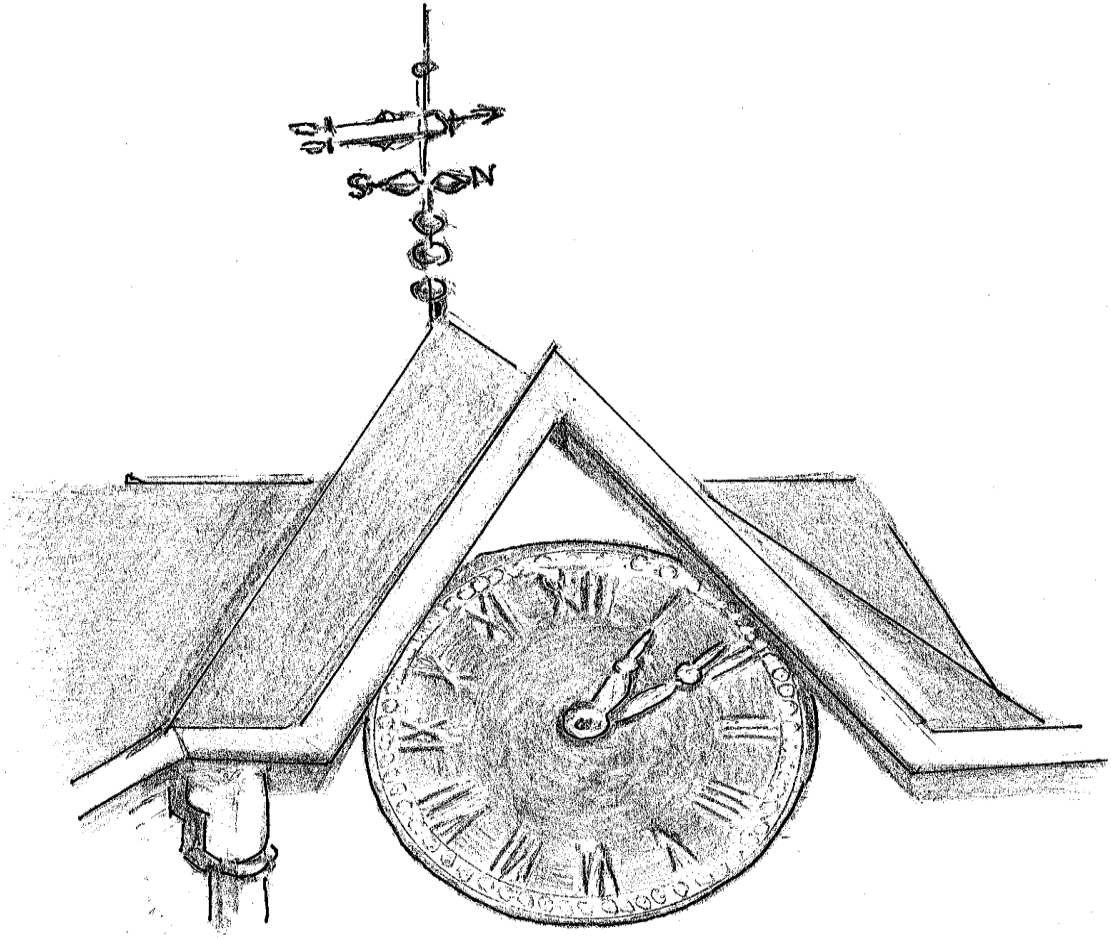


Town of  
*New Durham*  
New Hampshire



*Regional & Non-Profit Agency*  
*Reports*

Year Ending December 31, 2010

# NEW DURHAM FOOD PANTRY

5 Main Street P.O. Box 156 Open Every Saturday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM

*“A Charitable Agency”*

To the Citizens of New Durham

We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone in and around our community who continue to make the success and operation of the Food Pantry possible. The New Durham Food Pantry receives no financial support from the Town or State government, and relies solely on donations of individuals, businesses and civic organizations and scattered federal food subsidies.

During the past year, the Food Pantry has been assisting greater numbers of our fellow citizens due to the difficult economic times we all have been facing. However, despite the difficult economy, 2010 has been the best financial year in the Food Pantry's history due to the generosity of New Durham residents.

