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2006
ANNUAL REPORT
COUNTY OF BELKNAP
NEW HAMPSHIRE

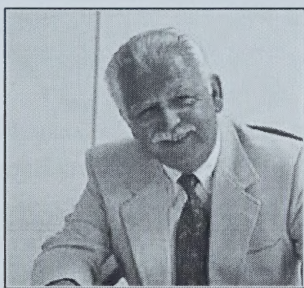


For the Year Ending
December 31, 2006



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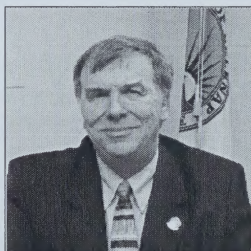
Annual Report of the Belknap County Commissioners



Chairman
Philip P. "Bud" Daigneault



Vice Chairman
Christopher D. Boothby



Clerk
Richard W. Long

For the Year Ending December 31, 2006

Belknap County, New Hampshire HISTORY

Form of Government: The County of Belknap, New Hampshire, was established in 1840 under the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

The seat of Belknap County is based in Laconia and provides support to the citizens of ten towns and one city in the form of the following services: Citizens Council on Children and Families, Corrections Facility, County Attorney, Finance, Human Services, Registry of Deeds, Juvenile Restorative Justice, Maintenance, Nursing Home and Sheriff's Department.

The county operates under the Commissioners (Executive Branch consisting of three elected Commissioners) and Convention (Legislative Branch consisting of 18 elected Representatives) form of Government and provides services as authorized by the State statute.

The three member Board of Commissioners (as mandated by New Hampshire Statute RSA 28) are part-time elected officials responsible for overall supervision, custody and care of all county departments, buildings and land, and have budgetary oversight of all county expenditures. They are elected into staggered four and two-year terms by the voters of the districts each are assigned to. The annual county budget is prepared by the Commissioners and Department Heads and submitted to the County Convention for final approval.



Belknap County Seal

The seal of Belknap County was commissioned in the latter part of 1976, the year of our nation's bicentennial, and adopted in February of 1977. Designed and executed by Mr. Norman M. Dexter of Nashua, who donated his services to Belknap County, the seal includes several symbols important to the county and its history.

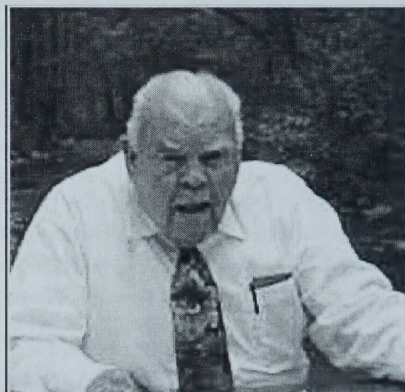
Depicted on the waters of Lake Winnepesaukee, the largest body of fresh water in the northeast (which touches the shores of just about every town and city in the county) is the old paddle wheeler Mount Washington. The Mount graced the Big Lake until 1939, when it was destroyed by fire. Yet, to this day it continues to serve as a symbol of the grace, dignity and unique New England character for which the people and the area are known throughout the country. It could be said that the Mount stands for the commerce the Lake has provided for our people, going back to the fishing days of the Indians; for the many recreation and leisure time activities the county has offered its many visitors from throughout the world; and for the great creativity with which the people of Belknap County have used these natural resources to their ultimate advantage and prosperity.

The rising sun – a symbol of hope and renewal as well as the blessings of a patient, graceful Providence – is shown bursting forth over the Mount Belknap, which lies just east of the center in the county. The Mountain is named for Dr. Jeremy Belknap, noted historian, clergyman, and naturalist, after whom the county was named in 1840. Dr. Belknap wrote the first history of New Hampshire, pastored the First Congregational Church at Dover (1766-1786), and founded the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1794.

Originally part of the Strafford County, the County of Belknap was formed by Legislative act in December 1840.

DEDICATION

The Belknap County Commissioners would like to dedicate the 2006 Belknap County Annual report to the late Commissioner Gordon E. Bartlett. Gordon was elected Commissioner in 2004. Commissioner Bartlett was certainly not new to politics at the time of this election. He had previously served from 1990-2004 in the New Hampshire State House of Representatives and also served as Chairman of the Belknap County Convention. Gordon was an active man. He lived a full life that included being a machine tool salesman, car salesman, Executive Director of the Republican Party Headquarters, liquor commissioner, naval officer and a racecar enthusiast. Commissioner Bartlett was also a 16-year member of the Gilford Police Force. Law enforcement was one of the three great themes of his life, after family and his love for politics. He was a grandfather, father, husband and above all a good man. Commissioner Bartlett really cared about people and left a strong legacy in the legislature and as Commissioner. The strongest legacy would be the people whose lives he touched. A memory and a life that included so much involvement, Gordon E. Bartlett will not be forgotten.



Gordon E. Bartlett

Belknap County Commissioner
2004 – 2006

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2006 Belknap County Officers

COMMISSIONERS

Philip P. Daigneault, Chairman – Laconia,
Christopher D. Boothby, Vice-Chairman – Meredith
Gordon E. Bartlett, Clerk – Belmont

COUNTY TREASURER

Michael G. Muzzey – Laconia

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Lauren J. Noether – Tilton

SHERIFF

Daniel Collis - Laconia

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

Dana W. Zucker – Gilford

JUDGE OF PROBATE

Christina M. O'Neill – Laconia

REGISTRAR OF PROBATE

Karen H. Brickner– Laconia

DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF PROBATE

Linda D. Clark – Laconia

REGISTRAR OF DEEDS

Rachel M. Normandin – Laconia

DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF DEEDS

Barbara R. Luther – Laconia

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR & FINANCE OFFICER

Nancy E. Cook – Laconia

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Richard A. Grenier – Gilford

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Brian J. Loanes - Belmont

NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR

Bernard H. Gray, Jr. – Concord

HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

Carol N. Schonfeld – Gilmanton

COUNTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Thomas A. Andrew – C.M.E.

SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

D. William Jenkins – Thornton

COUNTY CHAPLAIN

Reverend Harry Woodley

CITIZEN'S COUNCIL ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alan Robichaud – Belmont

**2006 Belknap County Convention
(Legislative Delegation)**

District No. 1

Center Harbor, New Hampton (1)

Francine Wendelboe (r) – New Hampton

District No. 2

Sanbornton, Tilton (2)

Gail C. Morrison (d) - Tilton

William B. Tobin (r) - Sanbornton

District No. 3

Meredith (2)

Bruce D. Heald (r)

Stephen H. Nedeau (r)

District No. 4

Laconia (5)

James M. Fitzgerald (r)

Donald H. Flanders (r)

Ralph J. Rosen (r)

Franklin T. Tilton (r)

John A. Veazey (r)

District No. 5

Alton, Barnstead, Belmont, Gilford (7)

Janet F. Allen (r) - Barnstead

Laurie J. Boyce (r) - Alton

Charles L. Clark (r) - Gilford

Alida I. Millham (r&d) - Gilford

James P. Pilliod (r) - Belmont

John H. Thomas (r) - Belmont

Michael D. Whalley (r) - Alton

District No. 6

Gilmanton (1)

David H. Russell (r) - Gilmanton

Executive Committee

Stephen Nedeau – Alida Millham

David Russell – John Thomas

Donald Flanders

BELKNAP COUNTY DIRECTORY

Board of Commissioners	527-5400
Chairman: Philip P. Daigneault, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5409
Vice Chairman: Christopher D. Boothby, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	
Clerk: Richard W. Long, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	
County Treasurer	527-5400
Michael G. Muzzey, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5409
County Administrator and Finance Officer	527-5400
Nancy E. Cook, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5409
County Attorney	527-5440
James Carroll, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5449
Registrar of Deeds	527-5420
Rachel Normandin, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5429
Sheriff	527-5454
Daniel Collis, 42 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5469
Corrections Superintendent	527-5480
Richard A. Grenier, 76 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5489
Restorative Justice Program Director	527-5493
Brian J. Loanes, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5498
Human Services Administrator	527-5470
Carol N. Schonfeld, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5471
Maintenance Supervisor	527-5490
D. William Jenkins, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5449
Nursing Home Administrator	527-5410
Bernard H. Gray, Jr., 30 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5419
UNH Cooperative Extension Administrator	527-5475
Sumner Dole, 36 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 527-5477
Conservation District Director	527-5880
Jan Hooper, 719 North Main Street, Room #203, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 528-8783
Economic Development Council Executive Director	524-3057
Eliza Leadbeater, Southern Univ. Bldg., 2 Airport Rd, Gilford, NH 03249	Fax: 524-0314
Belknap County Citizen's Council Executive Director	528-3185
Alan Robichaud, One Mill Plaza, Laconia, NH 03246	Fax: 528-3635

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION

Meeting, February 21, 2006

Present: Rep. Clark, Rep. Allen, Rep. Russell, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Millham, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Tobin, Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Morrison.

Commissioner Daigneault, Commissioner Bartlett.

The meeting convened at 7:05pm with Rep. Thomas presiding. The County department heads were introduced.

Commissioner Daigneault announced that the Family Court is coming to Belknap County on April 28th. The Laconia District Court will be renovated so the District Court will use the Superior Court quarters or some other local location as temporary quarters.

Treasurer Robert Corbin introduced Michael Muzzey as the person to fill his unexpired term as he has resigned.

MOTION by Rep. Tilton, seconded by Rep. Flanders to appoint Michael Muzzey to fill the unexpired term of Treasurer Robert Corbin. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

Per RSA 29:15 Treasurer Michael G. Muzzey will appoint Marc L. Rayburn as Deputy Treasurer effective April 1, 2006. Mr. Muzzey introduced Mr. Rayburn to the gathering.

Budget Deliberations:

GENERAL FUND REVENUES: \$16,574,450

1. Report of and MOTION by Rep. Nedeau and seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the General Fund Revenues of \$16,574,450. There were no questions. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES: \$13,798,430 (does not include NH transfers of \$2,786,020.

2. Commissioners Budget report made by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Boyce to approve the Commissioners Budget of \$284,457. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
3. Report on Finance Budget by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Boyce to approve the Finance Budget of \$326,966. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
4. Report on Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families budget. MOTION made by Rep. Boyce, seconded by Rep. Nedeau to approve the

BCCCCF budget of \$302,548.

5. Report on County Attorney budget by Rep Nedeau. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Tobin to approve the County Attorney budget of \$542,572. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
6. Report on Registry of Deeds budget by Rep. Nedeau. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Tobin to approve the Registry of Deeds budget of \$595,362. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
7. Report of Sheriff's Department budget by Rep. Flanders. It was noted that the labor negotiations have been completed. MOTION by Rep. Flanders, seconded by Rep. Nedeau to approve the Sheriff's Department budget of \$1,797,293. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
8. Report on Restorative Justice budget by Rep. Flanders. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Restorative Justice budget of \$124,018. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
9. Report on Medical Referee budget. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Medical Referee budget of \$18,000. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
10. Report of Maintenance Department budget by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Tilton to approve the Maintenance budget of \$358,112. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
11. Report of Human Services budget by Rep. Nedeau. MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the Human Services Budget of \$4,906,455. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
12. Report of Corrections Department budget by Rep. Flanders. MOTION by Rep. Flanders, seconded by Rep. Nedeau to approve the Corrections Department budget of \$2,898,570. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
13. Report of Gunstock appropriation by Rep. Fitzgerald. MOTION by Rep. Fitzgerald, seconded by Rep. Boyce to approve the Gunstock appropriation. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
14. Outside Agencies:
 - a. Report on Cooperative Extension by Rep. Millham. Motion by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the Cooperative Extension appropriation of \$141,055. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - b. Report on Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid by Rep. Russell. MOTION by Rep. Russell, seconded by Rep. Tilton to approve the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid appropriation of \$420,518. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - c. MOTION by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Delegation Expense budget of \$7,000. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - d. Report on Conservation District budget by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Conservation District budget of \$88,040. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

- e. Report on Genesis appropriation by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Genesis appropriation of \$25,000. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - f. Report on Airport Authority by Rep. Veazey. MOTION by Rep. Veazey, seconded by Rep. Allen to approve the Airport Authority appropriation of \$10,000. Discussion of the appropriation indicated that this is County portion of financing match dollars for improvements on the runway apron. (The breakdown of the funding is 2.5% state dollars, 2.5 Local dollars, and 95% federal dollars.) UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - g. Report on Community Action Program by Rep. Millham. MOTION by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Nedeau to approve the Community Action budget of \$45,905. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
 - h. Report of B. C. Economic Development Council budget by Rep. Fitzgerald. MOTION by Rep. Fitzgerald, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the BCEDC budget of \$75,000. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
15. Report on Nursing Home Revenue by Rep. Pilliod. MOTION by Rep. Pilliod, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the Nursing Home Revenue of \$9,347,626. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.
16. Report on Nursing Home Expenditures by Rep. Pilliod. MOTION by Rep. Pilliod to approve the Nursing Home Expenditures of \$9,347,626. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to adopt the Year 2006 Belknap County Budget authorizing General Fund Expenditures in the amount of \$13,798,430 and Nursing Home Expenditures of \$9,347,626, making the 2006 Belknap County Budget \$23,146,056 and to give the Belknap County Treasurer Robert E. Corbin or Deputy Treasurer Michael Muzzey authorization to borrow in anticipation of revenue through taxation in the amount of \$12,294,000. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Flanders that all funds appropriated for all line-items of the Year 2006 Belknap County Budget shall be nontransferable without prior approval of the Executive Committee or the full County Convention in accordance with RSA 24:14. The one exception is that the Commissioners are authorized to transfer funds within each department from one line item to another in the amount not to exceed \$10,000 on any given instance. A report of said transfers submitted to the County Convention monthly. UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

MOTION by Rep. Flanders, seconded by Rep. Boyce to authorize the Clerk to make such monetary changes to the budget as may be necessary to submit the final budget to the Department of Revenue Administration (MS-42).

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Rep. Tilton noted that the way the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid is funded had been explored. There are 36 communities served, 25 are assessed directly. The Belknap County towns are assessed through the County; therefore those towns do not see the amount of the appropriation directly. There has been some interest in shifting the funding directly to the towns. Rep. Russell noted further that the County location is a place where there is oversight.
2. Rep. Wendelboe noted that the federal dollars for the Airport renovations expire in May and Department of Environmental Services action is needed. Do we need to talk with DES to make the deadline?
3. Announcement that the Lincoln Day cruise on the Mount Washington will be May 5, 2006.

MOTION by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Executive Committee
Meeting, March 30, 2006

Present: Rep D. Russell, Rep A. Millham, Rep. J. Thomas, Rep. S. Nedeau.

Commissioner Philip (Bud) Daigneault, Commissioner Christopher Boothby, Commissioner Gordon Bartlett, Nursing Home Administrator Bernard Gray, Superintendent Joseph Panarello, and CA&FO Nancy Cook.

The meeting convened at 9:00 am with Rep. Thomas presiding.

1. Request by an Employee to schedule a hearing with the Personnel Committee reference a Suspension without Pay. This has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th at 6:30 pm in the Commissioners office. It will be a nonpublic session following RSA 28-10a. Rep John Thomas will get with Nancy Cook after the meeting to compile the facts of the alleged incident.

2. Female Housing Area Renovation for \$85,782:

- The board reviewed the two proposals received from Bonnette, Page and Stone reference the leaking roof on the high and low parts of the Jail, which was not part of the original quote to renovate the industries area into a female housing area. The high roof above the renovated area is quoted at \$11,787 and the low roof at \$13,512. The total bid is \$25,299. The board wanted it made clear for the record that they support the money coming out of the balance of the Roof Construction Bond. We have approximately \$38,034 left in the Roof Bond Construction account. Commissioner Daigneault also wanted it known that if any decking for either roof needed to be replaced it would be \$3.53 per square foot, which was not part of the \$25,299 quote but might be requested if necessary. The Executive Committee supports this request to fund it out of the balance of the Roof Construction funds. There was discussion. Rep. Stephen Nedeau made the motion to approve. Rep. John Thomas seconded. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

3. Update on Nursing Home and State Survey of Immediate Jeopardy:

- Bud Gray gave the Executive Committee a brief update on the recent state survey. We are no longer in “immediate jeopardy” but still have holes. Bob Ehlers, the head of the state survey team, visited and took a tour of the Nursing Home on Monday, March 27th. Bud has requested up to 60 days to be in compliance. Bud Gray discussed what some of the survey team tags mean – G and H tags are serious and have to be looked at immediately. He then covered the situation on the fine of \$3,050 per day. He will submit a request for a hardship clause that will put the fine down to \$250 a day. A

copy of the letter dated March 22nd from Health and Human Services (HHS) Commissioner John Stephens was distributed. Bud Gray also discussed the immediate jeopardy fund that Center Medicare Services (CMS) has. There was discussion and no actions taken.

4. Family Court:

- Commissioner Daigneault discussed the plans of Judge Kelley to move the Family Court into the Court House on May 12th as the District Court will be starting renovations. They plan to clear out the Law Library for the administrative staff. Will use part of the waiting area off Court Room #1. The lack of an air conditioning unit was discussed – that’s a real concern with all the additional people. Next discussed was the camera system. The commissioners and executive committee don’t support the funding of this. It should be funded by the state Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). The whole issue was discussed at length. The Sheriff will also need to ramp up the security in the Court House if no camera system is funded. It takes a lot of money out of the Sheriff budget to outfit additional staff. No action was taken by the Executive Committee on this issue – information only.

