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

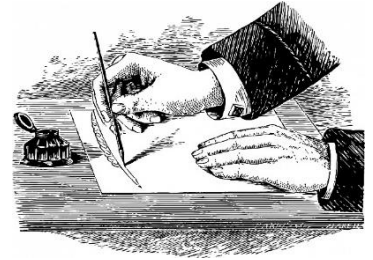
Our mission is to provide a caring, homelike affordable residence for seniors, in a setting that encourages independence, activities and involvement with families, friends and the larger community.

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Letter from the President

Dear Friends of the Care Center,

We have either witnessed it first hand or heard it repeatedly from others. Either way, most of us are aware of how special and unique the Craftsbury Community Care Center truly is. The past three years I have been fortunate to view the Care Center from two different perspectives.



As the son of a resident, I have witnessed the sincere and tender care my mom receives on a daily basis. It is very reassuring to know she is in such a supportive environment. I feel very fortunate she has resided at the Center for the past three years.

As a member of the board of directors I am learning what it really takes to maintain this ideal environment for all the residents. These are challenging times for the Center, as we are currently financially sound, we do see a need to respond to a three year trend of rising costs that, if ignored, could threaten our financial stability in a few short years. Changing demographics of our residents has folks waiting until later in their lives to enter the Center. This change has established an average resident that requires more staffing.

Our increased staff are receiving health care benefits and the health care costs are also escalating rapidly. These cost increases leave little room for us to keep up facility maintenance and make important improvements. Our recently formed Development Committee has spent much time investigating ways to position the Center financially to be able to weather these current changes and future challenges as well.

We have just mailed out our Annual Appeal letter. After the first of the year we hope to establish an endowment and other planned gifting options. The board is also looking into grant funding opportunities to help with facility improvements.

Thank you for supporting the Center. Your support is crucial to maintain the Center as we know and love it! If you have recently received our Annual Appeal please consider an increase to your donation this year. If you are interested in learning more about the Center and would like to visit us or have us contact you regarding other gifting opportunities please contact Kim Roberge, our executive director at (802) 586 -2414

Stay warm and please visit us.

With much appreciation,

Mark McAndrew
 for the Board of Directors

Resident Highlight — Tara, A Woman of Many Talents

A Saturday morning visit with Tara Gita became a wonderful time of remembering with Tara, her daughters, Samantha and Claudia, a son-in-law and a long-time family friend. For Tara, growing up with a career army father included living in Japan from ages 7-10. While in high school she lived in Gloucester, MA where she was crowned “Miss Seafood” for the annual parade and later married her high school sweetheart, “the handsomest boy I knew”. After graduating from Boston University with a major in comparative literature, she was among the few women working for an advertising agency. Later, leaving the urban life, she moved to Calais, Vermont where she, her husband and three children lived in a small cabin. Her daughters shared memories of their home schooling—an experience that gifted them a strong appreciation of the natural world. They both chose to return to Vermont, where they now live, after forays further afield.



Throughout her life, Tara has had many strong friendships, especially with those with whom she shared meditation and other spiritual practices. Her daughters have many memories of the diverse “amazing friends” that were part of Tara’s life. She also has been nourished by her artistic interests: painting, pottery and poetry. She has a thick notebook binder with a collection of her poetry that perhaps she might share with you if you stop by to visit her.

Tara has been a resident of the Care Center since September 2015, participates in most of the activities offered and can frequently be seen working on a jigsaw puzzle.

—Jenny Stoner

Kay Goodridge – Volunteer Par Excellence



Kay was born in Hardwick, raised in Craftsbury, graduated from Craftsbury Academy and has lived here all her life. She has worked at a wide range of jobs - wedding and portrait photography, owning and running the Craftsbury General Store where she added the first full deli and as a bank teller. She said that she loves working with people - as all her jobs illustrate. She came to the Care Center one day to offer her time as a volunteer and that very afternoon was playing a game with a resident. In the last six years she has volunteered in the kitchen, worked on the auction, helped with a variety of activities, but mostly she has volunteered as a driver for the residents - taking them shopping, to appointments, and just for pleasure trips. As a lifelong Craftsbury resident, she knows many of the residents, and she said that one of the best parts of her work is the chance to have one-on-one time with someone, often sharing stories and reminiscences. Another of her contributions is bringing her little dog Jezzie and taking her around to visit with the residents. As Kay and I said good-by after our interview, she was going out to her car to bring Jezzie in for a visit. Thank you, Kay, for all you have given to the Care Center and its residents.

—Jane Marlin

A Wonderful Cookout and Auction

The CCCC Annual Cookout and Auction took place on a gorgeous summer day on the beautiful grounds of the Care Center. This year's event proved to be once again a festive "coming together" of people from our Craftsbury area communities for delicious food and the fun of bidding at the live and silent auctions. The net proceeds of nearly \$9000 are a vital source of funds for sustaining the mission of the Care Center.



Auction items of wonderful variety were donated by many individuals and businesses from our communities. Jeff Twiss again donated prized sports items of a signed Celtics basketball, shoes and Patriots football to the live auction conducted by inveterate auctioneer Ron Sanville. Two hundred meals were served which included roasted pork and turkey.... "the best ever!", signature baked beans, and salads. Sterling College farms along with Pete's Greens donated 2 pigs and fresh greens, and 8 turkeys were donated by several local grocers. Ice cream was served by our local Kingdom Creamery.

