

**REGISTRY OF DEEDS**  
Cathy Ann Stacey, Register

At the midpoint of my eighth term as Register of Deeds I will take this opportunity to express my continued appreciation to the residents of Rockingham County for their continued support and confidence in me as their elected County Register of Deeds. It continues to be my pleasure to serve and I pledge to continue on my vision to make the Registry of Deeds records more accessible to the public as well as continued fiscal responsibility in the budgeting of this office. In 2009 this office successfully restored the first 100 historical handwritten volumes dating back to 1643. The first twenty-five volumes have been rebound and are exhibited in the Registry for use by the public. My efforts to restore all the historical volumes will continue in 2010.

The Registry of Deeds completed a scanning project for the Rockingham County Engineering & Maintenance Department which encompassed the scanning of 1280 plan sheets which were archived onto a flash drive for storage by the Department. This project will ensure the permanent storage of the original drawings which are currently in poor condition and on paper. In addition, the staff has been working diligently to scan and make available through our website viewing of volumes back to Book 412 or the year 1865. Staff adds to the imaging system on a daily basis working backwards to Volume 1.

It continues to sadden me to see the level of foreclosure activity which has affected a substantial number of homeowners in our County. Rockingham County experienced a total of 706 foreclosures and 2598 property liens and attachments. This is a definite reflection of the economic challenges facing many Americans. I am hopeful that 2010 will bring about a much needed change in the economy as well as the local real estate market.

The total County revenue collected by the Registry of Deeds in the 2009 calendar year was \$3,056,228.06. This figure reflects a five percent reduction over 2008 revenues; however, it was properly anticipated through the budget process.

| <u>2009 Revenue Collected</u> |                 | Total Documents recorded | 63,679 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------|
| State Transfer Tax            | \$20,230,107.00 |                          |        |
| 4% RETT commission            | \$ 809,201.92   |                          |        |
| State LCHIP tax               | \$ 1,112,125.00 |                          |        |
| 4% LCHIP commission           | \$ 44,485.00    |                          |        |
| Copies/Faxes                  | \$ 359,665.00   |                          |        |
| Recording Fees                | \$ 1,842,876.14 |                          |        |
| Total Revenue                 | \$ 3,056,228.06 |                          |        |

The following chart reflects annual transactions reported to each municipality within Rockingham County.

|             |      |               |      |            |       |
|-------------|------|---------------|------|------------|-------|
| Atkinson    | 2726 | Greenland     | 1962 | Newington  | 332   |
| Auburn      | 1988 | Hampstead     | 3212 | Newton     | 1764  |
| Brentwood   | 1686 | Hampton Falls | 1026 | Northwood  | 1844  |
| Candia      | 1188 | Hampton       | 6486 | Plaistow   | 2611  |
| Chester     | 1776 | Kensington    | 629  | Portsmouth | 3337  |
| Danville    | 1302 | Kingston      | 2186 | Raymond    | 3355  |
| Deerfield   | 1583 | Londonderry   | 8671 | Rye        | 2745  |
| Derry       | 8589 | New Castle    | 579  | Salem      | 10711 |
| E. Kingston | 1047 | Newfields     | 852  | Seabrook   | 2855  |
| Epping      | 2517 | Nottingham    | 1932 | S. Hampton | 605   |
| Exeter      | 5104 | N. Hampton    | 2128 | Sandown    | 894   |
| Fremont     | 1466 | Newmarket     | 2354 | Stratham   | 3269  |
|             |      |               |      | Windham    | 7875  |

In closing I offer my sincere thanks to the employees of the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds who continue to maintain a high level of efficiency and dedication to this office. They are an outstanding group of individuals.