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Rep. Nedeau and seconded by Rep. Russell to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham
Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION

Meeting: May 8, 2006

Present: Rep. Allen, Rep Boyce, Rep. Clark, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Heald, Rep. Millham, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep, Rosen, Rep. Russell, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Tobin, Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Veazey.

Absent: Rep. Morrison

The meeting of the Belknap County Convention was called to order by the Chair John Thomas at 7pm for the purposes of receiving an annual report from the Gunstock Mountain Resort and authorizing borrowing in anticipation of revenues. Greg Goddard, the Gunstock General Manager presented the report for the Gunstock Commission.

Despite a poor snow winter Gunstock was able to post a positive bottom line. The summer programming is growing. The name of the Area has been changed to Gunstock Mountain Resort to better reflect the year round activities.

Motion by Rep. Fitzgerald and seconded by Rep. Pilliod to accept the following action: Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 399:15, 1959 NH Laws as amended, to authorize the Belknap County Treasurer to issue notes, on the concurrence of not less than four members of the Gunstock Area Commission, in an amount not to exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$950,000), on such terms and conditions as shall be negotiated by the Gunstock Area Commission. Said notes are issued in anticipation of revenues at Gunstock Ski Area and shall have a maturity date of not later than April 1, 2007. All notes issued pursuant to this authority shall contain an express provision that all fees, fares, and tolls as authorized by statute shall continue to be collected until such notes have matured. The Gunstock Area Commission shall pay the principal and interest on said notes out of revenues collected by Gunstock Area.

The motion was unanimously accepted.

Rep Rosen raised the issue about the issue of a local “Electrical Assistance Program” that has been brought to his attention. It is a program managed locally by the Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Program.

Rep. Wendelboe noted that she is sponsoring a “Fun Raiser” at Eagle Square on May 18.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Wages Sub Committee Meeting
May 22, 2006

Present: Rep. John Thomas, Rep. Steve Nedeau, Rep. Michael Whalley, Rep. Alida Millham.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by the sub-committee chair, Rep. Thomas. There was a review of the laws governing the responsibilities of the County Convention, of a report from the Association of Counties regarding the wages of the same positions in all of the counties, and history of the wage adjustments in Belknap County over the past seven years.

There was an extensive discussion regarding the wage setting process. It is not an evaluation of the current office holder. It is a process that sets the wage for a position before the filing period so that people who are seeking the position will know what the job pays before they decide to run for that office.

The subcommittee suggested that there should be a study of the wage setting process done in the next biennium that would set criteria for a wage range for each position based on criteria to be determined.

The following motions were made regarding each elected position for the next biennium 2007-2008:

A. Motion by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Whalley to set the County Commissioner wage recommendations as follows:

County Commissioner Chair: \$10,000
County Commissioner Vice-Chair: \$8,500
County Commissioner Clerk: \$8,500
Unanimous approval.

B. Motion by Rep. Nedeau seconded by Rep. Whalley to set the wage recommendation for Treasurer at \$3,600. Unanimous approval.

C. Motion by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Whalley to set the wage recommendation for Register of Deeds at \$61,000. Unanimous approval.

D. Motion by Rep Nedeau, seconded by Rep Whalley to set the wage recommendations for County Attorney at \$79,500. Unanimous approval.

E. Motion by Rep. Whalley, seconded by Rep. Millham to set the wage recommendation for County Sheriff at \$66,250

These recommendations will be presented to the Belknap County Convention at a meeting to be set for Tuesday, May 30, 2006 at 7pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
MAY 30, 2006—7pm
Belknap County Complex

Present: Rep. Allen; Rep. Boyce; Rep. Clark; Rep. Fitzgerald; Rep. Millham; Rep. Nedeau; Rep. Pilliod; Rep. Rosen; Rep. Russell; Rep. Tilton; Rep. Tobin; Rep. Whalley

Absent: Rep. Flanders; Rep. Heald; Rep. Morrison; Rep. Thomas; Rep. Veazey; Rep. Wendelboe

The May 30, 2006 meeting of the Belknap County Convention was called to order by Convention Vice-Chair Stephen Nedeau at 7:05pm.

Rep. Fitzgerald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting of opened for public comment. The following people spoke in support of the elected officials.

1. Rachel Normandin, Register of Deeds
2. Neil Young, Laconia
3. Lt. Batstone, Sheriff's Department
4. Atty. Lauren Noether
5. Tom Salatiello, Sanbornton
6. Former Sheriff, Steve Hodges
7. John Granfield, Meredith
8. Mike Scarry, Laconia
9. Sgt. Chris Cast
10. Margaret Franckhauser, Meredith
11. Ray Lakeman, Gilford
12. Dan Collis
13. Tom Alden, Alton
14. Sue Hankert
15. Frank Mello
16. Steve Eckert, Sanbornton Police Department, Gilford resident
17. Nancy Cook, Laconia
18. Denise Miller

Following the public portion of the meeting Rep. Russell moved that the public session be closed. Seconded. Unanimous approval.

There followed extensive discussion about the process for determining the salaries for elected officials. There has never been a wage range for the elected positions. It was recommended by many members that the next Belknap County Convention should include a committee that would develop a salary range scale that would

meet the needs of experienced elected officials and still keep a bottom number for beginning elected officials.

MOTION BY REP. TOBIN AND SECONDED BY REP. RUSSELL TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SALARY SUB-COMMITTEE AND ADD 4.9% PER YEAR OF THE NEXT BIENNIUM FOR ALL POSITIONS. Unanimous approval.

Rep. Pilliod read a letter from the Commissioner John Stephen to Convention Chair Thomas regarding the Belknap County Nursing Home and it's recent sanctions that are now lifted.

Motion to adjourn at 9:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida I. Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Meeting Minutes: August 7, 2006

Present: Rep. Allen, Rep. L. Boyce, Rep. Clark, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Heald, Rep. Millham, Rep. Morrison, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Russell, Chairman Rep. Thomas, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Tobin, Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Veazey.

Commissioners Bartlett, Daigneault, Boothby present.

The meeting of the County Convention was called to order at 7:04 by Chairman Thomas. Commissioner Daigneault was recognized to make the request of the Commissioners for a supplemental appropriation to the budget. The amount requested will be taken from the Undesignated Fund. The Fund has an amount of \$6.9 million in it. The request is for **\$1,162,462** million. The supplemental appropriation includes: **\$189,692** for the General Fund (streetsweeper grant 10,906; State billing shortfall for Human Services \$76,384; Medical shortfall in Dept. of Corrections \$102,402.) and **\$972,770** for Nursing Home Department for costs related to survey issues.

There will be no impact on the County tax rate as a result of this supplemental appropriation. Motion #1 represents the action of approval of the supplemental appropriation request.

1. Motion by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Veazey to adopt the Year 2006 Belknap County Budget authorizing:

General Fund Expenditures in the amount of: \$13,988,122,

General Fund Revenue in the amount of \$17,765,288;

Nursing Home Expenditures in the amount of \$10,320,396

Nursing Home Revenues in the amount of \$10,320,396

Making the 2006 Belknap County Budget \$24,308,518 and

To give the Belknap County Treasurer, Michael Muzzey, authorization to raise revenue by taxation in the amount of \$12,294,000. (No change).

EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE CHANGES REQUIRED BY THE COUNTY HOME.

ROLL CALL VOTE ATTACHED.

UNANIMOUS VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION 18-0

2. Motion by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the following other mid year transfers:

\$3,000 from Contingency 9900 to Finance 4101-0192 for overtime.

\$4,000 from Contingency 9900 to County Attorney 4110-1903 A/C Unit Server Room.

\$966 from Human Services 4190-901 Capital Expenses to Human Services 4190-374 Care of Children.

\$69,732 from Human Services 4190-381 to Provider Payments to Human Services 4190-374 Care of Children.

23,150 from Contingency 9900 to Dept of Corrections 6100,-0916 Corrections Officers

\$19,370 from Contingency 9900- 0001 to Dept. of Corrections 6100-0915 Fire Alarm System.

\$3300 from Contingency 9900-0001 to Dept of Corrections 6100-909 A/C Units (new account).

\$118,087 from Nursing Dept., RN salaries 5140-0130 to 5140-0194 Nursing Overtime

\$16,408 from Dietary Dept 5130-0150 Dietary Salaries to 5130-0192 Dietary Overtime.

\$10,000 from Dietary Dept. 5130-0150 Dietary Salaries to 5130-0462 Contracted Services.

Justification for each transfer was discussed.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE MOTION.

3. A motion by Rep. Nedeau, seconded by Rep. Pilliod to authorize the Clerk to make such monetary changes to the budget as may be necessary to submit the final budget to the Department of Revenue Administration (MS-42)

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE MOTION.

4. Motion by Rep. Pilliod, seconded by Rep. Russell to appoint Wayne Coull as the interim County Attorney to fill the vacancy occurring by the resignation of County Attorney Lauren Noether.

Discussion of the motion included a notation that no other people had applied for the position. The candidate received the strong support of the former County Attorney. The appointment process is being done in accordance with RSA 661:1.

APPROVAL OF THE MOTION 17-1.

There was discussion by the convention member with the Commissioners about the possibility of billing the towns for taxes on a biannual basis. It was noted that doing this might require legislation.

5. There being no other business a motion was made to adjourn the meeting.
UNANIMOUS APPROVAL.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION

Roll Call Vote

8/7/06

Allen	yes
Boyce	yes
Clark	yes
Fitzgerald	yes
Flanders	yes
Heald	yes
Millham	yes
Morrison	yes
Nedeau	yes
Pilliod	yes
Rosen	yes
Russell	yes
Thomas	yes
Tilton	yes
Tobin	yes
Wendelboe	yes
Whalley	yes
Veazey	yes

Motion Approved 18-0

Submitted by,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Meeting Minutes - October 10, 2006

Present: Rep. Allen, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Millham, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Morrison, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Clark, Chairman, Rep. Thomas.

Absent: Rep. Russell, Rep. Wendelboe, Rep. Tobin, Rep. Heald.

The meeting opened, in public session, at 7:10pm in the conference room of the Belknap County Nursing Home. There was a motion by Rep. Boyce, seconded by Rep. Flanders to enter non public session per RSA 91-A:3 II. (c) for the purpose of reviewing possible candidates for County Commissioner to fill the unexpired term caused by the death of Commissioner Gordon Bartlett. **UNANIMOUS AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE MOTION** by Rep. Allen, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Millham, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Morrison, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Clark, Chairman, Rep. Thomas.

Motion by Rep. Nedeau to postpone the meeting for three weeks so that we can contact another possible candidate. Seconded by Rep. Boyce. Motion amended by Rep. Whalley to interview one candidate tonight and recess to a date certain for the possibility of interviewing another candidate. Seconded by Rep. Flanders. Vote on the amendment: abstain by Rep. Morrison. Affirmative by Rep. Allen, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Millham, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Clark, Rep. Thomas. Negative: None. **AMENDMENT PASSES**

Vote on main motion as amended: Abstain by Rep. Morrison. Affirmative by Rep. Allen, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Millham, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Clark, Rep. Thomas. **MOTION AS AMENDED PASSES.**

Interview of Gilmanton resident David Nielson.

Motion by Rep. Tilton and seconded by Rep. Pilliod to consider Mr. Nielson qualified for the position and if he is the only candidate to be offered the position. Rep. Morrison abstained from voting. One vote in opposition. Remainder of the Convention voted in the affirmative. The motion passes.

Motion to recess meeting to Monday, October 16, 2006 AT 7PM. Seconded. Vote: Affirmative: abstain by Rep. Morrison. Yes by Rep. Allen, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Rosen, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Millham, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Veazey, Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Clark, Rep. Thomas.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk.

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Executive Committee Meeting
November 20, 2006

Present: Representative Nedeau, Representative Millham, Chairman Thomas.

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm for the primary purpose of budget transfers.

Motion by Representative Nedeau, seconded by Representative Thomas for the following budget transfers to be authorized.

NURSING HOME:

1. Transfer from Nursing 5140-0150 LNA salaries \$147,000 to Nursing 5140-0192 Overtime \$135,000 and to Oxygen 5140-0464 \$12,000.
 2. Transfer from Nursing 5140-0130 RN salaries \$41,000 to Nursing 5140-0464 Medical Supplies \$12,000.
- TOTAL \$188,000

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

1. Transfer from Correction Officers 6100-0130 \$1,000 to Overtime 6100-0192
2. Transfer from Correction Officers 6100-0130 \$5,000 to Sick Pay 6100-0193
3. Transfer from Correction Officers 6100-0130 \$1,000 to General Operating Supplies 6100-0429
4. Transfer from Correction Officers 6100-0130 \$3,000 to Building Maintenance 6100-0591
5. Transfer from Corrections Officers 6100-0130 \$3,000 to Social Security 6100-0210
6. Transfer from Corrections Officers 6100-0130 \$6,000 to Public Service of NH 6100-0710
7. Transfer from Corrections Officers 6100-0130 \$500 to City of Laconia Water 6100-0731
8. Transfer from Corrections Officers 6100-0130 \$500 to City of Laconia-Sewer 6100-0732
9. Transfer from Equipment 6100-0910 \$453 to Building Maintenance 6100-0591

TOTAL: \$20,453

COMMISSIONERS: GENERAL FUND

1. Transfer from Contingency 9900-0001 \$23,650 to Debt and Interest

- 9100-0001 TAN note interest
2. Transfer from Commissioner Legal 4100-0310 \$1,000 to Commissioners Telephone 4100-0560
 3. Transfer from Commissioners Legal 4100-0310 \$1,000 to Finance Overtime 4101-0192
 4. Transfer from Commissioners Legal 4100-03190 \$1,000 to Finance Software License 4101-0346.

Unanimous approval of the motion.

Commissioner Daigneault reported the there has been a Wage and Classification Study done. The final report will put all employees except elected officials, department heads and the Director of Nursing. There will be new job descriptions. The cost of implementing the system will be about \$123,000. County Convention approval will be required.

The penalties related to the Nursing Home survey have been finalized at \$91,000. A letter has been submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services for some relief from the costs of survey remediation. There has been no response to date.

Motion to adjourn by Representative Nedeau, seconded by Representative Millham.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Meeting - November 20, 2006

Present: Representative Boyce, Representative Clark, Representative Flanders, Representative Millham, Representative Morrison, Representative Nedeau, Representative Pilliod, Representative Rosen, Representative Russell, Representative Thomas, Representative Tilton, Representative Tobin, Representative Veazey, Representative Whalley.

Absent: Representative Allen, Representative Fitzgerald, Representative Heald, Representative Wendelboe.

The November 20, 2006 meeting of the Belknap County Convention was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Thomas, Chairman Thomas noted that the Jean Batchelder book about American Heroes will be sold in the NH State House gift shop and includes a section about Representative Rosen.

The Convention voted by ballot on the candidates for County Commissioner without further discussion. The vote was as follows: Long- 8, Nielson-5, Abstain-1. Richard Long was elected.

There was a motion by Representative Clark, seconded by Representative Morrison to defer the business of appointing a Gunstock Commissioner to a time after the new delegation is seated. Discussion followed. Vote Yes 4; No 10. The motion failed. The Convention proceeded with the process of appointing a Gunstock Commissioner.

Motion by Representative Boyce, seconded by Representative Pilliod to enter non-public session.

Roll Call:

Rep. Tobin:	abstain
Rep. Morrison:	No
Rep. Tilton:	Yes
Rep Clark:	Yes
Rep. Flanders:	Yes
Rep. Pilliod:	Yes
Rep. Nedeau:	Yes
Rep. Millham:	Yes
Rep. Thomas:	Yes
Rep Rosen:	Yes
Rep. Boyce:	Yes
Rep. Whalley:	Yes
Rep. Russell:	Yes
Rep. Veazey:	Yes

Yes: 12, No 1, Abstain 1. The motion passed.

The Convention interviewed three candidates for the position of Gunstock Commissioner: Philip Mercer (incumbent), Frank Michel, and John Morgenstern.

Motion by Representative Boyce, seconded by Representative Russell to come out of non-public session.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Tobin:	Yes
Rep. Morrison:	Yes
Rep. Tilton:	Yes
Rep Clark:	Yes
Rep. Flanders:	Yes
Rep. Pilliod:	Yes
Rep. Nedeau:	Yes
Rep. Millham:	Yes
Rep. Thomas:	Yes
Rep Rosen:	Yes
Rep. Boyce:	Yes
Rep. Whalley:	Yes
Rep. Russell:	Yes
Rep. Veazey:	Yes

Yes 14, No 0, Abstain 0. The motion passed.

Ballot vote: Morgenstern 6, Michel 5, Mercer 3. Morgenstern appointed.

There being no further business there was a motion by Representative Nedeau to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Representative Millham. Motion adopted.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Millham, Clerk

BELKNAP COUNTY CONVENTION
Meeting December 11, 2006

Present: Rep. Arsenault, Rep. Boyce, Rep. Clark, Rep. Flanders, Rep. Heald, Rep. Millham, Rep. Nedeau, Rep. Pilliod, Rep. Reeve, Rep. Russell, Rep. Thomas, Rep. Tilton, Rep. Tobin, Rep. Whalley, Rep. Morrison, Rep. Jane Wood.

Commissioners: Daigneault, Boothby, Long.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Rep. Thomas. Pledge of Allegiance led by Rep. Heald.

1. Organization of Convention:

Rep. Thomas nominated Stephen Nedeau as Chairman of the Belknap County Convention. Seconded by Rep. Russell. Motion by Rep. Russell to close nominations for Chair. Seconded. Unanimous approval

Rep. Russell nominated Rep Millham as Vice Chairman, seconded by Rep. Pilliod. Rep. Russell moved that nominations be closed. Seconded by Rep. Whalley. Unanimous approval.

