,435.57	8,407.91

Department of Veterans' Affairs Provision:		
Burial Flags	25	3
Grave Markers	15	1

DDVS Administrative Expenses

Salaries: Director/Treasurer	\$44,222.46
Rent (Great Barrington)	1,200.00
Travel	2,163.89
Insurance Benefits	12,131.71
Medicare Benefits	641.28
Berkshire County Retirement	7,116.00
Telephone	1,589.64
Postage	91.24
Machine Maintenance Contract	296.00
Liability/Workers Comp Insurance Bond	448.00
Organizational Dues	35.00
Supplies	349.39
Miscellaneous	225.00
TOTAL	\$70,509.61

Respectfully submitted,

AL ADAMS
Director DDVS

Planning and Aesthetics



Mary Hopkins Goodrich - Founder of The Laurel Hill Association - The nation's oldest village improvement society.

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Planning Board

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Planning Board continues its efforts to control and manage the rising tide of suburbanization and manorialization of the town's precious real estate resources. As a result of our vigilance and diligence in pursuing our statutory mandate, however, we have been beset with controversy and, unfortunately, with vexatious and often spurious litigation.

This past year we fielded and approved numerous survey plans dividing existing large tracts of land into smaller parcels, which divided parcels still conform to the dimensional requirements of the zoning bylaw (the so-called "Form A" applications), such that the lots so divided and separated from one another may be sold and developed for housing.

The Planning Board also heard several applications to perform major renovations and to rebuild, enlarge and enhance houses within the Lake and Pond Overlay District (the "LPOD"), primarily concerning second-home vacation properties on Lake Mahkeenac/Stockbridge Bowl. One other LPOD application concerned the renovation and rebuilding of the historic mill property on Yale Hill Road along Kamposa Brook. A divided Planning Board would not approve the application to conduct building activities within the LPOD, and the matter was appealed by the applicant to the Land Court Department of the Trial Court in Boston, where it was eventually resolved in the applicant's favor.¹

The Planning Board also notably devoted considerable hours of public hearings and deliberations on the application of an out-of-state developer to subdivide a hundred sylvan acres on Pixley Hill into numerous house lots. Notwithstanding that the developer had submitted an incomplete subdivision application, lacking important data and information critical to the subdivision process, the Planning Board labored through nights of expert testimony and presentations from the applicant, from independent consultants, and from the abutter group opposed to the application. After counsel for the developer had agreed on the record with both the Board Chairman and counsel for the abutters to continue the public hearing process for the completion of the testimony and deliberations, the applicant abruptly changed his position, declaring that the Planning Board had failed to timely complete the subdivision application review, and demanded that a certificate issue from the Town Clerk that the subdivision had been "constructively" approved. The Town Clerk aptly and justifiably refused to issue the certificate, and the Planning Board then voted to deny the original application and (out of an abundance of caution) to rescind any approval that the developer claimed to have constructively occurred. This developer has filed no less than two separate appeals of these Planning Board decisions in the Land Court, has commenced yet another lawsuit in the Superior Court Department for monetary damages as against the Planning Board, and had even pressed criminal charges against the individual Planning Board members with the Berkshire County District Attorney, ill-advisedly alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law.²

As we submit this report, your Planning Board remains embroiled in these land-use polemics, but holds its course of steadfast and uniform commitment

to upholding our duties as the land development regulatory gatekeepers for the Town of Stockbridge.

Respectfully submitted,

DOUGLAS J. ROSE, J.D., MBA, **Chairman**
ROBERT BARTLE
ALAN BLAU, ED.D
PAUL COATES
BARBARA COHEN-HOBBS
GARY PITNEY
ERIC M. PLAKUN, M.D.

- ¹ It should be noted, however, that the applicant still does not have a required special permit from the Select Board for the renovations.
- ² The developer later withdrew those criminal charges.

Zoning Board of Appeals

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The major item before the Board was an application to develop low and moderate housing rental units on the Beacco property located just past the Town recycle area. This application was under Chapter 774 of the Massachusetts Public laws called the Comprehensive Permit Process. After a public hearing and a follow up meeting the Board unanimously approved the zoning aspects waiver provisions requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA DAY
JAMES MURRAY
TOM SCHULER
WILLIAM SELKE
JOHN SPENCER
DAVID ADLER, **Associate**
PATRICIA FLINN, **Associate**

Tree Warden

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Main Street trees have been planted, fertilized and pruned. More trees will be planted where others have failed. Dead or dying trees are being removed. Where possible, wood is still being left for Town residents. Feel free to take cut wood next to the road. Please do not use saw. Wood should already be cut to length.

Respectfully submitted,

PETER CURTIN, **Tree Warden**

Building Inspector

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The following building permits were issued and fees collected for the year 2003.

Permit Category		Value
New Homes	13	\$4,442,000.00
Additions & Alterations	78	3,096,441.76
Decks & Porches	6	323,240.00
Garages & Outbuildings	17	500,260.00
Foundations & Foundation Repairs	6	102,000.00
Pools	4	252,900.00
Roofs	11	189,600.00
Inspections/Certificates	41	2,185.00
Demolition Permits	9	315.00
<hr/>		
Total Construction Spending		\$ 18,783,018.52
Permit Fees		\$53,604.67
Total Building Permits	144	
All other permits	41	

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD (NED) BALDWIN

Building Inspector/Building Commissioner

Stockbridge Historical Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

During the past year, the Stockbridge Historical Commission worked to identify issues of concern relating to historic preservation for the Town. The Chairman joined the Task Force on Historic Preservation established at the 2002 Town Meeting. Another member of the Task Force, Peter Williams, and the Chairman prepared a successful grant application to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for Preservation Planning Direct Assistance. The award will give the town a Preservation Planning Survey to provide direction for local historic preservation planning initiatives. An additional application to the MHC for a Pre-Development Plan for the restoration of the Town Hall, written by Tom Stokes and the Chairman, was not funded by the state. Final approval of the National Register Historic District nomination for Elm Street, Maple Street, and a portion of South Street is pending in Washington, DC.

Respectively submitted,

LINDA W. JACKSON, **Chairman**

MARIA CARR

PAULINE D. PIERCE

MARTIN TORODASH

Conservation Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Conservation Commission's primary goal is to successfully maintain the balance between the protection of our natural resources and scenic beauty, and inevitable growth. If we do our job well, everyone benefits - residents, wildlife, open space, recreation and visitors alike.

The commission is pleased to have as its newest member Steve Shatz whose expertise and knowledge in the legal field has proved most valuable. We are fortunate to have within the current commission an excellent mix of talent, dedication and expertise.

New state regulations now make it possible for conservation commissions to avail themselves of outside consultants and experts to assist them in assessing complicated submissions or difficult issues. Here in Berkshire County, we also have a highly qualified Conservation Agent readily available to us through the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, who has already proved to be a significant resource.

Over the course of this past year, we have processed many routine requests for certificates of compliance, NOIs and RDAS, several resubmissions, and, sadly, a few enforcement proceedings. We welcome suggestions, input and participation from all citizens of the Town so that we may help you through your permitting process and answer questions you may have regarding the requirements of the wetlands Protection Act and Scenic Mountains Act.

Respectfully submitted,

SALLY UNDERWOOD-MILLER, **Chair**

JOE DEGIORGIS

DON DENO

JOHN HART

CATHY PLAKUN

STEVE SHATZ

GEORGE SHIPPEY

Stockbridge Cultural Council

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Cultural Council received 32 applications that were seeking funding for this year's grant cycle totaling \$15,416.00. Due to cuts in the state budget the funding for the council was decreased to an allotment of \$2000.00 for the 2003 fiscal year and remained level for the 2004 fiscal year. The council had an additional amount of \$495.00 that was left over from unclaimed grants was re-granted for this funding cycle.

Ten projects were selected and approved for partial funding by the council. The recipients are as follows:

Children's Health Program, Inc.
Mass Audubon Society/Berkshire Sanctuaries
Berkshire Bach Society
The Trustees of Reservations
Shakespeare and Company
Berkshire Theatre Festival
Community Access to the Arts
Sculpture Now
IS 183 Art School of the Berkshires
John Root

If you are interested in making a contribution to the Stockbridge Cultural Council to help support the many worthwhile projects in our community please send to Stockbridge Cultural Council, c/o Town Hall. P.O. Box 417 - Stockbridge MA 01262 or contact a member of the Council for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

DAWN LANE, **Co-Chair**
ALLISON RACHELE BAYLES, **Co-Chair**
LINDA BARBADORO, **Treasurer**
SHIRLEY BLANCHARD
SARAH HORNE
CHERYL HUTTO
BELLE FOX MARTIN
JULIE MCCARTHY
JANICE SHIELDS

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Town has been working with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) for the past two years to complete a Community Development Plan. The planning work was funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, and the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs through the Community Preservation Initiative (Executive Order 418).

The Community Development Plan is intended to address Stockbridge's concerns regarding future growth and development. The plan focuses specifically on the areas of open space/resource protection, housing, economic development and transportation issues. In 2000 BRPC presented the Town with a build-out analysis that projected what the town might look in the future in the event of unmanaged growth. In 2001 the Town decided to participate in the Community Development Plan (CDP) Program and the Select Board appointed an advisory committee of local residents to guide the CDP.

The Advisory committee held separate meetings on each of the topic areas to review relevant data and determine key issues. Some of the key activities that have been completed, or are currently underway include:

Housing

- Site Plan Development for the Pinewoods Affordable Housing Project

Transportation

- Creation of an "Official Map" that identifies road ownership, maintenance responsibilities and clarification of development rights
- Town Center Transportation Study that reviews downtown traffic issues and offers recommendations for improvements

Economic Development

- Preliminary Site Assessment of the Industrial Park in Stockbridge

Open Space and Resource Protection

- Update of sections of the Town's Open Space Plan
- Preparation of CIS-based Resource Maps

Based on the Advisory Committee's review, analysis and guidance, the items above will be incorporated into a Community Development Plan document. The document will present a number of local goals, objectives and recommended actions. This Plan will be completed by June 2004 and will be available to the public and on-line.

Respectfully submitted,

BARBARA L. COHEN-HOBBS, **Delegate**
CRAIG BERGER, **Alternate**

Memorial Day Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

Memorial Day, May 26, 2003, was memorable in many ways this year. Planning began early and included procedures and activities designed to increase Town participation. Town Veteran's received a personal mailing inviting them to join in our planned events. Early in the week, Veteran's gravesites were decorated with American flags and Monday morning memorial prayers and Taps were offered at the cemeteries. The parade time was moved to Noon followed by our traditional ceremony at Town Hall and this year a family picnic on the Town Green at the ceremony's conclusion. One of our Viet Nam Veterans bought American flags for distribution to parade goers along the roadside. Flybys of fighter jets from the National Guard in Westfield and Vermont were scheduled to take place during the events. Everything was in place for a grand event until the rains came and came. Other towns cancelled their parades or moved indoors. The National Guards called in regrets due to inclement weather but the Town of Stockbridge, noted for its hearty citizens, put on their rubber shoes, pulled out the umbrellas and carried on.

The program was held in the Town Hall lobby where a capacity crowd listened to a very special presentation. Our men's quartet, Quintessential, thrilled the group with acapella renditions of the National Anthem, "God Bless America" and "America the Beautiful". Schoolchildren Nicholas Dayal, Katie Williams and Stephen Andematten gave patriotic readings. Local Scholar, Educator and Activist, Homer Meade spoke most eloquently to us about "Sacrifices for the Good of the Greater Whole", recognizing the efforts of those who serve our country. This very moving tribute has been reprinted elsewhere in this Town Report.

Outside under a tent on the Town Green, people enjoyed good food and good company at the family picnic that we hope to have again next year. Maybe even the sun will shine.

