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Letter from the President



Dear Friends of the Care Center,

As I assumed the Presidency of the CCCC Board, the world changed. Instead of carrying out the planned events and projects, we are navigating new challenges with the main focus being safety of our staff and residents. Kim Roberge, executive director, and Gwyn Harris, director of nursing have thoughtfully and adroitly implemented new protocols which initially were changing daily as new information came in from the state. In addition to the communication with the residents and their families, training the staff in the new procedures, finding the necessary supplies needed to serve meals in residents rooms instead of the dining room, it has been difficult to find needed protective equipment. All of this was in addition to the “normal” running of the Care Center. A big thank you and high praise to Kim, Gwyn and all of the staff for the outstanding job you are doing.

In the midst of these times we say farewell to Jenny Stoner who completed 12 years of service to the Care Center serving as secretary for many years and a valuable voice on several committees. Our bylaws state that after 12 years you must go off the board. She will be missed but is still serving as an honorary member of the marketing committee. Her wisdom and counsel are valued. Our board is comprised of up to 15 members with diverse backgrounds and expertise and we attempt to represent Craftsbury and the surrounding towns. Currently we have members from Craftsbury, Greensboro, Hardwick, Albany and Glover with experience in law, medicine, insurance, banking, teaching, construction, disaster relief, administration, finance, grant writing and much more. Some members of the board have a family member at the Care Center. Our 3 newest members are Penelope Doherty, Karl Krantz, Joan Feffer and we welcome back Pat Lemay who served several years ago.

Costs have increased during the pandemic. Our treasurer, Rebecca Young, was proactive in pursuing the Payroll Protection Plan Grant/Loan. She did the research to determine we would qualify and completed the application process which was accepted. In addition, other grants and donations have been received to help defray the additional costs incurred at this time of crisis. These are uncertain times with many unknowns. We need to continue being flexible and search for new sources of funding to meet these challenges. As always, the support of our community is vital to our well-being. We are always grateful.

—Jane Marlin, President

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

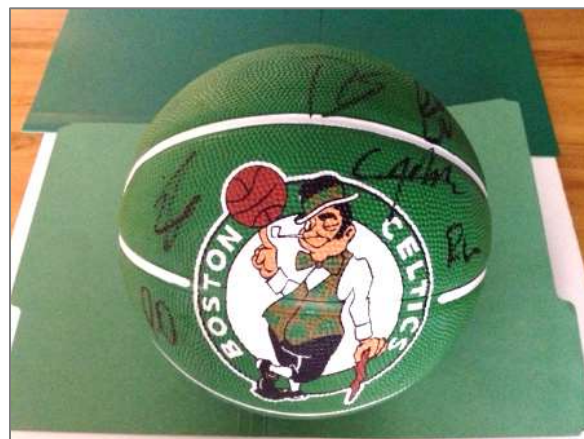
Our mission is to provide a caring, homelike affordable residence for seniors, in a setting that encourages independence, activities and involvement with families, friends and the larger community.

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Sugar on Snow Raffle Drawing

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the original raffle drawing was postponed until the 25th of April, the hoped for 25th Anniversary Celebration. As the crisis evolved that too needed to be canceled and the drawing was held by video conference of the Ways and Means Committee members. Congratulations to the winners and to all of you who supported the raffle.

2019 Celtics autographed basketball – Rory & Willa Hopkins
 Pottery mug by Lynn Flory of Mill Village Pottery – Shelly Jungwirth
 Handcrafted greeting cards by Emma Pudvah – Karl Stein
 Liz Nelson framed print – Bob Davis



Boundless Gratitude for Community Supporters

As you know the pandemic has been especially hard on elder communities everywhere, most particularly on group living environments. Elders accustomed to active days socializing with family, friends, and caring volunteers were suddenly at risk and isolated - and staff at CCCC were suddenly thrown into overdrive, trying to not only protect residents from the invisible threat but also to fill the social voids. On top of that, adequate supplies were tough to find and systems we designed to provide maximum social stimulation had to be revamped to accommodate separation. It has been a difficult time with many ups and downs – but one thing that has *never* wavered is the incredible support we feel from this community.

Thanking the many, many volunteers and community members who are supporting the Care Center through this ongoing crisis is proving just as challenging a task. They are too numerous to mention individually without inevitably leaving someone out – so instead we want to herald the many amazing things you've done:

- Masks made and donated for residents and staff
- Toilet paper, paper towels and other paper product donations
- Hand sanitizer donations
- Professional-grade trays and carts that allowed us to revamp meal service
- Small TV trays for rooms, storage bins, pitchers, and other sundries
- Set up of a Skype station for family connections
- Donations of office assistance and other support tasks
- Donations of food for the center and treats for staff
- Flower arrangements
- Baby monitors for rooms and the new visiting window
- Monetary donations
- Parade participation
- Musicians and others sent videos to entertain residents
- Cards and letters for residents
- And so much, much more!