Rep Whalley nominated Rep. Russell as Convention Clerk, seconded by Rep. Boyce. Rep. Flanders moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Rep. Nedeau. Unanimous approval.

Rep. Tilton moved that the clerk cast one ballot for the above nominated slate. Seconded by Rep. Boyce. Unanimous approval.

Rep. Stephen Nedeau accepted the gavel and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Daigneault for the presentation of the County Budget.

Commissioner Daigneault introduced the County officers and Department Heads present.

The review of the budget indicated that there is a 4.06% increase in the budget expenditures and a 7.118% increase in revenue projected for 2007.

The Commissioners indicated an interest in legislation that would allow counties to bill taxes twice a year.

Motion by Rep. Boyce to close the budget presentation. Seconded by Rep. Flanders. Unanimous approval.

Motion by Rep. Heald, seconded by Rep. Boyce to make the following Budget Transfers:

From Department of Corrections 6100 Line 0130 Corrections Officers Wages \$6,000 to Department of Corrections 6100 Line 0591 Building Maintenance to cover repairs in the broken Annex sewer line.

From Department of Corrections 6100 line 0120 Corrections Admin Salary \$3,000 to Department of Corrections 6100 line 0191 Holiday Pay \$3,000 to cover year-end holiday pay.

From Department of Corrections 6100 line 0120 Corrections Admin Salary \$1200 to Department of Corrections 6100 line 0900 Air Packs for replacement of Air packs.

From Department of Corrections 6100 line 0130 Corrections Officers Wages \$7,000 to Department of Corrections 6100 line 0453 Food \$7,000 to cover food expenses.

TOTAL Department of Corrections transfers \$17,200. Unanimous approval.

Motion by Rep. Thomas, seconded by Rep. Heald to make the following budget transfer.

From Dietary Department 5130-line 0150 Dietary Salaries \$19,000 to Dietary Department 5130-line 0462 Contract Services \$19,000 to cover year to date expenses to the end of the year.

Motion by Rep. Russell, Seconded by Rep. Thomas to carry forward to 2007 budget the amount of \$98,939 Nursing Home 02-5100-line 0582 for the 2006 survey penalty not yet billed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Unanimous approval.

Motion by Rep. Boyce, seconded by Rep. Flanders to release \$5,520.48 funds left from the Construction Fund into the General Fund sweeps account. Unanimous approval.

The following resolution was moved by Rep Thomas and seconded by Rep. Tilton:

1. Be it resolved by the Belknap County Convention duly convened and pursuant to NH RSA 478:17, 11 c that only sums hereinafter detailed in this resolution, are hereby appropriated to be paid out of the county treasury from the Registry of Deeds Equipment Account for the purposes specified below:
 - a. Reimburse the County for the Laser/Optical scanning lease in the amount of: \$40,000.
 - b. Purchase of 15 Drawer Plan file in the amount of \$3,340.00

Total to be expended from the equipment account: \$43,340.00

2. This resolution shall take effect upon approval of a majority vote of the Belknap County Board of Commissioners and the County Convention.

Vote approved unanimously.

A question was asked of the Register of Deeds as to how much money is generated by the Registry of Deeds. The Register reported that it is about \$38,000 to about \$43,000 a year.

Chairman Nedeau recognized Treasurer Michael Muzzey who requested that the delegation authorize the borrowing in anticipation of taxation (Tax Anticipation notes) based on cash flow up to the amount of \$13,169,054. Motion by Rep. Thomas, seconded by Rep. Flanders to approve the request. Unanimous approval.

Motion by Rep. Thomas, seconded by Rep. Flanders for a Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA) to authorize the County Commissioners to expend up to 25% of the Year 2007 appropriation until the Year 2007 budget is finally adopted, less any capital items. Unanimous approval.

A form for Convention members to complete regarding committee assignments was distributed.

Motion by Rep. Millham, seconded by Rep. Boyce that the Convention Executive Committee reflects the political party composition of the Convention. Unanimous approval.

Eliza Leadbeater, Director of the Belknap County Economic Development Council introduced a new staff member Jennifer Boulanger. Sheriff Collis asked members to keep Dave Jenkins in our thoughts as he finishes treatment for cancer. Wayne Coull was thanked for his years of service to the county as a member of the staff of the County Attorney's office. Note was made that Jan Hooper will be retiring in December.

Motion by Rep. Thomas to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Rep. Tilton. Unanimous approval.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Alida Millham retiring Clerk and
Rep. David Russell, Clerk Elect.

BELKNAP COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes Dec. 18, 2006
County Complex, 4 p.m.

PRESENT: Reps. Nedeau, Millham, Russell, Thomas

Chairman Nedeau called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Purpose is to make Convention members assignments to Committees.

A list of choices was distributed, and it was noted that Reps. Allen, Wendelboe and Wood were not present when the choices were offered. After careful deliberation, the following assignments were made:

Airport Committee

Allen, Chair
Clark
Pilliod
Tilton
Tobin

Belknap County Citizens Council

Arsenault
Clark, Chair
Millham
Reever

BC Economic Dev. Council

Arsenault
Flanders
Nedeau
Reeves
Thomas, Chair

Court House Committee

Allen
Heald
Morrison
Tilton, Chair
Wood

Gunstock Committee

Arsenault
Boyce
Heald
Pilliod, Chair
Thomas

Law Enforcement Committee

Boyce
Flanders, Chair
Heald
Thomas
Tobin

Mutual Aid Committee

Morrison
Russell, Chair
Tilton
Tobin

Nursing Home Committee

Clark
Flanders
Millham, Chair
Morrison
Pilliod
Wendelboe

Outside Agencies Committee

Personnel and Wages

Boyce, Chair

Millham

Millham

Nedeau

Reever

Russell

Chairman Nedeau made the following suggestions, to which the Committee unanimously agreed.

The Chairman of each of the 10 committees shall:

- 1) Establish a time and place to meet with the agency and advise members and Nancy Cook.
- 2) Keep a record of each member's attendance and mileage. and submit it to the Clerk.
- 3) Submit a report of the Committee's findings and recommendations to Nancy Cook by March 1, 20007.

There being no further business, Chairman Nedeau moved, second by Rep. Thomas to adjourn at 4:41 p.m.; unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
David H. Russell, Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Another year has passed us by and although 2006 was not one characterized with crowning achievements, it did provide us with many insights to the future of County departments.

The year commenced on a particularly disturbing note. A state survey of our nursing facility proved unsatisfactory policies, procedures, documentation by staff and other deficiencies that ultimately placed us in immediate jeopardy. This was, indeed, a first for Belknap County. Our long cherished reputation as one of the finest residential care facilities in the state was tarnished. Publicity was disheartening to say the least; however, calls offering support from people who had and presently have loved ones at our nursing home were numerous. Passersby on the street would often speak highly of the home and were confident that we would resolve the issues.

A management team spearheaded by our relatively new administrator, Bernard Gray, was put into place. Consultants were brought on board, in-service training was stepped up and the road to recovery was underway. The support of the Nursing Home Affiliate of the N.H. Association of Counties was nothing short of incredible and was in great part responsible for our success in the December survey which resulted in a zero free deficiency report. Our thanks and appreciation to all the staff responsible for making this possible.

The resignation of our Superintendent of Jail and House of Correction resulted in the appointment of Richard Grenier, a Lieutenant and long time employee of that department. Superintendent Grenier hit the ground running and his thinking outside the box will, in time, produce cost saving measures to the County.

Under the auspices of the National Association of Counties, Belknap County was the first in the state to provide a prescription drug card for its residents. This program has been widely received and to date Belknap has produced the largest number of users in the state.

Lauren Noether, our County Attorney of twelve years, resigned to take a position with the Attorney General's office. The Commission was sad to see her leave and wished her well with the challenges of her new position. Wayne Coull remained on as acting county attorney and left the office for a similar position with Merrimack County. The November elections brought us James Carroll as our new County Attorney. Jim is life long resident of Laconia. He is a former prosecutor of the Laconia Police Department and has long been a pivotal force in the area of youth and families. We welcome Jim and wish him great success in this new endeavor.

The passing of Commissioner Gordon Bartlett in September further distraught an already troubled county. Gordon had been a vocal political figure for many years as a County Convention member and was in the second year of a four-year term as Commissioner. His contributions were many and his sometimes-gruff exterior complemented with a heart of gold will surely be missed.

The appointment by the County Convention of Richard Long of Belmont to fill the un-expired term of Gordon was accomplished in November. Mr. Long brings a wide range of banking expertise to the table and will surely be an asset to the Commission.

Michael Muzzey, a Vice President with Laconia Savings Bank, was appointed to the position of County Treasurer upon the resignation of Robert Corbin who held the post for 16 years.

As can be seen, your County Government has had an extremely busy year. We have highlighted the areas of importance, as the events that took place were too numerous to mention.

In closing, the Commission wishes to thank the members of our County Convention who steadfastly supported us in our endeavors inclusive of a supplemental appropriation of funds that enabled us to implement necessary changes within our nursing home and jail.

Our very special thanks to our department heads and staff for their continued support, hard work and going the extra mile.

Thank you,
Philip P. Daigneault, Christopher D. Boothby and Richard W. Long
Belknap County Commissioners

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR & FINANCE OFFICER

To the Honorable Belknap County Commissioners:

I respectfully submit the Administrative and Finance report for the year ending December 31, 2006. Enclosed are the audited financial statements relating to operations for 2006 and the Commissioner's proposed budget for the calendar year 2007, both done in compliance with GASB34.

The past year was a year of change with turnover of several key positions and a revamping of daily operations. The state survey team showed up at our Nursing Home putting us in "immediate jeopardy" for quality of care issues. With some management changes and a lot of hard work we worked through the deficiencies. Things are back on track and moving in a positive direction. Patient care, accountability, responsibility, and continued education are now at the forefront in our Nursing Home. As a result of the state survey and other financial responsibilities the board had to do a supplemental appropriation mid-year to pay for additional consultants and training to return us to full compliance with state mandates. All this paid off in late fall as the survey team returned and found no deficiencies.

Funding cutbacks from the State of New Hampshire continue to plague the county as well as inadequate Medicaid rates. Luckily the Proshare (PSP) and Bed Tax revenue continue and somewhat offset this burden. The transfer to the Nursing Home from the general fund continues to grow and is projected to reach an all time high of \$3.9 million in 2007.

Over \$2,500,000 in surplus funds were utilized in 2006 to reduce the County tax rate and offset borrowing in 2007. The department heads continue to exercise fiscal responsibility and maximize revenue opportunities. Generating revenue is becoming more difficult as the economy and job market tightens.

Bond Council continues to give us a qualified opinion on our Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) sale. The TAN sale is done once a year with \$6.0 million borrowed in 2006. This change saves county taxpayers in excess of \$70,000 a year in interest expense. Belknap County continues to maintain a strong Moody's credit rating of A2 (along with all accounts insured and collateralized by the Federal Reserve through Citizens Bank).

The Commissioners will be negotiating another lease renewal for the Superior Court in 2007 with the State of New Hampshire Administrative Offices of the Court (AOC). They rent the top floor of the Court House.

Numerous hours were spent on a Wage and Classification study. Human Resource Partners received the contract to perform the study with possible implementation in 2007.

Contract negotiations will commence with the Nursing Home and Department

of Corrections in August 2007. Both contracts expire on December 31st 2007.

The county was successful in closing out two Community Development Block Grants (CDBG's) during 2006. The first award was for \$425,000 and sub granted to Laconia Area Community Land Trust to acquire the 100-year-old Mechanic Street School building and convert it into affordable housing. The interior was concerted into six affordable housing units. The second CDBG is for a capacity building grant from the Belknap County Economic Development Council for \$240,000. Grant funds were provided to the New Hampshire Alliance of Regional Development Corporations on behalf of its 12 members each receiving \$20,000. The funds are used to assist with the operation and strengthen economic opportunities in their area. Each region must create one job with low to moderate-income benefit.

We continue to feel the loss of County Commissioner Gordon Bartlett who passed away this past year after a short illness. He was a true New Hampshire gem. As a way of keeping his memory alive the Nursing Home started a new award for employees called the "Gordon Bartlett Humanitarian Award."

The commissioners promoted Richard (Rags) Grenier to the vacant Superintendent's position this past year. He's done an amazing job in a short period of time revamping policies and procedures to upgrading building maintenance. A real concern is the growing population at the County Jail particularly in the area of the females. A temporary fix was done in 2006 by renovating a female area to house the increased population but a long term solution is still to be determined.

Our yearly "Employee Day" was held in November and well attended. Local vendors educated employees on benefits and employees received their yearly flu vaccine.

We continue to struggle with the new Unifund Budget Sense software. The new software is in a Windows format that is compatible to other Microsoft products and allows us the ability to capture more information. The transition has not been as smooth as hoped.

As we look forward to 2007 there is the possible threat of the Avian Flu. This is our opportunity to work with the Regional Pandemic Planning committee and plan for such a contingency.

Finally, I would like to thank all employees, department heads and elected officials for their continued dedication and hard work. I look forward to serving the citizens of Belknap County for another year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy E. Cook
County Administrator & Finance Officer
www.belknapcounty.org

COUNTY OF BELKNAP BUDGET REPORT

As of December 31, 2006

	2006	2006	2007	2005/06
Revenue	Supplemental	Audit	Proposed	Gunstock
Charges for Services	Budget	(Draft)		Audited
				<u>6,529,415</u>
Program Initiatives	20,000	0	20,000	
Proshare Reserve	0	0	0	
Rent	246,695	246,695	249,778	
Citizens Council	153,770	59,985	106,672	
County Attorney	55,573	57,788	55,573	
Interest	88,000	186,356	100,000	
Registry of Deeds	1,027,900	1,087,734	943,340	
Sheriff's Department	357,906	316,574	359,500	
Juvenile Restorative Justice	26,750	21,193	19,125	
Department of Corrections	96,000	118,248	77,320	
Human Services	320,133	360,109	376,244	
Nursing Home	6,543,230	9,501,416	7,077,057	
Surplus/Carryforward	2,838,561	88,696	2,500,000	
Gunstock	150,000	177,206	150,000	
Miscell./Outside Agencies	90,000	136,228	93,505	
Taxes - Cities & Towns	<u>12,294,000</u>	<u>12,294,000</u>	<u>13,169,054</u>	
Total Revenues	<u>24,308,518</u>	<u>24,652,226</u>	<u>25,297,168</u>	
Cost of Operations				<u>4,338,643</u>
Profit from Operations				<u>2,190,772</u>
Expenditures	Supplemental	Audit	Proposed	
Commissioners	284,457	224,885	259,333	
Finance Office	326,966	346,129	299,689	
Citizens Council	302,548	213,980	311,223	
County Attorney	542,572	487,508	544,563	
Register of Deeds	595,362	587,260	568,648	
Sheriff's Department	1,808,199	1,778,385	1,925,077	
Juvenile Restorative Justice	124,018	120,788	127,957	
Medical Referee	18,000	16,519	18,000	
Maintenance	358,112	361,270	376,388	
Human Services	4,982,839	5,009,853	5,082,249	
Department of Corrections	3,000,972	2,921,864	3,083,304	
Gunstock	262,334	259,557	245,283	
BCNH Transfer of Funds	0	2,607,346	0	
Outside Agencies	805,518	805,518	855,282	
County Delegation	7,000	6,990	7,000	
OCU Debt-Principle	289,600	289,599	289,600	
OCU Debt/TAN-Interest	179,625	203,000	189,362	
Contingency/Carryforward	100,000	0	100,000	
Nursing Home	10,320,396	9,501,416	11,014,210	
General				1,462,383
Administrative				<u>1,755,370</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>24,308,518</u>	<u>25,741,866</u>	<u>25,297,168</u>	<u>3,217,753</u>
Net Income(Loss)				<u>-1,026,981</u>

**DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY**

EXHIBIT C
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2006

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,216,482	\$ 8,637	\$ 6,225,119
Investments	49,608		49,608
Accounts receivable, net	169,707		169,707
Due from other funds	2,060,995		2,060,995
Restricted cash and investments	919,811		919,811
Total Assets	<u>\$ 9,416,603</u>	<u>\$ 8,637</u>	<u>\$ 9,425,240</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$ 510,161		\$ 510,161
Accrued expenses	294,067		294,067
Deferred revenue	157,919		157,919
Due to other governments	1,632,477		1,632,477
Due to other funds		\$ 5,594	5,594
Payable from restricted assets	919,811		919,811
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 3,514,435</u>	<u>\$ 5,594</u>	<u>\$ 3,520,029</u>
FUND BALANCES			
Unreserved, reported in:			
General fund	5,902,168		5,902,168
Special revenue funds		3,043	3,043
Total Fund Balances	<u>5,902,168</u>	<u>3,043</u>	<u>5,905,211</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 9,416,603</u>	<u>\$ 8,637</u>	

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds	4,658,673
Revenues are recognized on an accrual basis in the statement of net assets, not the modified accrual basis	75,000
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:	
Bonds payable	(1,784,200)
Other long-term obligations	(589,000)
Accrued interest on long-term obligations	(19,467)
Compensated absences	<u>(201,205)</u>
Net assets of governmental activities	<u>\$ 8,045,012</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT D
 COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2006