We wish to acknowledge every one of the many volunteers for performing countless chores before and during the day. The Green Team from Craftsbury Outdoor Center provided the muscle and coordination for erecting the Big Tent, and hauled dozens of tables and chairs from near and far. The Craftsbury Fire Department donated use of their tent and labor. The entire Staff of the Center extended their duties and energies far beyond their usual responsibilities: the cooks and kitchen crew, the personal care attendants, and the manager of Buildings and Grounds, Tim Beauregard. We wish to recognize with thanks and admiration the amazing organizational skill and leadership of Board member Jane Marlin and Executive Director Kim Roberge..

And finally, we extend our appreciation to the hundreds of people in the Craftsbury community for their inclusive and abiding interest in the mission of Craftsbury Community Care Center and its place in the lives of community citizens.

— Norm Hanson

The Family Perspective

My Mother, Sarah Larrabee has been living at the Craftsbury Care Center for 2 and ½ years now and even when she is having trouble remembering exactly where she is, she calls it home. She likes to be able to walk the hallways in the winter and the driveway in the summer and enjoy how everything is bright and well kept. She watches the icicles as they grow on the bushes out front and then loves to join in the guessing game as to when they will melt away. She enjoys the Residents and how everyone is friendly and kind. Most of all she feels comfort and support from all of the staff. They are thoughtful and try to understand just what she needs. It is especially good to be able to stop in the Director's office and say "I am having a bad day and need to talk" and to find someone who will listen attentively and provide the encouragement she needs.

She has been quite incapacitated off and on during her stay, but continues to have her needs met and when outside caregivers or I am there with my Mother we receive the attention and support we need as well.

My Mother had many choices as to where she might live these last few years of her life and she is pleased she chose the Craftsbury Community Care.

— Becky Galloway

Annual Appeal

This year's Annual Appeal is more important than ever. Over the past 2 years our expenses have risen nearly 18% which is a large increase in our budget. These costs are all in operating expenses. They are due to multiple reasons from an increase in the number of employees needed to meet the needs of our residents, increasing insurance costs and increases in the cost of food and supplies. As our building ages to nearly 24 years there are anticipated maintenance expenses that we need to be prepared for. The Board is committed to improving our energy efficiency both to decrease our energy expenses in the future and to make the building more comfortable for our staff and residents. All this requires cash.

More and more people have lived at the Craftsbury Community Care Center over the years and because of this we have an ever-widening circle of support as we count family and friends of more than 221 residents. Please consider increasing your donation this year to help us keep the CCCC affordable and a first-class residence we can be proud to have in our area. We are blessed to have wonderful community support. Your generosity is recognized and appreciated.

— Jane Marlin

Marilyn Perron — Staff Spotlight

Marilyn is retiring after five years as the Assistant Activities Leader at the Care Center. She has always had a love of music and has arranged and or greeted and set up for many excellent musical programs at the Center during her years here. The morning stretch with residents can always be heard throughout the facility as the group, led by Marilyn, joyfully sings their way through exercising.

Marilyn was born in Sheffield and had a long teaching career before coming to the Care Center. She started as a kindergarten teacher in Glover and has also taught in Sheffield, Greensboro Bend and Lyndonville. From 1976 to 1980 she and her husband Rick, to whom she has been married for 45 years, ran a dairy farm. She has three children, a pilot, an arborist, and a teacher, all of whom graduated from the University of Vermont. Marilyn and Rick and two of their grandchildren currently run the Perron Hill Farmstand in Glover. She says one of the reasons for her happy and successful career is that "I have always done what I loved."



Marilyn always greets the residents with a big smile and cheery laughter while encouraging everyone to have a good day and to participate in activities. Her compassion and caring for the residents is evident in her work. Marilyn along with one of her co-workers is always conspiring for ways to bring laughter, special occasions/holiday spirit to the residents and their co-workers. We will miss her at the Care Center and wish her all the best in retirement.

—Rob Dewees

Craftsbury Community Care Center Photos



Craftsbury Chamber Players practiced here for 6 weeks



Visiting the Craftsbury Outdoor Center



Circus Smikus performing for us!



Picking blueberries at Mathez's Farm in Craftsbury



Kingdom Country Farmers 4-H Club visits from E. Hardwick



Picnic at Crystal Lake

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday Dec 16 at 3 pm:** Caroling with East Craftsbury Church
- **Monday, Dec. 17 at 3 pm:** Singing with Debbie Yacovone
- **Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 10:30 am:** WonderArts Concert
- **Saturday, Dec 22 at 10 am:** Nature Program with Anne Hanson
- **Wednesday, Dec 26 at 10:30 am:** Music with Ted, Tony and John
- **Saturday, Dec 29 at 10 AM:** Music with Rich Atkinson and Friends
- **Monday, Dec 31 at 3 pm:** Jeanne Joslin on keyboard



Board of Directors:

Mark McAndrew, President
Jane Marlin, Vice-president
Jenny Stoner, Secretary
Carolyn Ryan, treasurer
Ted Ceraldi
Rob Dewees
Norm Hanson
Kathy Hemmens
Jeanne Joslin
Jim Jones
Ed O'Leary
Rebecca Young
Anne Cassidy, honorary member
Janet Long, honorary member

Executive Director:

Kimberly Roberge