Thanks are in order for the hard work of the Committee and everybody else who participated in making the day one we will long remember.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH COLEMAN
JORJA MARSDEN
JAKE DONOVAN
KEITH RAFTERY
MARY FLYNN
LINDY SEARING
DEBORAH MCMENAMY, **Chairman**

Memorial Day Address

Presented By Homer Meade

**May 26, 2003 - Stockbridge, Massachusetts
Sacrifices for the Good of the Greater Whole**

We have come here this Memorial Day to honor those who were willing and did serve their country, and, most importantly, we have come here this Memorial Day to honor those, whoever they were, who in serving their country gave the last full measure in sacrifice in defense of and to protect this nation.

We have come here to salute those who have marched down the Main Street of this town, those who have worn the uniform of this nation so proudly. We have come here to salute these veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America who are residents of Stockbridge, neighbors to us all, friends of our families and defenders of the principles upon which this nation was founded - the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

This nation of citizens, as is this town, is indebted to them beyond what my few words could ever express.

We have come this day, as so many have come in years gone by, to pay our respects, to pay homage, to salute the unselfishness of the soldiers, sailors, fliers, in short those who have stood ready to defend the Stars and Stripes at whatever the personal cost. And most especially we have come this day as hundreds of thousands - in deed millions of citizens across this country come and have come since 1868 on the other Memorial Days - to pay respects and to honor the sons and daughters of these United States of America who have given the last full measure in defense of their country.

It has been said that a man or woman has not lived until he has decided that for which he will die. And it is further said that although he or she may live to the age of 90, if that decision has not been made, then the mere cessation of breathing is only a belated announcement of the earlier death of the spirit.

The veterans whom we honor today - those with us in life and those with us in spirit - The veterans whom we honor today made that decision, and we, who have not worn the uniform, who have not answered a call to defend and protect this nation from threats from abroad or threats from within, must never let the passing of a Memorial Day come without our saluting those who have shared a brotherhood, that is brothers of arms, brothers sharing the same hardships, the same dangers; side by side. And too often, even in our memory, that brotherhood, in deed that fraternity has been soaked in the blood of the brave. Those bonds forged by the veteran are indestructible.

And so I am humbled to stand before you this day and offer these few words in memorial to so many who served for so long, to protect the rights of us all, and, no matter how many times they are thanked, the veteran is never thank enough. As I wrote down these halting words, a voice from days past came to me, speaking directly to me, so unexpectedly clear.

“On behalf of the President of the United States, and a grateful nation, it is my honor to present to you the colors of this nation which your father so honorably served.”

I remember my outstretched arms accepted the folded flag with the white stars ribbed by cross-stitching, the white stars outlined sharply by the contrast created as they lay against the field of blue. Hidden were the red and white stripes tucked within.

The weight of the cloth startled me. And then, with measured effort, I brought the flag to my chest and felt my heart beat against it. With one hand holding this flag so recently removed from the surface of my father’s casket, I saluted.

The draping of the veteran with the flag of his nation and, after folding, presenting it to the family is a small but such an important gesture that is given to only those who serve their nation. So many sacrifices made for the good of the greater whole.

And so in closing, I salute those who have carried the flag with distinction, have defended the flag with honor, have advanced the flag pride and have saluted the flag as patriots - veterans of the armed forces of the United States of America - I and all others gathered here this day salute you.

Stockbridge Historic Preservation Task Force

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Historic Preservation Task Force was established at the 2003 Town Meeting to develop a five-year historic preservation plan for Stockbridge and to report to the 2004 Town Meeting. The Task Force began meeting in September. Since then we have been awarded a Preservation Planning Summary grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, distributed a survey to Town voters, consulted with the Selectmen, Town Counsel, and Planning Board, and undertaken substantial research on the Town’s options.

Having reviewed the preliminary results of our town-wide survey, to which almost a third of Stockbridge voters responded, many with thoughtful and enlightening comments, it is clear that there is broad support for protecting historic buildings (over 80% in favor), and concern about the appropriateness

of new construction (79%). There is some wariness about design controls for new construction, for which 66% marked yes, but nearly 80% felt that the town should be able to prevent demolition or major alteration of historic structures. The idea of a Main Street Local Historic District was favored by 83%. The survey responses also confirmed our view that the Town's historic assets are widely spread out, extending far beyond the Main Street area.

Bearing these opinions in mind and noting the pressures the Town faces from "tear-downs", our first proposal is that the present Demolition Delay bylaw be amended to create a broader, more workable Stockbridge Historic Preservation Bylaw. This improved bylaw will give our community the possibility of protecting cherished Town landmarks from destruction or radical change. We hope you give these revisions full consideration.

We also hope to keep the Task Force going for another year. The bylaw change alone does not address the issues of preserving neighborhood character, open space, and significant landscapes which are priorities for the Town. We have just begun working with the Massachusetts Historical Commission on a summary preservation plan. We need to study further the effects of zoning and new design on our neighborhoods, and we need to consider revisiting the local historic district idea for Main Street. Finally, we need to monitor how well any new Town regulations may actually work.

Stockbridge is in the unique situation of having a wealth of historic resources to protect, and a blank slate when it comes to protection. We must work together to leave a community as beautiful as that which we have been given.

Respectfully submitted,

**The Stockbridge Historic
Preservation Task Force**

CARL SPRAGUE, **Chairman**
PETER WILLIAMS, **Secretary**
LINDA JACKSON, **Historical Commission**
JORJA-ANN MARSDEN, **Selectmen's Office**
SUE BONAK
MARTY BULLWINKEL
EVERETT JASSY
CAROLE OWENS
PAM SANDLER
ANDREA SAVANA
EILEEN TAFT

Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee

The Stockbridge Community Preservation Committee completed its first grant cycle. Our activities included a public hearing to seek input and to answer questions about our mission, which is to preserve historic structures, to protect open space, enhance outdoor recreation, and to facilitate affordable housing. We prepared and distributed a request for proposals, reviewed the proposals, and presented our funding recommendations to Town Meeting. They passed unanimously.

The Town made the following Community Preservation allocations: \$50,000 for affordable housing, \$45,000 for historic preservation, and \$30,000 for open space. In October 2003 we received our first check from the State Community Preservation Trust. As anticipated, it was for \$63,672, matching 100% the local Community Preservation revenue the Town collected during the previous fiscal year.

The largest grant was the \$50,000 predevelopment grant for the Pine Woods affordable housing project, just west of our waste-water treatment plant. It has enabled Construct to complete necessary planning, engineering, architectural, and permitting steps. Most importantly, with this strong showing of local support, this grant enabled Construct to obtain the needed construction funds. When completed, Pine Woods will be administered by the Stockbridge Housing Authority.

There were two grants for historic preservation: \$42,274 to the Town toward the restoration of the Chime Tower and \$2,726 to the Library for the restoration of the Jonathan Edwards desk. Of the \$30,000 set aside for open space, \$14,000 will be used by the Town to purchase a conservation restriction on the Pine Woods land. The restriction will insure screening along Route 102, protecting this scenic entry into our town center.

The Committee also prepared for the Town a grant proposal to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for a historic structure report and a preservation plan for Town Hall. Although this proposal was ultimately not accepted (fewer than 10% were), we do not think that the effort was wasted. The process we went through and the document we produced will hopefully be of help as we work with the Town to preserve and restore this landmark building.

The committee wishes to thank the taxpayers of Stockbridge for providing Community Preservation funds, our citizens for a remarkable sense of civic stewardship, and our Town Officials and personnel for their gracious help.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS H. STOKES, Chairman, representing the Selectmen
SUSAN KLEBL, Vice-Chairman, Finance Committee
MICHAEL BLAY, Treasurer, representing the Assessors
DAVID MCCARTHY, representing the Selectmen
ALLAN BLAU, Planning Board
SALLY UNDERWOOD-MILLER, Conservation Commission
LINDA W. JACKSON, Historical Commission
ROBERT FLOWER, Parks and Recreation
ANN BEACCO, Housing Authority

Laurel Hill Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The year 2003 has been the sesquicentennial year of this, the oldest existing village improvement society in the United States. Founded in 1853 by Mary Hopkins Goodrich, Laurel Hill has been responsible for the establishment and stewardship of many features of the village that Margaret French Cresson described as “. . .all a New England village should be, well-cared for, respectable, and utterly charming”.

Two very major projects were fully completed during this landmark year. In partnership with the Stockbridge Land Trust, Laurel Hill has acquired the Beacco Preserve, a 7.4 acre upland meadow and beaver pond providing easy access for canoes and kayaks to Agawam and Konkapot Brooks and the wetlands on the east side of Route 7 south of the village. This new parkland has been expanded with the very generous donation of two additional parcels from Joan Burkhard and Paul Klein. Together, these three recent acquisitions are the important first steps toward insuring that the open lands south of the village will remain in their natural condition in perpetuity.

The second very major accomplishment this year was the completion and dedication of the Mary V. Flynn trail, which follows the Housatonic River eastward from the far side of the Goodrich Memorial Bridge at the bottom of Park Street. Designed and built for Laurel Hill by Peter Jensen, the route follows an old trolley bed for much of its length, and offers over a mile of level trail in a peaceful natural setting for people of all ages and abilities. We are particularly proud of this new addition to the list of Laurel Hill parks and trails, and we encourage all to explore and enjoy it.

On August 16th, Laurel Hill Association members and guests assembled at the rostrum on Laurel Hill for the 150th Laurel Hill Day ceremonies and celebration. It was a grand and memorable occasion, made all the more so by the keynote speaker, past president and long time Laurel Hill trustee, Mary V. Flynn, who's remarks are reprinted herein below.

As we turn this corner at 150 years and consider the years ahead, we are thankful for the continuing support of our membership and grateful for the opportunity to continue our century and a half of work “. . .to improve the quality of life and of the environment in the town of Stockbridge.”

Respectfully submitted,

SHEPLEY W. EVANS, **President**

The Measure of the Years

*"For, Oh! If there be Elysium on earth
It is this, it is this."*

Thomas Moore was writing about his Ireland and I am talking about our Stockbridge. For me this is not only Laurel Hill Day but also Thanksgiving because I am thankful for so many things - for the honor of being chosen to be the speaker on this important anniversary, thankful to God for letting me live in the town I love for over four score years and thankful to have friends like you who are willing to listen to me one more time.

THE PAST

And now for a look at the passing parade, the past with its impact on the present and the future. Emily Dickinson observed, *"Who has not found the heaven below will fail of it above"* If this is true, now nice for us - we already have a foot in Paradise! As we remember all the Laurel Hill days that have gone by when speakers reminded us in one way or another that Stockbridge is heaven, it is difficult to realize that 150 years ago the town was quite different.

This was when Mary Hopkins Goodrich visited the grave of her grandmother, Electa Sergeant. She was appalled first at the unkempt condition of the cemetery and then, as astride her white horse, she rode down Main Street she observed the evidence of careless stewardship of her town. She saw deep ruts in the street, uncut grass and weeds along the side and in general a disregard of many amenities to make the town what it should be. She also saw the possibilities - an interval between the lovely Housatonic and the wooded hills, the handsome houses along the way, good beginnings for improvement. A woman of vision and determination, Mary decided to do something about it. And we know that she did. She advertised a meeting on Laurel Hill for the purpose of improving God's Acre and the streets and public places in town. The leading citizens of the town were there; the men spoke and later made plans for a village improvement society. Mary was allowed to speak only from the audience for it would be unseemly and forward for a lady to voice opinions from a public platform. The following week in August of 1853 the oldest village improvement society in the country was born.

The years passed and Mary's vision of a neat and lovely New England village became a reality. During those years many men and women were responsible for this transformation but because the idea originated with a woman I should like to pay tribute to two women whose love and work for the town must be acknowledged. When I was young I always noticed a lady with a beautiful hat at town meetings. She was Mabel Choate whose *"peaceful haven"*, Naumkeag, on Prospect Hill would at her demise be left for all of us to enjoy. She brought John Sergeant's Mission House from Eden Hill to the corner of Main and Casino Street (now Sergeant Street) when the Casino was moved to the foot of Yale Hill and became the Berkshire Playhouse.