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Taxes	\$ 12,294,000		\$ 12,294,000
Intergovernmental	434,390		1,129,390
Charges for services	1,564,336	\$ 695,000	1,564,336
Interest income	186,355	366	186,721
Miscellaneous	488,994		488,994
Total Revenues	14,968,075	695,366	15,663,441
Expenditures:			
Current operations:			
General government	2,303,025	26,800	2,329,825
Public safety	5,251,457		5,251,457
Health and welfare	5,026,372		5,026,372
Education and Social Service Agencies	239,199		299,999
Redevelopment and housing	430,000		430,000
Economic development	238,200		238,200
Capital outlay	30,960		30,960
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	289,600		289,600
Interest and fiscal charges	203,000		203,000
Total Expenditures	13,373,553	725,960	14,099,513
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	1,594,522	(30,594)	1,563,928
Other financing sources (uses):			
Operating transfers in	182,736	22,675	205,411
Operating transfers out	(2,866,904)	(3,530)	(2,872,434)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,684,168)	17,145	(2,667,023)
Excess revenues and other sources (under) expenditures and other uses	(1,089,646)	(13,449)	(1,103,095)
Fund balances at beginning of year	6,991,814	16,492	7,008,306
Fund balances at end of year	\$ 5,902,168	\$ 3,043	\$ 5,905,211

COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2006

Net Change in Fund Balances--Total Governmental Funds	\$ (1,103,095)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	(193,252)
Revenues previously recognized in the statement of activities are reported as revenues in the funds when they provide current financial resources.	(25,000)
Repayment of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	289,600
Repayment of principal on capital leases is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	1,933
Repayment of principal on other long-term obligations is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	209,750
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due.	1,553
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	(46,643)
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities	\$ (865,154)

DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES



See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT E
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
December 31, 2006

**DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY**

	Business-type Activities		
	Nursing Home Fund	Nonmajor Enterprise Fund	Totals
ASSETS			
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 900	\$ 6,978	\$ 7,878
Accounts receivable, net	43,217	788	44,005
Due from other governments	588,627		588,627
Inventory	<u>22,553</u>		<u>22,553</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>655,297</u>	<u>7,766</u>	<u>663,063</u>
Noncurrent Assets:			
Capital assets:			
Non-depreciable capital assets	9,957		9,957
Depreciable capital assets, net	<u>7,176,150</u>		<u>7,176,150</u>
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>7,186,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,186,107</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 7,841,404</u>	<u>\$ 7,766</u>	<u>\$ 7,849,170</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 206,512		\$ 206,512
Accrued expenses	306,893		306,893
Due to other funds	2,027,757	\$ 4,597	2,032,354
Due to other governments	86,285		86,285
Current portion of bonds payable	<u>455,000</u>		<u>455,000</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>3,082,447</u>	<u>4,597</u>	<u>3,087,044</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities:			
Bonds payable	4,670,000		4,670,000
Compensated absences	88,957		88,957
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>4,758,957</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,758,957</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>7,841,404</u>	<u>4,597</u>	<u>7,846,001</u>
NET ASSETS			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,061,107		2,061,107
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(2,061,107)</u>	<u>3,169</u>	<u>(2,057,938)</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>3,169</u>	<u>3,169</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 7,841,404</u>	<u>\$ 7,766</u>	<u>\$ 7,849,170</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT F
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2006

DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY

	Business-type Activities		
	Nursing Home	Nonmajor Enterprise	Totals
	Fund	Fund	
Operating revenues:			
Charges for services	\$ 4,249,678	\$ 9,262	\$ 4,258,940
Medicaid pool funds	2,075,902		2,075,902
Miscellaneous	591,165		591,165
Total operating revenues	<u>6,916,745</u>	<u>9,262</u>	<u>6,926,007</u>
Operating expenses:			
Administrative	1,207,581	9,574	1,217,155
Maintenance and operations	622,452		622,452
Physical Therapy	208,291		208,291
Dietary	1,074,322		1,074,322
Nursing	4,879,465		4,879,465
Laundry	216,653		216,653
Housekeeping	356,456		356,456
Physician/Pharmacy	31,353		31,353
Special Services	6,417		6,417
Activities	235,021		235,021
Hairdressing	47,572		47,572
Depreciation	374,329		374,329
Total operating expenses	<u>9,259,912</u>	<u>9,574</u>	<u>9,269,486</u>
Operating loss	<u>(2,343,167)</u>	<u>(312)</u>	<u>(2,343,479)</u>
Non-operating revenues (expenses):			
Interest revenue		57	57
Interest expense	(241,504)		(241,504)
Net non-operating revenues (expenses)	<u>(241,504)</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>(241,447)</u>
Loss before transfers	(2,584,671)	(255)	(2,584,926)
Operating transfers in	<u>2,584,671</u>		<u>2,584,671</u>
Change in net assets	-	(255)	(255)
Total net assets at beginning of year	<u>-</u>	<u>3,424</u>	<u>3,424</u>
Total net assets at end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,169</u>	<u>\$ 3,169</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

EXHIBIT H
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
Fiduciary Funds
December 31, 2006

**DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY**

	Agency Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 44,129
Accounts receivable	<u>23,047</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 67,176</u>
LIABILITIES	
Due to other funds	\$ 23,047
Due to others	<u>44,129</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 67,176</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY**

SCHEDULE A
 COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 Combining Balance Sheet
 Governmental Funds - All Nonmajor Funds
 December 31, 2006

	Drug Forfeiture <u>Fund</u>	Roof Capital Projects <u>Fund</u>	Combining <u>Totals</u>
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,107	\$ 5,530	\$ 8,637
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,107</u>	<u>\$ 5,530</u>	<u>\$ 8,637</u>
LIABILITIES			
Due to other funds	\$ 64	\$ 5,530	\$ 5,594
Total Liabilities	<u>64</u>	<u>5,530</u>	<u>5,594</u>
FUND BALANCES			
Unreserved, reported in:			
Special revenue funds	<u>3,043</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,043</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>3,043</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,043</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 3,107</u>	<u>\$ 5,530</u>	<u>\$ 8,637</u>

SCHEDULE B
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds - All Nonmajor Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 2006

DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES

	Mechanic Street School Housing Grant Fund	RDC Capacity Building Grant Fund	Drug Forfeiture Fund	Total Special Revenue Funds	Roof Capital Projects Fund	Combining Totals
Revenues:						
Intergovernmental	\$ 455,000	\$ 240,000		\$ 695,000		\$ 695,000
Interest income			\$ 1	1	\$ 365	366
Total Revenues	<u>455,000</u>	<u>240,000</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>695,001</u>	<u>365</u>	<u>695,366</u>
Expenditures:						
Current operations:						
General government	25,000	1,800		26,800		26,800
Redevelopment and housing	430,000			430,000		430,000
Economic development		238,200		238,200		238,200
Capital outlay				-	30,960	30,960
Total Expenditures	<u>455,000</u>	<u>240,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>695,000</u>	<u>30,960</u>	<u>725,960</u>
Excess revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>(30,595)</u>	<u>(30,594)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):						
Operating transfers in					22,675	22,675
Operating transfers out					(5,530)	(5,530)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,145</u>	<u>17,145</u>
Excess revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>(13,450)</u>	<u>(13,449)</u>
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,042</u>	<u>3,042</u>	<u>13,450</u>	<u>16,492</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,043</u>	<u>\$ 3,043</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,043</u>

**DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY**

SCHEDULE C
 COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets
 Fiduciary Funds - All Agency Funds
 December 31, 2006

	Inmate Agency Fund	Patient Agency Fund	Payroll Agency Fund	Combining Totals
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,206	\$ 28,923		\$ 44,129
Accounts receivable			<u>\$ 23,047</u>	<u>23,047</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 15,206</u>	<u>\$ 28,923</u>	<u>\$ 23,047</u>	<u>\$ 67,176</u>
LIABILITIES				
Due to other funds			\$ 23,047	\$ 23,047
Due to others	<u>\$ 15,206</u>	<u>\$ 28,923</u>		<u>44,129</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 15,206</u>	<u>\$ 28,923</u>	<u>\$ 23,047</u>	<u>\$ 67,176</u>

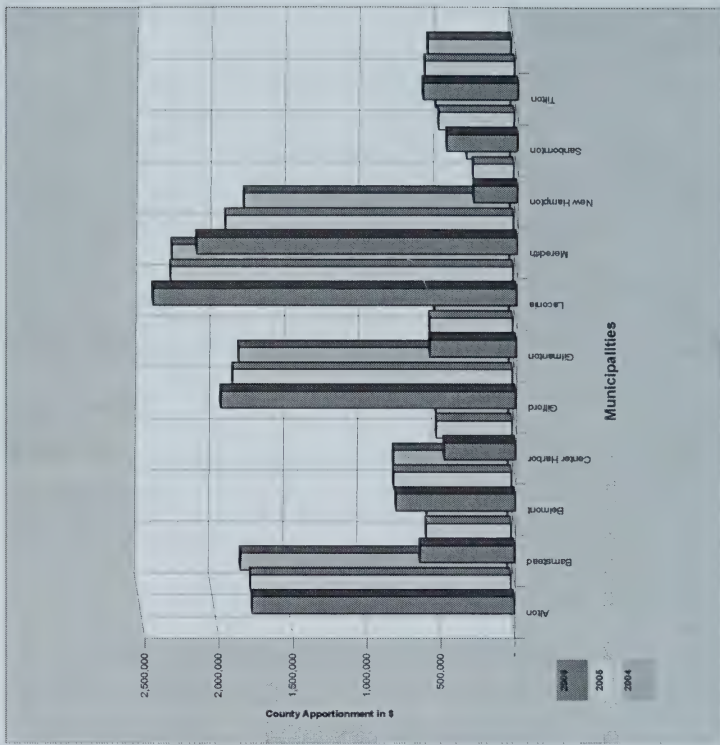
Belknap County

	% Proportion To County Tax	Apportionment of County Budget
2004		1,769,778
Alton	14.3955%	
Barnstead	5.1862%	637,597
Belmont	6.5424%	804,320
Center Harbor	3.8975%	479,162
Gilford	16.2053%	1,992,285
Glimanton	4.7397%	582,696
Laconia	19.9759%	2,455,844
Meredith	17.5781%	2,161,049
New Hampton	2.3795%	292,552
Sanbornton	3.8881%	478,008
Tilton	5.2116%	640,709.00
TOTALS	100.0000%	12,294,000

	% Proportion To County Tax	Apportionment of County Budget
2005		
Alton	14.9975%	1,755,822
Barnstead	4.8760%	570,856
Belmont	6.7936%	795,356
Center Harbor	4.3367%	507,717
Gilford	16.1162%	1,886,780
Glimanton	4.7671%	568,103
Laconia	19.7202%	2,308,721
Meredith	16.5840%	1,941,554
New Hampton	2.3229%	271,957
Sanbornton	4.3332%	507,308
Tilton	5.1524%	603,211.00
TOTALS	100.0000%	11,707,395

	% Proportion To County Tax	Apportionment of County Budget
2004		
Alton	15.8677%	1,801,152
Barnstead	4.7890%	543,607
Belmont	6.8050%	772,437
Center Harbor	4.2842%	486,300
Gilford	16.0349%	1,820,132
Glimanton	4.4214%	501,878
Laconia	20.0513%	2,276,041
Meredith	15.7865%	1,791,944
New Hampton	2.5761%	292,421
Sanbornton	4.4494%	505,054
Tilton	4.9346%	560,127.00
TOTALS	100.0000%	11,351,093

BELKNAP COUNTY TAX



2006 General Fixed Assets

Balances				
	January 1	Additions	Reclass	Deletions
Land and Improvements Buildings and	144,829.00	0.00	0	0.00
Improvements Machinery and Equipment	8,254,976.64	86,150.00	0	0.00
	1,818,011.48	83,809.47	0.00	43,779.00
Less:				
Const. In Progress	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Depreciation	-5,365,891.90	-406,736.77	0	-43,779.00
Totals	4,851,925.22	169,959.47	0.00	0.00

Proprietary Fixed Assets

Nursing Home Fund				
	Additions	Reclass	Deletions	
Land and Improvements Buildings and	49,474.48	0.00	0	0.00
Improvements Roads and Parking	9,839,534.17	7,577.23	0	0.00
Mach and Office Equip.	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Construction in Prog.	1,078,359.32	43,472.53	0	-6,843.00
	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
Total	10,967,367.97	51,049.76	0.00	-6,843.00
Less: Accum Depreciation	-3,457,981.12	-374,470.38	0.00	6,843.00
Net Book Value	7,509,386.85	-323,420.62	0.00	0.00

REPORT OF THE BELKNAP COUNTY ATTORNEY

To the Honorable Commissioners and Delegation of Belknap County:

This year the Office of the Belknap County Attorney handled 442 open case files, comprised of 864 distinct criminal charges-- a heavy load for 3 attorneys and one victim witness coordinator, especially as the office had only 2 attorneys for the final 4 months of 2006 due to County Attorney Noether's leaving. These open and pending files include on-going cases, new prosecutions initiated in 2006 as well as formerly closed cases which have been reopened to litigate new post trial motions, habeas corpus petitions, probation violations and the like. In addition to this caseload, the office handled many inquiries from law enforcement and consulted in numerous crime or death investigations (which may or may not have resulted in prosecution). The office also rendered assistance on district court cases and responded to daily inquiries from witnesses, the public and other agencies as well.

Our Victim/Witness Coordinator works with victims and witnesses from the pre-indictment stages of a case, through trial and beyond for each of our cases. In addition to keeping victims updated on the specifics of individual cases, the coordinator is a member of the trial team and assists prosecutors with explaining the nuances of court processes to victims and witnesses. The program has been successful in fostering open communications between victims and criminal justice officials. The coordinator helps victims file compensation claims and notifies victims of on going parole, probation or other court hearings that frequently take place well after guilty convictions. In 2006, the coordinator assisted victims in recovering \$18,905.59 through the state Victim Compensation Fund. The office also made use of about 100 volunteer hours.

In 2006, 25 defendants were brought to jury trial on 61 crimes. Jury trial prosecution involves extensive preparation in the form of developing strategies to present the case, filing or opposing trial pleadings, and meeting with investigators, experts and civilian witnesses/victims. This work also includes ongoing preparation during the course of a trial frequently on nights and weekends. Some of the related pretrial hearings such as suppression or dismissal hearings may themselves take days to complete with a number of witnesses. Even the simplest felony trial is likely to consume two court days with a jury and it is not uncommon for more complex cases to last a week or more, exclusive of the pretrial proceedings held before a judge. Until recently when this county lost a judge, criminal jury trials were simultaneously held in two courtrooms. It has been difficult to effectively handle cases involving numerous witnesses and victims with only 1 person devoted to this.

The attorneys screened about 602 criminal matters for grand jury presentation, which is how each felony prosecution is pursued in our state. Out of those cases

sent for review by law enforcement, 510 matters were actually presented with 482 indictments and a number of subpoenas returned by the 9 sitting grand juries as outlined in Appendix "A". (next page)

In NH, we still have a trial "de novo" system where a person convicted of a misdemeanor in the district court judge may appeal for an entirely new trial before a jury in the superior court. Thus, double resources are being expended for these misdemeanor appeal cases, though they are not as serious as the felony crimes that are allowed only a single trial. This archaic system will continue to be a drain on judicial, prosecutorial and defense (including indigent defense) resources until remedied by the legislature.

One important duty of this office is to lend legal guidance 24 hours a day to law enforcement agencies across the county. This includes advising police on search warrants, ongoing investigations, charging decisions, untimely deaths and training them on developments in criminal law. Our involvement with cases often begins with the initial crime report to police and continues through investigation, arrest and court presentation, even well after conviction. Additionally, the attorneys and the victim witness coordinator may be called for after-hour response to a crime scene or suspicious death. The police departments are grappling with complex legal issues, even in misdemeanor cases and we lend help where we can on these at all hours of the day or night. We are fortunate to have had unparalleled criminal prosecution expertise in the office. Together the county attorney and acting/deputy county attorney held over 30 years of prosecutorial experience. Many of our cases covered significant legal ground and, given the depth and breadth of our prosecutions, we were often on the forefront of state criminal justice policy. Examples of this in 2006 are the many child pornography prosecutions, including State v. Stevens (convicted of 16 counts after two jury trials) the methamphetamine laboratory prosecution in State v. Sewell, welfare fraud in State v. Plummer, the home invasion/rape trial of Douglas Jenot (codefendant of Stephen Goupil who was tried in 2005) and numerous other prosecutions, particularly involving crimes against children.

As both of us are leaving Belknap County, we wish to take this opportunity to thank our delegation, our commissioners, local law enforcement and the many other individuals who worked alongside of us seeking justice and safety for our community. It is our distinct honor and privilege to have served as your county attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren J. Noether
Belknap County Attorney (1993 - 2006)

Wayne P. Coull
Commissioner to Perform the Duties of County Attorney

APPENDIX A

<u>Charge Type</u>	<u>Number of Indictments</u>
Assault & Related Offenses	31
Breaches of the Peace	2
Child Porn	3
Destruction of Property	8
Drug Offenses	116
Falsification in Official Matters	3
Fill & Dredge In Wetlands	3
Fraud	41
Motor Vehicle Offenses	78
Obstructing Government Operations	16
Offenses Against Family	5
Public Safety and Welfare	14
Registration of Criminal Offenders	1
Robbery	13
Sexual Assault	86
Theft	34
Timber Harvesting	1
Unauthorized Entries	25
Water Pollution & Waste Disposal	1
<i>Total Indictment Items Presented to Grand Jury for 2006</i>	580
<i>Total Grand Jury Subpoena Items Presented to Grand Jury for 2006</i>	15
<hr/>	
<i>Total Items Presented to Grand Jury for 2006</i>	595

BELKNAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County,

It is safe to say that 2006 has been a year of extraordinary transition for the Department of Corrections. A new administration, the retirement of several long time staff, four promotions, five new officers to fill vacancies, our own nursing staff for the first time ever, conversion of the Industries area to female housing and the completion of double bunking every cell have made for a challenging and exciting year.

