

DEDICATION

The Town of Mount Desert lost three active community volunteers this past year, Jennifer Carter, Brian Pollard, and Denholm Jacobs. Each contributed generously of their time and talent to various municipal or non-profit organizations. Jennifer will be greatly missed by the volunteers in the Fire Department and the members of the Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service. Brian's absence will be noted by members of the High School Trustees, Harbor (Marine Management) Committee, and his temporary service on various short-term committees. His fellow committee members will miss his probing questions, through analysis, and dry wit. Finally, Carol O'Donnell notes Denholm's contribution as an active volunteer at Asticou and Thuya Gardens in her Island Foundation report. Each will be missed, a belated thank you for all your efforts to make Mount Desert a better place.

MAINE MODERATOR'S MANUAL

RULES OF PROCEDURE (Revised 1980)

Type of Motion	Second Required	Debatable	Amendable	Majority Vote	Recon- sidered	Other
Adjourn (sine die)	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	D
Amend	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	D
Appeal	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	A
Limit Debate	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	Yes	
Voting Method	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	A
Main Motion	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	D
Nominations	No	No	No	N/A	No	
Postpone to Time Certain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	D
Previous Question	Yes	No	No	2/3	No	D
Recess or Adjourn to Time Certain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	D
Reconsider	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	A, B
Take up Out of Order	Yes	Yes	No	2/3	No	
Withdraw a Motion	No	No	No	Yes	C	

- Yes This action is required or permitted
 No This action cannot be taken or is unnecessary
 A This motion may be made when another motion has the floor
 B This motion may only be made by a person who voted on the prevailing side
 C A negative vote only on this motion may be reconsidered
 D See text (Priority of Motions)

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OFFICE HOURS

**8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Monday – Friday**

Town Administrative Office.....	276-5531
Fax.....	276-3232
Fire/Police/Ambulance.....	911
Non-Emergency.....	276-5111
Public Works Department.....	276-5743
Town Garage.....	276-5744
Garbage Hotline.....	276-5733
Wastewater Treatment Plant	276-5738
Northeast Harbor Marina.....	276-5737
Mt. Desert Elementary School.....	276-3348
MDI Regional High School.....	288-5011
Union 98 Superintendent's Office.....	288-5049

Michael MacDonald – manager@mtdesert.org
Brent Hamor – treasurer@mtdesert.org
Kim Parady – tclerk@mtdesert.org
Joelle Nolan – customerservice@mtdesert.org
Sally Merchant – adminofficer@mtdesert.org
John Brushwein – assess@mtdesert.org
Kimberly Keene – ceo@mtdesert.org
Chris Farley – firechief@mtdesert.org
Chief Jim Willis – policechief@mtdesert.org
Tony Smith – director@prexar.net
Harbormaster – harbormaster@mtdesert.org

21 Sea Street
P O Box 248
Northeast Harbor, Me 04662



Mount Desert, Maine

Hall Quarry, Northeast Harbor, Otter Creek, Pretty Marsh, Seal Harbor, Somesville

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Echo Lake from the North End

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[Volunteer for Boards & Committees](#)

Mount Desert is looking for a few good Mt. Desert residents to volunteer to serve on Boards and Committees. Click on the link above for more details.

Mount Desert Island, situated on the eastern coast of Maine was first recognized and named by European explorers as early as 1604. The first recorded permanent settlement of this island was in 1762, by two Massachusetts sailor/fishermen named Abraham Somes and James Richardson when they established their homes at the northern shores of the fjord which today is called Somes Sound. Other settlers soon followed and within a few years after the Revolutionary War the population on the island amounted to several hundred people.

[Click to Learn More...](#)

follow the links above at www.mtdesert.org

RECYCLING INFORMATION

reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️ reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️ reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️ redu



Recycling center is located at town garage on Sargeant Drive.
(about 1/2 mile south of intersection with Route 198)

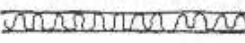
PAPER

Newspaper
Magazines
Catalogs & Phone Books



Do not tie in bundles. Keep dry.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

Looks like this: 
(cross section)
Please break down and FLATTEN.
Keep dry. NO waxy, pizza, or other
dirty boxes. NO yellow cardboard
(imported from Asia).

TIN AND ALUMINUM CANS

Food cans only.
Clean thoroughly.
Labels may stay.
Flatten if possible.
NO spray cans, pie tins, or foil.



PLASTIC

#2 plastic only.
Check bottom
for this sign:



Cloudy (like milk jugs)
in main bin. Separate
container for colored or white
bleach and detergent bottles.
Remove tops and plastic rings.
Clean and rinse, labels may stay.
Please flatten as much as possible.



GLASS

Clear and colored
jars and bottles only.
Clean and rinse,
labels may stay.
Remove all tops and rings.
NO light bulbs, window glass,
china or ceramics.



Brown paper bags used for carrying your recyclables to the center may be put
in the corrugated cardboard container, NOT in any other container.

Please follow these guidelines. If anything incorrect (like trash) is put in the
containers at Sargeant Drive, the whole load may be contaminated and
become unrecyclable.

Questions???? Please call the Town Office at 276-5531.

OTHER TIPS

Many supermarkets accept plastic and paper bags for recycling and/or give
credit for reusing bags. Composting can further reduce the quantity of trash
and nourish your garden as well.

cle ♻️ reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️ reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️ reduce ♻️ reuse ♻️ recycle ♻️

ELECTED OFFICERS

SELECTMEN	Richard H Savage II, Chairman	2006
	Ernest Coombs	2005
	Vacant	2005
	Patrick Smallidge	2007
	Jeffery Smith	2007
SCHOOL BOARD	Laura Hendricks	2007
	John P. March, Jr.	2007
	Maria Brown	2006
	Gail Marshal	2006
	Laurel Robbins, Chairman	2005
SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES	Edward Bonville	2006
	Charles E. Bucklin	2005
	Michael Musetti	2007

APPOINTED OFFICERS

ADMINISTRATIVE

TOWN MANAGER	Michael R. MacDonald
TOWN CLERK	Kimberly Parady Joelle D. Nolan, Deputy Sally Merchant, Assistant
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR	Brent Hamor
CUSTOMER SERVICE	Joelle D. Nolan
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Sally Merchant
DEPUTY TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR	Kimberly Parady
ASSESSOR	John E. Brushwein
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	Kimberly Keene
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR	Chris Farley
HEALTH OFFICER	Michael R. MacDonald
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	Kimberly Keene
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	Joelle D. Nolan Kimberly Parady, Deputy Sally Merchant, Deputy

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF OF POLICE	James Willis
POLICE SERGEANT	Kevin Edgecomb
POLICE OFFICERS	John Wardwell Mark Keller Christopher Smith Keith Saunders Edward Montague Jeremy Larrabee
Part Time	
DISPATCHERS	Lorraine Bracy Sharon Gilley Matt Heel Cary Lunt Marie Barnes Jeanine Neipert Rod O'Connor Laura Snyder
Part Time	
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	Kevin Edgecomb

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MUNICIPAL FIRE CHIEF	Chris Farley
FIRE WARDEN	Lloyd E. Norwood, Jr.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Chuck Alley	Todd Holbrook	Tom Richardson
Mike Bender	Matt Hougan	John Sweet
Martha Blanchard	Mark Johnson	Bruce Walton
Sam Blanchard	Mike Kelley	Tom Wallace
Mark Bucklin	Patrick Kilbride	Jeff Young
Mike Bucklin	John Littlefield	
Will Burden	Fred Lippucci	
Stuart Burr	John Macauley	
Stephen Caromile	Basil Mahaney	
Luke Damon	Stephen Montminy	
Bobby Dodge	Chris Moore	
Ben Gilley	Sherwood Muise	
Scamp Gray	Robert Norwood	
Norm Hawes	Norris Reddish	
David Higgins	Joe Renault	

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Tony Smith

SUPERINTENDENT

Kenneth A. Poors

HIGHWAY

Gerald Frost
Ben Jacobs
James Greenlaw
Joseph Jacobs
David Knowlton
John Lemoine
Doug Staples

REFUSE COLLECTION

Dominic DiGuardia
Arthur "Hess" Pettegrow

RECYCLING ATTENDANT

Heather Brinson

POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

Jonathan Merchant
Chuck Croan
Philip Frost
Terry Savage

TOWN OFFICE & PARKS

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Karl Richard

HARBOR MASTERS

HARBOR MASTER

William J. Boddy

DEPUTY HARBOR MASTER

Shawn Murphy

BOARDS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW	John C. Doyle, Ch.	2005
	Keating Pepper	2005
	James Bright	2007

MDI HOUSING AUTHORITY	Wanda Fernald	2008
	Dan Falt	2007
	Kate Gile	2008
	Karol Hagberg	2009
	Valerie Tracy	2007

Tenant Commissioners:	Gloria Munson	2005
	Bernice Pierce	2005

PLANNING BOARD	Marc Sevigny, Ch	2006
	James Clunan	2005
	Heather Jones	2005
	Samuel M. Fox, Alt	2006
	Joseph Tracy	2007
	Mary Renault	2007
	Steve Zirkilton,Alt	2007

Assistant:	Bobby Williams
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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Harry Madeira, Ch	2005
	William N. Ferm	2006
	Jane Vris	2007
	George B. Lauriat	2006
	Julianna R. Smith	2005
	Tom Richardson	2006
	Kevin Walls	2007

DID YOU KNOW...

Applications for Homestead Exemptions and Veterans Exemptions must be received by the Assessor before April 1st, 2005.

COMMITTEES

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION

Paul Richardson, Town Rep.

MOUNT DESERT WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Harry Maderia, Ch	2005
Kathy Branch	2005
Karen Coombs	2007
Edie D. Crowley	2007
Alan Joseph	2006

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Brent Hamor, Ex officio
Michael MacDonald, Ex officio
Tom Richardson, Ex officio
Richard M. Savage, Ex. officio

MARINE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Dana Haynes, Ch
Jim Black
Mark Brodeur
Jock Crothers
Tom Brown
Tom Fernald
William Johnston
Eric Jones
Rob Liebow
Story Litchfield
Jeremy Ward

ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Albert Allan
Robert Collins
Bob Foster
Sydney Roberts Rockefeller
Mark Sevigny
Jerry Suminsby, BOS Liaison
Bobby Williams

SHELLFISH CONSERVATION

Tom Falt, Ch
Sherwood Carr
Steve Hamor, Sr.
Harvey Heel
Scott Merchant
Earl Moore
David Myers
John Richardson
Ernest Smallidge
Robert Taylor

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Meg Ashur
Kathy Branch
Mildred T. Johnson
Philip Lichtenstein
Joelle Nolan, Sec.
Lee Patterson
Barry Pollard
Jim Russell
Laurie Shencavitz
Tony Smith, Ch.
Chris Breedlove

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Greg Fish
Dwight Lanpher
Brent Hamor, Liaison

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Kathy Blake
Sam Coplon, Co-Ch.
Jean G. Fernald
Blanche Johnson
Pauline Johnson
Phyllis Partridge
Sydney Roberts Rockefeller, Co-Ch.

What about the Rural Wastewater Support Program?

If your primary residence is not on Town Sewer you may be eligible. A Homestead Exemption must already be in place and other guidelines exist. An Application is enclosed in this Town Report. Please contact Code Enforcement Officer Kim Keene for details.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Board of Selectmen would like to offer sincere thanks and appreciation to all the employees of the Town for their continued hard work and dedication. Often forgotten but also greatly appreciated is the time and commitment made by all the volunteer citizens who make up the many committees, advisory groups, and permanent boards. These efforts and interest plays an important part of what makes our town a unique and desirable place to live. Special thanks and best wishes are extended to Emily Damon Pascal for her active participation on the Board of Selectmen. We welcome our Administrative Officer-Sally Merchant, Finance Director-Brent Hamor, and Code Enforcement Officer-Kimberly Keene.

2004 has been an important and very busy year for the Town. The Otter Creek/Seal Harbor sewer project is well underway, on schedule, and will be up and running by late spring. We activated the rural waste water support program and our newly revised Sewer Ordinance will allow additional waste water assessment for facilities within Acadia National Park. Capital improvements, annual upgrades, and mandated compliance regulations will continue to be a major responsibility of our local government.

Solid waste and garbage collection, dumping fees, and regulations continue to require our attention. As a member of the Acadia Disposal District, we have given them authority to negotiate solid waste solutions which benefit each of the participating members. The Town's share of the expenses is based on its actual contribution of waste. This fee structure is most equitable when compared to other mutual assessments which are based on our property valuation. Solid waste solutions are a major responsibility for all communities.

Our Municipal Budget continues to grow faster than our annual valuations. Many of the new financial demands are beyond our control because of mandated requirements, assessed costs from the county government and regional school, energy costs, and insurance rates. The Town's projected budget requirements are 6.5% higher than last year. Maintenance of our reserve funds, planning for new growth, and capital improvements demand constant attention. The trend of excessive escalating taxes is of major concern to the Board of Selectmen. The benefits and impact of the State's ability to address property tax relief remains to be seen. We will continue to address these issues and encourage all residents of our villages to participate in our governmental processes.

Richard M. Savage, III
Chairman

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

To the citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Mount Desert, thank you for allowing me this fourth opportunity to detail some of the significant events of 2004. 2004 was a year filled with challenges and opportunities, thanks to you, the citizen, who provides the means to meet the challenges and the resources to take advantage of opportunities.

Our Annual Town Meeting approved by referendum a revised and improved "Sewer Ordinance" and a "Rural Wastewater Treatment Support Ordinance." Votes from the Town Meeting floor approved a retirement agreement with former Police Chief John Doyle, approved leases with Great Harbor Maritime Museum and the Town of Cranberry Islands. The Cranberry lease insures a consistent income for the Town of Mount Desert while it also provides dedicated parking availability for some residents of Cranberry Islands. The 2004 Town Meeting also approved acceptance of a gift of land for a sidewalk on Main Street in Northeast Harbor, increasing pedestrian safety during our busy summer season.

Chairman Savage briefly touched on some of the personnel changes that have occurred during 2004, chiefly, the resignation of Finance Director Chammings and the appointment of former Code Enforcement Officer Hamor to the Finance Director's position. Our police department achieved a milestone in that five of our six officers have successfully completed training at Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) and we fully anticipate by this time next year all six members of the department will have successfully completed this important training. Our officers continue receiving specialized in-service education at MCJA as detailed in Chief Willis' report.

Our dispatcher corps all attended Terminal Operator training at MCJA and are prepared to fully utilize the recently purchased and installed communications equipment. Our Fire Department under Chief Farley's guidance continues to increase firefighter training and recruitment of volunteers. Chief Farley provided the Board of Selectmen with a capital-funding plan that outlined a schedule of vehicle replacement for the next two decades.