Still later there was Margaret French Cresson whose love for Chesterwood and Stockbridge was evident to all who knew her. She shared her mother's description of the town when at the end of the century she first arrived in Stockbridge and walked down West Main Street.

"It was so complete, the superb tree-lined street, the trim God's Acre, the orthodox church, the river, the magnificent view and the picturesque little Indian burying ground. It is all a New England village should be, well cared for, respectable and utterly charming. "

It was Peggy who looked back in 1953 to the beginning of the Laurel Hill Association and wrote about that century in a charming little book which the Association is having republished this year so that you can own a copy. Peggy spoke of the present and her belief that if Mary Hopkins Goodrich could return she would be content to see her Stockbridge still continuing as the lovely village she envisioned a century before.

"She would feel at home in her village, especially in the spring when the daffodils and crocuses are dotting the grass on people's lawns - and again in the autumn when the maples are all golden against the blue of the sky—. It would all be home to her because it had changed so little. And surely her heart would well up with rejoicing because of the vision she had of a trim and pretty New England town is still continuing."

THE PRESENT

The years roll by and here we are in the present with the challenges of today. There is no resting on the achievements of the past. The trees and flowers will still be planted, young people will be encouraged to protect the environment, Laurel Hill will keep watch on the appearance of the town. But I suggest to you that there is a greater challenge today. Willa Cather observed that

"We come and go, but the land is always here. And the people who love it and understand it are the people who own it -for a little while."

History did not begin with us nor will it end with us. While we are here we must do our part to guard and defend what we cherish. It takes eternal vigilance. Eden was once lost and it can be again. In my opinion the great challenge facing us today is the ability to cope with the loss of community. James Kunstler in "The Geography of Nowhere" deplored the loss of community in a stereotyped society.

If there are "*adversaries at the gate*" how do we recognize them and how do we deal with them? Our state, for instance, treats all 351 municipalities as if they were alike - all communities must adhere to the same dictates handed down from Boston. All children must be treated the same and pass the same tests regardless of different talents possessed by each.

How can a small town take a stand? What is the beginning of the end of community? The loss of a church - the loss of our school - no longer seeing our children on the streets of the town, but part of the urban sprawl on a major highway - the loss of town hall with traditional town meetings now held here and there. To deplore these losses is not just nostalgia - it is respect for tradition. Changes, of course, must come. But we must regulate change and weigh it against what we wish to preserve.

A community is home to all people - all races, religions, young and old, Democrat - and yes - Republicans, those newly arrived and those who were granted the great good fortune of always living here. Community is also the intangibles - the care and concern for others, the socializing at the post office,

the presence at baptisms, marriages and the final farewells, the pleasure of remembering the great men and women who have gone before us. We are the beneficiaries of a goodly inheritance. I ask that we meet the challenge of preserving this heritage so that our children can enjoy these blessings.

THE FUTURE

You may ask if I am pessimistic. I think more concerned. But I have to believe that Stockbridge will always be Stockbridge - that an inner integrity will remain. We have at the present good people at our helm and the best must continue to be elected. I believe with Mr. Rutledge:

*"Like the gold stillness of an afterglow
The past gleams radiant. 'They were better days,
With gentleness and grace of long ago,
Like childhood's gladness in its innocent ways.'*

*Yet all the joy that earth has ever known
Is with us now to make existence sweet,
The nightingale of Keats has never flown,
And Shelly's lark still sings above the wheat."*

In conclusion, I'd like to think again of the words I wrote fourteen years ago in the epilogue of "The Stockbridge Story." I recalled how one of my favorite poets, William Wordsworth, felt about his beloved Lake District. He recalled the glory of the past with nostalgia and decried the loss of the "splendor in the grass, the glory in the flower" but "we will grieve not, but rather find strength in what remains."

And so we have faith that the present still has the virtues of the past. "The innocent brightness of a new-born day is lovely yet." The future is bright with hope - "thanks to the human heart by which we live."

MARY V. FLYNN
Laurel Hill Day
August 16, 2003

Laurel Hill Properties

RR Station Park
Roeder Park
Goodrich Park
Dwight Meadow
Memorial Bridge

Pagenstecker Park
Laurel Hill
Bowkers Woods
Deeley Lot
Cat and Dog Fountain

Field Arboretum
Sedgwick Reservation
Tuckerman Meadow
Laura's Tower
Watering Trough

Compiled by Rush Taggart
From the Records of the Laurel Hill Association

Stockbridge Land Trust

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

The Stockbridge Land Trust, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving open space and the character of the landscape surrounding Stockbridge, broadened its scope in 2003. In partnership with the town's Affordable Housing Committee, the Conservation Commission and the Community Preservation Committee, the land trust made it possible for Construct, a non-profit affordable housing organization, to purchase a site on Route 102 for use as affordable housing. The project, which includes the rehabilitation of an existing building and the construction of new housing units, will be visually screened from Route 102 with vegetation, under terms of a conservation restriction held by the land trust. As part of that project, the Land Trust will acquire and place under permanent protection, 11 acres of wetlands along Larrywaug Brook at the confluence of the Housatonic River.

In conjunction with the Laurel Hill Association, the land trust last year continued its work to secure permanent protection of the road frontage on Route 7 along the southern approach to Stockbridge. To that end, the land trust received gifts of land from Paul Klein and Daniel and Joan Burkhard. The land is located along Route 7, directly north of, and contiguous to, the Beacco Preserve, which the land trust and the Laurel Hill Association acquired in 2002. The new gifts will be protected in perpetuity by both organizations.

Also in 2003, the land trust completed its annual monitoring of conservation restrictions it holds. The conservation restrictions comprise nine properties. The land trust also continued to support the Berkshire Natural Resource Council in its efforts.

The land trust is grateful to members whose support has allowed it to pursue open space initiatives. For 17 years now, the land trust has been dedicated to help preserve the very things that make the Berkshires special. But it can only be successful through the help of property owners who seek to safeguard their land for the future. Deeding property to conservation organizations is one way to preserve property. Another method is to give a conservation restriction covering all or a portion of a property to the Land Trust. This allows the owner to preserve and occupy the land, achieve a substantial tax deduction, and maintain ownership of the property.

To become a member of the land trust or to learn more about ways to preserve property, contact the Land Trust at PO Box 1063, Stockbridge MA 01262.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Directors of the Stockbridge Land Trust

PETER BERLE, **President**

JONATHAN GRAY

SALLY BEGLEY

SHEP EVANS

GENE HENDRIX

JOHN HYSON

TIM MINKLER

FELIX CARROLL

JIM MURRAY

BUCK SMITH

CARL SPRAGUE

TOM STOKES

CLOVER SWANN

JESSICA MURRAY, **Executive Asst.**

Stockbridge Bowl Association

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

On August 30, 1946, the Stockbridge Bowl Association was formed to protect the natural beauty of the Stockbridge Bowl and its watershed, and set standards to aid the general cause of conservation. The board of directors of the SBA and its membership work toward fulfilling this mandate. Currently we have 25 board members and over 500 members.

Over the winter of 2002-2003, the new flood gate was installed and was put to use this winter. In the fall we had so much rain that the lake water level was a foot higher than we have ever seen it. The flood gate was able to let more water out of the lake but due to the very wet conditions we were still unable to achieve a drawdown.

The letter of conditions for the Lake Management was completed by the Conservation Commission and forwarded to the state departments which oversee this area. We are in hopes that over the next few months approvals will be forthcoming and we will be able to continue with our Lake Management objectives.

Last year the state required that we video the underwater vegetation to monitor noticeable changes from year to year. This requirement was part of the harvesting request. The SBA purchased an underwater video camera so we can do the recording ourselves and not have to have experts come in each year. This equipment will be made available to other lakes in the area that will be required to monitor vegetation as a requirement to continue harvesting.

Membership to the SBA is open and we encourage anyone interested in maintaining the beauty of the lake and protecting it for generations to become a member. Our address is SBA, P.O. Box 118, Stockbridge, MA 01262.

The SBA owns the island and Bullard Woods, which is just west of Camp Mahkeenac. Both are open to the public and we encourage you to come and walk both properties and enjoy their pristine beauty.

The SBA would like to thank the Town of Stockbridge, the Selectmen and all the commissions with whom we work for the tireless efforts in matters related to the lake and the surrounding watershed.

Respectfully submitted,

GARY KLEINERMAN
President

Finances



The first Wood Pulp Mill in the United States was erected on this site by Albrecht Pacensteher - Property of Laurel Hill

—*Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection*



Town Accountant's Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Stockbridge:

I herewith submit the Annual Report of the Town Accountant for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2003.

Please find that the report consists of the following:

Combined Balance Sheet
Special Revenue Fund Statement
Trust Fund Statement
Agency Fund Statement
Statement of Revenues
Statement of Expenses
Capital Projects

Respectfully submitted,

ELAINE MARKHAM
Town Accountant



Station Park - Property of Laurel Hill
—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Town of Stockbridge
Balance Sheet - June 30, 2003

	GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS			FIDUCIARY FUNDS			Totals
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Projects Funds	Trust Funds	Agency Funds	Long-Term Debt	
ASSETS							7,294,385
Cash	3,472,914	653,440	88,763	3,011,287	67,980		
Receivable							
Personal Property Taxes FY2003	1,914						1,914
Personal Property Taxes Prior Years	67						67
Real Estate Taxes FY2003	78,193						78,193
Real Estate Taxes Prior Year	13,202						13,202
Motor Vehicle Taxes	36,798						36,798
Tax Liens	2,800						2,800
Farm Animal Excise	0						0
Chapter 90 Roads Receivable	0						0
Community Preservation FY2003		1,150					1,150
Overlays	(218,752)						(218,752)
Water Rates and Special		20,526					20,526
Sewer Rates and Special		23,699					23,699
Water/Sewer Liens added to tax		0					0
Amounts to be provided for					1,448,275		1,448,275
Due from Stabilization							0
TOTAL ASSETS	3,387,137	698,815	88,763	3,011,287	67,980	1,448,275	8,702,257

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

Liabilities

Water Treatment Plant Loan					1,448,275	1,448,275
Due to Capital Projects					0	0
Deferred Revenue	(85,777)	45,375			(40,403)	(40,403)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	(85,777)	45,375	0	0	1,448,275	1,407,872

FUND EQUITY

Reserved for Expenditures	0	92,000				92,000
Reserved for Encumbrances	110,816	15,428				126,244
Reserved for Encumbrance/Spec. Arts.	818,138	140,971				
Reserved for Over/Under	0	0				0
Reserved for Deficits	0	28,491				
Waterline Gift		144,455			67,980	
Designated	0	88,763	3,011,287			
Unreserved	2,543,961	232,095				
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	3,472,914	653,440	3,011,287	67,980	0	7,294,385
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	3,387,137	698,815	3,011,287	67,980	1,448,275	8,702,257

Special Revenue Funds

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

Funds	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Ending Balance
WATER & SEWER				
Water	251,336	173,703	(190,401)	234,638
Waterline Gift	34,757		(6,265)	28,492
Sewer	395,359	227,628	(428,630)	194,357
Total Water & Sewer	681,452	401,331	(625,296)	457,487
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION				
Reserved: Open Space	0	36,485		36,485
Reserved: Historic Resources	0	51,485		51,485
Reserved: Community Housing	0	56,485		56,485
Gifts	0	1,619	(501)	1,118
Undesignated Fund Balance	0	63,061	(144,455)	(81,395)
TOTALS:	0	209,134	(144,956)	64,179
GRANTS				
Arts Lottery Grant	3,974	2,084	(4,313)	1,745
EOCD: Recycling	9,973	4,388		14,361
Elder Affairs	5,843	3,219	(1,560)	7,502
Tri-town Recycling Grant	0	300	(300)	0
Mass. Turnpike Grant	(7,200)	7,200		0
Library Grant	0	4,016	(4,016)	0
Elections: Extended Polling Grant	0	756	(756)	0
Lake/Pond Grant	5,000			5,000
Community Police Grant	9,308	10,000	(10,795)	8,513
MA DARE Grant	1,226	0	0	1,226
Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant/Federal	0	8,514	(8,514)	0

Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant/State	0	15,000	(15,000)	0
Police Public Safety Equipment Grant	0	15,500	(15,500)	0
FID Card Collections	2,463	850	(300)	3,013
Total Grants	30,587	71,827	(61,054)	41,360

OTHER REVOLVING FUNDS	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
MARIAN FATHERS GIFT	60		(60)	0
CATV LOCAL BROADCAST	5,100			5,100
Wetland Protection Act	15,629	2,685	(2,126)	16,188
Insurance reimbursement more than 20,000	560	1,500	(2,060)	0
Conservation Erosion Books	40	0		40
Contaminated Fix/Equip Disposal	170	65		235
Total Other Revolving Funds	21,559	4,250	(4,246)	21,563

GIFTS	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
Tenneco Gas Gift	67,725	0	0	67,725
Tree Gift	350	0	0	350
Streetscape Project Gifts	200	0	0	200
Police Gifts	0	675	(125)	550
Parks & Recreation Gifts	802		(773)	29
Total Gifts	69,077	675	(898)	68,854

TOTAL OF FUNDS # 10 THRU # 29 653,443

Trust Funds

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

Funds	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Transfers in	Transfers out	Ending Balance
Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$342,663	\$12,210			\$354,873
Conservation Trust Fund	21,880	556			22,436
War Memorial Trust Fund	1,053	25			1,078
DD Field Chime Tower	1,180	26			1,206
Stockbridge Bowl Fund	81,577	2,002	15,000		98,579
Merwin Trust	34,887	850			35,737
Treadway Scholarship Fund	0	74,765		1,600	73,165
Stabilization - Unreserved	2,363,410	60,801			2,424,211
Stabilization - Reserved					0
Totals	2,846,650	151,235	15,000	1,600	3,011,285

Capital Projects

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Ending Balance
Water Treatment Plant	\$62,064			62,064
Sewer Treatment Expansion	\$277,441	222,500	(473,242)	26,699
Total Capital Projects	\$339,505	222,500	(473,242)	88,763

Agency Funds

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

Funds	Beginning Balance	Credits Receipts	Debits Expenses	Ending Balance
Federal Withholding Tax	\$0	\$126,190	\$126,190	\$0
FICA Withholding Tax	0	6,613	6,613	0
Medicare Withholding Tax	0	11,709	11,709	0
State Withholding Tax	0	56,248	56,248	0
Retirement Withholding	1,286	71,706	71,582	1,410
ING Withholding	0	59,090	59,090	0
Insurance Withholding	999	56,276	53,673	3,602
Life Insurance Withholding	2	12,552	12,474	81
Union Dues Withholding	56	2,486	2,484	58
United Way	3	703	635	71
Court Ordered Deductions	0	47,892	47,892	0
Due to County of Berkshires	613			
Performance Bonds	12,788	2,702	613	15,490
Sub-totals	15,748	454,167	449,202	20,713
Police Outside Detail	4,768	80,792	38,293	47,267
Totals	20,516	534,959	487,495	67,980

Revenues

For the Year Ended June 30, 2003

General Property Taxes		Totals
Personal Property Current Year	\$ 242,868	
Prior Years	3,874	246,742
Real Estate Current Year	3,368,659	
Prior Years	80,700	3,449,358
Tax Liens Redeemed	14,371	
Motor Vehicle Excise Current Calendar Year	208,845	
Prior Years	59,738	268,583
Farm Animal Excise	0	
Classified Forest Land	0	
In Lieu of Taxes	49,000	
Interest on Taxes and Excise	62,159	
Hotel and Motel Tax	271,042	
Sub-total General Property Tax		4,361,256
Charges for Services		
Cemetery	3,775	
Building Permits	72,112	
Plumbing Permits	3,183	
Electrical Permits	4,745	
Gas Permits	1,267	
Special Permits	3,050	
Board of Health Permits	20,721	
Other Licenses/Permits	325	
Room Rental Permits	230	
<u>Fees</u>		
Municipal Lien Fees	6,100	
Telephone Booth Commissions	13	
Cable Television	615	
Compactor Fees	19,893	
<u>Other Charges for services</u>		
Compactor Stickers	7,010	
Conservation Commission		
Zoning By-Laws	404	
Board of Appeals	0	
Photocopies	993	
Town Clerk	2,889	
Street Lists	149	
Beach	20	
Parking Clerk:Fines	220	
Handgun Permits		
Police Reports	375	
Council on Aging	0	
Other Fees		
Sub-total Charges for Services		148,087

Other Licenses and Permits

Dog licenses	798	
Alcoholic	8,430	
Tag Sale	330	
Other Licenses	4,205	
		<hr/>
Sub-total Licenses and Permits		13,763

Revenues from State (Cherry Sheet)

Abatements to Veterans	9,939	
Abatements to Surviving Spouses	0	
Abatements to the Blind	0	
Abatements to the Elderly	6,480	
State Owned Land	3,254	
Lottery, Beano, Charity	99,672	
Highway Fund		
Highway Reconstruction		
		<hr/>
Sub-total State Revenues		119,345

Revenue from Other Governments

Fines and Forfeits	12,925	
District Court Fines	1,430	
Compactor Recycling Reimbursement	0	
Veterans' Reimbursement Benefits	2,456	
Highway Dept. reimbursement	80,724	
		<hr/>
Sub-total Other Government Revenue		97,535

Miscellaneous Revenue

250th Anniversary Books	337	
Earnings on Investments	80,067	
Rentals	220	
Other Miscellaneous	47,720	
		<hr/>
Sub-total Miscellaneous Revenue		128,343

Total General Fund Revenues**4,868,330****Special Revenue Funds**

Water User Fees	157,484	
Water Special	12,933	
Water Interest & Penalties	1,003	
Water Liens added to tax	0	
Water Connection Fees	2,240	
Water Other Fees	43	
		<hr/>
Total Water Fund Revenues		173,703

Sewer User Fees	146,208	
Sewer Special	73,225	
Sewer Interest & Penalties	1,036	
Sewer Connection Fees	5,300	
Sewer Other Fees	1,859	
		<hr/>

Total Sewer Fund Revenues**227,628**

Community Preservation Tax	62,686	
Community Preservation Gifts	1,619	
Community Preservation Interest & Penalties	155	
Community Preservation Investment Income	384	
Total Community Preservation Revenues		64,844
Total Revenues		5,269,661

**Town of Stockbridge
Expenses
For Year Ended June 30, 2003**

General Government		Subtotals	Totals
Moderator			
Salary	165	165	
Dues/Subscriptions		0	165
Selectmen			
Salaries	11,490	11,490	
Legal Advertising	3,048		
Printing	200		
Postage	109		
Cable Advisory	671		
Petty Cash	90		
Other Charges	2,223		
Meetings/In-State Travel	288		
Dues & Memberships	1,460		
School/Training	638		
Carryover from Prior year	1,594	10,321	21,811
Executive Secretary			
Salary	38,176	38,176	38,176
Finance Committee			
Salary	1,313	1,313	
Dues/Subscriptions	322	322	1,635
Town Accountant			
Salary	31,325	31,325	
Postage	0		
Audit	7,450		
Office Supplies	136		
Other Charges & Expenses	91		
Meetings/In-State Travel	457		
Dues/Subscriptions	40		
School/Training	1,453	9,628	40,953

Assessors			
Salaries	69,012	69,012	
Registry of Deeds	74		
Maps	1,195		
Postage	450		
Office Supplies	501		
Forms	0		
Meetings/In-State Travel	1,139		
Dues & Subscriptions	472		
Certification Fee	1,000		
		4,830	73,842
Assessors Property Revaluation			
ATM Special Article	11,138	11,138	11,138
Treasurer			
Salary	17,138	17,138	
Repairs/Maintenance	668		
Bank Service Charges	157		
Payroll Service	3,391		
Postage	650		
Office Supplies	277		
Forms	322		
Other Charges	97		
Meetings/In-State Travel	781		
Dues/Subscriptions	10		
School/Training	0		
Certification Fee	1,000	7,353	24,490
Collector			
Salaries	53,353	53,353	
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	500		
Postage Meter Rental	1,838		
Service	2,810		
Postage	2,500		
Office Supplies	820		
Forms	105		
Other Charges and Expenses	252		
Meetings/In-state Travel	1,099		
Dues/Subscriptions	110		
School/Training	663		
Certification Fee	1,000		
Interest on Refunded Taxes	36		
Purchase of Equipment	0		
Carryover	230	11,963	65,316
Tax Collection Software	1,000	1,000	1,000
ATM Special Article			
Legal Department			
Town Counsel	24,785		
Legal Expenses	65	24,850	24,850

Municipal Group Purchasing			
ATM Special Article	400	400	400
Town Clerk			
Salary	13,304	13,304	
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	113		
Printing	36		
Postage	305		
Supplies	339		
Computer Supplies	0		
Meetings/In-State Travel	1,437		
Dues/Subscriptions	145		
Carryover from prior year	169	2,544	15,848
Elections & Registration			
Salaries	10,175	10,175	
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	275		
Printing	275		
Postage	632		
Voting Machine Ballots	3,459		
Forms	42		
Carryover from prior year	1,341	6,024	16,199
Conservation Commission			
Salary	4,000	4,000	
Legal Advertising	1,150		
Publishing	0		
Mapping	0		
Dues/Subscriptions	0		
School/Training	375		
Purchase of Equipment	236	1,761	5,761
Planning Board			
Salary	4,200	4,200	
Advertising	1,899		
Reprinting Zoning By-Law	0		
Postage	350		
Supplies	117		
Meetings/In-State Travel	0		
Dues/Subscriptions	154		
		2,519	6,719
Zoning Board			
Other Charges and Expenses	100	100	100
Open Space Plan			
Special Article	127	127	127
Town Hall Network			
Special Article	19,620	19,620	19,620
Town Hall			
Salaries	23,906	23,906	
Electricity	8,166		

Fuel	4,548		
Building Repairs	6,022		
Custodial Expense	16,487		
Litigation	27,570		
Maintenance Contracts	843		
Supplies	8,015		
Janitorial Supplies	544		
Carryover from prior year	13,566	85,761	109,667
Town Hall Software Licensing			
Special Article	34,554	34,554	34,554
Town Report			
Printing	4,941	4,941	4,941
Town Hall Computers			
Special Article	14,103	14,103	14,103
Geographic Information Systems			
Salary	31,379	31,379	
Telecommunication	49,363		
Computer Supplies	5,299		
GIS Supplies	4,442		
School/Training	3,894		
Purchase Equipment	3,850		
Purchase Software	1,117	67,965	99,344
Total General Government			630,758
Public Safety			
Police			
Salaries	364,703	364,703	
Repairs: Radio	1,580		
Repairs: Vehicles	3,247		
Uniforms	2,797		
Photography	118		
Communications	4,990		
Office Supplies	2,437		
Supplies	2,905		
Gasoline	10,437		
Parking Tickets	0		
Matching Funds for Grant	0		
Meetings/In-State Travel	741		
Dues/Subscriptions	2,111		
School/Training	7,060		
Purchase of Equipment	3,404	41,827	406,531
Police Cruiser	27,939	27,939	27,939
Special Article			
Police Computer Software	6,000	6,000	6,000
Special Article			