A heartfelt thanks to everyone in this wonderful community. We couldn't do what we do without you – and we wouldn't want to try!

If we somehow didn't mention your contribution, rest assured it's the fault of the volunteer writing this article, and that your support is felt and noticed every day by residents and staff.

A Note from the Executive Director

I want to thank residents and family members for their patience and understanding during these ever changing and very challenging times. We have all had to learn new ways to communicate, provide and receive: services, meals and daily activities. While I know there have been some frustrating times especially when it comes to not being able to see family, I trust that everyone understands the health and welfare of residents has been our number one priority.

I also want to thank the dedicated staff for their hard work, creativity, positivity and care with residents no matter what challenge has been put before them. Their desire to help meet individual needs as well as enhance the emotional well-being of residents has been tremendous.

Many thanks to everyone in the community who has supported us by donating in so many different and wonderful ways. Your words of encouragement and appreciation have been a great source of strength for all of us. We could not do what we do without all of you.

While Residents are definitely missing family, visitors, volunteers and the many activities we have offered in the past, they seem to continue to appreciate the many creative ways we have found to provide enjoyment.

- Hallway morning stretch continues to occur as well as occasional hallway bingo and readings.
- We have had musicians that played here send us some videos of their music that we have then played on the big screen in the hallways.
- Lots of inside and outside individual walking occurs daily and now that warm weather is here the ever-popular electric car is being put to good use.
- Some creative and exciting events that have also occurred are a Pizza Party, Spring Fling, Memorial Day Car Parade, birthday car parade to name a few.
- We also put into place a skype station for families and residents to communicate and more recently tried a visiting window with walkie talkies for a safe and closer way to see loved ones.

I am happy to say that everyone remains healthy to date and as communities start to slowly open up, we will be facing even more new challenges every day. Please continue to hang in there with us as we navigate new territory and adhere to state guidance throughout this year.

With Gratitude,
Kimberly Roberge



Skype Station: Connecting with Loved Ones

Craftsbury Community Care Center staff is committed to ensuring residents continue healthy daily activities during the pandemic, including family and community connections. Along with implementing measures to protect residents and staff, we added creative new activities - including a Skype station to enable family and friends to stay connected!

The Care Center Board and Kim were also determined to keep residents connected with loved ones, so in April Board member (and family member) Penelope Doherty worked to set up a safe Skype station and process for resident use. Nate LaRow of Flipped Technologies in Greensboro contributed his expertise, setting up the technology. Family members simply schedule a conversation, then initiate the call. Staff assist the resident if need be. The Skype station has been a big hit! Thanks to all who made this possible. —Penelope Doherty



A HAPPY SCENE OF GRACE M TALKING WITH CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

Fielda Calderwood, Woman for All Seasons

Fielda Calderwood has a unique range of experiences with the Care Center. She was a member of the founding Board of Directors, continued as a friend of many residents, became a participant in Bone Builders exercise program, was mother of staff member Randi who served as board member, chair of the board and then as facility manager, and she now is a resident.



Fielda spent most of her early life in southern New Hampshire with her parents and brother 18 months older. After several other jobs, when she was in high school, her father bought a dairy farm in Windham, NH and Fielda began learning farming skills. After high school she attended Plymouth State College with the plan of becoming a teacher, but two years later left college and married. She and her husband had 6 children and ran a dairy farm together for 19 years. During these years one child died at 6 months of age, her husband suffered from Hodgkin's Disease for 2 years before dying and 6 months later her 9 year old daughter died of a brain tumor. Left with 4 children from a 15 year old daughter to 3 year old twin sons, Fielda decided to finish her college degree to become a teacher.

Five years later, through some Presbyterian Church contacts she met and married Martin Calderwood. The older children were grown so she and the boys moved to Craftsbury. They lived on a dairy farm, which eventually was inherited by her son Randi and his family.

After one year substitute teaching, she taught math at Craftsbury Academy for 15 years, then for 5 more at Lake Region High School as Chair of the Math Department. In addition to helping on the farm, and especially with sugaring, Fielda was very active in the community with leadership roles at East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, the Orleans Northern Essex Retired Teachers Association, a Craftsbury planning commission and the Craftsbury Community Care Center board.

Since moving to the Care Center 3 years ago, Fielda has learned how to play bridge and several other games. She embodies the skills of one who can meet any new challenge with good humor and a smile.

—Jenny Stoner

Report from Development Committee – Endowment Fund & Grants

The Care Center Endowment Fund is continuing to grow since its establishment in January 2020. Thank you to all who have contributed to this fund. It is more important than ever that we work to secure the Care Center's future financial stability, and we encourage you to consider including the Care Center in your will or estate planning.

