

Annual Report Bellows Falls Area Senior Center - 2009

We experienced another busy year at the Center. An increasing number of seniors from the Center's initial service area (Rockingham, Westminster, Grafton, Athens and Walpole, NH) as well as surrounding communities, are availing themselves of the varied activities offered here. All seniors 60+ years are welcomed and encouraged to become active participants. There is no membership fee and it is the goal of the Center to make all activities available at a no-charge basis. The meal program, congregate and meal-on-wheels, offers nutritious fare for a suggested donation of \$3.00. No one is turned away for their inability to contribute.

Most activities and the Council on Aging office are on the second level of our facility. In order to make this level available to handicapped seniors, a working elevator/lift is essential. The lift, which had serviced that area of the building for many years, finally quit after several costly repairs. It was replaced this summer with a new model.

Senator Bernie Sanders announced this summer that the Center would be receiving a Grant in the amount of \$39,000+. Actual funds to be received total \$42,488 and should be available sometime early in 2010. Several projects have been earmarked for these funds—namely, new lighting, window replacement, floor replacement in the activity rooms and lobby, new steam table for the kitchen and central air-conditioning.

Fundraising efforts by our many volunteers for our Noel Bazaar, Flea Market and bake sales, as well as our Annual Fund letter, continue to augment the funds received from various towns, thus allowing us to maintain a realistic budget without sacrificing services.

We thank you, the residents of the Town, for your ongoing support of the Center.

Patricia B. Noble, Exec. Director