Harbor Master Boddy and staff took possession of a new boat and Will reports the new equipment has improved efficiency and efficacy in responding to calls. The Public Works Department, Highway, Refuse, and Wastewater Treatment, each reports appreciation for citizen support for purchase of equipment or plant and process improvements. Highway acquired a new sidewalk plow and sweeper, has ordered a new plow truck and the mechanics at the garage appreciate the vehicle lift. Refuse also took delivery of a new compactor truck, keeping with a vehicle replacement schedule developed by PW Director Smith. Our disposal costs continue to rise and our participation in the Acadia Disposal District will assist the Town in cost control. Our Otter Creek/Seal Harbor upgrade, closing the Otter Creek plant and installing a forced main pump line between Otter Creek and Seal Harbor, continues and the construction of the new equipment in Seal Harbor is on schedule. Although this project was not without challenges, such as the forced main work along Route 3, the bridge crossing at the Park Loop Road, and the wet well container in Otter Creek I would like to take this opportunity to express thanks and appreciation to all of our partners involved in this project. Our partners include, National Park Service, Maine Department of Transportation, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and our engineer's and contractor's, CES Inc., Olver Associates, Apex Construction, and Harold Mac Quinn.

Finally, Town Office staff is to be congratulated for their dedication and support for our new Finance Director, Brent Hamor. Town Clerk Parady, Customer Service Nolan, Administrative Officer Merchant, and Jean Bonville, who returned from retirement, all assisted in providing both emotional and logistical support as Brent entered into a new phase of his relationship with the Town. Kim,

Joelle, and Sally all pulled extra hours and effort in providing continued service to our citizens while at the same time helping Brent as he began his duties. Special thanks to John Brushwein as he again pinched-hit and double-dutied as Code Enforcement Officer until Kim Keene was appointed as Code Officer, welcome back Kim K.

2005 will also be a year of challenges and opportunities and I would like to assure the citizens of Mount Desert that the dedicated employees of Mount Desert will rise to successfully meet upcoming challenges and wisely and prudently take advantage of opportunities. Each and every one has this Town Manager's personal thanks for making 2004 the success it was. Much peace and happiness to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael MacDonald
Town Manager

2004 OUTSTANDING TAXES

Abbott, Lola D, Et. Als.	804.19	Kimball Family Partnership	12.33
Art's Place, LLC	1,765.93	Lawrence, Lee G., Dev.	404.15
Animal Crackers	13.70	Marshall, Robert/Jam D.	4,001.77
Aubry, Eugene & Janet	2,693.42	McCue, Marian L.	3.41
Berry, Fred W Et. Als.	1,563.17	Millett, Janet M., Trustee	14,284.99
Biddle, Gardiner/Margaret	1,439.87	Needham, Thomas E., Trustee	3,135.93
Blanchard, Elizabeth W.	2,359.06 *	Sailor Realty Trust	
Brophy, Deborah	1,276.84	Parker, Joel/Holly	4.44
Butler, Frances	858.88 *	Peabody, Swetzoff	5,351.87 **
Butler, Jillaine	2,753.70	Shell Heap Trust	
Card, Bonnie L, Et. Als.	597.32	Perry, Marilyn E.	1,263.14
Carpenter, Elrie H.	571.29	Petschek, Stephen	21,376.11 **
Chase, Edwin E./Cheryl A.	943.17	Radford, MaryAnn Trustee	2,941.39
Chua, Penny	730.49	The Radford Living Trust	
Closson, Richard/Patricia	467.17	Reed, Deborah J./	105.49
Delvecchio, Angela S.	268.52 **	Lawson, Barbra/Miller, Diane	
Schleif, Chris P.		Reed, Deborah J./	806.81
Dickey, Juanita, Heirs	906.94	Lawson, Barbra/Miller, Diane	
Dodge, Robert/Anne	731.58	Reiff, William C./Betty	4,189.19
Dodge, Robert/Anne	1,034.35	Reifsnyder, Peter	1,663.18
Dodge, Robert/Anne	690.48	Rockefeller, Sydney Roberts	3,529.12 *
Driscoll, Joanne	563.07	Romer, Hildreth	246.60
Dulong, Cheryl M.	852.14	Rosengarten, Miriam O.	6,793.83 **
Durkin, Michael/Diane	5,197.78 **	Rosengarten, Miriam O.	5,814.28 **
Durkin, Michael/Diane	1,370.00 **	Sailer, John	5,296.42
Edwards, Carolina	3,836.00 **	Schwartz, Frank J./Ann T.	21.50 **
Foss, et al	292.32	Seavey, James E. Trustee	791.86
Fulk, Robert V. Jr./Judith G	1,228.89 **	Shultz, David	67.13
Fulk, Robert V. Jr.	812.41 **	Smith, Stephen S.	430.18
Grace, William R.	7,477.46	Smith, Stephen S.	504.16
Graves, Keith/Nancy	20.55	Snyder, Russell M.	587.73 **
Grey Rock Inn	178.10	Soucie, Rhonda Lee	169.41 **
Haynes, Blaine	3,653.79 **	Spurling, Angela Lynk	91.79
Haynes, Blaine	1,970.06 **	Stone, Josef	2,622.18
Haynes, Blaine/Mower Shop	228.79	Storey, Richard/Diana	569.31
Haynes, Terrance / Leslie	1,061.75	Thomas, James B./Timothy J.	4,753.90
Holder, Patricia	2,609.85	Train Properties	193.17
Johnston, John E./Lydia C.	2,472.85	Urquhart, Andrew	119.19
Jordan, James E./Kristen C.	2,883.85		151,415.85
Kelly, Paul F./Randall C.	90.16		

*partial payment received after books closed

**full payment received after books closed

DID YOU KNOW...
Documented boat excise and
boat registrations are due
January 1st of each year.

12/31/2004 SUMMARY OF UNCOLLECTED TAXES

2004	Tax Commitment	9,497,910.96
	Supplemental	1,631.67
	Collections	-9,346,388.25
	Abatements	-1,738.53
	Uncollected 12/31/2003	151,415.85
2003	Taxes	
	Uncollected 12/31/2003	121,671.78
	2004 Collections	-80,335.31
	Liens Placed	-41,274.50
	Uncollected 12/31/2003	61.97
2003	Tax Liens	41,274.50
	Collections	-15,873.83
	Uncollected 12/31/2004	25,400.67
2002	Tax Liens	7,742.88
	2003 Collections	-7,742.88
	Uncollected 12/31/2004	0.00
2002	Taxes 12/31/04	1,117.78
2003	Tax Liens Outstanding	
	Abbott, Lola D Et. Als.	713.21
	Biddle, Gardiner/Margaret	1,273.19
	Brophy, Deborah	405.65
	Butler, Jillaine	2,442.15
	Closson, Richard/Patricia	368.15
	Dulong, Cheryl	755.73
	Grace, William	73.51
	Haynes, Terrance/Leslie	931.91
	Johnston, John/Lydia	2,193.08
	Millett, Janet M., Trustee	12,668.81
	Perry, Marilyn	1,093.50
	Redford, Mary	2,293.21
	Shultz, David	1.45
	Spurling, Angela Lynk	81.41
	Urquhart, Andrew	105.71
		25,400.67
2003	Taxes	
	Animal Crackers	12.15
	Scientific Games	49.82
		61.97
2002	Taxes	
	Frontiervision	1,117.78

TRIAL BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 2004

ACCOUNT	Debit	Credit
EXPENDITURE CONTROL	10,939,667.26	
TAXES RECEIVABLE - 2002	1,117.78	
TAXES RECEIVABLE - 2003	61.97	
TAXES RECEIVABLE - 2004	151,415.85	
TAX LIENS - 2003	25,400.67	
CASH	2,511,725.11	
PETTY CASH	800.00	
OVER/UNDER	155.00	
INVESTMENTS	2,625,275.61	
TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS	24,774.62	
DEBT FUND	12,053,063.00	
BONDS PAYABLE		12,053,063.00
REVENUE CONTROL		11,801,757.77
ENCUMBERED FUNDS		252,608.00
DUE TO/FROM TRUST FUNDS		24,774.62
DUE TO/FROM STATE REV SHARING		15,194.72
SEWER BOND ISSUE		(533,677.84)
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		23,720.00
SH COMMUNITY RM		2,530.00
DEFERRED TAX REVENUES		110,765.96
COMP PLAN GRANT		(409.80)
DEFERRED REVENUE		7,300.00
SOC SEC WITHHOLDING		0.02
RETIREMENT		(17.86)
DEPENDENT INSURANCE		19.78
INCOME PROTECTION		(24.80)
AMERICAN FAMILY INS.		49.00
BASIC INSURANCE		22.28
SUPPLEMENTAL INS.		34.77
MME-INSURANCE		321.66
AFLAC/pre-tax		(1,237.28)
AFLAC/URM		461.01
SCHOOL BOND ISSUE		327,009.75
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		1,577,574.42
CAPITAL LAND ACQUISITION		174,886.90
CAP GAINS RESERVE ACCT		493,865.03
DOG WELFARE - CRA		6,168.23
CREDIT RESERVE ACCOUNT		823,027.44
ASSESSING/CODE ENFOR CEA		1,003.90
SHELLFISH CONS PROGRAM		5,545.10
SURPLUS		100,000.00
RADIO RESERVE		14,323.83
WATER INFILTRN OF SEWERS - CIA		66,921.19
POLLUTION CNTRL EQUIP - CEA		5,000.00
TOWN OFFICE BLDG - CIA		32,054.50
SUMMIT SEWER		186,544.32
OFFICE EQUIP RESERVE		9,331.05
SEAL HBR DOCK CIA		25,551.00
FIRE EQUIP FUND - CEA		275,223.47
BARTLETT DOCK DECK CIA		17,500.00

NEH LANDING - CIA	144,994.46
SEAL HBR BAIT HOUSE - CIA	1,614.89
REFUSE TRUCK - CEA	53,073.68
PUBLIC WORKS EQUIP FUND - CEA	122,068.88
TOWN ROAD FUND - CIA	36,894.51
S.H.MARINA:ACCESS RD	75,000.00
CLEARING ACCOUNT	240.81
STATE RV FEES	177.00
STATE PLUMB FEES	70.00
STATE IF & W FEES	471.50
STATE DOG FEES DUE	66.00

DEBT FUND

Bond	Principle	Interest	Total
1987 SERIES B BOND	225,000.00	38,400.00	263,400.00
1992 SERIES E BOND	174,852.00	10,447.40	185,299.40
1996 SERIES A SRF	612,497.00	86,324.83	698,821.83
2003 WASTEWATER SRF	1,285,714.29	111,535.80	1,397,250.09
2004 WASTEWATER SRF	4,400,000.00	849,857.80	5,249,857.80
2002 SERIES C BOND	5,355,000.00	2,496,100.30	7,851,100.30
TOTAL	12,053,063.29	3,592,666.13	15,645,729.42

DID YOU KNOW...

It's the law – dogs 6 months and older need to be licensed with the Town Clerk.

TAX ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Three Year Summary of Assessed Values

	2002	2003	2004
Total Land Value	\$323,796,000	\$325,729,793	\$326,980,572
Total Building Value	\$341,301,700	\$351,838,500	\$362,760,200
Personal Property Value	\$3,041,700	\$3,112,400	\$3,517,400
 Total Assessed Value	 \$668,139,400	 \$680,680,693	 \$693,258,172

The summary above reflects an increase in the total taxable valuation of \$12,577,479.00 from April 1, 2003 to April 1, 2004. The increase was due to new construction and land divisions within the above time period. The increase in total value resulted in a tax rate of \$13.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 12.76% above the 2003 tax rate.

Property is assessed annually as of April 1. Any new construction is assessed to the extent it is completed as of that date. Property ownership is also fixed as of April 1 of the current tax year. The Town cannot change ownership of property that transfers after April 1st. The buyer and seller of real estate should confirm that current, as well as prior years taxes have been paid.

As most everyone is aware, the Town began the process of revaluing all property in 2003 in order to comply with State Law and to create an equitable tax base. The original schedule projected implementation of the new assessments in 2005. Due to staffing problems and turnover within the Town office, the revaluation has been delayed again. The proposed 2005 budget contains funding to hire a private company, (Vision Appraisal Technology) to complete the revaluation prior to June of 2006, which will allow the new assessed values to be utilized in the 2006 tax year. Upon completion of the revaluation, all assessments and associated data will be available on-line allowing for easy access to assessment data including property owners, assessments, lot size, building sketches, and photographs. The Town tax and zoning maps may also be available on-line as funding permits.

Vision Appraisal Technology of Northboro, Massachusetts has been providing appraisal services and Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) software since 1975. Vision currently has over 300 installations in eight states, including 29 in Maine. Vision has recently completed a revaluation in Camden and is in the process of revaluing Rockland, Rockport, and Boothbay Harbor. The City of Ellsworth, the Town of Bar Harbor, and Mount Desert reached agreement with Vision for a 5% discount if all three municipalities contracted with Vision for revaluation services. Bar Harbor and Ellsworth have approved contracting with Vision and are currently preparing contracts. If the budget is adopted March 8, 2005, the Town of Mount Desert will complete the three municipality agreement.

The Homestead Exemption is available for those residents owning a homestead for a minimum of 12 months prior to April 1 of the year they are filing the request. Also, residents that are veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during any federally recognized war period may be eligible for a Veteran's Exemption. If you have reached the age of 62, or are receiving any form of pension or compensation from the U.S. government for a total or partial disability, you are eligible for partial property tax exemption. The deadline for making application for exemptions is April 1, 2005. Applications are available at the Assessor's office.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Brushwein, CMA

e-mail: assess@mtdesert.org

Phone: (207)276-5731

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The following documents were duly recorded under vital statistics:

	2002	2003	2004
Birth/marriage/death certificates	76	81	75

We wish to remember the following friends and family members whose deaths were recorded in our town for the year 2004: Julia Lorena Allen, Marguerite Bryant, Everett H. Butler, Jennifer Carter, Norman Coulombe, Joanne DeMartini, Bethany Edmondson, Inez Gray, Bettie Anne Gwynn, Margaret Haynes, Patricia Holder, Denholm Jacobs, Dorothy McFarland, Alice Nicholson, Nicene-Marks Pascal, Brian Pollard, Elaine Reddish, Eleanor Reeve, Fred Rumill, Harry Scovill, Florence Smart, Franklin Stoddart Smith, Lucy Smith, Charles Walls and Percy P. Walls.

Licenses issued were as follows:

Dog Licenses:	272	276	242
Sport Licenses:	315	305	362

We are happy to report that the state's **M**aine **O**nline **S**portmans's **E**lectronic **S**ystem (MOSES) program is up and running pretty smoothly. We are now looking forward to having the same system for boats, ATV's and snowmobiles. The state hopes to have that program available by July or August 2005.

In the spirit of this year's town report theme "Success Through Citizen Service", I would like to thank ALL the election clerks who work with us during our town meetings, June primaries, State and presidential elections. The poll workers get to experience the election process first-hand while catching up with neighbors and friends from all the villages. We appreciate their interest in the election process, their attention to detail and their willingness to monitor the process until the very end by counting ballots, sometimes until very late into the night or even into the following morning!

2004 was another year of change within the office. Michael Chammings was employed through the first of October as Finance Director, at which time he left to become Town Manager in Oxford. Brent Hamor took over the position of Finance Director, which left the Code Enforcement Officer position vacant which was filled by Kim Keene, returning to us from Bar Harbor. Best wishes are given to both Brent and Kim in their respective postions. Jean Bonville generously agreed to help during Brent's transition and in preparing for the auditor's. Thank you Jean for your help! We welcomed back another "returnee" to the office! Nancy Graves left employment for new challenges in Virginia. Sally Merchant joined our staff in the middle of March as Administrative Officer. It's great having Sal back with our team helping to provide the many services offered through your town office.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Parady, CCM
Mount Desert Town Clerk

DID YOU KNOW....