Police Computer System	56	56	56
Special Article			
Police Vests	5,094	5,094	5,094
Special Article			
Fire			
Salaries	8,190	8,190	
Electricity	1,399		
Fuel Oil/Gas	7,317		
Repairs	2,496		
Repairs: Radio	1,084		
Repairs: Building	12,341		
Painting	999		
Uniforms	611		
Janitorial Supplies	245		
Gasoline	1,009		
First Aid Supplies	648		
Dues/Subscriptions	0		
Carryover from prior year	7,459		
Hose	1,168		
Purchase of Equipment	1,171	37,946	46,136
Lee Volunteer Ambulance Squad			
Service Contract	7,000	7,000	7,000
Animal Control Officer			
Salary	3,780	3,780	
Veterinary Charges	0.0		
Supplies	25		
Other Charges & Expenses	175		
Kennel Operation	0	200	3,980
Building Inspector			
Salary	12,600	12,600	
Other Charges & Expenses	1,150		
School/Training	1,000	2,150	14,750
Gas Inspector			
Salaries	994	994	
Other Charges & Expenses	140	140	1,134
Plumbing Inspector			
Salaries	4,200	4,200	
Other Charges & Expenses	225	225	4,425
Electrical Inspector			
Salary	4,200	4,200	
Other Charges & Expenses	300	300	4,500
Emergency Management			
Repairs/Maintenance	0		
Other Charges & Expenses	20		
School/Training	561		
Purchase of Replacement Equip.	0	581	581

Emergency Management Special Equip. Special Article	1,865	1,865	1,865
Tree Warden Salary	1,449	1,449	
Tree Removals	18,216		
Planting, Feeding	6,784	25,000	26,449
Tree Purchase & Feeding ATM Special Article	7,287	7,287	7,287
Total Public Safety			563,727
Education			
Berkshire Hills Regional School District Intergovernmental	2,005,852	2,005,852	2,005,852
Total Education			2,005,852
Public Works			
Lawn Mower ATM Special Article	3,095	3,095	3,095
Dam Repairs ATM Special Article	243,400	243,400	243,400
South Street Enhancement Special Article	1,898	1,898	1,898
Highway Department Salaries	265,486	265,486	
Electricity	3,020		
Fuel Oil	2,168		
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	5,777		
Radio Repairs	75		
Building Repairs	1,236		
Engineering Services	9,190		
Rentals	2,225		
Uniforms	3,213		
Harvester Rental	277		
Harvester Expenses	2,204		
Sidewalks	0		
Roads	24,334		
Licenses	224		
CDL Drug Testing	140		
Woodwaste	1,901		
Carryover from prior year	10,050	66,034	331,520
Snow and Ice Control Service	42,043	42,043	42,043
Street Lights Electricity	24,812	24,812	24,812

Machinery			
Vehicle Repairs	27,779		
Supplies	6,609		
Gasoline	14,985		
Tires	2,221		
Plow Blades	0		
Purchase of Safety Equipment	183		
		51,777	51,777
Compactor			
Salaries	9,581	9,581	
Electricity	0		
Repairs	0		
Hauling	112,320	112,320	121,901
Rubbish Removal			
Service	1,000	1,000	1,000
Landfill Closure	16,641	16,641	16,641
Special Article			
Hazardous Household Waste Removal			
Special Article	2,974	2,974	2,974
Hydrant Rental			
Stockbridge	11,100		
Housatonic	1,320	12,420	12,420
Cemetery			
Salaries	10,828	10,828	
Repairs/Maintenance	828		
Repairs: Mowers	578		
Supplies	226		
Gas/Oil	77		
Purchase of Mowers/Trimmers	395	2,104	12,933
Repair of Cemetery Stones			
Special Article	9,676	9,676	9,676
Cemetery Stones			
ATM Special Article	2,100	2,100	2,100
Cemetery Roofs			
ATM Special Article	2,900	2,900	2,900
Cemetery Mower	5,000	5,000	5,000
ATM Special Article			
Total Public Works			886,089
Public Health			
Board of Health			
Salaries	2,640	2,640	
Printing	0		
Postage	0		
Health Education	300		

Meetings/In-State Travel	50		
Dues/Subscriptions	0	350	2,990
Health Officer			
Tri-Town Health	32,863	32,863	32,863
Visiting Nurse			
Lee VNA	6,864	6,864	6,864
Berkshire Mental Health			
BMHA	2,900	2,900	2,900
Council on Aging			
Salary	13,738	13,738	
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	517		
Garage Rental	300		
Postage	0		
Recreation Supplies	0		
Supplies	94		
Meetings/In-State Travel	424		
		1,335	15,073
Veterans' Services			
District Service	8,029		
Benefits		8,029	8,029
Affordable Housing			
ATM Special Article	735	735	735
Total Public Health			69,455
Culture and Recreation			
Library			
Stockbridge Library Association	83,790	83,790	83,790
Library Historical Matching Funds	50,000	50,000	50,000
Special Article			
Chime Tower			
Salary	736	736	
Repairs/Maintenance	0	0	736
Chime Tower Repairs			
Special Article	27,075	27,075	27,075
Stockbridge Bowl Fund			
Transfer	15,000	15,000	15,000
Parks and Recreation			
Salaries	8,560	8,560	
Electricity	653		
Water	200		
Repairs/Maintenance	477		
Recreation	0		
Sand	332		

Special Needs Recreation	0		
Signs	93		
Site Improvements	2,500		
Equipment	0		
Carryover from prior year	712		
		4,966	13,526
Historical Commission			
Consulting/Advisory	0		
Photography	13		
Office Supplies	0		
Supplies	0		
Meetings/Instate Travel	0	13	13
Memorial Day Committee			
Grave Markers	490		
Other Charges & Expenses	527		
		1,016	1,016
Total Culture & Recreation			191,157
Debt Service			
Debt Principal	60,345		
Debt Interest	67,888	128,233	128,233
Total Debt Service			128,233
State and County Charges			
State Assessments			
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,100		
Mosquito Control	28,767		
Air Pollution Control District	944		
Berkshire Regional Transit Auth.	33,731		
State Strap Assessment	6,214	70,756	70,756
Total State & County Charges			70,756
Miscellaneous Expenses			
Retirement Benefits			
Assessment	128,168	128,168	128,168
Unemployment Insurance	3,733		
Carryover	1,125	4,858	4,858
Employee Insurance			
FICA(Town Portion)	18,322		
Life Insurance	2,128		
Health Insurance	196,386		
Employee Insurance Reimbursement	4,000	220,836	220,836
Insurance			
Insurance Coverage	49,277		
Volunteer Firemen's	8,330		
Carryover	349	57,956	57,956

Stabilization Fund			
Transfer	0	0	0
Tax Refunds/Other Expense			
Personal Property	187		
Real Estate	5,836		
Motor Vehicle	2,826		
Farm Animal Excise	43		
Berkshire Regional Planning	1,279		
Other Revenue refunded	0	10,170	10,170
Total Miscellaneous			421,988
TOTAL GENERAL FUND			4,968,014
Water Department			
Salaries	53,233	53,233	
Electricity	32,393		
Fuel Oil	1,739		
Telephone	1,339		
Repairs/Maint Equipment	3,665		
Repairs Radio	871		
Repairs Vehicles	591		
Uniforms	550		
Pumping Station	873		
Water Testing	3,977		
Sludge Composting	4,823		
Postage	612		
Calibration for Valves	602		
Calibration for Charts	0		
Generator Service	608		
Meters	4,576		
Supplies	19,159		
Gasoline	678		
Chemicals	9,511		
SDWA Assessment	703		
School/Training	1,027		
Purchase of Safety Equipment	2,065	90,360	143,593
Water Tank Renovations			
ATM Special Article	6,634	6,634	6,634
Repairs Pumping Station			
ATM Special Article	1,055	1,055	1,055
Waterline Replacement			
ATM Special Article	17,734	17,734	17,734
Water Study			
ATM Special Article	12,000	12,000	12,000
Water Intake @ Lake Averic			
ATM Special Article	3,000	3,000	3,000

Water Pump & Screen House	2,386	2,386	2,386
ATM Special Article			
Water Analyzer	4,000	4,000	4,000
ATM Special Article			
Refunds/Gifts			
Water User Refunds			
Waterline Gift Expense	6,265	6,265	6,265
Total Water			196,667
Sewer Department			
Salaries	77,122	77,122	
Electricity	29,617		
Fuel Oil	3,001		
Telephone	1,815		
Repairs/Maintenance Equipment	13,795		
Repairs Vehicles	879		
Maintenance Contracts	725		
Uniforms	1,097		
Sludge Composting	15,100		
Supplies	13,910		
Ultraviolet Light Bulbs	1,310		
Gasoline	1,395		
Licenses	60		
Lee/Lenox Agreements	854		
Other Charges & Expenses	0		
School/Training	576		
Carryover from prior year	0		
Purchase of Safety Equipment	1,125	85,259	162,381
Maintain Park Street Lift Station			
ATM Special Article	575	575	575
Clarifier Maintenance			
ATM Special Article	8,836	8,836	8,836
Sewer manholes	7,930	7,930	7,930
ATM Special Article			
Sewerline Repairs	5,991	5,991	5,991
ATM Special Article			
Sewer Connection Refunds	19,400	19,400	19,400
ATM Special Article			
Refunds			
Sewer Rates Refunded	0	0	0
Total Sewer			205,113
Total Expenses All Departments			5,369,794

Board of Assessors

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The tax rate of \$9.71 for Fiscal Year 2004 was set and approved on October 14, 2003. There was an increase of \$1.11 in the Fiscal Year 2004 tax rate from the Fiscal Year 2003 tax rate.

The Tax Rate Recapitulation for Fiscal Year 2004 is as follows:

Gross Amount to be Raised	\$ 6,260,383.73
Total Estimated Receipts and other Revenue Sources	<u>2,031,088.00</u>
Tax Levy (net amount to be raised by taxation)	\$ 4,229,295.73
Real Property Valuations	\$406,072,700.00
Personal Property Valuations	<u>29,488,136.00</u>
Total Valuation	\$435,560,836.00

Tax Rate - \$9.71 per one thousand of value

Real Property Tax	\$ 3,942,965.93
Personal Property Tax	<u>286,329.80</u>
Total Taxes Levied on Property	\$ 4,229,295.73

Total Number of Parcels, Real Estate	1,750
Total Number of Personal Property Assessments	726
Total Number of Parcels, Exempt	180

In the summer of 2003, the town hired company, Vision Appraisal Technology continued to conduct inspections of the second third of the properties in the Town as part of a required three year data quality study.

These inspections include a full measure of the exterior of all outbuildings and an interior inspection. Digital photographs are also being taken of all properties to be included as part of the Assessor's database.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. MILLER, **Chairman**
CECILIA K. KILLFOILE
WILLIAM D. CAMPBELL
Board of Assessors

Town Collector's Report

Collections during the Fiscal Year 2003 remained strong with in excess of 98% of property taxes collected for the current year, and nearly 100% for prior years.

Contributing to this was the use of taxpayer payment agreements which allow delinquent taxpayers to avoid Tax Title proceedings by paying taxes and penalties within a specified time period. It was not necessary to place any new taxpayers in Tax Title during the preceding year.

Overall collections by the Town Collector's Office are \$63,124 higher than the previous year. The higher level of Real Estate Collections more than offset the lower Motor Vehicle and PILOT receipts for the year.