In 2009, the Food Pantry was relocated to a new location at 5 Main Street in the center of Town, which has greatly increased the size and capacity of the Food Pantry. Volunteers lead by Les Turner focused their attention on the landscaping of this property this past year, in addition to other sites in the center of New Durham. We were also fortunate to have a gas heater donated to the facility which will enable us to cease using electric heat in the main portion of the building.

The New Durham Food Pantry has continued to benefit from its recent affiliation with the New Hampshire Food Bank in Manchester. The Pantry's food supplies are derived from locally donated canned and dry goods; materials purchased through the NH Food Bank, federal surplus food supplies and products that are purchased by the New Durham Food Pantry.

Throughout the calendar year, we depend on the generous support of our community to provide food to families who are in need of temporary assistance. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Darryl and Angela Misiaszek of the New Durham General Store, for allowing us to purchase all of the holiday food basket items to be purchased through their vendors at a tremendous savings!!! This enabled us to use donated funds on other needed items. Through the community's generous donations and the help of volunteers, we are able to provide:

- \* Ongoing food assistance for an average of 60 residents monthly
- \* Approximately 50 holiday food baskets provided at both Thanksgiving and Christmas
- \* "Wish Upon A Star" Christmas gift program ensured nearly 100 children and seniors did not go without this Holiday season

If you are in need of assistance or know of anyone in need, please call Darlene DeMerritt at 534-7032 or Winnie Berry at 817-0372 or 859-7000. You do not have to be on local welfare to be eligible for assistance and all calls are confidential.

Again, thank you to our entire community for your continuing support throughout the year!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Berry, President  
Board of Directors

Secretary: Dorothy Veisel      Treasurer: William G. Herman, CPM  
Directors: Terry Jarvis      Rachel Lindberg      Carol Allen

The New Durham Food Pantry has been designated as a 501 (c) (3) Public Charity by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Donations to the Pantry are tax deductible.

---

# **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization that promotes interest in the library, as well as supporting and assisting the library with programs and services. The organization was established by 12 volunteers in the fall of 2002. As of the end of 2010, we have twenty active members.

Every year, on the second Saturday in July, we hold a book, bake and plant sale. All of the items for this sale are generously donated by the members and the community. This is our most successful fundraiser. With the proceeds from this sale, we have been able to help purchase many wonderful things for the library. This year we supported several after-school programs including a board game club, craft club, and cartoon drawing class. We also supported the Summer Reading Program by providing funds for a puppet show and a magic show. Both events were very well attended. We made a donation to the NH Astronomical Society for an evening program. We purchased many new books for older elementary aged children and another portable display unit for the children's room.

This year we participated in the Celebrate New Durham event held in August. We provided information about our organization, held a raffle, and had a game for the children. We also sponsored a door again at the annual Halloween trick-or-treat night at the school.

In December, we held our annual Holiday Open House party with refreshments, entertainment and a visit from Santa. We were delighted to have singer, songwriter and storyteller Steve Blunt return this year to get us in the holiday spirit. We continued our tradition of collecting food items at the party to be donated to the New Durham Food Pantry. Our annual raffle was also a big success. We had many items to raffle and sold tickets at the event, as well as the next day at the Recreation Department's Craft Fair. The winners were drawn at the end of the craft fair.

We would like to thank the community for coming out to support us and the library. Thank you for continuing to bake all the delicious goodies for our events. We couldn't do any of this without you.

The Friends of the Library are always looking for new members, either active or inactive. Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the library, during the months of April through November.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Wingate, President

Diane Thayer, Vice President

Marjorie Mohr, Secretary

Shirley McCormack, Treasurer

# THE HOMEMAKERS HEALTH SERVICES

During good economic times and bad economic times, our core values at The Homemakers Health Services have always sustained us: compassion, teamwork, integrity, innovation and excellence in the quality of health care we provide.

And despite the numerous and continuous changes in the health care field – changes in Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates, changes in health care rules and regulations, and changes in the need of the people we serve - the one thing that hasn't changed about The Homemakers Health Services has been our mission.

Since 1974, our mission at The Homemakers has been to help Strafford County residents remain independent, in their own homes, and out of nursing homes by providing professional, cost-effective and quality home health, home support and adult day care services.

Annually, our agency provides nearly \$3 million worth of home health, home support, and adult medical day-care visits to adults throughout Strafford County. These visits include skilled nursing, physical and occupational therapy, infusion therapy, medical social work, home health aide, homemaker, adult in-home care, Alzheimer's respite, and adult medical day-care services.