The Town Office can provide you with and accept your completed passport application for processing in Boston.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector/Plumbing Inspector

In 2004, this office issued a total of 186 Building Permits. This is a decrease of 23 from the 209 Building Permits issued in 2003. A total of 35 permits were in areas regulated by shoreland zoning. There were 110 plumbing permits issued in 2004. Municipal sewer hookup permits issued totaled 15. The office also processed 32 CEO Permits, compared to the 37 in previous year. There were 3 Flood Hazard Development Permits issued.

The Code Enforcement Office collected \$11,606.16 in Building Permit Fees, \$5,717.00 in Plumbing/Septic Permit Fees & \$13,600.00 in Sewer Connection Fees.

The CEO inspected 3 septic tanks and the Town paid \$960.00 for the pumping and disposal of the sludge.

Rural Wastewater Treatment Support Program: New 2004

The CEO and Alternate CEO inspected 203 septic tanks, and the Town paid out \$110,229.00 for the newly implemented Rural Wastewater Treatment Support Program.

The breakdown of the 2004 building permits is as follows:

single family dwelling units	-----	26
guest houses	-----	10
additions to residences	-----	36
renovations	-----	32
garages	-----	15
sheds, barns, storage, workshops	-----	42
decks, porches	-----	12
foundations, slabs	-----	05
fences, walls, walkways	-----	01
piers, docks, ramps, floats	-----	02
signs	-----	04
hot tubs, saunas	-----	00
greenhouses	-----	01

The breakdown of the 2004 plumbing permits is as follows:

subsurface wastewater disposal systems	-----	27
internal plumbing	-----	83
municipal sewer hookup	-----	15

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Keene
Code Enforcement Officer
Building Inspector
Local Plumbing Inspector

DID YOU KNOW...

On March 5, 1928, the Mount Desert Planning Committee was created and authorized by a vote at Town Meeting. Renamed in 1933 it is now the Planning Board.

RURAL WASTEWATER SUPPORT APPLICATION

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT

Once more, for another year, 2004 was a very quiet one for the Board. The only action was an appeal taken in May.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board granted the appeal and all hands seem well satisfied.

The Board is very grateful for the past assistance of the Code Enforcement Officer, Brent Hamor and looks forward to finding the same co-operation with the new CEO, Kim Keene in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry R. Madeira,
Chairman

MOUNT DESERT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Your Mount Desert Chamber of Commerce enjoyed another year of growth and improvement due, in large part, to the creativity, dedication and personal time volunteered by the Board of Directors. Tom Brown, Anne-Marie DeRevere, Jen Gray, Carol Schaefer, Sally Black, Sue Spoelhof, Lisa Parsons and Ann Tucker Gray dedicated a great deal of their own time to convene monthly on decisions affecting the course of the Chamber of Commerce. Frequently they give additional service to chair various committees for special projects. Their sacrifices are for no other reason than to promote and insure the future of our "community through business" ideals.

2004 membership surpassed that of the previous year and our staff at the Yachtsman's Building assisted nearly 5000 visitors. Special thanks to Karl Richard, Carol Dana, Gloria Munson and Wendy Littlefield for their very professional attention to our visitors. These folks are a great asset to the Chamber, wonderful town ambassadors, and a credit to our community.

Improvements in our facility included much needed safety check valve systems for our showers, new windows and installation of public accessed DSL high speed internet service.

Chamber sponsored events –"Know Your Politician Night," "An Evening with George Hamm & Friends," and "Christmas in Northeast," enjoyed enthusiastic public participation. We anticipate even more 2005 community events.

In the past, "The Chamber of Commerce" has been synonymous with "Information Booth" and has not been properly regarded as the vital link between town, business, visitor and community. We at the Chamber are committed to changing the past image and maintaining the character of our unique communities.

This report would not be complete without acknowledging the loss of past Vice-President Nicene Pascal. We shall miss his dedication as a valued member of our Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob DeRevere,
Executive Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

2004 was a busy year for the police department. Three of our police officers, or half of our full time staff, completed the 18 week long basic police school at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. In addition to that training the members of our department completed over 3,000 training hours. Along with mandated classes pertaining to firearms, new law updates and juvenile laws, we received training relating to drug investigations, death investigations, shellfish laws, animal control laws, and elder services. We have officers in the process of obtaining certification status in the following areas; Drug Recognition Expert (for drug impaired drivers), MCJA Instructor and Intoxilyzer Instructor. Nearly all of our communications staff obtained certification as Terminal Control Officers after attending a week long class at the academy.



We received grant assistance from the Department of Justice that covered half of the purchase price for 5 new ballistic vests for our full time officers. Two new traffic radar units were purchased through a State Bureau of Highway Safety program that resulted in tremendous savings compared to the cost of an outright purchase. We replaced many things inside the police station including office furniture, computers and a total renovation of the dispatch area. The department purchased a Ford Expedition that is now being used as a primary patrol cruiser.

We started work on upgrading our radio communications equipment in 2004. I am hoping that the end result will be the installation of repeaters for two the police and fire frequencies. This project will take considerable time to complete because of the regulatory agencies involved. Having repeaters for theses frequencies will greatly improve our ability to communicate with each other.

Some of the community events and projects we participated in during 2004 are; distribution of gunlocks to residents, traffic control assistance for the MDI Marathon and the MDI Triathlon, local parades and involvement with children at the elementary school. Our officers participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics as well. As the towns Animal Control Officer, Kevin Edgcomb worked with a group of Northeast Harbor residents to find a solution to a long standing feral cat problem.

The department completed over 1600 incident reports during the year. Each incident report represents a response to a call for service or an officer initiated criminal offense, such as those arising from traffic stops. In addition to the complaints listed above, our officers issued approximately 270 parking tickets, 128 speeding summonses and 133 summonses for other traffic infractions. In addition to the receiving the initial calls and dispatching for our police officers, our dispatchers provide full dispatching service for the town's fire department, ambulance service, school busses and public works department.

We are in the process of finding ways to incorporate more community policing techniques into our activities. If you have ideas for community policing oriented projects please let us know by giving us a call or sending an e-mail, we look forward to the opportunity to discuss your ideas.

2004 Memorial Day Parade

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Willis, Chief of Police



Our calls for service were distributed as follows;

NE Harbor	Somesville	Seal Harbor	Pretty Marsh	Otter Creek	Hall Quarry
634	345	220	96	86	56

Note - there is some discrepancy between the total incident reports and the total of the incident reports when they are distributed by village. Not all complaints can be assigned to a specific village.

Below is an overview of the types of incidents the police department responded to;

911 Call – 27	Domestic (no assault) – 9
Motor Vehicle Accident, property damage only – 138	Drive off (gas) - 13
Motor Vehicle Accident, personal injury – 13	Drug Offenses - 15
Assist to the Fire Department – 49	Erratic Operation - 24
Assist to the Ambulance – 94	Gunshots - 3
Burglar Alarm – 243	Harassment - 24
Alcohol Offenses – 8	Information - 40
Animal Complaint – 82	Lost / Found - 61
Domestic Violence Assault -3	Mentally disturbed person - 4
Assist to Motorist – 26	Missing Person – 5
Assault (not d/v) – 3	Motor Vehicle Theft - 2
Attempt to Locate – 14	Noise Complaint - 39
ATV Complaint – 7	OUI Arrest - 24
Bad Checks – 11	Pass Stopped School Bus - 4
Bail Violation – 6	Probation Violation - 2
Building Check 38	Protection Order Service - 6
Burglary – 3	Prot. Order Violation - 3
Citizens Dispute - 70	Shellfish Violation - 3
Criminal Mischief – 33	Subpoena Service - 51
Criminal Speed -3	Suspicious Activity - 69
Criminal Trespass – 10	Theft (non vehicle) – 48
Disorderly Conduct – 10	Traffic Hazard – 40
Traffic Offense – 67	Warrant Arrest – 5
	Well Being Check 24
	Weapons Violations – 2

Current Employees

Police Chief – James Willis

Police Officers			Dispatchers
Police Sergeant – Kevin Edgecomb		Full Time	Loraine Bracy
Patrolmen – John Wardwell			Sharon Gilley
Mark Keller			Matt Heel
Chris Smith			Cary Lunt
Keith Saunders		Part Time	Rod O'Connor
Part Time Ed Montague			Laura Snyder
Troy Richardson			Marie Barnes
Leigh Guildford			Jeanine Neipert
Jeremy Larrabee			

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT

2004 was by all standards a difficult year with the extremely cold weather in January and February, ice formed and stayed, causing us to nearly lose the north set of floats. We had ice 6 inches thick in the middle of Northeast Harbor. Spring brought rain and cold weather and most everyone can't forget the wet cold summer, until mid August when the weather turned into something to behold and held on until nearly December. Along with the changes in seasons and weather the boating traffic did pick up but not to what we are used to. For the first time since I have been in town on August 1 we had an open slip in the marina. This year was slow all up and down the coast of Maine from the reports I received from the traveling yachtsmen. Some of the reports that I received had some marinas down 20 to 30 percent. Fortunately we were only down slightly compared to last year.

This year we purchased a new Harbormaster boat. It is outfitted with equipment that allows us to perform our job properly timely and safely. We have plotted what we believe to be all of the moorings outside of the harbors within town waters and are now attempting to find all of the owners. This process will take a lot of time.

Our mooring inspection program in the harbors has been working; nearly all of the moorings randomly inspected this year were in compliance. I want to thank the mooring owners that keep their moorings in good condition. A good mooring is your best insurance policy.

There is no doubt in my mind that this was a difficult year. It was magnified by the loss of Brian Pollard, a very thoughtful and diligent Marine Management Committee member and a good friend. Brian will be dearly missed by the committee and the members of the community for his thoughtfulness in his work, and passion for doing the right thing.

The cooperation of the community is essential in this job; I want to thank you for your cooperation that I have enjoyed since my arrival. As in all my past years here the cooperation of all of the departments within the TOWN OF MT DESERT has been very helpful, thank you.

Brian will be dearly missed by the committee and the members of the community for his thoughtfulness in his work, and passion for doing the right thing.

The cooperation of the community is essential in this job; I want to thank you for your cooperation that I have enjoyed since my arrival. As in all my past years here the cooperation of all of the departments within the TOWN OF MT DESERT has been very helpful, thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
William J. Boddy, Harbormaster

MARINE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

In 2004 the Marine Management Committee met many times and accomplished some significant things, as far as housekeeping goes. The Harbor Regulations were reorganized and recommended changes were made to the Board of Selectmen, and were passed by them. Other recommendations made to the Board of Selectmen include rate changes for the Marina, and rental moorings in Northeast Harbor, the changing of hands of the Lobster Tour Boat "Sunrise" and the recommended approval of the use of the Commercial Float for Mike Olsen in his new endeavor ; the hearing of appeals of the Harbormaster's decision to take away some individuals mooring(s). Over all it was an eventful and productive year for this committee.

The Marine Management Committee suffered a great loss along with the Town with the passing of Brian Pollard. Brian was an articulate, thoughtful gentleman, a very valuable member of this committee. We miss him tremendously.

Respectfully submitted by
Dana Haynes, Chairman

2004 PUBLIC WORKS ANNUAL REPORT

Deja vu all over again. The 2004-05 winter is starting much like last year's ended – snow, sleet and rain with just enough of each to keep things interesting. Hopefully, sports will also follow a similar pattern this year as last and, as you read this, the Patriots will have won the Super Bowl again and the Red Sox will be poised to crush the Evil Empire en route to another World Series championship.

Under the direct supervision of Highway Superintendent Kenny Poors and Chief Operator Jonathan Merchant, the year 2004 was a successful, productive one for the Public Works Department. We performed the necessary tasks to keep our roadways open, refuse collected, and aged treatment plants operating within state and federal guidelines. For the most part, we have a crew of dedicated individuals committed to providing the best practical service to the community. I want to thank my colleagues in Public Works for a job well done.

Some of the projects completed by the highway crew included: coordinating paving on Indian Point Road and Summit Road constructed by Lane Construction; constructing driveway aprons after the Indian Point Road paving; ditching Indian Point and Millbrook Roads; constructing a canopy over the relocated diesel fuel pump; painting the salt storage building; constructing a sidewalk on Main Street and; doing a great job repairing a number of large washouts on Cooksey Drive in Seal Harbor. Challenges faced by the crew included: thawing frozen sewer lines; cleaning up after windstorms and; unplugging storm drain lines. During the winter, we had many commuters from other towns that travel our roadways comment that they breathe easier once they cross the town line into Mount Desert because our roadways are so much safer than those in neighboring towns. The crew accepted delivery of the Town's new street sweeper, albeit later than expected, putting it into service immediately upon its delivery.

As we have become accustomed to and likely take for granted, the refuse collection crew put forth a tremendous effort in all types of weather to make their daily rounds. The crew makes every effort to complete their work in a timely, thorough manner. Our two permanent refuse employees are on the front lines of our refuse collection service, a service that is “not to be messed with” as local lore states. For fiscal and environmental reasons, a policy banning cardboard from the solid waste stream was implemented during the last two months of the year, becoming official policy January 3, 2005. Additional information about this policy is available elsewhere in this annual report. Many thanks go to the refuse crew, Dominic DiGuardia and Hess Pettegrow; our two mechanics, Jimmy Greenlaw and Gerald Frost and; Mr. Poors for bearing with this change and working to help make the policy successful.

The wastewater treatment plant staff is to be commended for producing high quality effluent (treated wastewater) that typically exceeds the minimal federal and state requirements of our licenses. They have been able to accomplish this despite ongoing major reconstruction of their facilities in Otter Creek and Seal Harbor, work that is scheduled for completion by the end of April or first of May, 2005. The staff successfully completed two DEP inspections with our inspector stating that she has seen more positive strides in the operations and maintenance of our facilities during the last couple of years than she had previously seen in her years as our inspector. When asked when we could expect to see her again she commented that it would be awhile because she only “frequents the bad plants”. Per DEP, the crew worked with Olver Associates and R.F. Jordan to complete the successful construction of a new pump station and force main to replace the sand filter on Rowland Road. The DEP worked with us accommodating our scheduling concerns allowing us to avoid disruption of our summer season.

Some of the challenges the wastewater staff faced included responding to reports of illegal discharges of raw sewage, one being a report of raw sewage washing up on the shore at Bracey Cove and one on Seal Harbor Hill. The former was subsequently identified as an illegal overboard discharge from a pipe that had been intentionally built into the sewer system in the 1970's and has now been eliminated; the latter being the flow of raw sewage flowing into Seal Harbor per se from a broken private sewer line that reportedly served nine summer residences on Seal Harbor Hill. The crew also participated in the Maine Healthy Beaches Program, a program that monitors water quality criteria in swimming beaches along some portions of the coast. Aside from the inherent hazards associated with operating and maintaining wastewater treatment facilities, an unforeseen hazardous situation occurred earlier in the Fall. The Northeast Harbor facility received a large volume of flow that smelled like highly concentrated paint thinner. The smell was so strong that crewmembers could have been overcome by the fumes had they been working down in the wet well. The crew was not able to identify the source of the flow. It is illegal to discharge this type of foreign material to public sewer systems.