This summer saw the highest amount of long-term inmates ever housed in the facility at 103, at a time when our total bed space in all areas was, at times, to make room for intoxicants, staff created cell space by temporarily moving pre-trial inmates to a classroom that was designed to be used as an emergency dormitory.

There were no incidents of assaults on staff, although there were several inmate-on-inmate assaults, as well as a number of instances where staff intercepted contraband, in various forms, being brought into the facility. Where appropriate, these cases were prosecuted through the Sheriff's Department. Other cases were processed through the department disciplinary procedure.

Motorcycle Week was for us, at least, very kind. The 140 bookings over the length of the event almost equaled the low recorded in 1994, when it was only one weekend. That was extremely fortunate for us, as for the first time ever, we were unable to transfer all of our inmates to other facilities. This aspect of Motorcycle Week has become quite problematic for us. It was not that long ago when it was relatively easy to arrange the transfer of our total inmate population of 30-40 inmates. With today's average of 85 inmates and overcrowding at many of our sister facilities, it is unknown how much longer we can expect this kind assistance from other counties, even with paying a per diem rate of \$25 per inmate. Sheriff Collis and his Deputies transferred all pre-trial and female inmates to Grafton, Hillsborough and Rockingham Departments of Corrections. All male sentenced inmates remained behind and, due to the lower influx of prisoners over the week; the staff was able to successfully work around the housing needs of two such disparate groups with a minimum of conflict.

Statistically speaking, 2006 was also a year of transition. Total bookings for the year at 1,955, is 15 less than 2005. The total bookings number is down partly because of lower Motorcycle Week numbers, as well as fewer intoxication bookings overall. There were 665 intoxicants compared to 891 in 2005. This appears to be a good trend, but it is not an accurate indicator of the true nature of the inmate population, where it is going and what it means to staffing, space needs and programs.

While we are receiving fewer individuals for intoxication, we are receiving more pre-trial and sentenced inmates who are incarcerated for a longer period of time. Our average daily population was 85 inmates, versus 78 in 2005. That number is going up consistently every year by almost ten inmates. The average stay of an inmate is

16.67 days, up from 14.34 in 2005. Again this number is not entirely accurate for statistical purposes. Remove the extremely short stay of an intoxicated individual, here just to sober up and be released, and the average stay jumps to 26.47 days, a considerable difference. Clearly, we are housing more long-term inmates, both pre-trial and sentenced, than ever before.

The effect of this increase in population on the facility is subtle but palpable. Everything takes longer to accomplish. Distribution of clean laundry and collection of dirty laundry, meal distribution and the collection of food trays, medication passes, doctor calls, increased transports to court proceedings, the dentist and other outside medical specialists are just a few examples of the impact on the facility.

In this, my first Annual Report as superintendent, I would be remiss if I did not include a segment on the activities of the Programs Director, Jan Best. These statistics cover the period 5-1-06 through 12-21-06.

BELKNAP COUNTY CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES

\$4,887.37 gross wages paid

30 inmates temporarily employed at various times

WORK RELEASE PROGRAM

19 inmates have worked in the community

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMMING

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: 96 inmates have attended weekly in-house meetings

PROJECT ADAPT (Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment):

52 inmates have participated since its inception on 2-13-06

GED and SOUTH EASTERN REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER

22 inmates have participated

7 have earned high school equivalency certificates

1 tested and failed to earn a certificate

6 inmates are currently preparing to test

8 inmates were released/transferred during the preparation phase

SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMMING

20 inmates participated in Planning Ahead/Staying Ahead

8 inmates participated in Safety Awareness in the Food Environment

15 inmates participated in Parenting/Communication Skills

I would like to say at this time that despite the difficulties encountered during this challenging year, the Corrections Officers, nursing staff, the maintenance

department and Programs have performed their duties quietly, efficiently, professionally and without fanfare. As elected representatives of Belknap County, you can be proud of their service to the citizens of this County, as well as their service to those placed in their care.

In closing, I would like to thank the Commissioners for showing their faith in me by my appointment as Superintendent in 2006. This facility and its staff have always enjoyed an excellent reputation in the criminal justice system, and it is with a sense of history and pride that I will endeavor to maintain and advance that reputation, as well as further the goals of this department.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Grenier, Superintendent

Year 2006		Total
Number of charges by town		
Alton	Males	39
	Females	5
Barnstead	Males	34
	Females	7
Belknap County Sheriff's Dept.	Males	287
	Females	62
Belmont	Males	79
	Females	12
Center Harbor	Males	9
	Females	2
Fish & Game	Males	1
	Females	0
Gilford	Males	130
	Females	31
Gilmanton	Males	18
	Females	8
Laconia	Males	667
	Females	135
Liquor Commission	Males	6
	Females	2
Marine Patrol	Males	8
	Females	0
Meredith	Males	94
	Females	17
New Hampton	Males	19
	Females	4
NH State Police	Males	45
	Females	2
Other	Males	16
	Females	5
Probation & Parole	Males	20
	Females	6
Sanbornton	Males	23
	Females	8
Tilton	Males	122
	Females	29
US Marshals	Males	3
	Females	0
Totals		1955

BELKNAP COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

The following reports are submitted for the Belknap County Human Services Department for the year 2006, detailing by town/city the number of clients served and the dollars expended in State mandated programs serving youth, elderly and disabled residents.

RSA 166 Aid to County Assisted Persons

County reimburses the State for 50% of the cost for Old Age Assistance and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled.

RSA 167-18f : Local Medical Assistance Contribution

County reimburses the State \$27.00 for each Old Age recipient and \$52.00 for each Disabled recipient.

Old Age Assistance

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	9	\$7,150.00
Barnstead	6	\$3,399.00
Belmont	12	\$5,758.00
Center Harbor		
Gilford	2	\$771.00
Gilmanton		
Laconia	50	\$45,457.00
Meredith	7	\$1,257.00
New Hampton		
Sanbornton		
Tilton	5	\$630.00
Total	91	\$64,422.00

Aid to the Permanently & Totally Disabled

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	22	\$21,261.00
Barnstead	22	\$16,156.00
Belmont	47	\$50,639.00
Center Harbor	6	\$4,737.00
Gilford	38	\$46,859.00
Gilmanton	9	\$16,481.00
Laconia	201	\$202,904.00
Meredith	28	\$27,044.00

New Hampton	9	\$9,166.00
Sanbornton	9	\$16,383.00
Tilton	37	\$28,177.00
Total	428	\$439,807.00

RSA 167:18-b Reimbursement of Funds for Persons Eligible to Receive Nursing Home Services.

County reimburses the State for 25% for the cost of recipients of Nursing Home Care and those in alternative settings to placement in a Nursing Facility.

Intermediate Nursing Care

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	16	\$92,205.00
Barnstead	9	\$47,556.00
Belmont	40	\$256,346.00
Center Harbor	4	\$26,256.00
Gilford	36	\$260,157.00
Gilmanton	19	\$141,081.00
Laconia	110	\$786,562.00
Meredith	49	\$274,890.00
New Hampton	5	\$33,926.00
Sanbornton	13	\$93,097.00
Tilton	26	\$215,125.00
Total	327	\$2,227,201.00

Home Care Community Based

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	13	\$32,824.00
Barnstead	7	\$32,198.00
Belmont	18	\$45,867.00
Center Harbor		
Gilford	13	\$70,327.00
Gilmanton	4	\$16,933.00
Laconia	56	\$120,692.00
Meredith	8	\$8,282.00
New Hampton	2	\$4,350.00
Sanbornton	8	\$23,718.00
Tilton	8	\$19,655.00
Total	137	\$374,846.00

Provider Payments

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditure
Alton	30	\$27,811.00
Barnstead	14	\$12,271.00
Belmont	56	\$59,843.00
Center Harbor	4	\$3,172.00
Gilford	50	\$47,917.00
Gilmanton	22	\$17,574.00
Laconia	165	\$131,255.00
Meredith	55	\$40,476.00
New Hampton	7	\$7,126.00
Sanbornton	19	\$19,994.00
Tilton	35	\$36,858.00
Total	457	\$404,297.00

RSA 169-B Delinquent, 169-C Child Protection Act and 169-D Children in Need of Services

County reimburses the State up to 25% of the costs incurred for services to children and their families.

Care of Children

Town/City	# Cases	Expenditures
Alton	18	\$22,936.00
Barnstead	18	\$30,000.00
Belmont	51	\$142,953.00
Center Harbor	6	\$1,209.00
Gilford	24	\$62,210.00
Gilmanton	5	\$6,839.00
Laconia	177	\$457,256.00
Meredith	20	\$64,367.00
New Hampton	7	\$24,837.00
Sanbornton	3	\$9,327.00
Tilton	11	\$53,644.00
Total	340	\$875,578.00

Under each juvenile statute listed above, the County is authorized to collect on behalf of the State, payments from persons chargeable by law for the minors support. Parental Reimbursement collected in 2006 \$110,386.

Incentive Funds received annually since 1986 from the Division of Children, Youth and Families, for the purpose of encouraging the development of community based diversion and alternative disposition programs, were awarded to the following:

- The Appalachian Mountain Teen Project/Riverland Youth Initiative
- Family Connections Center
- Community Health & Hospice, Care Management of Young Families
- Youth Assistance Program of Northfield, Tilton and Sanbornton
- Youth Services Bureau, Court Diversion & UPSWING Program
- Girls, Inc.
- Upstream, Parenting Series
- The Circle Program
- Restorative Justice
- The TIME Program of Winnisquam Regional Middle School
- The Teen Center
- Ozanam Place
- LRCSC, Giggles & Grins
- Prime for Life, Prospect Mt High School
- Early Truancy Program, Laconia School District

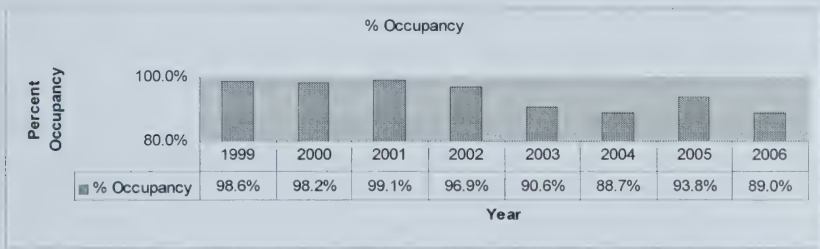
In closing, I wish to acknowledge the support of my staff and to thank the Belknap County Delegation as well as the Commissioners, for their cooperation and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol N. Schonfeld
Human Services Administrator

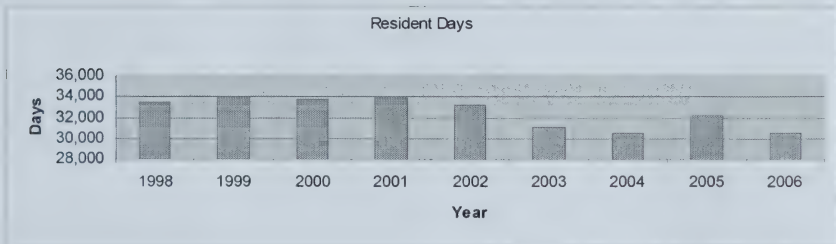
BELKNAP COUNTY NURSING HOME

To the Honorable Commissioner of Belknap County:

As a result of the February 2006 State Survey, many areas of our operations changed significantly. Admissions were impacted greatly. For 6 months the facility was unable to admit any new residents until the facility was brought into compliance after being placed in immediate jeopardy twice and found to be in substandard quality of care. Our average daily census was 84 down from 88 in 2005. Our average occupancy rate was 89% down from 94% in 2005. We had 35 total discharges and 20 admissions.



The facility experienced an increase in vacant days to 3,786 up from 2,135 in 2005. The direct result expressed in total occupied bed days was a reduction from 94% in 2005 to 89% this year.



The Affiliate of the Association of Counties, Nursing Home Administrators, formed an Interim Management (I.M.) Team to review all operations of our nursing home. One area in particular was the hours of direct resident care. Total direct care staff divided by census calculates this. Our hours per resident day were well below the State of New Hampshire recommendations. Thus, we have increased our direct care staff by an additional 3 nurses and 11 LNA positions. Presently, our hours per resident day have increased by 116% to 3.9 hours. An added benefit of the increase in staff was the immediate improvement in the moral of our care-

givers. Nursing was not the only department identified, as being short of staff, also included was activities. The I.M. Team calculated our total activity staff to total census and determined that we were essentially 1 ½ FTE's below statewide levels. With the addition of the 1 ½ FTE's, we now have an opportunity to offer small group therapy sessions to our less cognitive residents, which were a target group of the survey team. The I.M. Team also recommended the creation of both a Human Resource and Medical Records position.

The IM Team brought their findings before the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioner's in turn agreed with the findings of the team and presented their recommendations to the Delegation. Consequently, an additional \$972,000 was appropriated and approved through a supplemental budget to institute the many changes identified. My management team and myself feel profoundly fortunate to have worked with the I.M. Team on a daily basis. Our attitudes were always positive while confronting the many challenges we faced.

In December, the State Survey Team arrived at BCNH for our annual Medicaid Survey. During their visit they informed the Administration that we were identified as a Special Focus Facility. Meaning we would be resurveyed again in 6 months. After a three-day intensive inspection, the survey team held an exit interview and informed us they had identified No Health Care Deficiencies.

In closing, although the nursing home staff faced a multitude of adversity in 2006, we confronted our issues, developed our long-term responsibilities and challenged ourselves to raise our levels of commitment and dedication. Our reaffirmation of our responsibilities and purpose paid off in December when the State Survey Team found us Deficiency Health Care Free. On behalf of my staff and myself, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Commissioners, Delegation and the community for allowing us the opportunity to demonstrate our steadfast determination to bring Belknap County Nursing Home to the forefront of Quality Long Term Care Health Facilities.

Respectfully submitted
Bernard H. Gray
Nursing Home Administrator

REGISTRY OF DEEDS

To the Honorable Belknap County Commissioners:

A review of the past year reveals a downward trend in the real estate market. The number of documents recorded as well as the revenue to the County decreased by 7%.

In recent weeks, the realtors have been reporting that the real estate market is picking up, however we have not seen the results as yet. To that end, I respectfully submit the following figures relative to the activity in the Registry of Deeds office for the year 2006.

Total transfer taxes dispensed:	\$ 8,234,578.00
4% Commission received from State	\$ 329,101.64
Revenue derived from recording fees	\$ 799,235.74
Revenue derived from copies/faxing	\$ 171,058.45
Total surcharges collected	\$ 39,400.00
Total number of documents recorded	21,625

Total revenue to the County for 2006 **\$ 1,139,684.24**

Our internet site continues to be an outstanding source of revenue. We now have 465 accounts, which generates between \$13,000 and \$15,000 in revenue monthly. The system and service continues to grow in its usage, data quantity, and scope. Our site is experiencing 685 index hits per day, and print requests for 2,800 documents (6,300 pages) per month. This is an increase of nearly 30% year over year in printing alone.

In May of this year, long time employee and Deputy Registrar Judith Livernois retired. She has been dearly missed, however, we have first hand knowledge that she is enjoying her retirement and spending a great deal of time with her children and 12 grandchildren. Barbara Luther, 21-year employee of the Registry was appointed Deputy to fill her post.

Once again, the individual towns within Belknap County saw increases as well as decreases in the yearly number of transactions within each.

Municipal Transactions

Municipality	2006 Total	2005 Total	2004 Total
Alton	1878	2159	2331
Barnstead	1552	1525	1864
Belmont	1806	1839	2063
Center Harbor	424	437	512
Gilford	2515	2683	3087
Gilmanton	1245	1350	1540
Laconia	4384	4940	5646
Meredith	2159	2256	2636
New Hampton	587	667	648
Sanbornton	863	1026	1059
Tilton	1020	1125	1016
Belknap*	3192	3220	3492

*Denotes filings without a specific location other than Belknap County

My deepest appreciation to the members of the Belknap County Convention, as well as the Board of Commissioners for their continued support and cooperation.

Finally, a special “Thank You” to my outstanding staff who continues to do an exceptional job in meeting the every day changes in records retention and retrieval. I am very fortunate in having 6 dedicated, well-trained and professional employees. I deeply appreciate their continued loyalty and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel M. Normandin, CPO
Registrar of Deeds

BELKNAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT 2006 COUNTY REPORT



The Belknap County Sheriff's Department successfully accomplished our mission of providing professional law enforcement services to the citizens and visitors of the county. The Sheriff's Department is staffed with a group of highly trained and motivated deputies, communications specialists, court officers and civilian personnel, who work tirelessly to serve justice and protect the freedoms guaranteed under our Constitution. The various divisions and special projects we are involved in are as follow:



Oath of Office at the Belknap Superior Court, January 3, 2007. Sheriff Daniel Collis and his staff of Deputy Sheriffs and Court Security Officers. Also pictured are Belknap Superior Court Chief Justice Larry Smukler and Clerk of Courts Dana Zucker

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Investigations Division is involved in numerous technical investigations of personal and property crimes, typically working in collaboration with other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. We were involved in a number of internal affairs and public integrity investigations in towns around the county. An example of one type of investigation that is conducted by detectives is fraudulent check cases. During 2006, Deputies investigated numerous fraudulent check cases that resulted in \$8,400.17 in restitution being collected and returned to victims of bad checks.

