

Helen Kolifrath, RNC, Adult Medical Day Program Director continues to bring new life to this program while continuing to improve the daily census.

Ray Bower, Nursing Home Administrator of Strafford County completed his consultation to Rockingham County at the end of 2006. His expertise and assistance is respectfully and gratefully acknowledged not only by me but all who benefited from his willingness to be of assistance.

I am proud of Rockingham County Long Term Care Services as well as proud to have been the Acting Administrator for the past year and a half. I look forward with new excitement to the year ahead, as we welcome a new Long Term Care Director. My enthusiasm is in the joy of seeing to fruition the changes we have begun implementing and also being part of assisting our new Director in my capacity as the Assistant Administrator.

I am especially proud of the people I work with every day – colleagues who work with loyalty and high standards – because of them I am honored to be a part of this incredible team.

The support of our County Commissioners: Chair Maureen Barrows along with Don Stritch and Katharin Pratt has been invaluable. We are grateful for their dedication, interest, and caring all year long.

2006 NURSING HOME CENSUS

Daily Average Census – 218

Highest Census 226 / Lowest Census 202

Admissions

Home	35
Hospital	19
Nursing Home	22
Psych Hospital	4
Group Home	1
Rehabilitation	7
Assisted Living	3
Total Admissions	<u>91</u>

Discharges

Hospital Admit>Returns	39	Average Age Of Residents	86
Discharged- another facility	2	Average Age of Death	91
Discharged- assisted living	6	Average Age of Admission	81
Discharged- home	2	Average Length of Stay	2 years,
Expired- in hospital	5		4 months,
Deaths	58		13 days
Total Discharges	<u>112</u>		

THE ERNEST P. BARKA ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY

Nancy L. Lang, Director

Here we are 2006! It is hard to comprehend that we have been up and running for three years. Everyone is bubbling with excitement at the opening of our very own unisex hair styling shop and that we have once again survived another construction project. We had our annual state survey which was very successful, complimentary and increased our license to accommodate from 30 to 49 residents.

The building looked beautiful with colors, decorations, furniture all coordinated by our talented Verne Rines. Every resident wanted to live on Fernald One. As the new residents were admitted one by one, our elegant dining room filled up and was the center for new friendship. It is such a rewarding experience to see these seniors making new friends and sharing stories with their peers. Thank you Rockingham County Commissioners for making the Assisted Living possible.

What a busy place! Soon after opening we began working on our float for the Mardi Gras parade that was being held in the Nursing Home. Our theme was “New Orleans or Bust.” As spring arrived we began our weekly shopping trips, walks, and spending a great deal of time outside in our lovely landscaped courtyard. Many thanks to Jude Gates and the Maintenance Department for all their hard work in our courtyard right down to feeding the fish in the ponds.

Activities are ongoing daily from exercise programs, board games, karaoke, cooking, bowling tournament, and every day current events. Bingo and music provided by Judy McLeod are still the favorites. We have found every ice cream stand from here to the White Mountains and believe me they have tried them all.

September brings National Assisted Living Week. We started off the week with a bowling tournament. The remainder of the week was filled with a "New York Fashion Show", activities, music, bake sale, a homemade breakfast prepared by our staff and finally an Italian Dinner Party with live music. Thanks to Don Ramsey and the Dietary Department. The food was equal to any restaurant in the North End of Boston.

The Holidays quickly approaching and our residents were busy making craft items for their table they would have at the Nursing Home Christmas Fair. Halloween is always a treat with local day cares coming in to "Trick or Treat."

The Assisted Living Residents were excited and eager to vote in the local elections, some by absentee ballots and others went to the polls and voted.

Soon to follow the carolers, decorating, wrapping gifts, baking cookies, and preparing for the festivities of the season. Our annual Christmas Party was a huge success as usual with a visit from the most unique Santa Claus, thanks to Thom Clayton. Every resident received a gift and had their picture taken with Santa. Each picture was framed by our staff and given to the resident to share with their family. Many residents look forward to spending the holidays away at family homes, while other families came to Assisted Living and had a great day.

As 2006 came to an end we had a full house with a waiting list of approximately 100+ county residents waiting for a room at the Ernest P. Barka Assisted Living. Wouldn't Commissioner Barka be proud?

I could not conclude this report without acknowledging the outstanding dedicated staff we have at Assisted Living. Our staff continues to maintain a loving, caring, safe, and supportive environment while providing a high level of care.

A heartfelt thanks to all the families of residents as their moral support and contributions help make the Ernest P. Barka Assisted Living a warm and caring facility. I would like to thank Susan Demopoulos and nursing home administration for all the help and assistance they provide for us throughout the year.

Needless to say we would not be as successful without the caring support provided from the Board of County Commissioners.