Members of Public Works participated in various types of training conducted by the MDOT, DEP, MMA-Risk Management, Safety Works, JETCC (wastewater) the Red Cross and, members of our own staff. The training addressing confined space entry, personal protective equipment, safe backhoe operations, safe snow plowing operations and, basic first aid and CPR. Participating with us were members of our dispatch and harbor departments and members of Southwest Harbor, Bar Harbor and Ellsworth public works.

Work anticipated for 2005 includes constructing erosion control measures at Pond's End; culvert installation and paving on Sargeant Drive, Bartlett's Landing Road and, Grant's Hill; curbing construction; float construction; storm drain pipe reconstruction; sidewalk construction; continued efficient collection of refuse; construction of a maintenance and storage building and; completion of the Seal Harbor and Otter Creek wastewater projects. We anticipate that the compliance and process control testing at the treatment plants will continue to show that we meet or exceed our license requirements. Thank you to the Public Works staff for their efforts towards improving our services and our infrastructure.

Many thanks to the taxpayers for their understanding, questions and constructive criticism relative to our procedures and budgets. Their interest helps us to thoroughly evaluate the use of our tax dollars. Additional thanks go to the myriad of volunteers in town who donate many hours of their time for the good of the community; they are not always recognized. Assisting us in Public Works, these volunteers comprise the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Warrant Committee, the Traffic Committee and, the Solid Waste Committee. Thanks to those mentioned here and others I might have missed.

Here's to a successful and safe 2005. Keep your stick on the ice.

Tony Smith
Director of Public Works

REFUSE POLICY NOTE

Town policy allows for refuse truck drivers to use discretion in collecting refuse on private roads and ways AFTER November 1st or the first snowfall. Drivers will collect from private roads and ways during the winter months whenever conditions are suitable and safe. To aid collection, please be sure your road is plowed and sanded, or place your refuse curbside on the nearest main road by 7:00 AM on your scheduled day.

SPRING CLEAN-UP APRIL 18 - 22 2005

Spring clean up will coincide with the regular trash pick-up schedule. There will be only one pick-up per residence. Please have all items out by **7:00 AM. TRUCKS WILL NOT RETURN A SECOND TIME.**

The refuse trucks will collect trash, rubbish, and garbage including reasonable amounts of asphalt shingles, tarpaper, sheet rock, insulation, plastic bags, and other non-wood materials.

A separate truck will collect tires (maximum of 4) without wheels; and metal appliances such as stoves, freezers, refrigerators, washing machines, and dryers.

Another truck will collect reasonable amounts of burnable wood waste such as brush and tree limbs (NO stumps, please). Lumber and other wooden materials will be collected separately; amounts are limited to approximately the size of a pick-up truckload. Wood materials and waste may not be greater than 4 feet long and 6 inches in diameter. **THE VOLUME AND SIZE POLICY STATED HERE WILL BE STRICTLEY ADHERED TO.**

Please keep bagged leaves and grass clippings free of sticks, twigs, and gravel- they will be taken to Beech Hill Farm to be composted.

All refuse and other materials must be in suitable containers or tied in bundles of not over 4 feet in length, except tires and large metal appliances. Tied bundles and containers must be able to be handled by one person

ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE COLLECTED INCLUDE: vehicle or marine batteries, boats, motor vehicles engines or engine blocks, and any hazardous materials.

DID YOU KNOW...

Each residence and business in the Town is allowed to haul one ton of waste to the Transfer Station in SWH for disposal at no charge to the owner or his/her representative. This service is available year round and is paid for by the Town.

REFUSE COLLECTION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2005 – 2006

You are encouraged to “clip and save” this page for reference. To keep apprised of any changes, please watch for ads in The Bar Harbor Times or call the Town Office at 276-5531 or the “GARBAGE HOTLINE” at 276-5733.

Spring Clean-Up Week is **APRIL 18th** through the **22nd**. There will be only **ONE** pick-up of all your items, so please have them out by 7:00 AM on Monday. **Monday:** Northeast Harbor; **Tuesday:** start at the intersection of Routes 3 & 198 and work toward Seal Harbor; **Wednesday:** start in Otter Creek and work back toward Seal Harbor; **Thursday:** start on Route 198 and work toward and into Somesville; **Friday:** general area including Hall Quarry, Pretty Marsh and Beech Hill.

MEMORIAL DAY, Monday, May 30th 2005. **NO COLLECTION**
Monday collection will be on **Tuesday**.

INDEPENDENCE DAY, Monday, July 4, 2005 there **WILL BE COLLECTION**

LABOR DAY, Monday, September 5, 2005 there **WILL BE COLLECTION**

COLUMBUS DAY, Monday, October 10, 2005 **NO COLLECTION**
Monday collection will be on **Tuesday**

VETERAN'S DAY, Friday, November 11, 2005 **NO COLLECTION**
Friday's collection will be on **Thursday**

THANKSGIVING WEEK - November 21-25 is as follows:
Monday & Tuesday collection will be on **Monday**
Wednesday & Thursday collection will be on **Tuesday**
Friday collection will be on **Wednesday**

CHRISTMAS DAY, Monday, December 26, 2005
Monday and Tuesday collection will be on **Monday**
Wednesday collection will be on **Tuesday**
Thursday collection will be on **Wednesday**
Friday collection will be on **Friday**

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Sunday, January 1, 2005
Monday & Tuesday collection will be on **Monday**,
Wednesday collection will be on **Tuesday**
Thursday collection will be on **Wednesday**
Friday collection will be on **Friday**

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY, Monday, January 16, 2006 **NO COLLECTION**
Monday will be picked up on **Tuesday**.

PRESIDENTS DAY, Monday, February 20, 2006 **NO COLLECTION**
Monday refuse will be collected on **Tuesday**.

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT

Solid Waste

Local: The local Solid Waste and Recycling Committee, dormant for many months, has been resurrected. We have a very dedicated and energetic group of people prepared to address local, state and federal issues as they arise. We intend to be proactive, working towards more efficient local collection and disposal methods keeping environmental and fiscal responsibilities in mind. I look forward to working with our volunteers.

State and Local: Maine municipalities report their solid waste management and recycling program data annually to the State Planning Office (SPO). They provide details on the tonnage of solid wastes generated and a description of the solid waste management practices utilized. Approximately 99-percent of the communities in the State submitted data for this years report. Interesting points of fact Statewide included in the 2003 SPO report, the most current, include:

- Businesses are required to pay for their solid waste services in communities comprising 74% of Maine's population
- Trash and recycling expenses: 2003 - \$81 million; 2002 - \$76.2 million
- Communities providing municipal curbside collection: 2003 – 14; 2002 - 15
- 114 communities hire private haulers for curbside collection: 2002 - 106
- 26% of reporting Towns have mandatory recycling
- 25% of Maine's population have a pay-per-bag system
- Total solid waste managed: 2003 – approximately 1,131,867 tons: 2002 - approximately 1,141,419 tons
- In Mount Desert, we produce 1,558 pounds of waste per person while recycling a miniscule 116 pounds of waste or, a ratio of 14 to 1. Statewide, 30% of solid waste is recycled.

Based on this information, it is plain to see that, like the rest of the people in the State, we generate a great amount of waste in Mount Desert. If we can reduce, reuse and recycle, we should be able to cut this volume greatly. This reduction will act to lower our costs associated with its collection and disposal. As you are likely aware, our solid waste budget shown for 2005 shown in department 0433 of this annual report has increased approximately 16% this year. Among other factors, this increase is attributed to a ban on hazardous and mercury containing products from the waste stream implemented by the State and by an increase in our overall volume of waste produced. Hopefully, the policy banning corrugated cardboard from the waste stream passed by the Acadia Disposal District will reduce our volume and associated costs. Our committee supports this cardboard ban and we request your cooperation as we move forward with its implementation.

Regional: The Acadia Disposal District (ADD) is an autonomous quasi-municipal corporation charged with identifying and implementing environmentally cost-effective means of solid waste disposal. The ADD has an adopted set of by-laws and each member community has signed an interlocal agreement. Member communities to date include the Towns of Cranberry Isles, Mount Desert, Tremont, Trenton and, Southwest Harbor

ADD acts as an umbrella for the member towns in the effort to control costs associated with trash disposal and to contain the costs, said costs being in excess of \$2,000,000 on Mount Desert Island. Each member town appoints one director, with one vote, to the governing board of directors who will have the opportunity to become better educated on the options for disposal. Annual operating costs associated with the district are not based on valuation. They are based on the previous years municipal solid waste (MSW) tonnage produced by individual towns on a percentage basis compared to the aggregate MSW of all members.

Some of the initial actions that have been taken include:

- Implementation of a policy banning corrugated cardboard from the solid waste stream to address environmental and costs concerns.
- Assisted local solid waste committees with ongoing information.
- Worked with local town employees to maintain a uniform computerized database of solid waste characteristics, including volume and costs.
- Visited the PERC facility in Orrington to get an overview of the trash-to-energy process.
- Options being explored for further consideration or eliminated from consideration, include, but are not limited to:
 - Purchasing the EMR facilities in Southwest Harbor.
 - Utilizing the Ellsworth transfer station – with Ellsworth a member of the ADD.
 - Implementing a District wide door-to-door MSW collection system with direct delivery to PERC.
 - Implementing a pay-per-bag or pay-as-you-throw system – facts show a 40% decrease in MSW generated (money out) and an increase in recycling (money in) a short time after implementation of such a system.
 - Elimination from consideration of the construction of a transfer facility located off Route 3 on land set aside by the U.S. Congress in 1986 for just such an on-island facility. Problems identified with this include discovering the site is in Bar Harbor and as such would have to be rezoned by their Townspeople for this use; not being a member of the ADD, Bar Harbor has indicated their disinterest in discussing the idea with us; since 1986, there has been considerable growth in the area and; site access issues.

In these times of tight budgets and high costs of services, ways to save money must be investigated. Members of the ADD have this thought foremost in their mind. The ban on corrugated cardboard is one step in that direction. Thank you for your participation and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Brawley, Chairman

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & UNIVERSAL WASTE

The Acadia Disposal District (ADD) will be sponsoring a household hazardous waste (HHW) and universal waste (UW) collection day tentatively scheduled for early in October of 2005. By law, materials classified as HHW or UW cannot be disposed with regular trash and must be handled in a specific way. This will be the third year for this type of event, the prior two having been sponsored by the MDI League of Towns. Different for this year and in conformance with new solid waste disposal laws, will be the inclusion of UW. As before, members of the Hancock County Planning Commission will be assisting us. We are investigating changing the location from the Somesville fire station to the high school but have not finalized these arrangements as of this date.

Materials classified as HHW include: oil based paint, turpentine/varnish, brake fluid, paint remover/thinners/ pool and photo chemicals, used antifreeze, transmission fluid, adhesives/solvents, oven and drain cleanser, fungicides/herbicides/pesticides, battery acid and muriatic acid, waste oil/gasoline and linseed oil.

Materials classified as UW include: rechargeable batteries, mercury switches and devices such as fever and cooking thermometers, thermostats, weather barometers and blood pressure cuffs. Mercury switches can be found in sump pumps, old chest freezers and some gas appliances – we will

only accept the switches. Other materials include fluorescent, neon, mercury vapor, metal halide, and high-pressure sodium lamps. PCB ballasts found in old fluorescent lights are also UW. On January 1, 2006 cathode ray tubes in computer monitors and TV's will be included in this list.

If you have these materials or generate them throughout the year, please separate them from your other waste and store them at your home or place or business until the collection day. We do not have the appropriate facilities to handle the materials ourselves. The specifics of the collection day - date, time and location - will be announced later this year. If you have any questions, please contact Public Works Director Tony Smith at 276-5743 or director@prexar.com. Thank you for your participation and cooperation.

Policy Banning Corrugated Cardboard from the Solid Waste Stream

The following information will hopefully assist us as we move forward with implementation of the policy banning corrugated cardboard (OCC) from the solid waste stream.

1. The Town of Mount Desert is a member of the Acadia Disposal District (ADD) together with Cranberry Isles, Tremont, Trenton and Southwest Harbor. The purpose of the ADD "is to provide for the cost-effective, environmentally friendly, efficient and lawful management, disposal and recycling of waste materials".
2. In keeping with this purpose, the Board of Directors of the ADD voted at their regular meeting held on October 7, 2004, to institute a policy banning OCC from the waste stream of the member towns. This policy should eventually save taxpayer dollars and also address the State of Maine's recycling goals.
3. The policy took effect on Monday, January 3, 2005. It is generally understood and accepted that there will be a learning curve associated with the new policy.
4. A public hearing on the policy was advertised in the local newspapers and held in Somesville in December 2004 – four members of the general public attended. It has been highlighted many times in the three local newspapers.
5. **WHAT IS IT?** Only OCC that is described on the enclosed informational flyer is acceptable. Cereal and pizza boxes are not acceptable.
6. If someone puts trash out in a cardboard box, the garbage collection crew will be instructed to dump the trash in the garbage truck and put the cardboard box back on the ground if it is clean. Otherwise it will go in the truck as trash.
7. Ideally, we would like clean, dry OCC. Clean means e.g. no grease, oil, or food waste on it. It can have labels and tape. A limited amount of contamination is allowed.
8. OCC that is damp is acceptable. If it has been out in the rain but will still hold its shape when picked up, it is acceptable; saturated OCC is not.
9. Dumpsters are not required but recommended for businesses.
10. Please flatten cardboard boxes. This will increase our efficiency and allow you to put more in your dumpsters.

11. **WHAT TO DO WITH IT – BUSINESS:** The Town will collect OCC from businesses on Mondays and Thursdays. This schedule is subject to change based on demand and our resources. It is the responsibility of the business owner to keep the OCC in an acceptable condition. We will be relying on the garbage collection crew to help us make this effort successful. To wet or not to wet, contaminated or clean, will be a judgment call made by them. The dryer the better – if it weighs less it will cost us less to drop it off at the EMR transfer station in Southwest Harbor.

12. **WHAT TO DO WITH IT – RESIDENTIAL:** We presently have dumpsters labeled “Cardboard Only” at the north end of the Somesville fire station, in the Seal Harbor parking lot and adjacent to the marina dumpsters. We are waiting to hear from the Otter Creek Aid Society for a recommendation of where we can put a dumpster in Otter Creek. People can continue to use the Sargeant Drive recycling facility. We will **not** be conducting residential curbside collection for OCC.

13. **WHAT TO DO WITH IT - GENERAL:** OCC can be taken directly to EMR themselves and include it in the one-ton of material the Town pays for on their behalf.

14. The Town will **not** be providing dumpsters to local businesses or individuals for OCC or any other type of solid waste. The solid waste committee unanimously agreed upon this. Some businesses in Bar Harbor share OCC dumpsters.

15. As with household garbage, businesses and individuals are free to contract with private haulers **at their cost** for OCC collection. The Town **will not** be paying for any private haulers.