As health care professionals, we at The Homemakers are committed to providing these services to all of those in need, regardless of a person's ability to pay. It is through partnerships like the one our Agency has had with the Town of New Durham the past several years that The Homemakers Health Services has continued to successfully meet the critical home health, home support, and adult medical day-care services to adults in our community who do not have the ability to pay for them or for which there is not adequate reimbursement.

Each year through our annual fundraising events, The Homemakers has successfully raised nearly half of the cost for non-reimbursed services provided. Despite our success with such events, the cost of providing services for which we are either not reimbursed at all, or inadequately reimbursed by Medicaid, continues to exceed the amounts raised through these events, and it is a continuous struggle to carry these losses.

Despite these financial roadblocks, The Homemakers has the drive, the compassion, the experienced professionals and paraprofessionals, the technologies, and the support personnel willing and able to provide the necessities of quality healthcare in our community. We will remain focused and competitive in attempts to continue to offer the diversity of necessary health, home support and adult day-care services, which are unique to The Homemakers Health Services and of such benefit to our community.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Town of New Durham to provide health care services to those New Durham residents who cannot afford the cost of the vital health care services they need to remain healthy and independent in their own homes.

## **2010 Accomplishments:**

- Named to the 2010 HomeCare Elite as one of the top 25 percent Medicare-certified home health care agencies in the United States. The Homemakers was ranked in the top 25 percentile based on performance measures in quality outcomes, quality improvement, and financial performance.
- Provided 9494 skilled health care visits throughout Strafford County including: nursing, physical and occupational therapy, medical social work, and home health aid and personal care service provider visits.
- Provided 26,237 home support visits including: homemaker, in-home care provider, and Alzheimer's respite visits.
- Provided 51,348 hours of adult day-care for older and disabled person as well as respite for their caregivers. Through our Day Out Day-care program, The Homemakers also provided 16,741 meals and 14,966 rides to and from the program.
- Offered numerous community wellness programs including: Flu Clinics, Alzheimer's Educational Seminars for Caregivers, Friend-to-Friend, and free Advance Directives seminars; and facilitated a monthly Alzheimer's Support Group.
- Delivered more than 150 holiday food and gift baskets to elderly and/or disabled people throughout the county.

## **Goals for 2011:**

Our goal is to be able to continue to provide the increasing number of older adults with the safe, comprehensive, reliable, and professional home health care, home support, and adult medical day-care services they need to remain independent and in their own homes. As an organization, we work toward the fulfillment of our mission with dedication and teamwork. Above all, we will continue to value personal dignity, independence, and quality of life, and strive for excellence in the quality of the health care we provide.

# ROCHESTER DISTRICT VNA

Rochester District VNA (Your VNA) continues to serve as your home health agency providing skilled nursing, rehabilitative therapies, medical social work, licensed nursing assistance and supportive services on an intermittent basis. We are proud to provide you with highly skilled and well trained clinicians. In addition, we provide an active Adult Day Center, which is open Monday thru Friday. Located at our office, it provides a safe, family atmosphere for loved ones no longer able to be at home alone.

The acuity of our patients continues to increase. Many patients need IV therapy, chemo therapy, enteral feedings, therapy after knee/hip replacements and complicated wound dressings. Patients are discharged very quickly from hospitals and require the skilled services we can provide. Many hospital admissions are avoided by a referral directly to home care from the physician's office.

We continue to provide support services including: homemakers, personal care attendants and in-home companions although the numbers have been reduced due to lack of funding. These services are paid by Title XX, Strafford County and the patient. These services allow individuals who require minimal support to remain safely in their homes at the lowest possible cost.

We transitioned to our new software/hardware system this year. This is our first major change/up-grade in our electronic record since 2002 when we initiated the electronic record. The transition required many hours of training for each staff member and many hours of preparation to make the transition as smooth as possible. It has gone well and we believe we have made a good decision. We have organized a New Hampshire user group providing much needed support to us and other home care agency in New Hampshire utilizing the same system.

