



STATEWIDE VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION GALA TO BE HELD IN CONCORD

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DURHAM, N.H. -- Local businessman Dick Houghton, a crucial member of "Durham, It's Where U Live", and University of New Hampshire chaplain Larry Brickner-Wood were among those nominated for 2006 Spirit of New Hampshire Awards being presented in Concord on Nov. 13.

Houghton and Brickner-Wood were nominated in the Volunteer Service category.

Houghton is the president of the Durham Business Association and has been a vital part the "Durham It's Where U Live" group formed to foster greater communication between UNH students and their community.

Chaplain Brickner-Wood has been executive director of United Campus Ministry since June of 2000.

The University of New Hampshire-Manchester was nominated in the Volunteer Champion division.

The Spirit of New Hampshire Awards honor individuals, organizations and groups who have made exemplary volunteer contributions to the Granite State.

This year's recipients in the Volunteer Service categories include: Youth-Molly White, New Boston; Adult- Laurie Storey-Manseau, Concord; Seniors- Richard Gourley, Hopkinton, and Myra Emerson, Lancaster.

The Youth group winner is the Peter Woodbury School CAT Team in Bedford; Adult Group recipients are the RSVP Pen Pal Program in Nashua, and the Refugee Connections Work Group, Laconia. The Family Award goes to the Harrington family of Bedford.

Cyndi Twombly of Barrington is the recipient of the National Service Award.

Receivers in the Volunteer Champion Categories include: Business-Fidelity Investments, Merrimack; Adult Service Club-New Hampshire Insurance Women's League (statewide) and, for higher education-Dartmouth College Community Services, Hanover. (Hanover).

In addition to Houghton and Brinker-Wood, the following individuals and groups were nominated for Volunteer Service awards: Paul Moore, Patricia Graham, Mary DeVeau, Kelly Wilson, Ruth Van Houten, Jan Welch, Robert Stewart, Earle Goodwin, Polly Johnson, Mary Sullivan, Rev. Vera Wingate, Nanci Rydstrom, Bruce Beliveau, Gerri Beck, Peter Davis, Scottie and Erville Smith, Umja Gusinac, Jen Hallee, the Thresholds Volunteers, the Hillsborough

Archival Volunteers, the Milford Area Mediation Program, the Goffstown CERT Team, and the Shelburne Town Hall volunteers.

These volunteer service nominations remain eligible for consideration of a New Hampshire Volunteer of the Month award.

The 2006 nominations for Volunteer Champion awards included: Local Foods of Plymouth, North Country Community Recreation Pool, Cirtronics, Comcast, the Consumer Protection & Antitrust Bureau Volunteer Program, and UNH-Manchester.