16. We presently market OCC from our recycling center through Bangor Recycling and the Maine Resource Recovery Association also in Bangor. We earn a minimal return for our efforts but, currently, our costs to recycle all of our materials, including OCC, are greater than our revenue. However, we have to start somewhere.

17. We presently pay EMR \$50 per ton to take our OCC. This is in conformance with our current contract with them that is in effect until June 30, 2007. We will be revisiting this fee structure with representatives of EMR in the near future.

18. The OCC policy will allow us to realize “avoided costs”. If we take OCC to EMR as trash, we pay them \$30.71 per ton. EMR then takes the material to PERC at \$45.00 per ton for a total of \$75.71 per ton. If it goes to EMR as a recyclable for \$50.00 per ton, we have saved, or avoided the cost of, \$25.71 per ton. As stated in Number 13 above, we intend to address the OCC costs with EMR e.g. to negotiate a lower fee or a cost-sharing scenario.

19. We are in the process of evaluating hauling the OCC we collect directly to a recycling center to avoid the EMR tipping fee.

I am certain I have not addressed all questions that will arise, particularly and probably some obvious ones, but this is a start. Please contact Public Works Director Tony Smith at 276-5743 or director@prexar.com if you have any questions.

Thank you all for your patience and assistance as we implement the policy.

SUMMER REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

WINTER REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

MOUNT DESERT PLANNING BOARD

ZZZZIIIIIIIPPPPPP !!!!! That's the sound of another year passing by already. Wow! Happily, it was a relatively controversy free year, despite the several subdivision applications that were approved. As of November 16, there were 5 subdivisions approved or modified and there were also 33 Conditional Use Permits. Several applications were filed and later withdrawn.

I want to say thank you to our Board members who are thoughtful and conscientious in reviewing the applications that we receive. It continues to be my great pleasure to work with them. I learn a tremendous amount from each of them every year.

The Board and Staff continue to change. I think we have a good crew, though I've thought this all along.

We sadly lost our able CEO Brent Hamor to greener pastures in another town position. Brent's fair and level headed enforcement of our ordinances and informed, researched, advice made our job easy. We are going to miss him. The good news is that the town didn't lose him altogether.

We also got Kim Keene back after getting her baptism by fire in Bar Harbor. We are excited to have her back and we're looking forward to working with her in the coming year.

Lisa Renault has joined us as a regular board member and Steve Zirnkilton has become an alternate, a change from last year. We welcome Lisa and are happy that she could join us.

We lost our good friend and colleague Robert Coolidge to Tennessee. Ah well! Those greener pastures are everywhere.

We gained a new recording secretary, Tammy Gordon.

"O gla dee o glad a life goes on".

There are some changes being proposed to the LUZO and subdivision ordinances coming out of recommendations made by Bobby Williams' Ordinance Review Committee. The Committee has been working diligently to make the ordinances more user friendly and understandable. We thank them for their dedication and continuing hard work.

Bobby has done a superb job while balancing her work and her new young family, the latest addition being baby Cole.

Ordinance changes include some inconsequential language clean up and a couple of substantive pieces.

In closing I'd like to thank all of you for your support of your Planning Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc D. Seigny, Chairman
Mount Desert Planning Board

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE REPORT

The Comprehensive Planning Committee is a subcommittee of the Ordinance Review. In 2004, your Board of Selectmen appointed the individuals listed below to this subcommittee.

The Town of Mount Desert contracted with *Planning Decisions, Inc.* of South Portland to begin the planning process. Eric Hellstedt, of that firm, has now compiled an inventory and analysis with which the committee has been working. The categories that are being reviewed, augmented or corrected are: Population and Demographics, Housing, Local Economy, Transportation, Public Utilities/Facilities, Land Use, Parks and Recreation, Open Space, Agriculture, and Forestry, Historic and Archaeological Resources, Natural Resources, Marine Resources, and Fiscal Capacity.

With one resignation and two members who have moved and are no longer residents, the committee is looking to augment its numbers. The public is always welcome at meetings and their input appreciated and encouraged.

Robert Collins
Robert Coolidge
Marla Major
Edie Dunham Crowley
Corey Papadopoli
Lisa Renault
Laurel Robbins (education only)

Jim Robinson
Sydney Rockefeller
Hank Schmelzer
Jerome Suminsby
Kathryn Suminsby
Bobby Williams



GREAT HARBOR MARITIME MUSEUM

The Great Harbor Maritime Museum had an exhibition highlighting the life of Ralph W. Stanley: Boatbuilder, Musician and Historian. Ralph loaned us working models, drawings, photographs and a partial violin that he had built. Many of Ralph's clients loaned us drawings, photographs and models. Craig Milner, author with Ralph of *Ralph Stanley, Tales of a Maine Boatbuilder*, published by Downeast Books supplied photographs culled from Ralph's extensive collection. We used much of his

narrative as text for the exhibition telling Ralph's stories of his life, influences and relationships growing up and building wooden boats in Southwest Harbor, Maine.

At the grand opening in July, Ralph and Craig signed books and the Country Strummers, with whom Ralph performs, played throughout the reception. Over the summer many of Ralph's considerable fans came to see the exhibit and we had many people say the museum's installation was professional and looked better than ever.

Also exhibited was a model of Baker's Island lighthouse and photographs donated to us by Agnes Guen whose relative had built the model. They visited Baker's regularly and had photographs of cars and trucks on the island. Mrs. Guen had donated a Novi Skiff as well and after two seasons of raffling off tickets, the winner was drawn at a closing reception over Columbus weekend.

September 5, 2004 was the 200th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's discovery of Mount Desert Island. We exhibited a chart showing where his boat ran aground in Otter Creek as he was made curious by smoke coming from an indian's camp.

"Learn To Look/Look To Learn", the program that ferries local children to islands to explore, make art and have fun, usually on Baker's Island, clipped its wings a bit this summer due to ferry costs. We felt the money would be better spent on the artists who give the children a creative experience so we went to Bear Island, hosted by Dr. Martin Morad, owner of the lighthouse. Accompanying them were two artists, Carol Shutt, who taught contour drawing and watercolors and David Lamon, who taught dance and movement.

This year, work was done on the building's cellar entrance: Clapboards have been put on the rear shed. Most of the interior has been painted. The green outdoor trim, the new clapboards and a second coat on one interior wall will be painted in the spring. The small front door was also replaced as it had been damaged beyond repair.

At the March 2002 Town meeting Co-chair Carl Kelley spoke in favor of the Town voting to extend our lease until the Ordinance Review Committee could determine what the Town needed in the way of new uses for Town property in the Comprehensive Plan. The Town voted to extend our lease until the fall of 2006.

This season we are putting together an exhibit entitled "Boat Models: Then and Now". If you have models of any kind, we would love to talk to you about borrowing them. Please call Carl E. Kelley 276 0516 or Sydney Roberts Rockefeller at 276 5650

This museum is part of your community! Please be a part of it! We encourage your criticism, enthusiasm, ideas, and anything else you want to contribute.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl E. Kelley
Sydney Roberts Rockefeller
Co-chairs

MOUNT DESERT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greetings. This year's annual report theme of "Success through Citizen Service" is lived every day by the volunteer members of the Mount Desert Fire Department. The many volunteer members of the Department work hard throughout the year to deliver quality fire protection services to the community in an effort to fulfill our mission, improve the quality of life and keep our neighbors safe.

This year we have added several new volunteer Firefighters to our ranks. They are currently enrolled in a regional training program sponsored by the Hancock County Firefighter's Association. This regional training effort is an on-going tradition of the local fire service community and is a direct benefit of your county tax. During MDI High School's spring semester we sponsored an intern who remains an active member of the Department.

Training for members of the Department is a constant process aimed at developing skills and working safely. This year 860.25 hours were spent in training by Firefighters. If the volunteers were paid for this time, this would equate to \$13,764.00 in labor costs when using the International Association of Fire Chief's national wage average. Additionally, 729.50 hours were spent responding to requests for our services. This figures to \$11,672.00 in labor costs. A combined \$25,436.00 worth of labor was provided by the volunteer members of the Department.

A long-range Capital Improvement Plan was submitted to the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen in October. The plan involves periodic replacement of apparatus. It allows them the opportunity to plan for the capital needs of the Department well into the future.

It is a profound thing to call for help. Your neighbors in the Fire Department answered that call for help 158 times during the year. The following table and graphs depict the type of help that was requested and where the service was provided geographically within the town. I am proud to be associated with the volunteer members of the Department who have answered that call. I will paraphrase author Michael Perry in that regard; "To do that or to fight a fire is remarkable. I love – the word is not too strong – the idea of neighbors coming together to put out fire, and I am thrilled to be a part of that effort when I am called. It feels good. It feels right. It feels like I belong."

We are always striving to improve our services to the community. We welcome new volunteer members. We will provide the training required for you to provide a service to the community. Please contact any member of the Department to find out how you can serve your community through service to the Fire Department.

I offer my thanks to the community for your support of the Fire Department. I salute the volunteer members of the Department for their continued service to this community. The words of author Kurt Vonnegut come to mind when I am reminded of your dedicated service. "There is no greater symbol of mankind's humanity to man than a fire truck."

Thank you. Job well done!

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Farley
Fire Chief

2004 Summary of Fire Department Incidents

Total Requests for Service ~ 158

FIRES

Fire Alarm Activation, no fire – 81
 Building Fire – 5
 Woods/Grass Fire – 3
 Chimney Fire – 4
 Vehicle Fire – 1

SERVICE CALLS

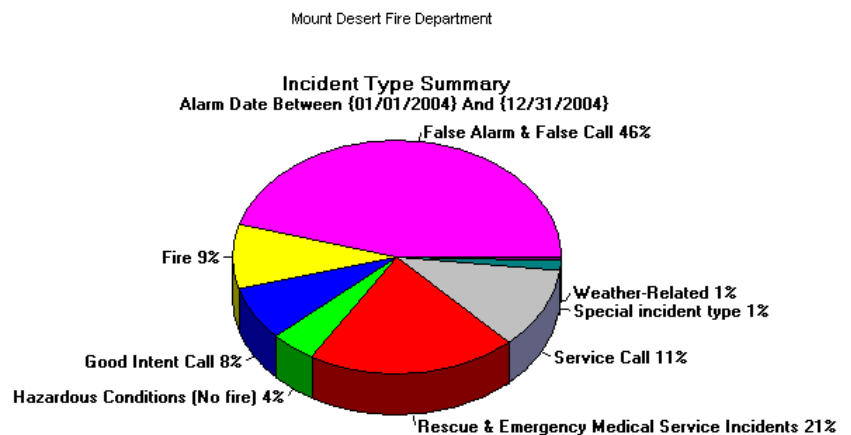
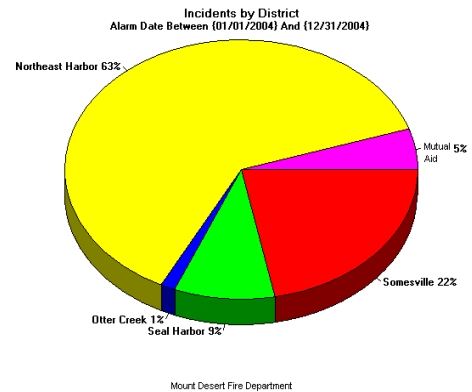
Assist Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service – 21
 Assist Police Department – 3
 Assist Community Service agency – 2
 Assist Harbormaster – 1
 Assist Lost Person – 1
 Fuel Spill/Leak – 1
 Power Line down – 6
 Furnace Malfunction – 4
 Odor Investigation – 5
 Water Leak – 1
 Carbon Monoxide Investigation – 1

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

No Personal Injury – 14

MUTUAL AID PROVIDED

Bar Harbor
 Station Coverage – 3
 Assist at Fire – 1



NORTHEAST HARBOR AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service has been in existence for more than 66 years, offering outstanding emergency care for ill and injured residents and visitors in the Town of Mount Desert and the Cranberry Isles.

The ambulance traveled 5958 miles to answer 206 calls for assistance. Transport calls ranged from simply taking a bedridden patient person to a doctor's appointment to prolonged extrications from vehicles involving emergency workers from several departments and towns or doing Fire Fighter Rehabilitation for a prolonged time at a fire scene.

The calls were as follows:

- 130 to Mount Desert Island Hospital
- 26 to Maine Coast Memorial Hospital
- 6 to Bangor Hospitals
- 9 to stand by for fire calls
- 7 to stand by for community events such as road races or parades
- 1 training drill
- 26 no transport calls
- 1 to Milbridge Nursing Home

Of these total runs, 6 were made for people coming from the Town of Cranberry Isles and 12 were back up calls for Southwest Harbor or Bar Harbor. Our advanced personnel also assisted on neighboring ambulances several times.

We are fortunate to have many dedicated people working with our ambulance, either as Emergency Medical Technicians or helping out behind the scenes with the running of the ambulance service. You often see our EMT's, but there are many others who devote a good deal of time to help ensure that our service runs efficiently. I wish to thank each member of the service for their dedication to the Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service.

All of our EMT's are required to complete several hours of mandated training each year and also other courses for re-licensure. We recently had four new members, three of which just completed their Basic EMT course in December, join the service. Two of our attendants are currently enrolled in an Intermediate course.

We wish to express our thanks to several departments in the Town of Mount Desert. To the dispatchers, who do an excellent job obtaining the critical information needed to send the appropriate people to respond to any emergency. To the police, who respond to all ambulance calls and assist the attendants. And to the firemen, many of whom offer to drive the ambulance and help with lifting and moving patients.

We would also like to thank the residents of the Town for the continued support of your ambulance service and to remind you that 911 is now available from Mount Desert telephones.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert L. Hamor, Service Chief



NORTHEAST HARBOR AMBULANCE SERVICE MEMBERS:

Mark Bucklin
Colby Chase
Luke Damon
John F. Doyle
Chief Chris Farley
Douglass S. "Scamp" Gray, Jr.
Albert Hamor
Carol Hamor
Dana Haynes
Matt Heel
Bill Hodgkins
Todd Holbrook
John Littlefield

Basil Mahaney
John March
Jennifer Marzolf
Steve Montminy
Christopher Moore
Robert Norwood
Robert R. Pyle
Norris Reddish
Joe P. Renault, III
Joanne Robbins
Jessica St. Amand
Kathy Suminsby
Tom Wallace
Jim Wilmerding

SOMESVILLE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Somesville Library continues its century-long position as a village center, to which many new visitors were drawn by our new roof sign. Our 2004 circulation numbers are significant for a small library open only ten hours each week, year-round. In addition, we offer computer and Internet services, reference assistance, and welcoming reading rooms for all.

A total of 1032 visitors signed out 1638 books, and more than a hundred visitors checked their e-mail or used the word-processing capabilities of our up-to-date computer. We answered dozens of reference questions and guided countless visitors to locations all over MDI.

Our volunteers – especially Paulie Johnston and Phyllis Partridge – performed countless hours of catalogue work, and the board as a whole contributed much to the smooth running of the Library. We are grateful to the town and its inhabitants for their continuing and much-needed support.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas V. Lange, Librarian

NORTHEAST HARBOR LIBRARY REPORT

The Northeast Harbor Library is a non-profit corporation operated by a board of trustees. It functions as a full-service community library for the towns of Mount Desert and Cranberry Isles and also serves as the designated library for Mount Desert Elementary School. Funding is obtained primarily through private gifts and endowment income, but a municipal appropriation of \$10,000 and a school stipend of \$24,000 significantly contributed to a 2004 budget of \$306,080. Early assessments indicate that we ended the year within budget.