Our biggest and most critical challenge is being dependent on the government for 85% of our revenue. We are reimbursed at rates the government sets regardless of the actual cost to provide the care. Medicare was reduced in 2010 and we are facing a 5.9% reduction in Medicare revenue effective January 1, 2011. Therefore, your continued support of Rochester District Visiting Nurse Association (Your VNA) is vitally important to our ability to meet the many health needs in your community. The number of people depending on Medicaid has also increased with the down swing in the economy. The state continues to reimburse for Medicaid at about 50% of the cost.

Plans are well underway to bring back our Hospice program in 2011, with the sale of Seacoast Hospice to Beacon we will be the only non-profit hospice located in Strafford County. It is important when you need home care to ask for us by name. **You have a choice. Ask for Rochester District VNA by name.** If you have questions please call 332-1133 or check our web-site @ [www.yourvna.org](http://www.yourvna.org)

<b><u>2010 actual #s</u></b>	<b><u>provided in</u></b>	<b><u>New Durham</u></b>	<b><u># of Home Care patients</u></b>
<b><u>Visits by Service:</u></b>			<b><u>admitted by payment source</u></b>
Skilled Nursing	468		Medicare 36
Physical Therapy	218		Medicaid 6
Occupational Therapy	125		Insurance 20
Speech Therapy	3		Private/Self
Medical Social Work	13		<b><u># of Support Services Admissions by pay source</u></b>
LNA (nursing assistant)	105		Title XX and County
Homemaking	0		HCBC
Perinatal visits	6		Private Pay
PCSP	48		

**Submitted by:** Linda Hotchkiss CEO, RN, BSHMP, MHSA

# STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC), a political subdivision of the State of New Hampshire, serves in an advisory role to the Town of New Durham and seventeen other communities. We provide planning services to assist officials, boards and citizens in managing growth and development and to foster regional collaborative efforts.

SRPC's professional staff offers a range of planning services in transportation, land use, economic development, natural resources and geographic information systems (GIS) mapping and analysis. These services are available in customized modes to meet the diverse needs of communities. Access is also provided to SRPC educational resources including our website, library, workshops and forums, and customized training.

## **2010 Accomplishments:**

- Updated the Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to assist Town in reducing and mitigating future losses from natural and man-made hazardous events
- Collected an internet inventory for *community anchor institutions* as part of the NH Broadband Mapping program
- Completed Air Quality Conformity travel demand model runs for Transportation Plan and NH Ten Year Plan transportation projects
- Created a custom water resources map for the Conservation Commission
- Prepared a crash rate map based on reported vehicle accidents in 2009
- Updated the Town's standardized map set including transportation, conservation land, water resources and aerial maps
- Collected building permit data for all new construction; geocoded information to create an updated building permit map
- Distributed *New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation* books to Town land use boards
- Assisted Town in preparation of grant proposals

## **SRPC provided the following services to all municipalities in 2010:**

- Hosted presentation with Washington DC Census Bureau staff regarding the Census 2010 draft criteria for developing Urban Area boundaries
- Approved amendments to 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Developed and approved the 2011 –2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Published the maps and database for 2010 Annual Listing of Obligated Projects receiving federal transportation funds
- Collaborated with Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT) to provide coordinated transportation for human service agencies in southeastern NH
- Published an email newsletter and alerts to keep communities informed of meeting schedules, events, local news and other beneficial information
- Downloaded and displayed the latest demographic and economic data to SRPC web page as tools for municipalities to utilize in planning efforts

**Goals for 2011:**

- Create a Strafford County Comprehensive Economic Development document by June 2011, including Brookfield and Wakefield in Carroll County
- Assist communities in their efforts to increase energy efficiency through the Energy Technical Assistance & Planning for NH Communities (ETAP) Program
- Solicit transportation projects for inclusion in the NH Ten Year Plan and Strafford Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Begin broadband planning for the region as next phase of the NH Broadband Mapping and Planning Project

We look forward to working with the citizens and officials of New Durham in 2011. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and for your continuing support of regional planning. Further questions or comments can be referred to Cynthia Copeland, AICP, Executive Director at [cjc@strafford.org](mailto:cjc@strafford.org). Please visit our website at [www.strafford.org](http://www.strafford.org).

If you would like to receive E Bulletins from SRPC, please go to our home page of our website noted above.