The following information is provided to enable you to review major collection activity for the town:

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 6/30/03

Personal Property Tax:			
FY '01 & Prior	\$	2,023.25	
FY '02		1,881.09	
FY '03		242,868.13	
Total Personal Property			246,772.47
Real Estate Tax:			
FY '01 & Prior		33,800.77	
FY '02		46,898.82	
FY '03		3,368,658.83	
FY '03 CPA		62,686.13	
Total Real Estate			3,512,044.55
Motor Vehicle Tax			
FY '01 & Prior		6,240.42	
FY '02		53,497.43	
FY '03		216,218.41	
Total Motor Vehicle			275,956.26
Water Receipts:			
Water Rates		157,483.77	
Water Specials		12,933.34	
Total Water Receipts			170,417.11
Sewer Receipts:			
Sewer Rates		146,207.72	
Sewer Specials		73,225.00	
Total Sewer Receipts			219,432.72
Total Water And Sewer Utility Receipts			\$ 389,849.83

Payments in Lieu of Taxes:		
Austin Riggs Center	\$ 15,000.00	
BSO	24,000.00	
Kripalu (2 payments)	10,000.00	
Total Payment in Lieu of Taxes		49,000.00
Other:		
Tri-Town Board of Health	20,721.20	
Compactor Fees	19,892.50	
Municipal Liens	6,100.00	
Int. & Demand - Real Estate	22,726.08	
Int. & Demand - Motor Vehicle	16,266.33	
Int. & Demand - Water & Sewer	2,039.33	
Room Tax	271,042.00	
Total Other		358,788.08
Total Receipts		4,832,411.19

Real Estate Tax Review

FY '03	Receipts	\$3,368,658.83
	Exemptions/Abatements	16,816.62
	Refunds	-4,001.25
	Payments Due	<u>78,196.58</u>
	Total FY'03	\$3,459,670.78
FY '02	Receipts	\$3,403,061.76
	Exemptions/Abatements	16,491.21
	Refunds	27,621.08
	Tax Title	4,871.90
	Payments Due	<u>11,379.65</u>
	Total FY'02	\$3,463,425.60
FY '01	Receipts	\$3,395,655.88
	Exemptions/Abatements	17,166.00
	Refunds	5,568.24
	Tax Title	7,311.84
	Payments Due	<u>1,826.56</u>
	Total FY'01	\$3,427,528.52

Personal Property Tax Review

FY'03	Receipts	\$ 242,868.13
	Abatements	481.81
	Refunds	-124.15
	Payments Due	<u>1,915.09</u>
		\$ 245,140.88
FY '02	Receipts	\$ 241,589.79
	Abatements	742.48
	Refunds	-204.60
	Payments Due	<u>68.82</u>
	Total FY '02	\$ 242,196.49

FY '01	Receipts	\$ 227,189.29
	Abatements	2,993.82
	Refunds	-1,655.25
	Payments Due	<u>0.00</u>
	Total FY '01	\$ 228,527.86

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Review

FY '03	Receipts	\$ 216,218.41
	Abatements	5,014.02
	Refunds	-743.01
	Payments Due	<u>17,624.52</u>
	Total FY '03	\$ 238,113.94

FY '02	Receipts	\$ 268,578.70
	Abatements	9,057.55
	Refunds	-1,976.06
	Payments Due	<u>6,132.94</u>
	Total FY '02	\$ 281,793.13

FY '01	Receipts	\$ 270,926.50
	Abatements	9,063.51
	Refunds	-3,509.18
	Payments Due	<u>3,890.50</u>
	Total FY '01	\$ 280,371.33

Respectfully submitted,
JOSEPH P. RUGGIO, Town Collector



Roeder Park - Property of Laurel Hill
—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2003

Treasurer's Cash:

Berkshire Bank	(755,878.19)
Berkshire Bank Money Market	1,345,502.63
Berkshire Bank Arts Money Market	2,319.73
Berkshire Bank CPA Money Market	64,712.36
M.M.D.T.	1,401,123.51
Citizens Bank	110,016.48
Fleet	814,539.57
Banknorth	410,756.88
PaineWebber	638,583.58
Lenox National Bank CD	90,000.00
Legacy Banks CD	200,000.00
Unibank	1,731.28

Total Treasurer's Cash 4,323,407.83

Stabilization Fund:

M.M.D.T.	14,466.49
Legacy Banks CD	135,297.63
Berkshire Bank	117,481.23
FirstFed	1,548,067.51
Citizens Bank	558,896.93

Total Stabilization Fund 2,374,209.79

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund:

FirstFed	354,998.52
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Total Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund 354,998.52

Custodial Accounts:

FirstFed	170,771.22
Berk. Bank/Smith Barney (Treadway)	73,164.73

Total Custodial Accounts 243,935.95

TOTAL TREASURER'S INVESTMENTS 7,296,552.09

CUSTODIAL ACCOUNTS

Conservation Fund:

Beginning Balance	21,880.36
Interest	555.71
Ending Balance	<u>22,436.07</u>

D.D. Field Chime Tower Fund:

Beginning Balance	1,180.30
Interest	27.86
Ending Balance	<u>1,208.16</u>

Stockbridge Bowl Fund:	
Beginning Balance	66,576.50
Transfer (from General Fund)	30,000.00
Interest	2,002.47
Ending Balance	<u>98,578.97</u>
War Memorial Fund:	
Beginning Balance	1,053.00
Interest	25.35
Ending Balance	<u>1,078.35</u>
Merwin Trust:	
Beginning Balance	34,887.03
Interest	850.22
Ending Balance	<u>35,737.25</u>
Performance Bonds:	
Beginning Balance	9,030.28
Deposit	2,500.00
Interest	202.14
Ending Balance	<u>11,732.42</u>
Charles D. Treadway Scholarship Fund	
Beginning Balance	0.00
Deposit	71,169.65
Interest	1,995.08
Ending Balance	<u>73,164.73</u>
TOTAL CUSTODIAL FUNDS	243,935.95

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN T. WILLIAMS
Treasurer

Report of the Finance Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Stockbridge:

The financial condition of the Town of Stockbridge remains sound. The Certified Free Cash balance as of July 1, 2003 is \$2,325,210 and the Stabilization Fund balance as of June 30, 2003 holds \$2,424,211 an aggregate increase from the, previous year's balances. Additionally, the Sewer Available Surplus account as of June 30, 2003 stands at \$218,055 and the Water Available Surplus as of June 30, 2003 is \$283,656. However, the tax rate for FY 2004 rose to \$9.70 from \$8.60 the previous year in recognition of the commencement of debt service obligations for the new Berkshire Hills Regional School District building program and the Town sewer expansion project. The likely development of renovation plans for the former Plain School, now returned to Town ownership, and Town Hall will add further pressure to Town resources and the tax rate in coming fiscal years.

- During the 2003 Fiscal Year, the Finance Committee concentrated on the following-objectives:
- Coordinating the Departmental Budget review process with Selectmen. All Department heads presented their proposed budgets at combined Selectmen/Finance Committee review meetings.
- Improving and employing the new Long-range Capital Planning Analysis mechanism. The Town now has the ability to project capital expenditures and sources of funding 10 to 20 years into the future. This will assist importantly in setting capital spending priorities and stabilizing future capital/debt service burdens.
- Continuing to employ the State Dept. of Revenue Budget/Revenue/Expense/Tax projection system as a means to predict and control the tax rate throughout the Budget preparation process.
- Creating a Finance Committee Task Force to study and comprehend the BHRSD School District cost structure; its longer term consequences for the Town, and how it compares in cost and effectiveness to other regional school districts.
- Implementing the capital asset reporting requirements of the Government Accounting Standards Board as now required by State law. The work was accomplished internally at no cost to the Town and will be incorporated in the regular Town Audit for FY 2004 and subsequent years.

Respectfully submitted,

JEAN ROUSSEAU, **Chairman**

MARY BERTOCCI

RAYMOND R. BLAIR

JAMES MCMENAMY

JOHN MORSE

KEITH RAFFERTY

HOLLY HUGGINS RHIND

SUSAN KLEBL, **Associate**

Town Warrant



Laurel Hill Rostrum - Designed by Daniel Chester French as a memorial to Henry Dwight Sedgwick.

—Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

BERKSHIRE COUNTY

To one of the constables of the Town of Stockbridge in said county.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the

STOCKBRIDGE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB 24 WEST STOCKBRIDGE ROAD

in Stockbridge on **MONDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF MAY 2004** at six-thirty o'clock in the evening Eastern Daylight Time, for the following purposes, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose the following Town Offices viz: one Selectman for three years; one member of the Board of Assessors for three years; Town Clerk for three years; one member of the Board of Health for three years; one member of the Board of Sewer and Water Commissioners for three years; two members of the Planning Board for five years; Treasurer for one year; one member of the Parks and Recreation Commission for three years; one member of the Housing Authority for five years and one member of the Housing Authority for two years. All of said officers are to be voted for using the official ballots furnished the voters at the polls. The polls will be opened at Town Hall, 6 Main Street, at 8:00 o'clock a.m. and may be closed at 6:30 o'clock p.m. Action on the other articles in the warrant will be taken up at 6:30 o'clock p.m. at the Stockbridge Sportsmen's Club, 24 West Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge.

ARTICLE 2. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen at the Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3. To hear the report of any Town Officer or Committee, and to see if the Town will vote to accept all printed reports or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Chapter 41, section 108 of the General Laws as amended: Moderator, Selectmen, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Town Collector, Board Of Assessors, Board of Health, Tree Warden, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money therefor or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the following purposes or to take any other action in relation thereto:

- Section 1. MODERATOR
2. SELECTMEN'S DEPARTMENT
3. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
4. FINANCE DEPARTMENT
5. RESERVE FUND
6. ACCOUNTANT
7. ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT

8. TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT
9. TOWN COLLECTOR'S DEPARTMENT
10. LEGAL DEPARTMENT
11. TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
12. ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS
13. CONSERVATION COMMISSION
14. PLANNING BOARD
15. BOARD OF APPEALS
16. TOWN HALL
17. TOWN REPORT
18. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR
19. POLICE DEPARTMENT
20. FIRE DEPARTMENT
21. LEE AMBULANCE SERVICE
22. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
23. BUILDING INSPECTOR
24. GAS INSPECTOR
25. PLUMBING INSPECTOR
26. WIRE INSPECTOR
27. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
28. TREE WARDEN DEPARTMENT
29. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
30. ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
31. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
 - a.) MACHINERY
 - b.) COMPACTOR
 - c.) CEMETERY
32. STREETLIGHTS
33. TRASH REMOVAL
34. SEWER DEPARTMENT
35. WATER DEPARTMENT
36. HYDRANT RENTAL
37. HEALTH DEPARTMENT
 - a) BOARD OF HEALTH
 - b) HEALTH OFFICER
38. LEE REGIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION
39. MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES
40. COUNCIL ON AGING
41. VETERAN'S SERVICES
42. STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY
43. CHIME TOWER
44. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
45. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
46. MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE
47. HISTORIC DISTRICT
48. LONG-TERM DEBT
49. SHORT-TERM DEBT
50. BERKSHIRE REGIONAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM
51. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
52. BERKSHIRE COUNTY INSURANCE GROUP
53. INSURANCE
54. POLICE ANNUITY

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the assessment of the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money toward the Berkshire Hills Regional School District's capital cost of constructing the new school buildings, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase a four wheel drive vehicle for the Police Department, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase two radar units for the Police Department, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be placed in the special fund authorized by Section 53C of Chapter 44 of the General Laws to be used to compensate Town employees for off-duty work detail or special detail work services, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for measuring and inspecting one-third of the properties in Town in preparation for the complete revaluation for Fiscal Year 2006, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for an appraisal of the Hydro Plant, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to increase the Stabilization Fund, which sum is specified for the purchase of a fire truck, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Certified Free Cash, a sum of money to replenish the Stabilization Fund in an amount equal to the sum voted by Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting of September 22, 2003, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for blacktop for selected Town roads as determined by the Board of Selectmen and the Highway Superintendent, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Stabilization Fund, a sum of money to be added to monies previously transferred by Article 15 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting for the closure of the Landfill on Glendale Middle Road, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the Stockbridge Bowl Fund, established by Article 22 of the 1990 Annual Town Meeting pursuant to Chapter 40, section 5, clause 72 of the General Laws, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to resurface the tennis courts on Pine Street, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 17 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting by changing the stated purpose of the transfer authorized thereunder from “rebuild and/or extend certain water lines on public ways” to “purchase Radio Meters for the Water Department,” and to transfer an additional sum of money from Water Available Surplus for such purchase, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the construction of a new water storage tank, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus a sum of money, to provide for a portion of the cost of the debt service payment (principal and interest) of the Sewer System Expansion and Update Project authorized by Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting of April 1, 2002, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer Available Surplus, a sum of money for engineering, infiltration/inflow studies, and administrative costs required to complete the Sewer System Expansion and Upgrade Project authorized by Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting of April 1, 2002, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money as the Town’s share of the Fiscal Year 2005 expenses associated with the group purchasing program authorized by Article 25 of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the sums appropriated by Article 24 of the 1997 Annual Town Meeting, to meet the Town’s share of the cost of participating with other communities for the collection of household hazardous waste, or to take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee and pursuant to the Community Preservation Act, to:

- a. appropriate or transfer a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund Unreserved Balance, the Community Preservation Fund Housing Reserve, and/or revenues received from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund during FY2005, to provide financial assistance to Construct, Inc. for development costs associated with the Pine Woods project for affordable housing purposes;
- b. appropriate or transfer a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund Unreserved Balance, the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve, and/or revenues received from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund during FY2005, for repair and improvements of Town Hall for historic preservation purposes; and

- c. appropriate or transfer a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund Unreserved Balance, the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve, and/or revenues received from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund during FY2005, for the preservation of the Stockbridge Library Historical Room, for historic preservation purposes; and
- d. reserve a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund Unreserved Balance, and/or revenues received from the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund during FY2005 for open space purposes;

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to support a non-binding resolution stating its approval of the Community Preservation Committee's intention to recommend that the Town appropriate Community Preservation Fund revenues for development costs associated with the Pine Woods project for affordable housing at the 2005, 2006, 2007 Annual Town Meetings, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to create and purchase Town Flags one of which will be hung in the State House Hall of Flags, and others hung in selected Town Offices or made available for purchase from the Town, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws as follows:

- a. Renumbering the paragraphs of "Article V. Cemetery Regulations" as follows: renumbering "1. General Regulations" as "Section 1. General Regulations"; renumbering sections 1 through 5 thereof as subsections 1.1 through 1.5 respectively; renumbering "II. Interment Regulations" as "Section 2. Interment Regulations"; renumbering sections 1 and 2 thereof as subsections 2.1 and 2.2; renumbering "III. Financial Regulations" as "Section 3. Financial Regulations"; and renumbering Sections 1 through 3 thereof as subsections 3.1 through 3.3 respectively.
- b. Renumbering the first paragraph of "Article IX. Trash Disposal (Recycling)." as Section 1; renumbering paragraphs B through H thereof as Sections 2 through 8 respectively; and striking the word "section" from paragraph H (now Section 8) and replacing it with the word "Article."
- c. Renumbering subparagraphs a) through e) of Paragraph 2 of "Article XII. Earth Removal." as 2.1 through 2.5 respectively.
- d. Amending section 3.3(a) of "Article XIV Sewers and Drains" by replacing the word "naptha" with the word "naphtha".
- e. Renumbering subsections A through D of Section 1 of "Article XV. Licenses and Permits." as 1.1 through 1.4, respectively; renumbering the paragraphs following subsection D as Section 2 and 3 respectively; and striking the word "section" from the first line of each such paragraph (now Section) and replacing it with the word "Article."
- f. Renumbering the headings of "Article XVI. Stockbridge Bowl." by preceding "Operation of Motor Boats And Water Craft" with Section 2 and renumbering subsections 3.0 through 3.4 therein as 2.1 through 2.5 re-

spectively; by preceding “Harbor Master” with Section 3 and renumbering subsection 4.1 therein as 3.1; by preceding “Winter” with Section 4 and renumber subsections 5.1 through 5.3 therein as 4.1 through 4.3 respectively; by preceding “Violations” with Section 5 and renumbering subsection 6.1 therein as 5.1.

- g. Renumbering “Section 12. Hawkers, Peddlers and Transient Vendors.” as “Article XVIII. Hawkers, Peddlers and Transient Vendors.”
 - h. Renumbering “Article XVIII. Scenic Roads.” as “Article XIX. Scenic Roads.”
 - i. Renumbering “Article IX” pertaining to Water Use Restrictions as “Article XX. Water Use Restrictions.”; renumbering the second through fourth paragraphs of Section 1 thereof as 1.1 through 1.3 respectively; renumbering the first and second paragraphs of Section 2 thereof as 2.1 and 2.2, respectively; renumbering the first and second paragraphs of Section 3 thereof as 3.1 and 3.2, respectively; renumbering the first and second paragraphs of Section 5 thereof as 5.1 and 5.2, respectively.
 - j. Renumbering “Article X” pertaining to the Community Preservation Committee as “Article XXI. Community Preservation Committee”; renumbering the section thereof entitled “1. Establishment” as “Section 1. Establishment;” renumbering the first and second paragraphs of said Section as 1.1 and 1.2 respectively; renumbering the section entitled “2. Duties” as “Section 2. Duties;” and renumbering paragraphs A through C of said Section as 2.1 through 2.3, respectively; renumbering the section entitled “3. Amendments” as “Section 3. Amendments;” renumbering the section entitled “4. Severability” as “Section 4. Severability;” and renumbering the section entitled “5. Effective Date” as “Section 5. Effective Date.”
 - k. Renumbering “Article XIX” pertaining to demolition delay as “Article XXII. Demolition Delay.”
 - l. Amending any paragraph that is preceded by a lower-case letter by replacing said lower-case letter with its corresponding upper-case letter.
- or to take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws by:

- A. Striking the definition of “Bed & Breakfast” in its entirety from section 2.2 and replacing it with the following:

BED AND BREAKFAST: An accessory use to a dwelling occupied as the owner’s principal legal residence, in which at least one (1) and not more than five (5) rooms are commercially offered for transient occupancy of 90 calendar days or less.
- B. Striking the definitions of “Guest House” and “Motel” in their entirety from section 2.2.
- C. Striking the words “motel, guest house” from section 4.11.A.16.
- D. Striking section 4.11.A.18 in its entirety.
- E. Striking section 4.11.B.3 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

[B. Accessory Uses]	[R-4]	[R-2]	[R-1]	[R-C]	[B]	[M]
3. Bed and Breakfast, provided that no kitchen facilities are maintained in the rooms; the accessory use is for the purpose of overnight lodging and breakfast by registered guest-occupants exclusively; and the premises shall not be commercially offered for meetings, luncheons, banquets, parties, weddings, fund-raising activities or similar functions or events.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

F. Striking section 6.2.1.a in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

- a. Hotel—two (2) parking spaces, plus one (1) parking space for each sleeping room.

G. Striking the words “motel, guest house” from section 6.6.2.c.

H. Striking section 6.6.2.d in its entirety.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to amend section 6.5.4 of the Zoning Bylaws by striking said section in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

6.5.4. Applicability

a. Jurisdictional Activities

Within the LPOD, no person shall undertake any land use activity except pursuant to special permit approval by the Planning Board pursuant to the requirements of this section and Section 6.3 of this By-law.

For the purposes of this section, “land use activity” shall mean any construction or other activity that significantly changes the physical characteristics of land or structure or the physical or chemical characteristics of the wastewater produced therefrom, but excluding any exempt activities listed in paragraph b. Except as provided in paragraph b, “land use activity” shall include, but not be limited to: any new structure or non-exempt extension or alteration of an existing structure; any non-exempt removal of vegetation; any road or driveway; and any excavation for the purpose of removing earth materials.

b. Exempt Activities

The following activities do not require a special permit, but must nevertheless comply with the requirements of section 6.5.10:

- Any principal or accessory use, otherwise permitted by this By-law, to be located within an existing structure, provided that any extension or alteration of such structure does not increase the height of the structure and is no closer to the high water mark than the existing structure; the resulting structure complies with applicable yard, lot coverage and floor area requirements of sec-

tion 5.5 of this Bylaw, and the chemical characteristics of any wastewater produced from such use are not significantly changed;

- Ordinary repair or maintenance of, or interior alterations to, existing structures;
- Removal of dead, diseased or dying trees and vegetation;
- Ordinary pruning or maintenance of shrubs or trees;
- Other gardening uses that do not involve the cutting of shrubs or trees;
- Structures under one hundred (100) square feet in footprint area; and
- Recreational, municipal or governmental uses that, by their nature, must be located within the LPOD.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to amend section 6.5.5 of the Zoning Bylaws by striking the first asterisk and the phrase “The installation of any septic tank, leach field, or other on-site sewage disposal facility” therefrom, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by striking Article VII therefrom in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

Article VII Wetlands Protection

Section 1. The purpose of this Article is to protect the wetlands of the Town of Stockbridge by controlling activities deemed to have a significant or cumulative effect upon resource area values. These resource areas include, but are not limited to, the following: public or private water supply, groundwater, flood control, erosion and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention including, water pollution, fisheries, wildlife habitat, rare species habitat, including rare plant species, agriculture, aquaculture, recreation and esthetics.

The purpose of this Article is also to control activities deemed to have a significant effect on watershed resources or the preservation of natural scenic qualities within the mapped Scenic Mountain region defined pursuant to the Berkshire Scenic Mountain Act, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 39A.

No person shall remove, fill, dredge, build upon, degrade, discharge into, or otherwise alter any bank, wetland, marsh, meadow, bog, swamp, creek, river, stream, pond, reservoir, vernal pool or lake, or any lands bordering thereon, or any land under said waters or any land subject to flooding, other than in the course of maintaining, repairing or replacing, but not substantially changing or enlarging, an existing and lawfully located structure or facility used in the service of the public and used to provide electric, gas, water, telephone, telegraph and other telecommunication services, without filing written notice of that person’s intention so to remove, fill, dredge, build upon, degrade, discharge into, or otherwise alter and without receiving and complying with an order of conditions and provided all appeal periods have elapsed. Such notice shall be given to the Stockbridge Conservation Commission, including such plans as may be necessary to describe such proposed activity and its effect on the environment. The same notice, plans and specifications required to be

filed by an applicant under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40, will be accepted as fulfilling the requirements of this Article. The said Commission, in its discretion, may hear any oral presentation under this Article at the same public hearing required to be held under the provisions of said Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40. Definitions set forth in said section, and in the regulations made pursuant thereto, are hereby made a part of this Article.

Section 2. The term “preservation of natural scenic qualities” as used in this Article, shall mean the protection of existing aesthetic and/or historic features of the environment, as determined by the Commission.

The term “watershed” as used in this Article, shall mean a region or area within which all water drains ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.

Section 3. The Commission shall make a determination as to whether or not this Article applies to a specific situation prior to the filing of a written Notice of Intent under the provisions hereof within ten days of the receipt of a written request from any person desiring such determination. The Commission, its agent, officers and employees, may enter upon the land upon which the proposed work is to be done in response to a Request for Determination of Applicability or for the purpose of carrying out its duties under this Article. The Commission, its agent, officers and employees may make or cause to be made such examination or survey as deemed necessary to make a Determination of Applicability.

Section 4. The Conservation Commission is empowered to deny permission for any removal, dredging, filling, building upon, degrading, discharging into, or otherwise altering of subject lands within the Town if, in its judgment, such denial is necessary to preserve environmental quality of either or both the subject lands and contiguous lands. Due consideration should be given to possible effects of the proposal on all values to be protected under this Article and to any demonstrated hardship on the applicant by reason of denial, as brought forth at the public hearing.

The Conservation Commission is also empowered to deny permission for any removal, dredging, filling, building upon, degrading, discharging into, or otherwise altering of subject lands for failure to submit necessary information and plans requested by the Commission. The Commission may also deny permission for failure on the part of the applicant or the applicant’s representatives to meet the design specifications, performance standards, and other requirements in the regulations, or for failure to avoid or prevent unacceptable, significant or cumulative effects upon the resource area values protected by this Article.

Section 5. The Commission may, as an alternative to a denial, impose such conditions as it deems necessary to contribute to the protection and preservation of subject lands, in accordance with the purposes of this Article. Any Order of Conditions issued under this Article shall be subject to the same constraints and may be identical to any such order issued by the Stockbridge Conservation Commission under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40.

