Craftsbury Community Care Center

News and Notes

July-December 2008



Resident's News

Although the summer weather was not the greatest, residents kept on the go. We entered Greensboro's Funky Fourth Parade with our electric car, transformed into a pumpkin coach to carry three lovely "4 C's Cinderellas". We were cheered on by other residents who attended in the van, driven by David Rodgers.

On the beautiful day of Elaine Cole's wedding, with the help of several staff members, most residents were in attendance. This was "the year of the weddings" and in addition to celebrating with Elaine, there was a bridal shower for Rosann and a Newly Wed Tea for neighbors Jack & Emma Cabaness. We love a party!

During any breaks in the summer weather, Randi and John completed the walking path. It was really exciting to see our wish come true—after much hard work on the residents' part, and generous gifts from the Pleasants Fund and Kristin Urie faithfully helped us garden and



Stella & a Sterling student making paper flowers to bloom on our tables...

From the President

Five percent doesn't sound like much, but for us it is the difference between being a viable business or not. Our cost of providing the services we offer is covered 95% by the rents we receive each month and the money that we receive from the State; but where does the other 5% come from?

This is where you and the community come in. Each year the Board of Directors is required to find a way to raise this additional five percent which comes to a little over \$40,000. Part of this money is raised by our Sugar on Snow and Pig Roast and Auction events in the spring and summer, but the major portion comes from our fall fund drive.

Last year we were able to raise sufficient money to allow us to meet our goal, but this year it's a different situation, and we need your help. We recognize that everyone is facing a difficult time due to the economy; and we are too. There is no room for cutting back our services, nor would we ever consider doing so. Our only alternative is to appeal to you to be able to give at least as much as you gave last year, and for those who can to give more, or if you have not given before, please consider a tax deductible donation to a most worthy cause.

For those of you who have already donated, you can help by asking a friend or relative to consider a donation. It is only through the continued support of our community that we are able to provide this most needed and worthwhile service to those in our care. I want to offer a very big thank you to those who have donated, and a very big please to those of you who have not yet.

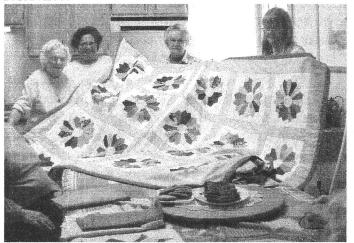
Sincerely,

Randi Calderwood, President Board of Directors

Knit Wits - A Clever Group!

The Knit Wits, a group of sewers, quilters and crafters, have been a part of Craftsbury Community Care Center for almost as long as the residence has been in existence. They are to thank for the quilts which have been raffled off at the "Sugar on Snow" event for the past few years. They are planning another exciting one for this coming April.

The initial goal of the Knit Wits was to provide interaction among the residents and encourage those who enjoyed needlework to spend time together. Sale of the many specialty items they make provides seed money for future projects. In addition, the public and most especially those associated with Craftsbury Community Care Center are encouraged to purchase their crafts. It's a great way to support this fine residence.



The Knit Wits also made a quilt for Elaine Cole's wedding

The residents with the volunteer help of Linda Scott, Marjorie Morrill, Laurie Courage and Eunice Kinsey meet every Monday afternoon to work on current projects. At present they are making insulated casserole carriers, hen-shaped bun warmers, placemats, slippers, baby quilts and framed needlework pictures. All these items are for sale at CCCC so consider them when you think of holiday shopping.

If you stop by, be certain to see the "We Care Quilt" hanging in the front hall. The nine squares, each with a different heart design, were donated by local expert quilter, Yvonne Isabelle of Barre. The Knit Wits assembled the squares and did some additional quilting for the finished piece.

Meet A Resident

SHIRLEY'S GOT SPUNK

Shirley Wirt has a lot of spunk! And, she says she's had a wonderful life. Though her mother died shortly after her birth, she has fond memories of being raised by her father and grandparents. In fact, her passion for baseball has its roots in her childhood and going to baseball games with her father. To this day, love of baseball continues. One of her favorite players is Derek Jeter of the New York Yankees. Shirley has a big poster of him



Shirley got all dressed up for the Seniors' Prom

prominently displayed in her lovely room.