During the past year, the Development Committee has sought grants for several specific projects: an automatic front door opening system, a reconfiguring of the entrance to limit drafts in winter, a major renovation of the kitchen, and a handicapped accessible walking path (available to the public) around and behind the Center. We have received grants from the Pleasants Fund, the Greensboro Association, the Craftsbury Community Fund, Wonder and Wisdom, the Agnes Lindsay Trust and the Northern Forest Recreational Fund to be applied toward these projects and we are most grateful for the support of these organizations. We finished the automatic door system before the pandemic struck and have been able to continue work involved with planning the walking path and that will be able to be finished despite the pandemic. The other projects have been held up for the time being, since they require work inside the building, but will continue as soon as possible.

—Jeanne Joslin

Handcrafted Canoe to Raffle

Last winter, one of Vermont's foremost artisans, Phil Pike of Little Creek Canoe and Kayak offered to build a 16-foot cedar strip canoe for the Craftsbury Community Care Center to raffle off as a fund raiser. Wood-strip-constructed, Phil's canoes and kayaks are purposefully designed and built to be pleasing to the eye while, at the same time, be very functional watercraft. Whenever possible, Phil uses wood harvested from area trees like white cedar, black cherry and white ash with some western red cedar for accent lines and other "gingerbread." For the Care Center raffle, Phil has designed a 16-foot variation of a Ted Moore designed "Bob's Special," a two-person canoe with a hull of local white cedar and gunwales, seats and deck plates of white ash. In Phil's words "she's a working and pleasure boat with a nice waterline and a minimum of gingerbread.' She will carry two paddlers and plenty of gear for a canoe camping trip on moving water or glide smoothly, handle well and offer plenty of initial and secondary stability for the fisherman or nature enthusiast.



For the past 25 years Craftsbury Community Care Center, a non-profit, level three residential

assisted living facility located in East Craftsbury, Vermont has been providing a warm and caring environment for local elders who are no longer able to live independently at home. Every July the Care Center has held an auction in combination with a large cook-out meal that attracts hundreds of local residents who gather mostly to support the Care Center but also to meet with friends and neighbors, enjoy the cookout and possibly bring home some prized "new to them" item from the auction. Unfortunately, the Covid 19

pandemic has put the 2020 auction and cookout on the long list of canceled area functions for 2020. The raffle of Phil's canoe will be the first of a string of raffles the Care Center is hoping to establish to replace the July auction and cookout.

The raffle for this beautiful tandem canoe is limited to only 200 tickets and a ticket can be purchased for \$50. Requests for tickets can be made by emailing ccccenter@myfairpoint.net or contacting any board member. Tickets are also available at the Miller's Thumb in Greensboro. Watch for a popup display on a Greensboro front lawn. The canoe will be on display at the Craftsbury Farmers' Market on Saturday August 8th with the drawing at noon. —Mark McAndrew



Effects of Covid on Fundraising Events

We are truly sorry to announce that the Board has decided to cancel this year's Benefit Auction and Cookout for the safety of residents, staff and community members. The loss of this event (and the Sugar on Snow Party in April) will significantly lower our annual revenue. We are working on alternative fund raising (see article about Canoe Raffle) but we wish to ask you, our faithful supporters, to consider an extra gift during this difficult year. Our expenses have risen due to an increase in supplies and costly protocols, and our revenue has declined because there have been no new admissions for the past three months to fill our three empty rooms. Some organizations and individual donors have already begun sending additional donations and we are extremely grateful for their help. We most sincerely appreciate all the support from our friends both near and far.

Huge Shout Out to the Staff

Usually, an individual staff member is recognized in the Newsletter, but this month the entire Staff should be recognized for the outstanding job they have done providing the best possible care to our residents during the COVID pandemic. All departments: personal care and nursing, administrative, kitchen, housekeeping, activities, and maintenance have worked incredibly well together and put in many extra hours, covered for other Staff, and at times given up their days off.



Much has changed since before the pandemic in how care for the residents is provided. The Staff has been creative in finding new ways to keep residents healthy and engaged every day. For example, during this period residents have received their meals three times a day on trays in their rooms. As another example, the Staff introduced “hallway stretch” classes, where residents stay in their doorways while Activities Staff in the halls lead them in stretching exercises. Both long time and new Staff have worked very cooperatively to solve new problems created by the pandemic. Many of the Staff have volunteered for, and learned, new roles beyond their normal job duties.

All of our Staff have gone to great lengths to provide excellent care to our residents under very difficult circumstances, and have done so always with a smile and upbeat attitude. No one could have asked more from the Staff, the 4Cs community and the residents thank you all for the phenomenal level of care you have provided.
—Rob Dewees

Board of Directors:

- Jane Marlin, President
- Jeanne Joslin, Vice President
- Jan Travers, Secretary
- Rebecca Young, Treasurer
- Geoffrey Bok
- Rob Dewees
- Penelope Doherty
- Joan Feffer
- Norm Hanson
- Kathy Hemmens
- Jim Jones
- Karl Krantz
- Pat Lemay
- Mark McAndrew
- Steve Pitkin
- Jenny Stoner
- Anne Cassidy, honorary member
- Janet Long, honorary member
- Michelle Warren, Newsletter Assist.



Executive Director:

Kimberly Roberge

