

LONG TERM CARE SERVICES

Susan Denopoulos, Assistant Director

It is hard to imagine beginning or ending this Annual Report without attempting to recognize what Bill Sturtevant's lifelong dedication to Rockingham County Nursing Home has meant to the high quality of care provided. His footprint left on the facility will never be equaled.

As the year 2005 came to a close we ended a 5 year struggle by adequately staffing the facility without the use of agency personnel. We would like to acknowledge the support of Martha Roy, Director of Human Resources, for her support and assistance in achieving this goal.

We are pleased to report that the Ernest P. Barka Assisted Living Facility expansion will open soon with an additional 19 beds. As frequently reported we have an active waiting list of potential residents ready to move in. With the guidance and management of Jude Gates, Director of Facilities, Planning, and Information Technology, construction was on time and the appearance adds to the beauty of the complex.

In April, the Bureau of Health Facilities arrived for its Annual Survey of Long Term Care Facilities. The facility fared well due to a great team effort.

The "Employee of the Month" program continues at the facility. We strongly believe no greater honor can be bestowed on an employee than being recognized by co-workers for their outstanding work accomplishments. I hope you all will join me in congratulating the following monthly winners:

January	Jamie Coigley, Occupational Therapy
February	Sandra Powers, Nursing
March	Ellen Harnden, Nursing
April	Lisa Darling, Nursing
May	Regina Crowell, Dietary
June	Holly Solie, Nursing
July	Elizabeth Porter, Environmental Services
August	Joan Desjardins, Environmental Services
September	Lorraine Valencia, Nursing
October	Mui Sui, Environmental Services
November	Alleyne Salanskas, Nursing
December	Kim Gauthier, Administration

It is also a pleasure to note that Elizabeth Porter of our Environmental Services Department was recognized as an Employee of the Year at the New Hampshire Association of Counties Annual Conference.

The EFFORTS Committee continued to generously fund nursing home projects dedicated to enhancing the quality of resident's lives. We have already received commitments from this group for continued support in 2006.

We are pleased to report that all nursing facility beds came back on line as the Fernald wing renovation was completed. Staff has been working aggressively to fill beds, which is part of a multiple faceted effort to enhance facility revenue. In addition to this operating revenue there have been budgeted increases in the bed tax and Proportimate Share Pool (PSP) revenues.

I would like to recognize the Department Heads and outstanding employees of the facility. The Department Heads of the nursing home are a strong cohesive group that lead by example. Most have been here and worked under Bill's leadership for a long time. During this past year these dedicated professionals and their staff continues to carry out the high standard of care that the facility is renowned for. My thanks for your hard work every day and for their support of me.

Adult Medical Day Care welcomed Helen Kolifrath, RN as its new Director. She brings new enthusiasm and vision to a much needed program for the citizens of Rockingham County.

Lastly, Ray Bower, County Administrator of Strafford County, graciously came to assist us after Bill Sturtevant's death. Mr. Bower made this offer to honor Bill in recognition of his leadership in New Hampshire long term care history and all he had done. A longtime friend and colleague of Bill's, he has proven to be a friend to Rockingham County. My sincere gratitude on behalf of the nursing home residents and staff for Mr. Bower's immense knowledge, support, and direction during difficult times.

Many people say the truest test of the value and accomplishments of ones work career is the acknowledgment of your peers. William F. Sturtevant's work career was second to none. His life and his passion for Rockingham County Nursing Home will never be matched. We are all better employees and people for knowing him. He set an example for all of us to follow.

2005 NURSING HOME CENSUS

Daily Average Census - 205

Highest Census 213 / Lowest Census 199

Admissions		Discharges	
Home	31	Hospital Admit>Returns	29
Hospital	21	Discharged to another facility	5
Nursing Home	24	Discharged to assisted living	6
Psych Hospital	3	Discharged home	4
Group Home	1	Expired while in hospital	6
Rehabilitation	7	Deaths	77
Assisted Living	3		
Total Admissions	<u>90</u>	Total Discharges	<u>127</u>
Average Resident Age			77
Average Age of Death			86
Average Age of Admission			91
Average Length of Stay			3 years. 5 months, and 12 days