HOLDINGS

We began 2004 with a lending collection of 41,047 library materials, added about 1,200 items and removed about 800 over the course of the year. This leaves us with a collection of about 41,447 items at year's end. The lending collection consists of bound books, periodicals, audio books, DVD's, CD-ROM's and videocassettes.

The Children's Department accounts for about 11,500 items of the overall collection. The archival collection is of documents, photographic prints and digital images, architectural prints and drawings, newspapers, maps, and a few microform items.

USE AND PROGRAMS

- Borrowings totaled about 44,000 for the year – up by 2,000 from 2003. This makes 2004 the second busiest lending year in a decade. Of the 44,000 items borrowed approximately 10,000 were from the children's collection. The popularity of printed, bound fiction still declines, replaced by videocassettes and audiobooks. July and August were the busiest months.
- The Library's Scholarship Program – now in its fifty-first year --offers grants-in-aid to young people from our town continuing their education beyond Mount Desert Island High School. In the 2003/04 academic year, fifty-five out of sixty-two qualified students claimed \$75,000 in scholarship grants. The Scholarship Program's endowment was a unitized element of the general endowment for many years. In February the Trustees placed Scholarship's funds in a separate endowment so that invested funds could be managed for the program's particular needs.
- The First Friday Coffee House met for six months from October through March, offering local musicians and poets with enthusiastic audiences of forty to sixty people in the atmosphere of a community house party. We are pleased to offer an unusual library program that attracts a diverse audience.
- The Storytelling Program sponsored several large programs during the summer each of which was attended by a hundred or more children and adults. The Library and the Neighborhood House joined together in mid-summer and again at Christmas in co-sponsoring gala events. Throughout the fall, winter and spring the Library provides a preschool story hour led by experienced staff and volunteers; this is designed to develop skills the youngsters will need as they come to love reading and literature.
- Volunteers and staff mounted several exhibitions of primarily local interest in the Patterson Room throughout the year.

DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Last year seven years of planning, study and evaluation came to fruition as the Trustees unanimously reaffirmed and the Corporation then endorsed plans to increase endowment for library operations and proceed with much needed renovation and rebuilding. This development will allow the library to continue serving MDES while equipping it to meet the challenges of growing and changing public demand. The campaign for 5 million dollars or more entered the public phase in October.

Our Capital Campaign has benefited from the outstanding service of a great many community volunteers serving on the Board and its standing committees, and on the Capital Campaign and Building Project committees, all contributing in many ways to our library's bright future.

Because of the tireless efforts of committee members, individuals from all walks of life, and local businesses, we have already met nearly eighty percent of our 5 million dollar fundraising goal! And it is worth noting that although it is difficult to raise annual operating contributions in the midst of a capital campaign, by contributing enough to meet our projected 2005 budget, donors have risen to that occasion also.

Space does not exist in this report to acknowledge the many volunteers who have come forward to make the Library's campaign a reality (and to support daily library services). Perhaps the Capital Campaign Committee pictured below is representative.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Richard Pyle
Director of the Library



**NORTHEAST HARBOR
LIBRARY CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE**

Front row: Anna Carr and
Pamela Bush.

Second row: Edith Schafer,
Elliot Cohen, Janneke Neilson,
Co-Chair O.P. Jackson, Jr.,
Harriet Whittington, Tanny
Clark, Rogie Dickey, Giovanna
Michaelson.

Third row: Robert Pyle, Co-
Chair Moorhead Kennedy,
Samuel Eliot, Don E. Coates.

Not shown: Katie Bell, Daniel
Kimball, Phoebe Milliken,
William Newlin, Susan Utsch,
Mary Clark Webster, Suzanne
McCullagh, Arthur Martinez and
Buddy Brown.

MOUNT DESERT WATER DISTRICT REPORT

During the year 2004 the District took another giant stride in bringing long neglected infrastructure further up to modern day standards. Our staff, also, has been much more proficient in their positions as shepherds of the water supply for our owners, the consumers of our water.

In the area of supplying water, we have installed a new "lift" pump to increase our capacity by 28% to help accommodate our high summer peak demands, especially during abnormally dry summers. We have developed a program in co-operation with the Northeast Harbor Golf Club to facilitate their supply of untreated water for grass watering purposes, which increases our ability to supply treated water to our other customers. We have continued our on-going project of installing new mains by replacing some 4100 feet of lines, thereby improving water quality and our ability to reliably deliver potable water.

In the area of watershed protection, we renewed a Memorandum of understanding with the National Park for 5 more years that defines how we jointly manage our watershed area. Perhaps the year's greatest achievement is our establishing an Option with the Maine Coast Heritage Trust to purchase a Conservation Easement on a portion of our property. The funds generated by this purchase provide dual benefits to the District. First, it generates much-needed funds to improve our aging infrastructure. Secondly, it helps the District maintain protection of our watershed and establishes a benchmark for the value of property we own that is designated for acquisition by ANP.

Personnel wise, in 2004 our personnel have skillfully been able to manage our treatment processes and coupled wit natural absence of bromide in our water so that we became able to pass the annual new testing requirements for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids at both Northeast Harbor and Seal Harbor plants. Our staff has also become certified through the Voluntary LAKE Monitoring Program to monitor raw water quality and invasive plants.

We were extremely sorry to lose the services of Ernest Coombs on our Board of Trustees but most fortunate to have Karen Coombs elected in his place. Edith Dunham Crowley was re-elected, also as a term Trustee. We welcome Bonnie Mohr as our bookkeeper. Her diligence and attention to detail are impressive.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry R. Madeira,
Chairman

Trustees
Kathy Branch
Karen
Coombs
Edie Crowley
Alan Joseph
Harry Madeira

Management
Paul Slack, Manager
Stuart Burr
Mark Johnson
Steve Montminy
Bonnie Mohr

SUMMER RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT

The Summer Residents Association serves as a means of communication between summer residents of the Town and town leadership. Its agenda focuses on issues that concern the future well being of the Town as well as matters of current concern to summer residents. The Association conducts its affairs through several summer meetings and a semi-annual newsletter.

The Association held an open forum meeting on July 13 which was attended by over 50 summer residents. Mike MacDonald, town manager, addressed the meeting on several matters including school funding, the Otter Creek sewer project and contamination of Jordan Stream at the Seal Harbor Beach. As part of his update in the fall newsletter Mr. MacDonald reported a study of the feasibility and cost of updating the water distribution system for fire protection purposes on Ox Hill in Seal Harbor.

John Brushwein addressed the forum regarding the planned reassessment of town properties for real estate tax valuation purposes. Mr. Brushwein also announced his resignation to accept the town manager's job off island which decision he subsequently reversed.

Robert DeRevere, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce of Mt. Desert, addressed the directors of the Association at an earlier meeting at which he described the Chamber of Commerce's activities.

Of particular concern to the members is the water distribution system provided by the Mt. Desert Water District. Paul Slack, manager of the Water District, addressed the directors and again the members at the open forum on issues of cost and pricing for water service.

At the annual meeting in August Lee Worcester, treasurer of the Island Housing Trust, and Ted Koffman, a board member of the Island Housing Trust, discussed the ongoing study of means to provide housing opportunities for middle income workers on Mt. Desert Island. As real estate values rise, housing becomes prohibitively expensive driving people who work on the island and their families to find housing elsewhere. This results in decreased school populations as well as school transportation issues.

Richard Savage, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, addressed the annual meeting on a range of matters including real estate tax funding for town expense as well as school expense, sewer projects, the recently adopted rural waste water support program ordinance, and various facilities matters.

Management of the Association's affairs passed, during the year, from Sally Merchant to Joelle Nolan, and from her to Noelle Young – Bryant. Noelle is Athletic Director at the YMCA in Bar Harbor and works on Rick Savage's charter boat during the summer. Officers of the Association are Morris Kellett, President, Agnes Stroud Peelle, Vice President, Robert Loring, Treasurer and Steve Homer, Assistant Treasurer and Registered Clerk, as well as Noelle as Executive Director.

The Association closed the year with 371 members and reported a modest positive cash flow for the year. Revenues come exclusively from membership dues and contributions from generous members.

Respectfully submitted,

Morris Kellett
President



STATE OF MAINE SENATE

SENATOR DENNIS S. DAMON

Sincerely,

Senator Dennis Damon
Senate District 5



STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TED KOFFMAN
8 MILL BROOK RD
BAR HARBOR, ME 04609

I am very pleased and honored to continue to serve you and the communities of Mount Desert, Cranberry Islands, Southwest Harbor, and Bar Harbor in my third term in the House of Representatives. I will again chair the Natural Resources Committee and continue to chair the study committee to strengthen Maine's Freedom of Access to Information, and the Community Preservation Advisory Committee. These committees have protected children from health threats posed by toxic substances; assured access to public documents; and, increased housing affordable to middle income families.

As I write this letter the Legislature is about to cast votes on tax relief and reform bills crafted by the Special Select Committee on Tax Reform, admirably chaired by Senator Dennis Damon. We look forward to providing significant property tax relief to those most burdened while taking steps to control growth in government spending at all levels. These actions will be coupled with the launching of a new initiative to evaluate State programs and improve their cost effectiveness. In responding to the crisis in health care costs, the Dirigo Health program continues to attract families and small businesses seeking relief from rapidly rising insurance premiums.

Support for Maine's traditional natural resource based economy--- fishing, farming, forestry, outdoor recreation, boat building, and tourism--- remains a high priority. Following a 2004 conference on this topic, the Governor has developed an indicator report that measures the health of these industries. Adding value to and diversifying our natural resource-based enterprises will sustain our quality of life and create jobs. Likewise, Maine's future prosperity will depend on increased investments in our community college and university system coupled with support for medical and bio-technology research.

Attracting and expanding businesses, preparing a skilled workforce, and keeping and attracting talented young people in Maine are mutually supportive goals. Attractive, affordable housing choices will also influence Maine's future economic success. I will continue working on policies and programs here on MDI and across the state that provide affordable housing for young families. In this regard, I applaud the efforts of MDI Tomorrow and the Island Housing Trust as they advance this and other goals to strengthen our communities.

Public service is challenging and rewarding. I cherish the new friends I have made in the Capital and here at home. I appreciate hearing from those of you who have requested my assistance with problems confronting your family or business and appreciate your perspectives on State priorities. Feel free to contact me on weekends at home at 288-8930, or at the State House on weekdays at 1-800-423-2900. You can reach me by e-mail at koffman@acadia.net, or RepTed.Koffman@Legislature.Maine.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ted".

State Representative

MOUNT DESERT ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For the past 75 years, The Mount Desert Island Historical Society has worked to promote the study, understanding and appreciation of the people and the history of Mount Desert Island. Through its programs the Society celebrates the lives of the people of Mount Desert, their traditions, and the events that have shaped, and will continue to shape, this island's history.

Throughout its history, volunteers and their contributions of time, energy and ideas have been central to the work of this non-profit organization. During 2004, some 85 volunteers, over half of whom live in the Town of Mount Desert, helped plan events and educational programs for children and adults. They prepared and set up exhibits in the museums in Somesville and the Sound School House. They studied and catalogued photos and artifacts in the Society's permanent collection. Volunteers with expertise in a wide variety of topics wrote articles for *The Magazine of Mount Desert Island History*.

During the summer, volunteers from the Historical Society and the Bar Harbor Garden Club designed and planted an Heirloom Garden of antique plants beside the Somesville Museum.

The Society's educational programs are designed for all ages. On an average of once a month there are speakers with topics as varied as ice harvesting and the five early motion picture theaters on the island. On a rainy evening in August, more than 60 people came out for a walk through the Brookside Cemetery in Somesville, to hear stories about the individuals and families buried there. At our annual July Strawberry Festival in the Somesville Firehouse, volunteers served 500 people, the largest crowd ever. Visitors from all over the country as well as local residents use The Ralph W. Stanley Research Room for historical and genealogical research.

In September, a gala dinner celebrating the 400th anniversary of Champlain's discovery and naming of Mount Desert was held at the Asticou Inn. Richard Savage II spoke to a sold-out crowd on Champlain's maritime explorations and the legacy of French explorers and adventurers.

Schoolchildren from MDI Elementary School visit the Sound School House in the spring for "A School Day in 1894." Teacher/volunteer Maude March leads them through lessons and exercises that demonstrate how children studied and were expected to behave in a traditional one-room school house. The students' questions, comments and essays show how much they learn about life and customs on Mount Desert more than 100 years ago.

During 2004, donations to our collections of documents, photos, and artifacts came from every town, as well as from families and individuals living elsewhere who have ties to the island. We have also begun to receive donations of items that will be included in "trunk exhibits" that will travel to local schools.

During 2005, the Society's Board of Directors, chaired by Henry Schmelzer, will focus on the expansion of our educational programs to include more events in locations around the island; growth in our programs for school children; identification of important documents, photographs and artifacts which should be sought for our collection and carefully preserved; development of thematic areas in which our museums can build their expertise; and funding for restoration of the c. 1790 Selectmen's Building located beside the arched bridge in Somesville.

The MDI Historical Society is active year-round, with offices in the Sound School House. We invite anyone interested in helping to preserve the history of this island to join us. We especially welcome volunteers who will help us share the stories and treasures of Mount Desert Island with all who visit or live here.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Singleton, President



Volunteers from the MDI Historical Society and the Bar Harbor Garden Club create an Heirloom Garden beside the Somesville Museum.

DOWNEAST TRANSPORTATION

Downeast Transportation is a non-profit, state certified regional transportation for Hancock County. Founded in 1980, Downeast transportation has provided public transportation to the Town of Mount Desert since 1983.

We provide morning and afternoon service between Northeast Harbor, Seal Harbor and Ellsworth on Wednesdays. We provide service to Ellsworth for residents of Somesville on Wednesdays and to Bar Harbor on Thursdays. We provide commuter service from the Town of Mount Desert to employees of the MDI sheltered workshop.

Downeast Transportation is also the operator of the highly successful Island Explorer project on and around Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park.