The polygraph examiners assigned to this division conducted 68 examinations

during 2006, which included specific criminal investigation examinations, internal affairs and employment security clearance examinations for newly hired sworn and non-sworn employees of the local law enforcement agencies.

The countywide Belknap Regional Accident Investigation Team (BRAIT) was involved in a number of investigations and subsequent court prosecutions involving traffic accidents throughout the county. The specially trained deputies involved with this team respond at the request of law enforcement agencies to document and reconstruct serious traffic accidents.

The professional law enforcement deputies that serve this division are Sergeant Christopher Cost, Detective William Robarge, Detective Denise Miller and Deputy David Perkins III (Polygraph Examiner).

PRISONER TRANSPORTS AND ARRESTS

The Department did 1,717 transports to and from jails, State Prison, New Hampshire State Hospital, local and out-of-town doctors and hospitals, motor vehicle hearings, funerals, as well as the transportation of juveniles to halfway houses, the Youth Development Center, Youth Service Detention Unit and secure facilities within and out of state. The Youth Service Detention Unit moved from Concord to Manchester in 2006, thereby increasing the time and mileage required for these transports.

We made 495 arrests during the year on court issued warrants and arrests generated by detectives and deputies working in the field.

JUVENILE SERVICES

Sergeant Thomas Alden and Detective Denise Miller comprise the Juvenile Service Division. This Division handled numerous cases at the request of area police departments. These cases involve investigations, referrals, drafting of petitions and prosecutions. Cases were entered in both the Laconia and Franklin District Courts. These cases involve crimes, such as Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief, Shoplifting, Resisting Arrest, Disorderly Conduct, Criminal Threatening, Possession of Controlled Drugs and Sexual Assaults.

Local law enforcement agencies have utilized the Youth Attendant Program (YAP), which is housed at the Sheriff's Department. A state grant funds the YAP program, which allows overnight placement of juveniles pending a court arraignment or release to a parent or guardian.

The Greater Lakes Child Advocacy Center continues to work closely with us in matters involving sexual assault and abuse investigations. This program is a tremendous asset to law enforcement in the investigation of these difficult cases.

CIVIL PROCESS

We have collected \$84,784.33 in revenue from the service of writs in towns throughout the county. This represents fees charged for the process of 3,550 writs served. Civil process matters are time-sensitive and the Deputies made enormous strides to ensure that these matters were handled efficiently. Civil process is various documents that are forwarded from the courts, including: subpoenas, writs, executions, attachments, petitions, motions, ex-parte court orders, and evictions.

The Civil Division handles many sensitive and perilous tasks while serving process. Taking possession of property, evictions, divorce and restraining orders, and receiving custody of children are some of the difficult duties these Deputies are sworn to serve.

Sergeant Thomas Alden, Deputy David Perkins III, Deputy Michael McCarn, Deputy William Wright, Special Deputy Joseph Schillinger, Special Deputy Vincent Kondrotas, and Civil Secretary Evelyn Sanville expertly serve in the Civil Process /Transports/ Warrants Division.

COMMUNICATIONS

The communications center is in operation around the clock, 365 days a year, handling 34,501 (33,300 in 2005) calls for service during the year. Communication specialists of the Department handle a wide range of calls from the public and other law enforcement agencies. The communication center relays information to patrol officers and police departments to ensure operations are run safely, efficiently and effectively. In addition to these duties, the communications specialists are responsible for entering and locating warrants and wanted persons, missing persons and additional data into the National Crime Information Center system.

The communications center provides services for nine towns in Belknap County. Communications services are also provided to the Northfield Police Department on a contractual basis. In addition to the towns, the communications center takes telephone calls and dispatches for the local Fish and Game Officers, local Liquor Inspectors, Medical Examiner, as well as the County Attorney's Office.

Director Suzanne Hankard leads our team of seven highly skilled communications specialists, who work tirelessly in handling over 100,000 telephone and radio calls a year.

COURT SECURITY

Deputies and Court Security Officers assigned to Court Security Division provide security and protective services to the judges and all visitors of the

Superior Court and the newly established Laconia Family Division. The Family Division moved into the Superior Courthouse in May of 2006, which brought about a significant increase of visitors and staff. Deputies provide security during jury views at various locations for criminal and civil trials. In addition, prisoner control is one of the more critical functions of the Court Security Division.

The Sheriff's Department has the responsibility of prisoner control at the Laconia District Court as well. A Deputy or Court Security Officer is assigned to the District Court to take custody of prisoners, which allows local police officers to assume their patrol shifts, rather than guarding the prisoners. The security of the courts and handling numerous prisoners is one of the hazardous duties that we perform on a regular basis. I would note that a high profile arraignment of an accused double murderer resulted in a widely publicized courtroom "brawl" in the Laconia District Court. Although numerous charges were filed in this case, only minor injuries resulted. This is directly attributed to the skills of our Court Security Officers and other law enforcement officers that intervened.

Deputy Donald Belyea professionally serves as the supervisor of our Court Security Division.

MOTORCYCLE WEEK

The Sheriff's Department plays a significant law enforcement role in the annual Motorcycle Week activities. The Belknap County Jail inmates are transported throughout the state by the Sheriff's Department at the beginning of this week to make space available in that facility and then returned at the conclusion of the week. The Department then provides a large contingency of Deputies to assist the local officers during the peak hours of activity. A number of Sheriff's Departments throughout the state collaborate with our agency to provide Deputies to augment our staff during this international event.

During the 2006 Motorcycle Week, we were again fortunate to receive federal funding to provide security for this event through United States Attorney Thomas P. Colantuono. This grant was issued to the Belknap County Sheriff's Department as the coordinating agency. A large number of law enforcement officers from throughout the state were hired as additional security through this grant. The event occurred without any major incidents due to the interagency planning and funding assistance utilized to protect our communities.

BELKNAP REGIONAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP

The Belknap Regional Special Operations Group (BRSOG) is a countywide collaboration of law enforcement officers, Emergency Medical Service providers, and communications specialists who are an important resource for specialized law enforcement needs



The BRSOG armored rescue vehicle. This specially designed unit was delivered to the BRSOG in June of 2006. This vehicle was custom ordered by the BRSOG from Lenco, Inc. of Pittsfield, MA. Funding for this vehicle was obtained through the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Grants Management Unit, from the Department of Homeland Security.

There were 10 call-outs for this team during this period. These calls ranged from crowd control to high-risk arrest warrants, search warrants and armed/barricaded individuals. All of these operations ended successfully and accomplished our mission of “saving lives.”

Belknap County is fortunate to have an outstanding team of individuals that serve our citizens. Lieutenant Richard Batstone is in charge of the operations of this agency and promotes dedication in every aspect. Administrative Assistant Cheryl Larose performs a number of duties on a daily basis that is key to a smooth operation.

I thank the Belknap County Commissioners and the County Delegation for their support in allowing us to perform our duties to the highest standards.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheriff Daniel Collis

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

2006 was another exciting year for the Restorative Justice Program. A total of 63 juvenile offenders had been referred into the program in 2006. We also worked with 5 other youth who needed to do community service. The youth completed 1,671.5 hours of community service and the program collected \$1,304.14 in restitution.

Our volunteers have been very generous with their time and are always there to help when we need them. All of our volunteers are a tremendous asset to the Program by helping victims of crime, juvenile offenders and being involved in community service projects. One of our volunteers, Ginger Kay Wells, who is the owner of Garden Artisans, got some of the youth in Restorative Justice involved in Laconia's "Adopt A Spot". The spot that was adopted was Rotary Park. This was a fantastic project for our youth to work on. Ginger was able to teach the youth some gardening skills and is a positive adult role model for them. If you had a chance to see Rotary Park from Spring, Summer and Fall I think you would agree that it looked beautiful, so the youth were very proud of the work they did. The Mayor's office gave out an award for the best "Adopt A Spot" to the Laconia Rotary Club, Garden Artisans LLC, and the youth of The Belknap County Restorative Justice Program".

The Restorative Justice Program allows victims and the community to speak freely about how crime affects them. It strengthens the juvenile offender's relationship with the community. Our program allows the juvenile to see the damage caused by their crime and lets them openly apologize for their actions. We are looking forward to another year of working with victims of crime, juvenile offenders, and the community to repair the harm caused by crime.

Our Restorative Justice Program uses community service as a way of holding juveniles accountable for what they have done and as a way of repairing the harm caused by their crime. We are always looking for meaningful community service projects. Meaningful community service projects are either restorative to the victim or the community, allows the juvenile to have a positive interaction with his/her community, teaches the juvenile a new skill or builds a positive relationship with an adult.

We would like to thank the people that help us provide opportunities for community service projects. Some of the 80 different community service projects the youth worked on in 2006 were Habitat for Humanity, Service Link, Good Shepard

Lutheran Church, area senior centers, New Beginnings Crisis Center, the turkey plunge, and Sargent Park.

The youth in the Restorative Justice program also worked with the Belknap County Master Gardener program of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. The youth worked with Master Gardeners on projects at the Belknap County Nursing Home, the Belmont Mill and at the Rotary Riverside Park next to the Belknap Mill in Laconia. These are just some examples of what the youth in the program are working on.

If you have any ideas for meaningful community service projects or if you would like to volunteer with the program, please contact us. We are always looking for opportunities for the youth to help the communities in Belknap County.

We would like to thank the County Commissioners and the County Delegation for their continued support.

Brian J. Loanes, Executive Director
John M. Egan, Community Service Coordinator
Tammy L. Baiocchetti, Case Manager

**BELKNAP COUNTY CITIZENS
COUNCIL ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
2006 ~ YEAR IN REVIEW**

With the closing of 2006 we celebrate the completion of five years of the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families. Our attention is recalled to the signing of the Proclamation by the County Commissioners on November 18, 2001, to the induction of our first appointed Council members on January 15, 2002. We acknowledge the County Commission for their trust and support and we thank the many Council members who have been with us throughout our existence. We also pay special tribute to Judge "Bud" Martin for his vision and support in reordering the social and political landscape thus paving the way for Belknap County to become the first in New Hampshire to establish a Citizens Council, a Restorative Justice program, and a corps of volunteers who have made significant change in how services are provided to juveniles caught up in the justice system. Additional thanks is given to the Annette P. Schmitt Foundation for its sustained financial investment in the restorative community practices making Belknap County a leader in Community Justice. In five years the foundation has contributed close to \$1M to the establishment and operations of the Citizens Council, the Restorative Justice Program and other services and programs supporting children and families in Belknap County. To each and all, we give our sincerest thanks.

The bad news...we lost five of our original Council members (Andre Paquette, Gil Schohan, Alida Millham, Jim Carroll, Leo Sanfacon). The good news, we gained five new Council Associates as these individuals continue to serve the Council and their communities in a host of ways. We also gained new Council members who are finding ways to contribute their wonderful gifts, talents and passion to the quality of lives in Belknap County. We thank Micheline Roy, Laurie Belanger, Sandra Webber, and Rick Keller for coming on board this past year. At the conclusion of this year we will also say thanks and goodbye to Jim Pilliod, Kevin Washburn, and Dick Wallace, unless of course, they wish to join us as Council Associates and continue to contribute to our ongoing efforts!

Individual Council member achievements have led to the development of our first Report Card on Balanced on Restorative Justice. This product has garnered attention from our colleagues across the country and here at home and has been the benchmark on which we developed and received a grant from the State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice to continue our effort in measuring the outcomes of our juvenile justice system. We thank our providers for their continued cooperation in participating in this effort and give special recognition to Andre Paquette,

Patti Moed, David Stamps, Judy Buswell, John Howe and Audrey Garretson for their efforts in seeing this project through to completion. Our collaboration with the Citizen newspaper has prepared us for future efficiencies in developing and disseminating such products and we thank them for their support.

Also in 2006 we completed our 3rd Annual Convocation on Children and Families, again bringing together 250 people in celebration of youth, families and agencies working together to make Belknap County safe and strong. We conducted a second year of Parents As Leaders in Society, graduating an additional 14 parents who continue to contribute to their communities, schools and neighborhoods on behalf of their children. In conjunction with the Center for Civic Engagement and the Core Coalition, we concluded a 6-part series on Under Age Drinking in Belknap County. The series was rotated among five of our area high schools and involved professionals from all aspects of the service delivery, health, education and law enforcement sectors as well as families and youth. The entire series has since been burned onto DVDs and sets have been distributed to all middle and high schools and public libraries throughout Belknap County. We wish to thank Lakes Region Public Access TV for their support and participation in this series. Further, the Council co-sponsored an advanced Community Leadership Initiative on Underage Alcohol Problems, in conjunction with New Futures and the CoRe Coalition bringing together over 40 individuals committed to changing the environment in which our youth are impacted by the presence of alcohol in our community.

Greater attention is being paid to victims of juvenile crime. With an initial grant from the Office of Victims of Crime, a major countywide initiative was coordinated by a broad community coalition. A National Crime Victims' Rights Week was replete with media events, public awareness activities, presentations, and printed materials distributed throughout the county. This all-provider, all-community effort served as a springboard for bringing more focus to victims' rights issues. A subcommittee of the BARJ Work Group is continuing to follow up on recommendations made during the NCVRW observance and is in the process of planning a training event for local school crisis teams later next spring.

In collaboration with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council, a Victims' Rights brochure has been disseminated to all schools, law enforcement agencies, courts and provider agencies. Victims of juvenile crime can now be informed of their rights when a juvenile offends against them. We recognize Lisa-Marie Sposta for her fine work in developing this brochure. Similarly, a Restitution Fund was developed and is available for any victim of a juvenile crime that would be caused to wait an inordinate amount of time for the offender to restore damage or loss as

a result of the crime. Special thanks to Jim Sawyer, Tom Swett, Jay Apicelli, and the Youth Services Bureau for developing and administering this fund.

Parent support for families dealing with teens engaged in substance abuse issues has evolved through Council support. Working on national, state and local levels, the Council began a series of activities that first identified the need for parent support for this defined group of families. Through our affiliations with Reclaiming Futures and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, we convened meetings with the Friends of Recovery organization in New Hampshire. The Council sponsored a training session in May to which two of our Council members (Ruth Castonguay and Nancy Porosky) attended and have since advocated for the development of parent support groups. Nancy, along with Carol Murtaugh of Alton, has developed the Turbulent Teens parent to parent support group offered to families in Alton, Barnstead, Gilford, and Gilmanton. Through its affiliation and support of Families Advocating for Substance Treatment, Education and Recovery (FASTER), the Council continues to advocate for state resources to be allocated to families suffering from these issues.

In another effort to support the fine work of providers, and to capitalize on the assets of our community, the Council recognizes the contribution of Mary Alice Warner in establishing Parenting From the Inside Out; a program utilizing the personal experiences of inmates at the Laconia Corrections Facility to engage families and youth in the juvenile justice system, in dialogue toward a more positive lifestyle.

Likewise, the work of Dick Wallace and all of his efforts in Alton has taken on a whole new dimension in the accomplishment of bringing Prime For Life to Prospect Mountain High School. Assisted by Shannon Swett of the CoRe Coalition, the addition of this evidence-based prevention practice into the school environment will serve as a model in developing a continuum of care, with the Adolescent Treatment Initiative in Belknap County. Because of this initiative, we have already surpassed school referrals to assessment made the previous year.

The Council's work with the United Way, Upstream and the Center for Civic Engagement, will continue to inform our efforts in Community Development. The conductance of public forums in which we invite members of all sectors of the community to discuss, dissect, and debate issues that confront children and families, will lead to healthier relations among individuals and stronger alliances across programs and services.

As we begin a new year, we will remain dependent on funding from the Belknap County taxpayer base. We must continue to assure, through evidence of performance, consumer satisfaction and public perception, that our service to communities is effective, efficient and is contributing to improving the lives of children and families.

We will be challenged by threats, both real and perceived, in reductions in state and federal funds upon which our providers in juvenile justice, substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence depend. We will see greater challenges to sustaining a core of services and volunteers that prevent juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect as state and national budgets continue to respond to shifting priorities, fluctuating ideologies, and growing deficits.

Finally, our efforts to attract, develop, and retain leadership on the Council poses a risk to our own future and the values we hold true. We must find a way to develop depth and leadership on an ongoing basis as the Council, its philosophy and vision, is what sets our model of Community Justice apart from the traditional social services system and is the fulcrum needed in a balanced system of juvenile justice.

We look forward to these challenges and to developing new and renewed relationships with our communities so that Belknap County becomes and remains a safe community in which children and families live with dignity and respect.

Respectfully,
Susan Smith
Chair, 2006

Alan Robichaud
Executive Director

BELKNAP COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

To the Honorable Commissioners:

Since establishing our offices in July of 1992, we have been providing economic development and business assistance to municipalities and existing, new, and prospective businesses on a request basis without charge. As a regional development organization, we strive for a "climate" that understands what sustainable economic development is and how it works, as well as the importance of planning and maintaining the economic infrastructure and well-being of the community and a region. In our regional capacity, we have worked to unify the efforts of the region while ever mindful of the desire to preserve the uniqueness of our communities.

The organization is structured as a non-profit 501(c)(6) regional development corporation with 100 Incorporators representing Belknap County municipalities, businesses, organizations, and residents. The Incorporators elect up to a 21-person Board of Director. Most of the assistance provided in any year focused on the needs of existing companies; over 300 businesses, organizations, and individuals were provided with technical assistance.