She married and had three children Anna, Elizabeth, and John. But, her marriage did not work out, and she ended up raising her children pretty much by herself in the Upper West Side of New York City. She found her life's calling while volunteering at her son's cooperative nursery school. She wanted to focus her professional career in early childhood education.

As the children grew up, Shirley pursued her own education, obtaining two masters degrees and, finally, a doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Over the years, Shirley worked in early childhood education in many capacities – as a teacher, pre-school director, consultant, and college professor.

Shirley is not only passionate about education and baseball, but she also loves opera. When she lived in New York City, she regularly attended spectacular performances at the Metropolitan Opera. Her son, John, assembles sets for the Met's performances, and Shirley enjoyed going behind the scenes to see how the performances were put together.

One fun story Shirley shared was that she was a contestant on Jeopardy many years ago (before Alex Trebek). While she was not the big winner that day, she was given an encyclopedia as a

Resident's News Cont'd.

we were rewarded with great veggies for the kitchen and lovely flowers for our décor. The newly instituted Salad Bar has proved a favorite with all of the residents.

We also had beautiful weather for the Pig Roast and Auction; the residents really enjoyed the food and the fun that day

September and October brought weeks of beautiful, sunny weather. On one of those, a brilliant October Wednesday, we gathered with the students of East Hill Pre-School for an old fashioned cider pressing. The children had picked the apples earlier that day and brought them to the press which was set up on our front lawn. About a dozen residents watched as the children rinsed the apples and fed them into the crusher. It took quite a bit of cranking for the first cider to appear but, when it did, it was delicious.

We took advantage of a lovely day to go for a foliage ride in the van with Lance at the wheel. Halloween was celebrated with a costume party and entertainment by the Radio Rangers. Many thanks are due to the Knit Wits and the Mouses & Spouses who helped with décor and refreshments.

November brought a great burst of activity in our crafting group, the fruits of their labors—and

the Knit Wits'—are on sale in our Christmas Boutique. Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner was very well attended—and appreciated too.

Now the holiday season is upon us, with carolers, tree trimming, a visit from Santa and our Christmas stockings to anticipate. Life is being lived to the fullest here at the Care Center.

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Meet Shirley Wirt cont'd.

consolation prize. Wouldn't you know, though, she had just bought the very same encyclopedia, so her children would have reference material at home..

Shirley lived almost 50 years in New York City, before moving to Iowa for 3 years near her daughter, Anna (an attorney). In November 2007, she moved to CCCC, near her other daughter, Elizabeth (registered nurse). Though she has Alzheimer's Disease, she continues to exercise her mind doing two crossword puzzles a day. She feels at home at CCCC and can't say enough about how wonderful the staff is, providing caring assistance as she needs it.

She has great pride in her family – children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren – all of whom are displayed in her photo gallery on one of the walls of her lovely room. What also shines through is Shirley's enthusiasm for living – no matter what life's changes may bring.



On a golden October day, we gathered with the East Hill Pre-School to make fresh cider. It tasted great!

Lights, Camera, Movies!

Thanks to the Craftsbury Library, big screen movies are back—at least as long as the winter evenings get dark so early. Every month we show a family friendly film at 6pm; popcorn is provided, but you're on your own for jujubes. The public is cordially invited to join us; here are the dates and shows:

Sat., Dec. 20 – Little Women (1933) Sun., Jan. 18 – Miss Potter Sat & Sun., February 21 & 22 - Dr. Zhivago (in 2 parts)

Sun., March 15 - The Quiet Man

Craftsbury Community Care Center

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Anne Cassidy

Anne Cassidy
Amelia Fritz
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Jim Jones
Janet Long

Monica Perrier

Craftsbury Community Care Center Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization and Equal Housing Opportunity Facility

Coming up in 2009



Save these dates to join us for upcoming events

February 28 ~ Health Care Fair
March 13 ~ Friday the 13th Dinner
April 4~ Sugar on Snow Party
July 25 ~ Pig Roast & Auction



Craftsbury Community Care Center 1784 Craftsbury Rd. E. Craftsbury VT 05826

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