We at Downeast Transportation truly appreciate the support that Mount Desert provides. Without it we would not be able to provide the services we do.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Murphy,
General Manager

ISLAND EXPLORER

The Island Explorer completed a successful 2003 season with a total of over 340,000 passengers carried. During the middle weeks of last summer, our propane-powered buses carried over 5,000 riders each day. The one-day peak was August 14 with nearly 6,000 passengers. Otter Creek was served by the Blackwoods bus, Seal Harbor was served by the Jordan Pond route, and Somesville was served by the Southwest Harbor route. Links between Northeast Harbor and Bar Harbor were provided by Jordan Pond buses and by the Brown Mountain route. According to an August 2004 onboard survey, 10% of riders were year-round residents and 9% were summer residents. Seven percent of survey respondents rode the bus to get to work. Six percent of bus riders said they traveled to the region via private sailboat. Island Explorer passengers do not pay a fare when they board the bus. Fees are collected instead through the sale of Acadia National Park entry permits. In 2000 Acadia National Park contributed \$316,300 from entry fee revenue to support the bus system. A passenger on the Brown Mountain bus said: "Keep it the way it is! Clean, on time, nonpolluting, comfortable, easy, and commerce bringing." Another Brown Mountain rider said: "We visit by water, this showed us areas we would not otherwise explore." A local resident on the Jordan Pond bus said: "I feel this service is very important. I feel my taxes are going to a worthy purpose. Also it reduces traffic on MDI." A Jordan Pond passenger from New York said: "The opportunity to not use a vehicle during our stay was very important. The general reduction of traffic improves the experience for everyone." For 2005 we will make schedule adjustments and service improvements based on suggestions from riders and area residents. We will continue our efforts to reduce parking and traffic congestion for Mount Desert Island towns and Acadia National Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Murphy,
General Manager

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The traffic committee met several times in 2004. A number of topics were discussed over the course of the year, ranging from parking problems to issues of speeding. The committee sought to create additional designated accessible spaces in Northeast Harbor, re-allow overnight parking for mooring users in Seal Harbor and is exploring ways to reduce traffic speed and on both smaller local roads and village through roads.

The committee has set the third Wednesday of each month at the Town Office as a regular meeting time and encourages public participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Coplon, Co-Chair
Sydney Roberts Rockefeller, Co-Chair

TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT 2005 HOLIDAYS

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>DAY/DATE TO BE OBSERVED</u>
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 17
President's Day	Monday, February 21
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30
Independence Day	Monday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 5
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10
Veteran's Day	Friday, November 11
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25
Christmas Day	Monday, December 26
New Year's Day	Monday, January 2, 2006

SEAL HARBOR VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY REPORT

The Seal Harbor Village Improvement Society is a non-profit organization pursuing a mission to maintain and enhance various public properties, located in Seal Harbor, for the benefit of all the people of the Town of Mt. Desert. These properties include: The Seal Harbor Beach; The Seal Harbor Green, comfort station and parking lot; various turnouts and monuments along Route 3; and several publicly accessed trails and pathways.



During the summer of 2004 the organization rebuilt the pathway on the east side of the Beach, resetting the granite steps and replacing the culverts and drainage system. We also rebuilt the pathways to the garden seat on the west side of the Beach.

During the summer the SHVIS helped support the work of Dr. Jane Disney of the MDI Water Quality Coalition. Finding the cause of the pollution of the Beach and Stanley Brook and improving the water quality is a high priority of the organization. Volunteers from the SHVIS are working with Dr.

Disney and The Coalition to fix the problem that caused the closing of our Beach last summer.

Work is continuing on the trail system and we are presently working with the Town to bring the comfort station up to an excellent modern standard.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Fremont-Smith, Jr.
President, Seal Harbor Village Improvement Society

THE ISLAND FOUNDATION

Asticou Terraces, Thuya Garden, and Asticou Azalea Garden
A Tribute to our Many Volunteers

When the Town of Mount Desert is described as a wealthy coastal community, it is usually done in reference to financial wealth. However, the reference just as aptly characterizes the richness of the community of volunteers who commit so many hours of their time to the organizations and institutions that make this town such a wonderful place to live. The Island Foundation would like to join the other contributors to this Town Report in thanking all of the volunteers who give so much of themselves to enhance the quality of life in our community.

Over 50 volunteers have helped the Island Foundation do its work over the past year. The individuals and businesses are too numerous to acknowledge individually, but many will be recognized by their

deeds. Volunteers serve on our Board and govern all aspects of our operations. They serve on committees and play an important role as garden design consultants and preservationists. They provide valuable financial and investment expertise, and they are involved in day-to-day services such as overseeing the safe use of the new dock at the Asticou Terraces Landing.

Other groups of volunteers have been involved in several special projects this year. Some are designing new fencing for the Asticou Azalea Garden, some are helping with the management of the Harbor Head property on the corner of Peabody Drive and Route 3, and many offered their hospitality to Marc Keane and those who attended his lecture in late August on the history of Japanese Gardening. One volunteer donated granite from his property in Hall Quarry, another is using her greenhouse to propagate one of Beatrix Farrand's specimen azaleas, and a third has used his own GPS equipment to set the course for a future trail between Eliot Mountain and Little Long Pond. Several volunteers have helped us inventory the contents of Thuya Lodge and will continue to help us address preservation concerns, and we are always very grateful to the volunteers who annually help to candle the Mugo pines in the Azalea Garden.

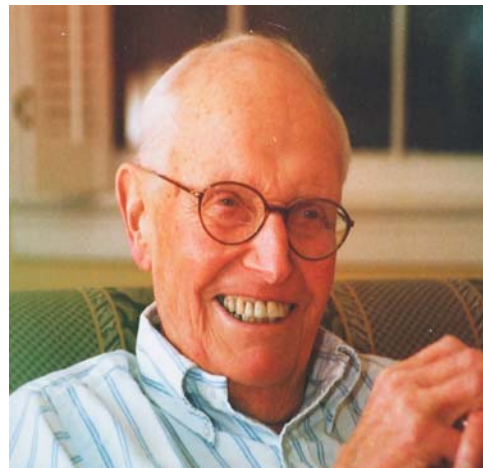
We were pleasantly surprised this summer when several volunteers spent many hours preparing a reprint of the booklet written by Charles Savage in 1973, *Mount Desert, The Early French Visits*. The net proceeds from the sale of this booklet will be donated to The Island Foundation. One of our own staff members has volunteered hundreds of hours over the last several years crafting ship models that have been raffled for the benefit of Thuya Garden.

The list of volunteer services would be incomplete without thanking the businesses and professionals in the community who are often called on for advice and our associations and collaborations with other nonprofit organizations all of whom have their own long list of volunteers. These include the libraries, the historical societies, the Beatrix Farrand Society, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, and College of the Atlantic.

A heartfelt thanks to this community for its wealth of people!

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole O'Donnell
Executive Director



In Memory of Denholm M. Jacobs -
An Indomitable Volunteer

MOUNT DESERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Now that the dust has settled from the construction project, I am pleased to report that this school year has been tremendously smooth and our entire attention is now focused on our students and their education. There isn't a day that goes by that I am not thankful for such a supportive community that obviously cares a great deal about their children and those in charge of their education. On a personal note, words cannot begin to express my sincere debt of gratitude that I owe all of you for your understanding and support during those trying times in my life last year. Now that life is back on track for me, I can finally devote my full attention to our school and our educational mission.

Personnel: New staff members for the 2004-2005 school year:
Kerry Taylor – 4th Grade Classroom Teacher
Stacey Mason – Ed. Tech III

A sad farewell to: Paula Moody – 2nd and 3rd Grade Teacher (effective at the end of the 2004-2005 school year)
Chris Newcomb – Gifted and Talented Coordinator
Maryann Van Dorn – 1st Grade Teacher
Kris Bennett – 5th Grade Teacher

About Our School:

MDES continues to provide the children of Mount Desert a quality education, yet we are constantly vigilant in our efforts to identify and plan for our areas of need. One of our biggest challenges lies in our ongoing decrease in enrollment. Though this trend should stabilize in the next 2 years, a small student population presents both advantages and disadvantages for our learning environment. Currently our main focus as a school is the implementation of our Union 98 curriculum and the local assessments mandated through The Maine State Learning Results and the Federal No Child Left Behind education acts. This is a huge project for all of the island schools, yet I am confident that we are up to the task. To help give you an idea as to how we are doing compared to other state schools, I have provided the MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) scores for the 2003-2004 school year. Allow me to caution you that the MEA's are merely one form of assessment and as a small school these scores can vary greatly from year to year.

Grade 4	MDES	Union 98	State
Math	535	531	532
Science	531	527	526
Reading	543	542	539
Writing	533	532	530
Grade 8			
Math	540	535	528
Science	540	534	528
Reading	544	541	537
Writing	542	540	537

2003-2004 MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) Results
(Based on three year averages)

Budget Proposal:

We cannot deny the fact that our school is currently undergoing a decline in our enrollment. At this time we are very close to being a school with one class per grade level. My charge is to carefully balance the needs of our school with the fiscal responsibility we have as a school to the taxpayers. This proposed budget is very tight and is influenced somewhat by the maintenance cost of a larger facility. At press time, funding from the state for their new Essential Programming and Services (EPS) funding formula was preliminary in nature, but offers some optimism for some local relief. If we indeed receive the type of funding that the state is indicating in their preliminary numbers, taxpayers will see an additional savings above and beyond what is quoted in my figures in this report.

The Final Budget Numbers:

- .74% Budget Increase with debt service
- 1.34% Budget Increase w/o debt service
- Budget includes \$80,000 of interest income earned from the bond (2nd year of a 2 year pay back)
- Increase of taxes: \$5.43 per \$100,000 of valuation (without debt service)
- Increase of taxes: \$4.10 per \$100,000 of valuation per \$100,000 (with debt service)

In conclusion, I can speak for our entire school community when I say that we fully recognize the trust and responsibility that you place with us. Our pledge is to maintain this trust by working hard to continue to provide the quality education that this community expects and deserves.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott D. McFarland
Principal

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

MT. DESERT ISLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL

It gives me great pleasure to provide the citizens of Mount Desert Island with this update on developments at the High School over the past year. Because this year (2004-2005) is my first year, I've spent time reviewing last year's achievements with many people. It is clear to me that the students and staff of this school are proud of its rigor and its standards for excellence as they well should be. In addition, these communities are overwhelmingly supportive of their young people and tax payers have provided the financial support necessary to maintain the high quality of education the students deserve.

Budget Development:

This report represents the proposed budget for the high school for the upcoming school year. We have worked diligently to propose a realistic budget and one that is designed to meet the needs of our school. The majority of the increase is reflective of higher labor costs, the maintenance of the current enrollment levels and funds to properly maintain the facilities. This budget also includes additional staffing and costs in the special services department and technology updates.

Facilities:

The capital outlay portion of this budget adheres to the commitment of the trustees that we continue with an ongoing plan of repair/replacement to maintain the infrastructure of the high school. Major items include a field irrigation system, parking lot lighting, ongoing plans for locker replacement, renovating public bathrooms, and replacement of heating vents.

Curriculum Development and Implementation:

We continue to develop and refine our local assessment system. Students are completing common assessments that demonstrate the meeting of standards and these tasks are housed in their Portfolios. The class of 2005 will be the first class to graduate with a standards-based diploma. The advisory system is an efficient and successful method of staff keeping in close contact with a small number of students. These students and advisors are together for all 4 years and work cooperatively to create personal learning plans for students. Our student led conferences continue to be well attended approaching 92%. The faculty continues to work at curriculum review and we are anticipating the handing out of laptops for freshmen the spring semester of 2005.

Student Achievements:

Our students continue to be successful in the classroom and throughout our co-curricular programs as evidenced by the colleges and universities that they attend after graduation, the awards and scholarships they receive each year, and their performances on standardized tests. We are very proud to note that over two-thirds of our students are directly enrolled in at least one of the many co-curricular programs that the high school has to offer and that eighty percent of our graduates went on to post-secondary educational institutes. The following provides a brief portrait detailing post secondary plans of the graduation class of 2004:

Class of 2004		
	#	%
Post Secondary Education		
Four Year Colleges	111	68
Two Year Colleges	19	12
Post Graduate year	1	0
Total	131	80
Employment	18	11
Military Service	1	0
Undecided	14	9

Graduates from the classes of 2002-2004 have enrolled in the following colleges and universities:

Acadia University	Cornell University	Northeastern University
Arizona State University	Dalhousie University	Rice University
Bates College	Emerson College	Rochester Institute of Technology
Bennington College	Georgia Institute of Technology	Saint Anselm College
Boston College	Hampshire College	Skidmore College
Bowdoin College	Harvard University	Smith College
Bristol University	Haverford College	Syracuse University
Brown University	Macalester College	Trinity College
Carnegie Mellon University	Maine Maritime Academy	Tufts University
Colby College	Middlebury College	University of Maine
Columbia College	Mount Holyoke College	Vassar College
Connecticut College	Mount Allison College	Wheaton College

Faculty/Staff Recognition:

It is important to recognize the many contributions made by our staff on a daily basis on behalf of our young people. These individuals work hard to provide an atmosphere conducive to a high level of learning at the high school. We offer our thanks to the following individuals who left the school last year.

Thomas McKee	Math
John Miyares	Math
Anna Nash	Art
Robert Leibow	Principal (thankfully he did not leave U98 but moved to be superintendent of schools)

Once again, thank you for your deep commitment and on going support of our school. Please feel free to stop by, call (288-5011 X303) or email (sleighton@u98.k12.me.us) me with any questions you may have regarding the operating of the high school. We look forward to continuing a positive-relationship in support of our students in the future.

Sally Leighton
Principal

SCHOOL UNION 98

Dear Parents and Friends,

We are very pleased to report on the many positive educational developments over the last year in School Union 98. Our professional teaching staff continues to provide high quality learning environments for all of our young people. Your continued support of our schools is vital to our success and we value our open lines of communication.

This school year we have hired 24 new teachers all of whom bring a strong sense of dedication and a high level of enthusiasm to our school union. These teachers have had the added benefit of increased support and mentoring from Paige Collins, the new Teacher Leader for Union 98. In addition, four new administrators have joined us. Joanne Harriman has assumed the position of Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, Sally Leighton takes on the leadership role as Principal at Mount Desert Island High School, Peter Campbell has become the full-time principal at the Tremont Consolidated School and Phyllis Walder has taken on the responsibility as Principal at the Swans Island School. We look forward to the strong leadership each of these individuals will be bringing to their schools.

The major focus of our work this school year has been on the implementation of a local assessment system in all of our schools. This new system of common assessments will allow us to meet the new State of Maine requirement to certify that our students have met the standards of the Maine Learning Results. In addition, we have made it a priority to ensure that our new Union 98 curriculum is being implemented at the classroom level. This process has required a tremendous amount of time and effort on behalf of the Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, school administrators and our entire teaching staff.

This year's senior class at the high school will be the first class to graduate with the dual requirement of earning 23 course credits and successfully demonstrating, through a cumulative portfolio of common assessments, that they have met the standards of the Maine Learning Results. This pioneer group of young people is working very hard to achieve this goal and have earned our respect and admiration for their positive approach to this new system of accountability.

We are also placing an expanded emphasis this year on the supervision and evaluation of the teaching staff in all of our schools. More frequent classroom observations by administrators of the teaching and learning process and the follow-up dialogue on improving instructional practice will serve to further strengthen the learning environment for the children we serve.

This year we have expanded the one-to-one laptop program to the high school level through the efforts and financial support of the Mount Desert Island Educational Enhancement Fund (MDIEEF) and several local anonymous donors. This fall all the teachers at the high school received laptops and this January the entire freshman class will be provided with a personal machine. Research on the laptop program in the middle schools has shown an increase in writing skills, expanded access to research materials and an increase in overall student motivation, especially for our at-risk students. It is our hope that the State Department of Education will continue to support this program which would allow us to expand this initiative to all of our students in upcoming years.

We have now developed a working template for our Gifted and Talented programs. Next year each school will have the services of a coordinator who will develop and implement appropriate programming in this area. In addition, teachers continue to receive training and support for differentiating their instruction in the classroom in order to reach more students through their unique learning styles.

