How and where to get and offer help and services

ple have asked how to help and where they can go to offer help to the people and businesses. What many may not know is that there is local help available, in addition to state and federal flood assistance.

I-100, provider in Waitsfield Village, is currently acting as wareas for other flood information. home page I-100's (http://www.madriver.com) includes a link to a flood page where people who want to contribute time, energy, services and funds can post their offers. The site will also include a listing of people who need help and what kind of help they need. Those without access to the internet can call 58-FLOOD for information.

The Mad River Valley Community Fund has received numerous pledges of financial

of last support including recent conweekend's flooding, many peo- tributions from the Valley Clergy Council and the Valley Rotary Club. The present goal of the community fund is to be able to provide immediate grants of up to \$1,000 for flood victims.

There is currently \$25,000 internet service available through the community fund. The board of directors of the community fund met house for offers of help as well this week with representatives of the Mad River Rotary Club and the Valley Clergy Council. The Rotary Club pledged \$2,000 immediately and another \$2,000 in matching funds.

The community fund itself has contributed \$20,000 for flood relief, said board treasurer Mark Grosby, and the clergy council will donate the balance

"We've been saving for a rainy day, well it rained," Grosby said.

The Farms homeowners association in Warren

pledged \$2,500 or more to the Mad River Valley Community Fund for flood relief, in hopes that other condominium associations will do the same, according to spokesperson Zeke Church.

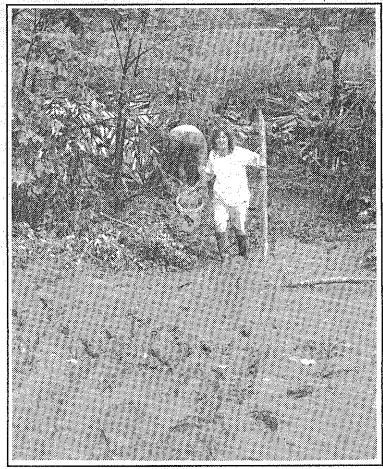
One page applications for help will be promptly considered and checks will be written within 24 hours to qualified applicants. Applications for larger assistance will be accepted, but will not be evaluated until more is known about federal and state help, as well as the total available local funds.

The applications are available at the Warren, Waitsfield, and Moretown town offices and at all three banks in Irasville or by calling 58-FLOOD (583-5663). Telephone service has been contributed by Waitsfield Telecom.

Mac Smith of the Valley Clergy Council suggested the local groups get together to coordinate local flood relief efforts. The community fund, in addition to providing money, will coordinate and administer the fund. Grosby and Sheila Getzinger are spearheading the effort. They feel that these funds are just the beginning and estimate that at least twice that amount is needed to provide minimal immediate financial assistance.

"Before the program was an hour old, \$5,500 in grants had been given to flood victims," Grosby said.

Donations can be mailed to MRVCF Flood Relief, P.O. Box 353, Waitsfield, VT 05673. Donations can also be left at the

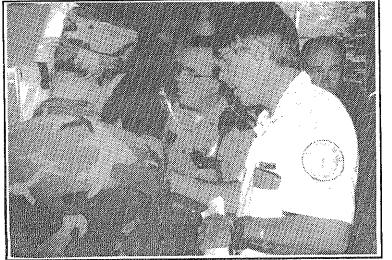


Valerie Snapp helps to gather firewood which was thrown about by the rushing waters at American Flatbread and Lareau Farm Country

various town offices or at any bank in Waitsfield. Checks should be made payable to MRVCF Flood Relief.

Giorgio's Cafe in Fayston will hold a fundraiser to help the Lareau Farm, American Flatbread and Baked Beads. That takes place tonight, July 2, at Tucker Hill lodge from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and features Caribbean music.

A fundraiser for flood relief will be held at the Pitcher Inn on July 15. The inn will hold a charity wine tasting dinner will all proceeds going to the community fund for flood relief. All funds received will be matched by the Winthrop and Margaret Smith Foundation. Details on the event will be forthcoming.



A control center was set up at Waitsfield Fire Station. MRVAS president Brad Cook discusses emergency plans.

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