Lands within 200 feet of rivers, ponds and lakes, and lands within 100 feet of other resource areas, are presumed important to the protection of these re-

sources because activities undertaken in close proximity to resource areas have a high likelihood of adverse impact upon wetland or other resource, either immediately, as a consequence of construction, or over time, as a consequence of daily operation or existence of the activities. These adverse impacts from construction and use can include, without limitation, erosion, siltation, loss of groundwater recharge, poor water quality, and loss of wildlife habitat. The Commission may, therefore, establish performance standards for protection of such lands including, without limitation, strips of continuous, undisturbed vegetative cover within the 200-foot or 100-foot area. The Commission may also establish other forms of work limit or setback to buildings, roads, landscaping and other features, unless the applicant convinces the Commission that the area or part of it may be disturbed without harm to the values protected by this Article. The specific size and type of the protected area may be established by regulations of the Commission.

Section 6. The notice required by Section 1 of this Article shall not apply to emergency projects necessary for the protection of the health or safety of the citizens of Stockbridge to be performed or ordered to be performed by an administrative agency of the Commonwealth or by the Town. Emergency projects shall mean any projects certified to be an emergency by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Conservation Commission if this Article and Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40, are both applicable. The emergency may be declared by the Conservation Commission if only this Article is applicable. In no case shall any removal, filling, dredging, building upon, degrading, discharging into, or otherwise altering of subject lands be authorized by such certification extend beyond the time and place necessary to abate the emergency.

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 10 of the 1999 Annual Town Meeting and Article 35 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting by changing the stated purpose of the appropriations made thereunder from "repair and improvements of Town Hall" to "repair and improvements of Town Offices", or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 27 of the 2003 Annual Town Meeting by striking the year "2004" therefrom and replacing it with the year "2005", or to take any other action in relation thereto

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Certified Free Cash for the purpose of lowering the property tax rate, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to increase the Stabilization Fund as defined in Chapter 40, section 5B of the General Laws, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 37. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

This is an unofficial copy of the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 17, 2004 at the Stockbridge Sportsmen's Club, 24 West Stockbridge Road. The official Warrant will be issued at a later date in accordance with the requirements of *M.G.L. c.39, section 10*.

Article 5

Appropriations Recommended For 2004/2005

	Approved Budget 7/1/03 to 6/30/04	Recommended Budget 7/1/04 to 6/30/05
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
1 Moderator	169	173
Moderator Expense	25	25
2 Selectmen-Salaries		
Chairman	4,467	4,579
2 Members	7,310	7,492
3 Selectmen Expenses	13,150	14,150
Executive Secretary	39,130	45,661
4 Finance Committee	2,546	2,546
5 Town Reserve Fund	50,000	50,000
6 Accountant-Salary	32,421	38,918
Accountant Expenses	13,800	13,800
7 Assessors-Salaries		
Chairman	3,210	3,290
2 Members	5,138	5,266
Assistant Assessor	39,688	40,680
Ass't Assessor Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Clerk	22,702	23,270
Assessor Expenses	5,430	5,530
8 Treasurer-Salary		
Treasurer	17,566	18,005
Assistant Treasurer	500	513
Treasurer Expenses	9,400	8,600
9 Town Collector-Salaries		
Collector	32,727	33,545
Collector Certified Pay	1,000	1,000
Assistant Collector	21,960	22,509
Clerical	1,500	1,500
Town Collector Expenses	11,800	12,800
10 Legal Retainer	26,000	26,650
Legal Expenses	250	250
11 Town Clerk-Salary	13,637	29,082
Town Clerk Expenses	3,200	3,100
12 Election and Registration Salaries	11,190	6,171
Election and Registration Expenses	4,500	6,100
13 Conservation Commission	8,850	6,700
14 Planning Board	8,300	8,550
15 Board of Appeals	50	50
16 Town Hall Salaries	25,625	26,241
Town Hall Expenses	90,700	90,700
17 Information Technology Director Salaries	32,288	30,750
Information Technology Director Expenses	106,000	100,000
18 Town Report	5,500	5,500
Total General Government	672,729	694,696

PUBLIC SAFETY			
19	Police-Salaries	384,619	397,349
	Police Expenses	41,600	43,200
20	Fire Salaries	8,395	8,605
	Fire Expenses	43,225	43,975
21	Lee Volunteer Ambulance Service	7,000	8,200
22	Animal Control Salary	3,875	3,972
	Animal Control Expenses	3,000	3,000
23	Building Inspector-Salary	12,915	20,625
	Building Inspector Expenses	2,350	3,950
24	Gas Inspector-Salary	1,019	1,044
	Gas Inspector Expenses	740	740
25	Plumbing Inspector-Salary	4,305	4,413
	Plumbing Inspector Expenses	825	825
26	Wire Inspector-Salary	4,305	5,005
	Wire Inspector Expenses	300	600
27	Civil Defense/Emergency Management	8,625	3,150
28	Tree Warden Salary	1,485	1,522
	Tree Warden Expenses	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
	Total Public Safety	568,583	590,175

EDUCATION			
29	Vocational Education	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	Total Vocational Education	0	0

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES			
30	Engineering	0	0
31	Highway Department Salaries	276,762	285,171
	Highway Department Expenses	142,300	142,300
	Highway - Snow and Ice	35,000	35,000
	Highway Machinery	59,500	59,500
	Highway Compactor-Salaries	19,476	19,963
	Highway Compactor Expenses	121,500	121,500
	Highway Cemetery-Salaries	23,491	24,078
	Highway Cemetery Expenses	5,700	5,700
32	Streetlights	32,000	32,000
33	Trash Removal	1,000	1,000
34	Sewer Department-Salaries	83,200	83,392
	Sewer Department Expenses	94,158	111,258
35	Water Department -Salaries	57,399	58,174
	Water Department Expenses	109,830	105,750
36	Hydrant Rental	<u>12,600</u>	<u>12,900</u>
	Total Public Works & Facilities	1,073,916	1,097,686

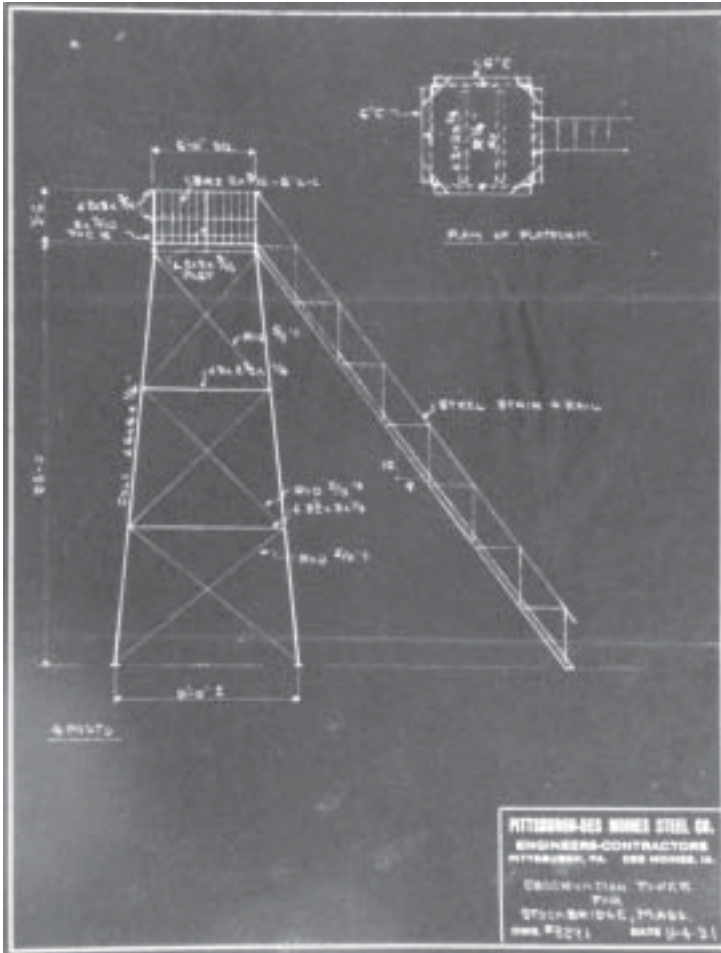
HUMAN SERVICES			
37	Board of Health-Salaries		
	Clerk	896	918
	2 Members	904	926
	Animal Inspector	663	680
	Agent	243	249
	Board of Health Expenses	1,137	642
	Health Officer-Tri-Town Health	33,815	35,158

38 Visiting Nurses Association	6,864	6,864
39 Berkshire Mental Health Center	2,900	2,900
40 Council on Aging-Salaries	10,494	14,256
Council on Aging Expenses	5,500	3,250
41 Veterans Services-District	<u>13,108</u>	<u>12,655</u>
Total Human Services	76,524	78,498
CULTURE AND RECREATION		
42 Library	85,500	89,775
43 Chime Tower	988	800
44 Parks & Recreation Commission-Salaries	24,200	19,200
Parks & Recreation Commission Expenses	9,950	9,950
45 Historical Commission	1,275	1,275
46 Memorial Day Committee	2,000	2,000
47 Historic District	<u>50</u>	<u>500</u>
Total Culture and Recreation	123,963	123,500
DEBT SERVICE		
48 Loans-Interest (Water)	65,173	62,457
Loans-Principal (Water)	60,345	60,345
Loans-Interest & Principal (Sewer)	<u>60,000</u>	<u>303,033</u>
Total Debt Service	185,518	425,835
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
49 Berkshire County Retirement	146,328	152,426
50 Unemployment Insurance	0	0
51 Berkshire County Employees Insurance	<u>230,000</u>	<u>255,200</u>
Total Employee Benefits	376,328	407,626
UNCLASSIFIED		
52 Insurance	76,200	85,060
53 Police Annuity	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Unclassified	76,200	85,060
Total Recommended	3,153,761	3,503,076

Warrant Articles for FY'05

MAY 17, 2004

1. Election of Officers	
2. Choose Officers For Annual Town Meeting	
3. Town Report	
4. Fix Salary And Compensation For Elective Officers	
5. Overall Budget	\$3,503,076
6. Berkshire Hills Regional School Operating Budget	2,137,773
7. Berkshire Hills Regional School Capital Budget	452,436
8. Police Cruiser	35,000
9. Police - Radar Units	3,000
10. Police-Special Details	5,000
11. Assessors - 3 rd 1/3 Measuring/Inspection	17,400
12. Assessors- Appraisal of HydroPlant	2,500
13. Fire - Monies to Stabilization for Fire Truck	50,000
14. Monies to be Taken from Free Cash to Stabilization to Correct Error	365,000
15. Highway - Road Work	104,749
16. Landfill - from Stabilization to be added to Art. 15 of ATM 5/03	50,000
17. Stockbridge Bowl	5,000
18. Parks & Rec - Resurface of Tennis Courts on Pine Street	10,000
19. Water - Radio Meters (\$10,000 from Art. 17, ATM 5/03 & \$10,000 Water Surp)	20,000
20. Water Tank - Monies toward a new tank into Stabilization	100,000
21. Sewer - Debt Payment	101,010
22. Sewer - Infiltration Study	12,000
23. Group Purchasing	400
24. Hazardous Waste Collection	2,000
25. Community Preservation Article	150,000
26. Non-Binding Resolution CPF allocation for Affordable housing	
27. Stockbridge Flag	1,600
28. Town Bylaw - Amend and Renumber	
29. Zoning Bylaw - Amend Bed and Breakfast	
30. Zoning Bylaw - Amend Lake and Pond Overlay District Bylaw	
31. Zoning Bylaw - Amend Lake and Pond Overlay District Bylaw	
32. Town Bylaw - Amend Wetlands Bylaw	
33. Amend Article 35(2003) - to read Town Offices	
34. Historic Preservation Task Force continuance	
35. Lower Tax Rate	
36. Stabilization	
37. Other Business	
TOTAL ARTICLES	\$7,127,944



**Engineering diagram of Laura's Tower - Property of Laurel Hill
 —Courtesy of Stockbridge Library Historical Collection**