Our school facilities continue to receive much needed upgrades and the benefits of regular maintenance. The Mount Desert Elementary School project is finally nearing completion and the new heating system at the Bar Harbor school has dramatically improved heat distribution and air quality.

We appreciate the trust you have placed in us to oversee the educational growth and development of our young people. We are committed to providing the highest quality of education to all of our students.

Robert Liebow,
Superintendent
of Schools

Joanne Harriman,
Director of Curriculum
and Staff Development

Kelley Sanborn,
Director of Special
Services

THE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Since 1905, The Neighborhood House has served as the community center for the town of Mount Desert. The organization provides various educational, cultural and recreational programs for all ages. Throughout the past few years, the center has increased its program offerings in addition to improving and expanding the building itself. With its rich history, value to the small island community and recent, strong rejuvenation, The Neighborhood House remains and will continue to be an enduring part of life in the town of Mount Desert.

2005 will be a thrilling and historic year for the organization, as it celebrates its centennial. For 100 years, The Neighborhood House has served not only as the community center for the town, but truly as the center of the community. The building itself, has been a landmark and constant at the end of Main St. in Northeast Harbor, despite many changes in the town over the last century. Aside from the historic structure, staff have always strived to create a welcoming and vibrant atmosphere.

Through its commitment to improve and maintain community values and spirit of the town, over the past year, The Neighborhood House has offered the community:

Community Fitness Room: Once again, The Neighborhood House experienced a tremendously busy fitness room during 2004. With nearly 500 members signing up at one time or another, the fitness room proved to be a successful and much used resource for the citizens of Mount Desert. The room has helped to enhance programming for adults and seniors alike.

Adult and Senior Programs: The Neighborhood House continues to grow from year to year in this area. Year-round yoga sessions, strength training workshops, senior fitness classes, and the availability of personal training with our certified instructor are some of the offerings available to adults and seniors in the town. In 2005, The Neighborhood House will begin offering spinning classes.

Summer Day Camp: 2004 was another successful summer for The Neighborhood House's summer camp programs. Four different camp programs were offered to town families. During the past summer, The Neighborhood House managed **Scamper Camp** (ages 3 to pre-k), **Jr. Explorer Camp** (grades 1 & 2), **Sr. Explorer Camp** (grades 3 & 4) and **Quest Club** (grades 5 to 8). Most camps were full to capacity each day. Over 140 children took part in the summer programs. All camps focused on providing each child with a safe and healthy camp experience full of fun and adventure. Campers were offered numerous opportunities for social experiences, creativity, exercise, field trips, dramatic play and confidence building.

Town Pool: In addition to the summer camps, The Neighborhood House maintained and staffed the town swimming pool over the summer. During the past summer, The Neighborhood House worked closely with the Town to repair a torn liner discovered when opening the pool for the season. However, through collaborated efforts, the pool was up and running within a few weeks. The facility was open from the beginning of July to the end of August on a daily basis. The pool was in constant use between summer day camps, young swimmers at the Mt. Desert Nursery School and the open swim program during afternoons and weekends.

Youth Sports: The Neighborhood House continued to provide youth sports programs through the hard work of numerous volunteers. Soccer, basketball, an open gym program, baseball/softball and tennis programs were offered throughout the year. Well over 100 different youngsters took part in these sports programs.

Youth Club: The Neighborhood House Youth Club entered its seventh season in the fall of 2004. Attendance increased this past fall with a dozen to dozen and a half children participating daily. The Youth Club provided a safe and fun place for kids to “hang out” after school until 5:00pm and was a much-needed alternative to taking the bus home to an empty house without a parent present. The club offered members fun activities and games on a Monday through Thursday schedule as well as school vacation activities.

Community Events: The Neighborhood House provided the community with various events during the 2004 calendar year. The center hosted such things as the annual Chili Challenge, concerts, Teddy Bear picnics, a bike parade, ice cream socials, a Father & Daughter Valentine dance, a dramatic performance of “The Beanstalk Variations” by Figures of Speech Theatre as well as “The Grinch” by Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers both in partnership with the NEH Library, the Asticou Inn Dinner, a chilling community Halloween party and haunted house, Breakfast with Santa as well as the Town Christmas Festival to name a few. For 2005, the organization will be offering even more community events in celebration of its centennial.

Local Group Support: Aside from collaborating closely with multiple area non-profits in an effort to increase partnership and quality programming, The Neighborhood House also provided a home for numerous area groups. 2004 saw the usual community events, banquets and celebrations as well as family celebrations such as wedding receptions, birthday parties and the like. Moreover, the center offered a space for local organizations to meet and hold events. From housing a local Brownie troop, to the Acadia Senior College, to the Mount Desert Festival of Chamber Music, The Neighborhood House provided a space for over 30 area groups during 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie DeRevere, Executive Director

ISLAND CONNECTIONS

Island Connections is pleased to have completed our eighth year of service in the Town of Mount Desert. We provided rides to more than 40 residents to a multitude of medical and other appointments; we delivered meals five days per week for the Meals for Me and MDI Hospital programs to residents in Seal Harbor, Northeast Harbor, Somesville and Pretty Marsh; we hosted a variety of social events for Seniors and the disabled that were well attended by Mount Desert Residents.

We are pleased to be working even more closely with the Mount Desert Nursing Service in scheduling rides for people who need them, as well as getting prescriptions delivered from Bar Harbor. They and our many volunteers play a crucial role in the collaborative that makes Island Connections a success. Island Connections has more than 15 active volunteers from the Town of Mount Desert – we gratefully appreciate their support!

In this new year Island Connections is intent on delivering consistent transportation services while expanding other programs. Care Call – a program providing for daily telephone calls to seniors has shown steady growth as has our Care Givers Support Group for families dealing with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. We’ll continue our mission in 2005 of providing free service to the elderly and disabled that enable them to live independently and with a strong quality of life.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Dewey, Director
Island Connections

TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Town of Mount Desert Housing Authority provided housing for eighteen (18) elderly and disabled families during 2004. The eighteen (18) one bedroom apartments at Maple Lane Apartments have been fully occupied and there is a waiting list of individuals desiring to become tenants.

The Mount Desert Housing Authority assisted fifty-three (53) low-income families with their rent and utilities in the amount of 245,773.79. This reduces the number of families that would normally be requesting assistance from the town.

Payment in lieu of taxes for 2004 \$3,096.92

The Mount Desert Housing Authority is very appreciative of the support received from the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Public Works Department in helping us care for the senior members of our community.

The Board of Commissioners meets the first Thursday of the month on a regular basis. The meetings are handicap accessible and the public is welcome to attend. It is a good idea to call the office at 288-4770 to confirm the date and time as it is subject to change. Our office is located at 80 Mount Desert Street in Bar Harbor, ME. The office is open from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. We can be reached at 207-288-4770 or via e-mail terry.kelley@emdiha.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Karol Hagberg, Chairperson
Town of Mount Desert Housing Authority

MOUNT DESERT NURSING ASSOCIATION

Community Health Nurse's Annual Town Report

Patient visit statistics for July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004:

July 2003	119 visits	January 2004	102 visits
August 2003	138 visits	February 2004	109 visits
September 2003	173 visits	March 2004	207 visits
October 2003	148 visits	April 2004	145 visits
November 2003	183 visits	May 2004	142 visits
December 2003	140 visits	June 2004	145 visits

Total – 1751 visits

Number of individuals served: 347

Since 1949 the Mt. Desert Nursing Association has served the town of Mt. Desert as a not for profit, community supported nursing service. We receive no third party reimbursement; therefore we are not constrained by insurance company rules as to who qualifies for care and how long that person may be seen. Our patients may be referred by a hospital, nursing home, physician's office or they may self refer. We provide maternal/child visits; health education information, social service support and health maintenance visits for those with chronic stable conditions. We help with transition from other health care settings, such as the hospital or rehab center for those individuals more acutely ill or recovering from surgery who do not have insurance or do not meet the criteria for service by the full time agencies such as Hancock County Home Care & Community Health & Counseling.

We have made over 120 referrals to approximately 30 outside agencies which serves as an example of the community support available and the care manager aspect of the nurse's role. We gave flu vaccines to home bound patients as well as giving over 100 flu vaccines at our office and at the Maple Lane Apartments. We have continued to visit our patients at local hospitals and nursing homes and to meet discharge planners. The nursing staff spends many hours conferencing with health care professionals, individuals and families by phone and here at the Chapter House. We summoned The Northeast Harbor Ambulance 7 times and provided phlebotomy a total of 65 times as well as welcoming 7 new babies to our community.

As part of our quality improvement program we have continued quarterly patient record reviews of 27 active and inactive charts. The Nursing Committee has continued meeting monthly and the annual review of nursing policies and procedures has been completed.

Our loan closet continues to serve the community with durable medical equipment. Over 72 individuals have accessed our inventory this past year saving hundreds of consumer dollars in insurance claims.

I represent MDNA on the Active Older Adults task force, which is investigating what programming exists for elders on MDI & what we can do to increase physical activity for this age group. I am part of the Senior Nutrition task force developed by the MDI Housing Authority to meet the need for better access to healthy cost efficient meals.

MDNA has served the community by coordinating a Men's Health Assessment Days, a Women's Health Assessment Day which focused on the American Heart Association's mandate to educate

women on the importance of heart health and reducing the risk, a four-part Family Caregiver Course, healthy cooking demonstrations, BP screenings at the Abby Chapel luncheons as well as MCM Hospitals Health Fair. Our walking group is available to community members on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday's. Our walking route is now registered with the Healthy Maine Walks Coalition and may be visited on their website @ www.healthymainewalks.org. The weather has driven us indoors on occasion but the Mount Desert Elementary School has allowed us access to the renovated building after 3:30 pm where we walk for 45 minutes. Our Lifestyles Group is a continuation of the TOPS group that met here at the Chapter House the past 30 years, but is now expanded to include not only weight, but many aspects of health such as exercise, meal planning, stress management as well as provide support to make and sustain positive changes. Our Healthy Lifestyles Group meets Monday from 11-12 with the option to join the Town Trotters walking group after the meeting. Our staff includes: Dianne McMullan, RN –Nursing Director, Community Health Nurse

Emma Lansing, RN - Part time Community Health Nurse
 Karol Hagberg, RN - Per Diem
 Norma Spurling, RN - Per Diem
 Susan Christie, RN – Per Diem
 Carol Revak - Office Manager

The Mt. Desert Nursing Association is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to Noon and again from 1:00 to 3:30 pm. We welcome new referrals and may be reached at 276-5184 during office hours.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Directors consisting of 28 individuals who meet six times a year including an annual meeting open to the public in July.

Our Board consists of the following:

Dr. David Reiber - President
 Steven Richards - Treasurer
 Jackie Davidson – Secretary

David Burr	Corinne Carbone	Dennis Carr	Katrina Carter
Jan Coates	Anne-Marie DeRevere	Julie Havener	Lou Ingrisano
Paula Knudson	Wendy Littlefield	Constance Madeira	(lifetime member)
Shirley McGarr	Janet Moore	Barbara Orlando	Linda Pomerleau
Pat Pugh	Miriam Pyle	Gail Reiber	James Russell
Melissa Saunders	Patricia Scull(lifetime member)	Geddes Simpson	Ann Strohacker
Geraldine Sweet	Stephanie Zirnkilton		

The Staff and Board of Directors wish to submit this report with thanks to all who support our agency. Approximately one quarter of our patient visits are charitable or “no charge” visits. Donations and town funding allow us to provide such services. Without your generosity we would not be able to keep our fee schedule low and provide affordable professional nursing care to the residents of the Town of Mt. Desert.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dianne McMullan, RN
 Nursing Director, Community Health Nurse



Women's Health Assessment Day
 Volunteer and Board Member, Patricia Pugh (right) discusses her cholesterol reading with Laurie Jones, technician (left) at our free clinic on December 6, 2004

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COUNSELING SERVICES

The roots of Community Health and Counseling Services (CHCS) run deep, 121 years deep. Founded in 1883, CHCS has helped tens of thousands of people with great need through community health services. This year CHCS served 7,883 people throughout much of Maine. The commitment to the various communities and people we serve is embodied in the CHCS Mission: Community Health and Counseling Services will provide community health services which are needed and valued by the communities and individuals we serve.

CHCS strives to recognize the needs of our clients, the changing trends in home health and mental health care, and the changing technologies that aid in providing needed care. CHCS is a private, nonprofit, comprehensive community mental health center and a Medicare/ Medicaid certified home health agency -- one of the few such combined organizations in the country. CHCS provides quality services to more than 200 communities in central, eastern and northern Maine. At the heart of CHCS's mission is the concept that care is best given in a familiar setting where those being helped are able to remain close to family and friends who become a part of the support and recovery process.

Helping Children to Belong. Every child longs for love and acceptance. Unfortunately, in today's world, that doesn't always happen. Sometimes the difficulties of coping with life push children to behave in ways that lead to rejection. And more often than we like to admit, children suffer severe abuse or neglect. CHCS is dedicated to helping the unique and beautiful child within to emerge from the devastation caused by adverse circumstances and/or vulnerabilities. Tailored to the individual needs of each child, our goals are to build on the child's and family's strengths through supportive intervention and to foster reunification when possible.

Mental Illness Touches Us All. Mental illness knows no boundaries. It can affect any of us. Adults, children, family members and friends, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, struggle with mental illness. Many people don't have a personal or professional network to help them cope with their illness. CHCS's wide spectrum of community-based services help these individuals achieve individual goals and maintain independent living in the community. This is the difference between hope and despair.

The Healing Power of Home. When you are sick, there is no place like home. There is no comfort that compares to the comfort of loved ones around you. Home care can mean returning home from the hospital sooner or, in some situations, avoiding hospitalization altogether. Along with professional care of the highest standards, home care offers individual support in maintaining normal activities when a health problem affects the quality of life. As a natural extension of the home health care that CHCS has provided for over a quarter of a century, CHCS now offers hospice services. Hospice is a philosophy of care in which the emphasis is on the quality of life for individuals with a terminal illness. Hospice is a support system for both the individual and the family when they have made the decision to spend their last days together in familiar and caring surroundings.

The monies received from municipal appropriations help bridge the gap between reimbursed care and the non-reimbursed care we provide. Municipal appropriations also provide the local match needed to secure Title XX monies necessary to support the Homemaker Program. This program helps individuals with a chronic illness or those disabled, as well as adults and children in protective services, to stay in their homes - maintaining ties with family, friends and familiar surroundings.

In FY04, 5 children and 8 adults from the Town of Mount Desert received mental health services from CHCS representing 18.06% of the services provided on Mt. Desert Island. Also, 15 individuals

received health services. They received 114 home health visits, 6 homemaker visits and 5 hospice visits. This represents 33.33% of the individuals served on Mt. Desert Island.

CHCS is grateful for the support from the Town of Mount Desert each year, which helps to provide care to the most vulnerable in your area, helping them maintain their quality of life.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph H. Pickering, Jr.
Executive Director



DID YOU KNOW...

Most registrations, (motor vehicle, trailers, boats, ATV's, snowmobiles) can be done through the mail – call the Town Office to find out how easy it is!

AUDIT