Highlights of 2006

Named 2006 NH Partner of Year by USDA-Rural Development

Area Assistance

- Launched redesigned www.bcedc.org website. The new website has focused on getting the information to our businesses whether they are seeking more details about our services, commercial lending options, topical published reports, or direct links to registering a business, traffic counts, commercial property or simply "who is who" in local and state government. Since the launch in late March 2006, we have had 8009 Unique Visitors (averaging 886 visitors per month).
- The website, www.liveworkandplaynh.com, which promotes the region as a place to live and work, had 3425 Unique Visitors over the last 10 months.
- Economic Profile Committee continued their work addressing long-term economic development planning and marketing. Support has been given by members of the Committee to the next phase, which is the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) under the direction of the Lakes Region Planning Commission.
- Eight-page glossy brochure promoting Belknap County, as well as other

marketing materials, continues to be distributed.

- Participated with various communities/organizations on events and long-term initiatives including community forums, charrettes, and economic development planning. This includes programs and workshops with Main Street communities, meetings with Town Boards and community groups.
- Continued work with re-use projects including Scott & Williams/Laconia (60 units housing, childcare facility and health clinic), Riverfront Plaza/Tilton (mixed commercial), Allen Rogers/Laconia (under development 76 units of housing and future commercial space 30,000+ sf.), as well as other major development or conservation properties in Alton, Barnstead, Belmont, Gilford, Laconia, Meredith, New Hampton, and Tilton.
- Secured a developer for the conversion of a 44,000+ sf. former manufacturing facility in Tilton to a multi-tenant building to house media related businesses. Complex is known as the Granite Media Center and will accommodate 12-15 tenants, as well as short-term sound and film production companies.
- Handled over 25 (non-local) requests for relocating/new facility assistance and in addition continued to provide “Belknap County – The Place We Call Home” packets to new businesses and key new business/organization leadership. In addition, we handled over 50+ requests from area owners, realtors, and state industrial agents on sale/lease and reuse of existing property.
- Continued as a liaison for the County on CDBG projects attending required training programs to qualify for grants.

Business Assistance

- Approximately 300 entities sought assistance varying from information on zoning in various communities, hiring workforce, rules and regulations on subdivisions to extended counseling on starting business, financing expansion, etc. In addition to the usual general inquiries, our two websites have created efficiencies in dealing with inquiries.
- 245+ businesses, organizations, or aspiring entrepreneurs received extended assistance:
- 75 Belknap County entrepreneurs and businesses received extended assistance from a SCORE counselor. SCORE has been a great addition compensating for the loss of the SBDC counselor.
- 170 businesses and organizations received extended assistance from BCEDC’s professional staff.
- Resources of the Business Information Center (BIC) continue to be enhanced. Two significant changes have increased use and traffic: our new on-line cata-

log makes it easier to pre-search for resource materials by subject, author, or title; and the BIC at year-end was relocated to the academic wing of SNHU and now provides the public with extended hours of access.

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

- Received \$90,000 from USDA/Rural Development as a Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG). This grant is for the purchase of technical equipment to be leased to the Granite Media Center for shared use by tenants.
- Received 25 inquiries about borrowing from the RLF totaling \$2.9 million
- Acted on 2 applications totaling \$650, 000. (medical practice, hotel)
- Closed on 2 loans totaling \$650,000 leveraging approximately \$10 million.
- One loan was for construction of the Lakes Region Childcare Center and the other was to establish a medical practice in Tilton.
- Satisfactorily completed USDA/Rural Development annual audit. Executive Director attended annual RLF training.

Workforce Assistance

- Participated with State's Rapid Response Team and other sponsors on the Job Fair for the re-employment of Molex workforce. Worked with Molex management team to address other issues related to their exit.
- Continued to work with NH Employment Security on employer needs.
- Provided assistance to Lowe's Gilford for 150 positions they were seeking to fill.
- Assisted members of Leadership Lakes on planning training days and also spoke at Economic Day. Attended strategic planning session for Leadership Lakes.
- Continued to provide local employers with materials they can use for recruitment of new employees.

Management

- Adopted a revised Strategic Plan for the organization.
- Redesigned (and rewrote) the BCEDC.org website released in 2006.
- Reconfigured job descriptions for the organization in keeping with future needs identified in the Economic Profile and the organization's strategic plan.
- Provided administrative support and office facilities to SCORE.
- Continue to collaborate with SNHU on the development of initiatives that helps both entities fulfill their mission.

- Executive Director
- Served on the second Search Committee for new President of NHCTC-Laconia.
- Reappointed by the Governor for a three term to the NH Workforce Opportunity Council. Continued to serve on several state advisory committees.

Since inception, funding for our services has come from a mixture of public and private sources. In 2006, we received over \$160,000 in grants and contributions to underwrite various activities. Over 100 community investors help us maintain services and develop initiatives that enhance the region's economy. Southern New Hampshire University continues to provide office and meeting space for the Council and its partners; this contribution is valued in excess of \$25,000. The County provided \$75,000 in operating revenues for 2006. The balance of revenues was raised through our revolving loan fund lending. The Council oversees more than \$2.9 million in assets for the benefit of Belknap County. To date, the Council has assisted the County and towns in securing approximately \$5.25 million in Community Development Block Grants that are invested in community projects. This year, Belknap County sponsored a \$240,000 Community Development Block Grant for the NH Alliance of Regional Development Corporations, which provided capacity building funds to twelve regional development organizations.

Our success and contribution to the economic well-being of the region is to the credit and commitment of many people, all who have come together in a cooperative manner in the best interest of Belknap County. The quality of assistance the Council offers to Belknap County communities, businesses, and organizations could not be realized without your continuing support.

Some fifteen years have passed since three businessmen met on a cold January morning in 1990 to discuss possible solutions to the economic crisis that was gripping our region. They recognized that the region needed to find its own way of stemming the alarming flow of businesses, jobs, and private investment out of the area. Reaching out to other business, civic and elected leaders, they collaboratively envisioned the possibilities and began to chart a path to renewed prosperity for Belknap County. With a more vibrant economy we are now challenged with new issues associated with that success. As we reflect on fifteen years of service, be assured that our commitment to enhancing the economic vitality of Belknap County and the greater Lakes Region is as strong as ever. The Board of Directors and staff are prepared to meet current and future challenges. With the continued collaborative efforts of the public and private sectors, we recognize we are better

positioned than ever to deal with the inevitable ups-and-downs of the region's economy.

Thank you for your support — together we are making a difference!

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Directors

Greg Dickinson, *Chair*
Village Bank & Trust

Greg Goddard, *Vice-Chair*
Gunstock Recreation Area

Joe LaPlante *Secretary*
Improved Paper Technologies

Andy Patterson, *Treasurer*
LRGHealthcare

Bill Beyer, *Director,*
Meredith Village Savings Bank

Fred Clausen, *Director*
Proctor's Lakeside Cottages

Bud Daigneault, *Director*
County Commissioner

Jim Dirubbo, *Director*
Malone, Dirubbo & Co, PC

Tony Ferruolo, *Director*
TDJS Partners

James Fitzgerald, *Director*
Belknap County Delegation

Debbie Frawley Drake, *Director*
Lakes Region Linen

Tom Garfield, *Director*
Laconia Savings Bank

David Haley, *Director*
Munsey & Brazil Insurance Agency

Kimon Koulet, *Director*
Lakes Region Planning Commission

Stewart Lamprey, *Director*
NH Business Sales, Inc.

Henry Lipman, *Director*
Councilor, City of Laconia

Don Morrissey, *Director*
NH Community Technical College

Michael Persson, *Director*
Lawson & Persson, PC

Jane Wood, *Director*
Shore Title Abstracting, LLC

Eliza Leadbeater, *Executive Director*
Jennifer Boulanger, Finance Manager

www.bcedc.org

The Full 2006 Report of the BCEDC Board will be released on March 29, 2007 and can be accessed on our website, www.bcedc.org, or by calling the BCEDC office at 603-524-3057.



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE Cooperative Extension

BELKNAP COUNTY UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2006

Belknap County – University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension provides Belknap County people with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy. The UNH Extension partnership with Belknap County involves several federal, state and local agencies.

Belknap County residents also benefit from a wide range of Extension programming conducted by state Extension Specialists and other counties. Belknap County Extension Educators provide informal educational programs in family and consumer resources, nutrition, 4-H youth development, agricultural resources, forest and wildlife resources through individual contacts, site visits, groups, publications and the Internet, www.extension.unh.edu.

The Belknap County Extension Advisory Council members are volunteers serving to promote and guide the work of UNH Cooperative Extension. In this role, the Council is the vital link in the partnership between the University of New Hampshire and the County. Current council members are:

Judy Buswell – Laconia
Caroline Clairmont – Gilmanton
Kathy Conway Frangione – Barnstead
Karen Ober – Sanbornton
Diane Wilmot – Meredith
Commissioner Richard Long – Belmont

Joanna Chase – Belmont
Linda Clairmont – Belmont
Carolyn Muller – Laconia
Paul Rushlow – Tilton
Emily Chase – Belmont

Our professional support staff includes Melba Haddock, Administrative Assistant and Patti Clifford, Secretary.

UNH Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding age, color, handicap, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran's status. College of Life Sciences and Agriculture, Belknap County / County Governments, NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, NH Division of Forests and Lands, NH Fish and Game Department, USDA - Forest

Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service cooperating.

Agricultural Resources by Amy Ouellette

Agricultural Resources provides information on a variety of agricultural topics including fruit & vegetable production, ornamental horticulture, lawn care, recreational turf, equine, dairy, forage crops and nutrient management through educational programs, site visits and telephone calls. Over 1300 people received information from the Ag Resources Educator in 2006.

Examples of Educational Sessions Taught by the Agricultural Resources Educator in 2006:

- Pesticide Safety for Organic Growers (38 attended)
- Turf Management for Municipalities (66)
- Tri-County Vegetable and Cut Flower Seminar (36)
- Introduction to Organic Gardening (35)
- Tree Fruit Demonstrations for Home Gardeners - 2 locations (52)
- Tree Fruit Growers Annual Workshop (64)
- Pesticide Safety Training for Master Gardeners (42)
- Grazing Discussion (8)
- Ornamental Plant Pruning Demonstration – 2 locations (87)
- Tree Fruit Pruning Demonstrations for Commercial Growers (32)
- Pasture Walk Discussion Groups – 3 locations (49)
- Tomato Grafting Workshop (48)
- Pesticide Safety Training for First Time License Holders (12)

Landscaping at the Water's Edge: A manual co-written by the Ag Resources Educator in 2006, will be published in winter of 2007. A corresponding training curriculum will teach land owners and managers how to landscape in a manner that protects water quality of New Hampshire's lakes and streams.

Fruit and Vegetable Production: Ag Resources provides information on soil and nutrient management, pest identification and control, crop production, marketing and business planning. Technical assistance was provided in 2006 to commercial fruit and vegetable businesses in Belmont, Meredith, Gilford, Gilmanton, Sanbornton, Alton and Barnstead.

Pesticide Safety: Education is delivered to commercial growers, municipal employees and home gardeners by a variety of methods including workshops, demonstrations and answering telephone calls. A statewide pesticide safety workshop series is being conducted from November of 2006 until February of 2007.

Master Gardener Program: The county Master Gardener program is coordinated by the Agricultural Resources Educator. Over fifty volunteers provided

horticultural education to citizens of Belknap County through community gardening projects and demonstrations. In 2006, five new Master Gardeners landscaped a courtyard at the Belknap County Nursing Home. Two courtyards planted by Master Gardeners in 2005 and 2006 provide welcoming natural settings for nursing home residents and staff to enjoy. Master Gardeners also volunteered their time on garden education projects at Ozanam Place (Laconia), Rowe House (Gilford), Smith Meeting House (Gilmanton), Prescott Farm Audubon (Laconia), New Hampton Day Care (New Hampton), Meredith Farmers' Market (Meredith) and Center Harbor Town Hall (Center Harbor). Each spring in Tilton, Master Gardeners hold a plant sale to raise all funds necessary for their projects.

Family & Consumer Resources by Suzanne Cagle

The goal of the Family & Consumer Resource Program is to provide residents of Belknap County with research based education and information in order to enhance their ability to make informed decisions for themselves and their families. Family & Consumer Resource programs focus on three key areas: Food Safety & Nutrition, Resource Management, and Human Development. Information is available through one-day workshops, series, publications, and direct consultation. One hundred and sixty seven individuals participated in the various programs offered. In addition, over 1500 families received parenting information through the Cradle Crier and Toddler Tales newsletter series.

Food Safety and Nutrition: The SAFE-Safety Awareness in the Food Environment program was offered to a variety of local audiences, including; food pantries, culinary arts classes at the Huot Technical Center at Laconia High School, and inmates at the Belknap County House of Corrections who are preparing for food service jobs. Through evaluation, participants demonstrated increased knowledge in key food safety risk areas, including; personal hygiene, strategies to prevent cross contamination, and controlling time and temperature.

Nutrition programs were also offered to employees at the Belknap County courthouse as well as to youth at the Laconia teen center. These programs included a focus on making healthy food choices as well as increasing overall activity levels. Participants had the opportunity to participate in making and sampling a variety of healthy snacks. Ninety eight individuals participated in programs focused on food safety and nutrition.

Family Resource Management: Resource Management programs cover topics including; identifying goals and developing a spending/savings plan, understanding credit and reducing overall debt, stretching resources, and becoming a more educated consumer. A program on protecting yourself from identity theft was offered to seniors through the Circle of Home & Family group. Twenty seven individuals participated in resource management programs.

Human Development: Workshops were offered to childcare providers on the topics of working with active children, and helping young children develop self-control. The focus of these programs is to enhance childcare providers knowledge of the stages of development and identify appropriate teaching and discipline strategies. 27 individuals participated in these workshops, with 10 attending more than one workshop.

A 7-part parenting/lifeskills series was offered to inmates at the Belknap County House of Corrections. Topics of this series included developing communication, conflict resolution, and decision making skills, understanding the stages of child development, and developing positive parenting strategies. Fifteen individuals participated in this program.

Other Activities: Working with other community partners and coalitions is critical to meet the needs of all Belknap County citizens. Organizations collaborated with included; Belknap County Area Committee on Aging, Lakes Region Physical Activity & Nutrition Committee, Belknap County Citizens Council, and Upstream/Lakes Region United Way.

Nutrition Connections by Brenda Carey

Nutrition Connections continues to help people living in or near poverty acquire the knowledge and skills needed to make changes in their behavior, improve diets and to get more for their food dollars. Nutrition Connections also works with schools that meet income criteria. Two hundred and seventy youth and 69 families with 197 family members enrolled in the various programs provided by Nutrition Connections over the past year. In addition approximately 42 seniors participated in a variety of senior programming.

Nutrition for Adults: Lessons were offered both as home visits, as a home study and in conjunction with other organizations. Popular topics included: how to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables, weight management, price comparison, whole grains, fiber, label reading, smart shopping, healthier food choices, food safety, and physical fitness. There were many exciting “success stories” over the year and the story below is a typical example.

Barbara and Krystal are a mother and daughter who have both struggled with being overweight for years. Both she and Krystal (age 16) were drinking 3-4 soda’s a day each, had never read food labels or thought about whole grains, fiber or making healthier choices. Money had always been tight and food stamps were their primary source of the grocery budget. Barbara had never thought about foods like packaged noodles with soup, boxed macaroni and cheese or hot dogs as being less healthy. After a series of classes, Krystal gave up soda and replaced it with sparkling water. They looked at labels and had switched to whole grain bread and they switched the milk they drank from whole to 1%. Barbara lost about 45 pounds over a period of 4 months and Krystal lost about 10 pounds. Most

importantly, they both appreciated the knowledge gained and felt empowered to make changes despite not having very much money.

Senior Activities: Presentations included topics on MyPyramid, label reading, weight management, soy, osteoporosis, fitness, smart shopping, cooking for one or two and food safety. Laconia Senior Center hosted a series called Chef Charles which was taped for Public Access TV. All six lessons aired repetitively on public access television during a three month time frame. In addition seniors enjoyed homemade smoothies at the yearly Senior Wellness Festival. Seniors on food stamp also had the option of participating in a senior home study course.

Youth programs: Lessons were offered at after school programs, to pre-schools at Head Start and Woodland Heights, to elementary schools and at the teen center. Children from food stamp families had the option of taking a nutrition home study course. Eleven first grade classes in Laconia and Meredith participated in a series of 6 lessons. Lessons revolved around the different food groups and always involved sampling a variety of healthy and often unusual foods from each food group. Overall the first grade students showed the following behavior changes according to teacher feedback: Looking for labels that said 100% juice and “whole” wheat on the packaging. Eating more fruits and vegetables. Bringing in healthier snacks and having daily conversations about healthier food choices. Being more aware of food safety and hand washing. Trying new foods at lunch time. Getting outside more often. Approximately 50% of the students made healthier milk choices as a result of these lessons. Children switched from whole, 2% and sweetened milks to 1% or skim milk. The children were enthusiastic and eager to learn and make changes.

Other Nutrition Connections Activities: “Miss Smarty” nutrition commercials aired on TV throughout the year. Thirty seven volunteers donated approximately 174 hours assisting in adult and youth programs. DHHS distributed approximately 500 “How to Use Your Food Stamp” brochures to food stamp recipients. Nutrition Connections collaborated with approximately 37 different agencies around marketing and programming. Other activities included participating in “Lighten up NH”, UNH Cooperative Extension’s “Obesity Initiative”. Monthly meetings with the Belknap County Service Delivery Systems group to stay aware of issues/programs related to poverty and homelessness. Quarterly meetings with the Family Self Sufficiency Program in an advisory capacity and numerous one day workshops and trainings in the area of nutrition/healthy lifestyles.