# NH STATE REPRESENTATIVE CAROL VITA

In November of 2008, thanks to your belief in my ability and desire to work for the people of New Durham, I was elected along with David Bickford to represent Strafford County, District 3. In January 2009, I became a member of the Executive Departments and Administration Committee (ED&A), one of 21 standing committees that review and form recommendations on legislation submitted by the legislators. Specifically, ED&A considers matters pertaining to the general administration of state laws and changes therein; matters of policy pertaining to the executive departments, New Hampshire retirement system, administration of professional licensing and review of performance audits.

During the first year that I served on ED&A, the committee acted on a total of 73 bills over a span of 26 work days. In 2010, the committee spent a total of 31 days hearing and forming recommendations on 83 bills. The total number of bills heard in House session over the two years was 1,974.

In addition to committee work and House sessions, I sponsored, or was cosponsor, on the following bills:

HB1285: relative to the exemption of certain firearms, firearm accessories and ammunition made in New Hampshire from federal law and regulation (The Constitution of the United States of America allows federal regulation of interstate commerce, not intra-state commerce).

HB1326: relative to the use of long-term antibiotics for the treatment of Lyme Disease (to allow doctors to treat chronic Lyme disease patients without fear of legal action or medical association sanctions).

HB1453: relative to notice to legal guardians of students (requires school districts to adopt a policy that gives a minimum notice to a student's legal guardian of any class, assembly or event held on school property where students are invited or required to attend, which addresses: health, sex education, sexual orientation or gender identity, or political activism. Such policy shall include a provision for the student's excusal from participation for religious objections).

HB1580: relative to home schooling (exempts children who are receiving instruction from a parent from compulsory attendance requirements and removes the prohibition on the recognition of home education programs as chartered public schools).

HCR28: a concurrent resolution removing New Hampshire from the list of states requiring a constitutional convention (the Constitution of The United States may be changed by amendment; a constitutional convention would allow for the uncontrolled revamping of the entire Constitution).

HCR29: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of The United States of America regarding international treaties and agreements (the Constitution requires that all agreements and treaties suffer Congressional Oversight (a 2/3 vote of the U.S. Senate) before becoming the law of the land; currently these treaties and agreements are being approved by 'Fast Track', which bypasses the Senate and denies the people the constitutional protection of Congressional Oversight).

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Vita, State Representative, District 3 Middleton 755-9700



# NH STATE REPRESENTATIVE LARRY BROWN

I want to thank again the Town Of New Durham for its decision to provide a public forum to discuss the legislative issues which affect our New Hampshire lives. I write this year's report as a civilian but do so with no less thanks to every voter in that civil process. Democracy needs us all - candidate, voter, and public forum.

The legislation enacted in 2010 is easy to discuss. Each new law is a command to act - particular and exact. For example, health and human services legislation set out particular and exact rights to hearing aids in health insurance coverage. Municipal and County Government (my committee) set out particular and exact definitions of martial arts weapons and point of sale display (a boon to the family boardwalk at Hampton Beach). Details of all 2010 legislation will be found at: [www.gencourt.state.nh.us/](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/).

Accomplishment is harder to define. Legislation shares words with the dictionary and a subtext with religion - "If I am right." The accomplishment of 2010, if I am right, was to extend the particular and exact protections and obligations of the great social compact of the New Hampshire Constitution, Part I - Article 12, as written, to every citizen in this state: in education, employment, taxation, health care access and personal autonomy, in the commitment of two lives to one marriage.

The accomplishment of 2010 can also be measured by repeal legislation proposed for 2011: to legislate curriculum, to neither "cherish" education in the Constitution nor fund art, music, technology, world languages, and health education in our students' lives; to roll back the minimum wage and 75 years of labor rights; to protect corporate wealth at the home owners' expense; to repeal health care access, deny reproductive autonomy to women; and send marriage back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

It is a vision of a gated community for the closed mind and the closed wallet. It will bring certain comfort to those within who are already comfortable, but it will bring little comfort to the "stranger without the gate" who is no less our neighbor. If you are hurting, if you are holding even, with two jobs and a car that needs an easy winter, if you are hoping for better wages for yourself and technology's benefits for your children, you know what side of that gate you are on.

Personal thought: When I was first elected I did not step onto the floor of the House until the day I took my oath of office. For me it is a sacred civil space dedicated to that most particular and exact of human hopes - the rule of law. What then is the greater respect to that covenant and to that space - the right to bring weapons to it, or having that right, refusing to do so? Thank you. It has been a deep honor to stand there. Plow in Hope.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Brown  
State Representative, District 3