

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Maureen Barrows, Chair

Katharin K. Pratt, Vice-Chair

C. Donald Stritch, Clerk

As Rockingham County Commissioners, it is our duty to provide essential services to the taxpayers of Rockingham County in the most efficient, cost effective manner.

The County has been cited on numerous occasions as one of the best locations to call home and establish a thriving business. Portsmouth was recently identified by Money Magazine as the fifth best place to live in the United States. This has been accomplished by providing residents with outstanding opportunities in education, strategic business location, a skilled labor force, and an excellent quality of life. The New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning estimated the population of the county to be 295,525 and the trend continues to show population growth.

A discount card program was launched in 2008 to help our residents with the high price of prescription drugs was. Rockingham County is making free prescription drug discount cards available under a program sponsored by the National Association of Counties. Caremark Rx Incorporated administers the discount card program and offers a toll free number for assistance with the program along with a website. The cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage, and are accepted by most pharmacies in Rockingham County. Cards have been distributed and available for pickup through town offices, head start offices, community action agencies, senior centers, and distributed to patrons of nursing homes, adult day care centers, visiting nurses agencies, and for download at the county website.

We continue alternatives to reduce the pre-trial population at the jail by using the Supervised Community Release from Incarceration Program (SCRIP) and an adult diversion program. Both initiatives are having a positive impact. We are providing contracted services to the New Hampshire Department of Corrections for the Academy Program, which is a diversion program for felons.

Finances are in order and Moody's rating service has once again awarded Rockingham County the highest short term borrowing rating available however Moody's has expressed concern about the long term effects on county finances of the cost shifting by the State of New Hampshire to the counties. The Commissioners continue to work diligently against increasing unfunded mandates by the legislature.

District 1 Commissioner Pratt

Serving: Danville, East Kingston, Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newington, Newton, North Hampton, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Rye, Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham

District 2 Commissioner Barrows

Serving: Atkinson, Brentwood, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Hampstead, Newfields, Newmarket, Raymond, Salem, Sandown

District 3 Commissioner Stritch

Serving: Auburn, Candia, Chester, Deerfield, Derry, Londonderry, Northwood, Nottingham, Windham