

## SEACARE HEALTH SERVICES

Each year, SeaCare Health Services provides access to health care to uninsured individuals who live in the Town of Newton. Services were assessed by 57 residents, which included:

- Forty (40) participants from Newton received care from our medical access programs, which include primary/specialty care, dental care, mental health counseling, laboratory work and care coordination.
- Two (2) participants received home visits through our health education program.
- Thirty-four (34) participants received free prescription through our Medication Bridge program.
- In 2005 the value of donated care for the Town of Newton reached **\$40,178**.

Our volunteer providers have donated **\$1,900,000** this year alone. We thank them and the townspeople of Newton who support this agency. Your grant of \$2,000 last year helped keep our programs running. As you can see, the need continues to be great and we are once again submitting a request for funding in the amount of \$2,000 for the year 2007 to help support the services we offer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Crompton, Director

## VIC GEARY CENTER

The Vic Geary Center serves as a senior center for seven towns: Plaistow, Hampstead, Atkinson, Sandown, Newton, Danville and Kingston. The following information will provide some insight into the diverse activities and services offered to the senior citizens of your community.

The Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels Program operates from the center 5 days per week providing a hot noon meal in the dining room and Meals on Wheels to homebound clients in the 7 towns. Frozen weekend and holiday meals are provided and meals comprised of shelf-stable items are provided for bad weather when delivery is impossible. During the past year, 44,687 meals were served from the center (a 33% increase over last year). Through this program, 38 residents of Newton received meals on a regular basis equaling approximately 3,587 meals for the year. Other town residents participate in special events throughout the year including special holiday and monthly celebrations. In the 7-town area, 491 residents participated in the meals program. In addition to the meals, 34,761 units of social service including home visits, referrals, support counseling, care management, general information and advocacy were provided from the center. 4,120 units of transportation were provided and 2,927 hours of service were supplied by senior volunteers working at the center under the auspices of the Retired Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.).

Several area senior organizations regularly meet free of charge at the Vic Geary. A wide variety of day bus trips were offered and enjoyed by many area seniors this past year. A majority of the most popular trips had waiting lists of seniors that were unable to attend because trips are limited

to 55 people; which is what one bus will hold. Currently the Town of Plaistow provides the funds to pay for most of the buses. Special meal celebrations for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, summer picnic, lobster specials and other holidays are very well attended by approximately 100 – 125 persons from the 7 towns on each occasion. A van and driver provided daily transportation for those seniors wishing to attend clinics and meals.

Throughout the year, monthly blood pressure and twice a month foot care clinics are held at the center by Rockingham Visiting Nurses. Other clinics such as hearing and sight, safe driver and home safety are conducted regularly by area physicians and safety personnel. Fuel assistance intakes are done on an annual basis as well as tax preparation assistance. Informative guest speakers on subjects of interest such as financial planning are invited throughout the year. Fitness classes, dance classes, bingo, card and board games, knitting group and arts and crafts are daily recreational activities offered at the center. The WIC program now distributes surplus food monthly from the Vic Geary to income eligible area seniors and other area residents. Service Link is an organization that assists people in finding providers to fill their services need.

The building is rented to private individuals and groups. Several non-profit organizations hold their meetings at the Vic Geary, including Trinity Charismatic Episcopal Church and the Knights of Pythias and Plaistow Lions. Other civic organizations are holding regular meetings free of charge.

#### Organization Purpose

The purpose of the Vic Geary Center is to provide a pleasant, comfortable, safe gathering place for area senior citizens to congregate, eat a nutritious noon meal, participate in recreational activities, to provide necessary services such as blood pressure, food and flu clinics, distribute surplus foodstuffs and perform fuel assistance intakes.

The Vic Geary Center is a non-profit organization, operating under the auspices of a Volunteer Board of Directors. Board Members include:

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| Carlene Sarty, Chairman, Plaistow        | Frederick Teague, Treasurer, Sandown   |
| Carol Simpson, Asst. Treasurer, Kingston | Dawn Weston, Secretary, Danville       |
| Doreen Tufts, Danville                   | Debra Perou-Hermans, Meals on Wheels   |
| Jack McSheehy, Plaistow Lions            | Dave Merrill, Plaistow American Legion |
| Bob Choolijan, Plaistow Lions            | Ted Kennedy, Atkinson                  |
| Joyce Burns, Administrative Assistant    |  |

Last year, we asked each town to increase their budget contributions based on their town's total number of seniors who are eligible to use the center's facilities. We were grateful for this support. Because the budget contributions just about cover the annual operating expenses, we have been able to use the income from the hall rentals for building improvements. This year we were able to replace the kitchen linoleum floor, replace the exterior doors and we are currently in

the process of replacing all windows with new thermal, energy-efficient windows which will hopefully help with this winter's heating bills. We are very grateful to the Plaistow Lions Club who donated their time and labor to install the doors and windows saving us a great deal of money. We are also grateful to WalMart & Home Depot for their contributions towards brand new air conditioners, also installed by the Plaistow Lions Club; which were greatly appreciated this summer by our seniors. We also had to replace our water tank and softener system, which let go unexpectedly during the spring. The center has many other projects on the wish list that we are hoping to complete over the next few years.

The Vic Geary Board sincerely appreciates your town's assistance to help us maintain and improve this valuable senior resource enjoyed by many of our area seniors each day.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Weston, Secretary of  
The Vic Geary Board of Directors

## WEST NILE VIRUS

The 2006 mosquito season was certainly unusual. Spring began with drought conditions and ended with flood conditions where precipitation was measured in feet instead of inches. All that rain helped species of mosquitoes that transmit **Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)** to thrive, while other species were washed away. Most EEE activity appeared in Rockingham County, although the disease was also detected in Hillsborough County and Strafford County.

In 2006, EEE was found in 40 mosquito samples, five birds, and one horse throughout 23 New Hampshire towns. In August, five mosquito samples collected in Newton tested positive for EEE. There were no human cases reported in 2006, which is good news when we reflect on the unfortunate and sad loss the community suffered in 2005 as a result of EEE.

The proposed 2007 Mosquito Control plan for Newton includes trapping mosquitoes for disease testing, sampling wetlands for larval mosquito activity, larvicide where mosquito larvae are found, and emergency spraying when a public health threat exists. The control program begins in April when mosquito larvae are located in stagnant water such as swamps, ditches, and woodland pools. Trapping adult mosquitoes for disease testing begins in June. The mosquito control program ends in late September or early October when temperatures drop and daylight diminishes.

Homeowners can reduce the number of mosquitoes in their yards by emptying any outdoor containers that hold standing water, such as buckets, trash barrels, and boats. Tires collect enough water for mosquitoes to survive. It is also a good idea to change the water in bird baths every two or three days.

If you **do not** want your property treated for mosquitoes, then a **written request is needed**. Please send a letter to Dragon Mosquito Control, P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, and a description of your property with boundaries. Otherwise, your property may be treated. Our phone number is 964-8400. You may call our office for assistance regarding mosquitoes, the insecticides we use, spray dates, or questions about West Nile Virus or EEE.

For more information on Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus, visit the NH Department of Health and Human Services online at [www.dhhs.nh.gov](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov) or the Centers for Disease Control at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah MacGregor, President  
Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc.  
603-964-8400