Belknap County Extension Forestry Report by Sumner Dole

The Belknap County Extension Forestry Program promotes forest conservation through public outreach education in forest resources management, forest product utilization and marketing. Sixteen presentations were given with 354

participants attending educational seminars on current use, fire towers and maple sugaring. The forestry newsletter was sent to approximately 1500 landowners and others.

Forest Stewardship: This past year the county forester had individual one-on-one contacts with 81 landowners. Woodland examinations were conducted on 1,844 acres with 33 landowners. Research has shown that one-on-one visits with landowners are the most effective method in motivating landowners to initiate management of their lands. Thirteen landowners, owning 1080 acres, were referred to private consulting foresters and forest stewardship plans were completed on 493 acres. Twenty three requests were handled for information and advice on forestry laws, timber taxes and current use.

In response to recommendations, thirty five landowners retained private foresters to conduct timber harvesting operations impacting 790 acres of forest. Timber harvests were down appreciably this year due to volatile markets and curtailed operations due to wet conditions. Timber harvests, conducted under private forester supervision are substantial private sector investment of almost \$30,000 for professional fees. Annually, timber sales in Belknap County contribute over \$ 10 million to our economy, as well as the intangible values associated with water, recreation and wildlife and protected and enhanced through the implementation of these sound forestry practices.

Seventy eight requests relating to forest and shade tree health, insect and disease problems, including Christmas trees, were handled in addition to those referred to volunteers at Extension's Consumer Information and Education Center. Walk-ins and some requests demand a more thorough diagnosis of the problem. A sound diagnosis of the problem results in less pesticide abuse thereby protecting the environment.

Extension has developed and facilitated forums to explore the future of the Belknap Mountain Range. Several meetings have taken place and interest continues increase in this project. Almost one-third of this large unfragmented land mass is permanently protected from development via public and quasi-public ownerships and conservation easements.

Maple: The New England Maple Grading School was developed and conducted by the Vermont Department of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the University of Maine Extension, and UNH Cooperative Extension. It is for maple producers, bulk syrup buyers, state inspectors and others needing to accurately grade maple syrup or judge maple product entries at fairs and contests. Now called the International Maple Grading School, it has been very well received by the maple industry with 75 participants representing all of the maple producing states and provinces, as International Maple Syrup Institute became the official sponsor providing both

financial and its political support. Ohio State University has offered to host the International Maple Grading School in 2007.

4-H Youth Development by Rebecca Levesque

4-H Youth Development strives to create effective programs and safe environments that meet the four basic needs of youth: mastery, belonging, independence, and generosity. These four areas parallel the traditional four Hs – head, heart, hands, and health. The focused efforts to meet these goals included Volunteer Management, Community Engagement, and Nutrition and Fitness Education to reduce childhood obesity.

Volunteer Management: 30 additional adults were recruited, screened, trained, and supported to mentor youth in 2006. Leader “train the trainer” workshops included Public Speaking, Youth Record Keeping, Resume Writing, Sewing, Shooting Sports, Poultry Clinic, and “Youth Venture” service learning projects where total of 91 youth and 27 adults participated.

The Belknap County 4-H Fair Association Board of Directors reorganized with staggered terms of service. A strong sense of teamwork was established where youth and volunteers felt appreciated. Strategies to reduce the gate fee and offer vendors space free of charge encouraged more community involvement. Financial success was also realized with an income increase of \$1,800 and an expense decrease of \$3,000. All income is used for youth programs, premiums, and fairground maintenance.

Community Engagement: County 4-H communication events were held for food nutrition, photography, posters, demonstrations, public speaking, action exhibits, fashion, horse science quiz bowl, judging, and hippology (horse science knowledge). 78 youth participated of which 20 (12 & older) were recognized at State Activity Day and invited to present at the Eastern States Exposition.

Leadership, project, and social skills were developed or improved by 18 4-H teens by participating in the annual 4-H Teen Conference at UNH where young people chose between 35 different workshops. For many this was the first opportunity to experience college life and aspire to attend a school of higher education.

A total of 103 4-H volunteers in Belknap County mentored 270 youth through traditional clubs, after school programs, and short courses in diverse project areas. Through hands on experiences volunteers share their skills with youth of similar interest. 4-H groups have increased from a total of 16 to 29 over the past 7 years.

Youth and Adult teams attended the Health Rocks substance prevention training and taught it to 60 youth in New Hampton. Teams also participated in a Science Technology Conference at Cornell University learning about GIS/GPS and Food

Science DNA. They shared their knowledge through hands on activities at the Belknap County 4-H Food Festival. The 1st 4-H Youth Venture in NH “Fresh Eats Wagon” was organized to provide fresh food to low income families. They serve 10 families in New Hampton monthly.

4-H Educator served on the statewide Civic Leadership Work team. Collaborative efforts with Belknap County Asset Based Community Development, Citizens Council on Youth and Families, Catholic Charities, and the Youth Mapping project showcased 4-H as an outstanding youth development program.

Nutrition and Fitness Education: At the annual Belknap County 4-H Favorite Food Festival 38 youth and 19 volunteers demonstrated knowledge of healthy food choices, food safety, and communication skills. A collaborative effort between Nutrition Connections and 4-H engaged 27 youth receiving food stamp assistance in the “Food Is Fun” correspondence course. 4-H camp at Bear Hill in Allenstown provided fun outdoor activity and learning experiences to 49 Belknap County youth.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Rushlow, Chair, Belknap County Extension Advisory Council
Summer Dole, County Office Administrator

BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Dedicated to Conservation Education and Responsible Use of Our Natural Resources



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2006



527-5880 or -9146

COMMUNITY PLANNING: The Pardoe Foundation funded a Conservation Easement Monitoring workshop held at Marge Muehlke's tree farm in Gilford. Town officials & landowners with easements were guided through the stewardship process by Phil Auger of UNHCE, Sarah Callaghan of the Society for the Protection of NH's Forests, and BCCD's Roger Hogan. The Annual Meeting, at the Gilmanton Town Offices, featured an introduction to plans for developing what is now called the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund by Lori Sommer of NH DES' Wetlands Bureau. ARM will be used for projects that impact wetlands where on-site mitigation is not practical and will allow protection of off-site ecosystems including wetlands. Laminated NRCS Soils Mapping showing prime and statewide important soils were distributed to each municipality. They are encouraged to review information on locally important soils that might be good for agriculture, to assist with planning land protection and development projects. Solar powered water pumps, 50% funded by a USDA Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG), were placed at BCCD's Community Gardens at the Opechee Tract in Laconia and at Swain Farm in Sanbornton. Solar Stream from Temple, NH provided cost reductions and donated part of their time to develop & build the installations. Workshops given for the solar project included information on Farm Friendly Town Planning, updated soils mapping, Laconia's Public Works Dept's Luke Powell provided expertise & digging for "in the pit" soils training. Review and monitoring services continued to be available and used by municipalities (fee program). Ed Minnick, PE provides engineering reviews and Ray Lobdell provides natural resources reviews through the program. Promotion of the "Stormwater Management and Erosion Control for Urban and Developing Areas of NH" Manual continues. Many of the practices used to control stormwater also provide protection to water quality.

WATER QUALITY: BCCD's Hogan, partially funded by a grant for the NH Charitable Foundation, worked with the Lake Waukewan Watershed Advisory Committee, which developed a model watershed management plan for the Town of Meredith water supply, the plan is accessible at the town's website, funding assistance from the NH Charitable Foundation. The plan can be downloaded at <http://meredithnh.org/>. Hogan also worked with the lake front community

Brookhurst in Meredith providing info on best management practices that would reduce their impact on lake water quality. Water quality postcards are available for towns and businesses to distribute. Assistance was provided to the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Assn. by Hogan and BCCD's Jan Hooper. Hooper participated in the Jewett Brook meeting organized by Jack Head. Gunstock's staff repaired the handicapped access to the Wetlands Walk that washed out in heavy rains. A display was at the Home & Garden Show at the Winni Expo about activities in watersheds surrounding water bodies, including yard management, are being emphasized in projects because they, in addition to shoreline activities, affect water quality. BCCD Chairman John Hodsdon served on three State Committees: NHDES' Water Quality Standards Advisory Committee, The Commission to Study the Relationship between Public Health and the Environment, and the Commission to Study the Setback Requirements for Land Application of Septage, Bio-solids and Short Paper Fiber (SB87). He is chairman of the NHACD Water Quality and Urban Conservation Committee, chairman of the NCR&D Water Resources Committee, serves as NH's Director to the National Association of Conservation Districts and was recently appointed to the National Assoc. of Conservation Districts (NACD) Water Resources Committee.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION & OUTREACH: Staffed booths at the Belknap County & Sandwich Fairs, and Gilford Old Home Days were partially funded by a Cooperative Agreement with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to promote NRCS' Cost Share Programs to "Help People Help the Land". Hooper provided a program on composting at Prescott Farm NH Audubon. For six weeks in July and August, BCCD's Jan Welch & Hooper worked with the Jobs for America's Grads (JAG-NH) program based at NH Technical College in Laconia. BCCD provided instruction and guided community service projects at Gunstock and Prescott Farm NH Audubon. These GED students:

- Installed a walking path on Gunstock's pond's island and stabilized the bankings for the new bridge. Ginger Wells-Kay, Garden Artisans, assisted with landscaping training and donated plants. The students selectively trimmed & removed existing vegetation, and planted new items.
- Applied their landscaping knowledge on the gardens between the pond and lodge.
- Removed invasive plants and poison ivy at Prescott Farm, started kiosk installation.
- Pulled and cut seed heads off of purple loosestrife (invasive) at the Wetlands Walk at Gunstock.

BCCD's Nancy Sapack and Jan Welch assisted with the NHACD High School Soils Judging Contest. The 2006 NH Envirothon theme was Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate. Hooper assisted with the competition at S NH Univer-

sity and continues to serve voluntarily as the NHACD ENVIROTHON Steering Committee Chair. Contact the office for information on forming teams for either high schools or other groups. "Water Wise" poster contest winners: gr K-1 Natalie Brown gr 2-3 Annabelle Nowack gr 4-6 Tishara Rollins, gr 7-8 Victor Jereza, gr 9-12 Melyssa Brady. Belknap's winners also represented the State of NH at the NACD competition. Students K to gr 12 can compete; the 2007 theme is "Conservation's Power" for power conservation and alternate sources of power. The EnviroScape water quality landscape model was borrowed by local teachers, NHDES, other Conservation Districts, and the White Mt. Nat'l Forest for demonstrations. Summaries of several workshops, proposed laws and other resource information were included in newsletters. The Watershed and Water Quality (WSWQ) Days for middle school students at the Wetlands Walk area have been suspended until Ameri-Corps members return or other arrangements can be made.

WILDLIFE: NRCS worked with land users providing \$68,163 in contracts through the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP). For more info, contact the office or http://www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/Farm_Bill/wildlife.html. BCCD's Jan Welch is a volunteer at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and arranged for owls to attend the annual meeting. Welch and the SLNSC staffer helped show the birds around and provided an owl program at the Annual Meeting. The county's 8th trout sale for private pond stocking was held. BCCD volunteers for National Public Lands Day helped at the Wetlands Walk at Gunstock by removing loosestrife, which out competes native plants that provide bird & wildlife food.

AGRICULTURE: The Cooperator of the Year was the Swain Farm in Sanborn-ton. BCCD continued helping with stormwater and manure management via a NH Moose plate Grant and a Watershed Restoration grant from NHDES. A hoop barn was installed over the "heavy use area" to reduce the amount of water mixing with animal waste. Also, concrete and asphalt were installed to improve manure collection and improvements to the large manure pit (NRCS cost share provided the primary assistance) were made. Design assistance was provided by NRCS District Conservationist (DC) Mike Lynch. The Swains have invested lots of time, materials and money into making these improvements that will reduce runoff nutrients to water bodies. NRCS provided \$34,869 in Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) for contracts with county farmers. Lynch and his assistant, Bill Hoey, worked with farmers to assist them in developing their Conservation Plans for the Food Security Act program with farmers. Hogan secured funds from USDA's Grazing Land Program to assist Laconia with purchasing the development rights to the Harrington's Hillcrest Farm. Belknap County Restorative

Justice assisted with several projects including assisting BCCD's Welch with installing water bars on the Opechee Tract's driveway and trying to control Japanese knotweed (aka bamboo) on Lake Opechee's shore. Sapack ran the Community Gardens at the Opechee Tract in Laconia, which will have water in the upper section for 2007 thanks to USDA CIG grant. A program for Beginner Farmers was offered at Swain Farm on water & manure management, farm bill programs and the solar water pump. Soil Potential Index (SPI) ratings for use in determining values of open land in Current Use for tax determinations and information about them were provided to landowners. BCCD donated Earth Tenders compost, pH+ soil amendment, and fall bulbs to the Beginner Farmer Conference.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS: BCCD turned 60 on February 14! During the Annual Meeting, at Gilmanton's Town Offices, several former BCCD & NRCS staff reminisced and looked forward, and Dave Swain gave some very good advice on the future of farmland to us all. Lisa Rixen joined BCCD as a part time staff in June and helped tremendously with grant reports, and the project at Swains. Her prior work with the Beginner Farmers and in Information Technology have also been very helpful. NRCS provided 50% funding for Sapack to update Belknap's records and files at their Concord office. Thanks to \$1000 from EM Heath's Inc in Ctr Harbor, \$1000 from the Shurfine Neighbor to Neighbor program, and help from the Annual Fund Drive, BCCD purchased a used Chevy 1500 long bed truck with a bed-cover to help with our many projects. The Belknap Association for Natural Resource Conservation (BANRC) nonprofit was established as a companion to BCCD and to assist with other conservation projects. The 15th Annual Tree and Shrub Sale was held offering evergreen, fruit trees, shoreland and wild-life shrub seedlings was held at Longridge Farm's utilizing the brand new post & beam farm stand. A planting workshop at Longridge was conducted by BCCD Supervisor Paul Rushlow and one at the Gilmanton IW Fire Station by Amy Ouellette from UNHCE. The 10th fall bulb sale, 6th composter sale and 3rd rain barrel sale were held. Programs on BCCD's services and volunteer opportunities were provided to community groups. John Hodsdon, BCCD chairman, serves on the NHACD Executive Committee as a past President of NHACD, and attended the NACD New England Leadership Meeting. He attended the NACD Annual Meeting and Legislative Conference. Senior Community Service Employment Participant Erva Marsh continues to provide invaluable help in our office.

VOLUNTEERS: BCCD's Volunteer of the Year was John Scudder, retired wood shop teacher. He constructed the shed, provided by Lowes at a discount, for the Opechee solar project (from Lowe's with a discount), helped at the wetlands walk, with the kiosks for our Soils trail, at the plant sale, with mailings. He's just plain terrific!! Volunteers helped in every aspect of the program: indoors, out-

doors, computers, mailings, trails, plants, Community Gardens, staining the shed, stream bank and shore land restoration, booths at fairs, at the Wetlands Walk, etc. Thanks! We couldn't do it without you!! Glad many of you attended our 60th Anniversary & Volunteer Celebration at Prescott Farm.

The BCCD Board of Supervisors feels that the accomplishments of this past year were made possible through the generous support of many individuals, businesses, Belknap County, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other natural resource partners. Grants: the NH Charitable Foundation – Lakes Region, Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Samuel P. Hunt Foundation, NH Dept. of Environmental Services, and NH Moose plate program.

All BCCD and NRCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, political belief, marital or familial status.

Respectfully submitted,
BCCD Board of Supervisors

phone:
527-5880

John Hodsdon, Chairman, Meredith
Francesca Latawicz, Vice Chairman, Barnstead
Nancy Rendall, Treasurer, Gilmanston
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Earle Chase, Assoc. Supervisor, Barnstead
Melanie Benton, Assoc. Supervisor, New Hampton
Jon Martin, Assoc. Supervisor, Laconia

REPORT OF GENESIS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

During calendar year 2006, Belknap County funding to Genesis Behavioral Health (GBH) provided *vital* mental health services to 2216 residents of Belknap County. Of that total, funding from the County helped GBH serve 153 county residents between the ages of 18 and 60. A majority received services during times of severe crisis, such as a divorce, loss of a job, or the death of a loved one.

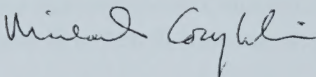
Even if they are employed, many of these residents have little or no insurance coverage for mental health services. In an effort to link Belknap County residents to community resources, GBH is referring anyone without health insurance to apply to Healthlink. We accept the Healthlink plan and use it as a discount for the client. We do not ask Belknap County to support services for clients who have other means to pay, such as insurance or sufficient funds to cover services.

During 2006, the funding provided by Belknap County gave residents 619 hours of service at GBH, an average of 4.05 hours of service per client. Our goal is to provide excellent, professional counseling services to as many people as we can, while remaining fiscally responsible.

GBH also assisted another segment of the county population in 2006 and many of these services were supplied with no payment from the County. We provided mental health services to 8 people incarcerated in the Belknap County House of Corrections. Because county funding cannot be used for these services, many of these services are provided by GBH at no charge.

Belknap County funding is used exclusively to provide county residents with mental health services. By helping people through their crises, GBH services may help prevent more costly future interventions by the courts, law enforcement, or state agencies. Today's "preventive maintenance" can save many dollars tomorrow. On behalf of those that we serve, I thank the County Commissioners, members of the Delegation and county staff for their support.

Sincerely,



Michael Coughlin
Executive Director

