Craftsbury Community Care Center

News and Notes

November-December 2007



New Faces - Silver & Gold

We all know the saying, "Make new friends and keep the old..." We try to emphasize the positive in changes and, in October, some of our familiar faces made transitions. Delia Lawrence is retiring from full time nursing and Diane Cornish has left the activities position to concentrate on a family writing project. Both promise to be back for visits. We wish them well.

The staff welcomes new faces Jean Scott, R.N., Cecily Karle, Nurse's Aide, and Rosann Hickey, Activity Director. Jean originally comes from Toronto Canada, but now makes her home in Craftsbury. Cecily comes to us from Lowell and has worked at the Greensboro Nursing home as well. Rosann is a long time resident of the Northeast Kingdom and has had much experience of senior activities, directing the Senior Trotters Program for Greensboro Wonder & Wisdom.



There were many dramatic characters at the Halloween Party, on October 30th, ready to welcome the Radio Rangers; even some staff and board members got into the act. Can anyone guess who the scary person at far left is?

Board News Fundraising Drive Begins

This year the Craftsbury Community Care Center will be starting its 14th year of operation. As Board President Randi Calderwood noted, when we first opened our doors in 1994, there was some skepticism as to whether we would be able to survive. Fortunately, the community has loyally sustained the Center in many ways.

At this time of year, we make our annual request for continuing support with our fund-

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raising letter. In addition to requesting muchneeded financial support, we are asking that people spread the word about the facility and the programs we offer, not only to the residents, but also to the community at large.

The Board is currently working on the 2008 budget, and having to find ways to offset the additional costs of heating oil and other expenses. The budget will be the main topic of discussion in the November Board Meeting.

In This Issue

- New Faces
- Board News
- Resident's Committee Notes
- Our Wish List

Our Wish List

Christmas is coming and, while we aren't expecting to find a black-topped pathway stuffed in our stocking (see Resident's Council notes at right), there are some smaller things that would be very welcome...

- Subscription to periodicals—most requested are: Large print Reader's Digest The Barton Chronicle Hardwick Gazette New York Times
- Organic lotions; hand & body creams (not petroleum based)
- An automatic card shuffler
- Large print novels, romances & mysteries (our shelves cannot accommodate any more regular print books at this time)



New resident Eva Colgrove gets right into the swing of things with the Knit Wits' crafts group. Eva's experience creating quilts will be much appreciated as we work on our king-size farm-themed quilt for raffling at the Sugar-on-Snow Party

Resident's Council Meeting Notes

The Council met on October 26th with 10 residents, Ombudsman Phil Gray, and facilitator Rosann Hickey attending.

Several follow-up items were discussed including floor cleaning to reduce chair noise, and clearing the library to improve access (both accomplished).

A major subject of discussion was the walkway project. Residents would greatly appreciate a blacktop path, accessible to wheelchair and walker users, around the level half of the building. It was noted that it should perhaps be somewhat curving and natural rather than straight and stiff. Setting it in from the driveway, where possible, would alleviate plow problems. Lance will be getting estimates on the possible cost; Rosann will be seeking grant funding. This will be a long term project for us and ideas are welcome.

The new staff members were mentioned and it was noted that two new residents, Eva Cargrove and Shirley Wirt, would be joining us in November with an Ice Cream Social to introduce them in mid month.

The School Days Exhibit continues through mid-November. A theme for the next display, *Mamma's & Babies*, was approved. We can probably find some prints of the Nativity, perhaps some pictures by Mary Cassatt, and residents and friends are invited to loan us pictures of their young mother days.

Sunday evening movies resume in November with *Tea with Mussolini* on the 11th. Suggestions for future shows are welcome and these are open to the public.

In "Circle Discussion", various views on dinner conversation were presented. Some people wish for more conversation, others are accustomed to digesting quietly. Some people see mealtimes as an opportunity for socializing; others felt that it would be better to participate in games, parties and activities to get to know people. A suggestion was made that a conversation starter could be provided at dinner—a riddle, saying, or trivia question. The advisability of having a "Crazy Day", when

Continued on p. 4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 2007						9:30 Gift wrapping in Library
2 11 Church Across the street 2pm Movie	3 10 Bone Bldrs 10 game w. Susan 3:30 Knit wits - wreath decorating 6 Reading w Karen	4 9:15 Stretch w. Rosann 11 Trivia 3 Skip-bo	5 10 Read & visit w Preschool 1:00 Elmore School Choir 1:30 Ride to Willey's	6 10 Bone Bldrs 12:45 Communion 2 pm Music w. Cleo 3:30 Piano w Barbara 5 Jamboree	7 9 am Book Talk w Linda Wells 11 Golf Putting 3:15 Bingo w	8 2 pm Tasha Tudor Christmas w. Linda Scott
9 11 Church Across the street 10 Bingo w. Greg 6 Big Screen Movie	10 10 Bone Bldrs 10 game w. Susan 3:30 Knit wits – Xmas Crafts 6 Reading w. Karen	11 9:15 Stretch w. Rosann 11 Trivia 1 Current events & Faith Alan Parker 3 Skip-bo	12 10:45 Reading w. Carol 1:30 Ride to Willey's 3 Scrabble	1310 Bone Bldrs 12:45 Bible Study 2 pm Bingo w. Cleo 5 Jamboree	14 8:30 Gingerbread making Judy Locke's 5 th gr. 11 Golf Putting 3:15 Bingo w. Val	15 2 Harpist Jenny Mayer 7 NEK Choir concert across the street
16 11 Church Across the street 2pm Movie	17 10 Bone Bldrs 10 game w. Susan 3:30 Knit wits – tree trimming 6 Reading w. Karen	18 9:15 Stretch w. Rosann 11 Trivia 2 Tea w. Mouses & Spouses	19 10:45 Reading w. Carol 1:30 Ride to Willey's 3 Scrabble	2010 Bone Bldrs 12:45 Bible Study 2 pm Cleo Reading 3:30 Piano w Barb	2110 Home Schoolers Xmas Craft & carols 3:15 Bingo w. Val	22 6 Craftsbury Carolers
23 11 Church Across the street 10 Bingo w Greg 2pm Movie	24 10 Bone Bldrs 10 Skip-bo game 3:30 Knit wits or Piano w. Barb	25 9 Xmas stockings & carols Noon Xmas dinner	26 10:45 Reading w. Carol 1:30 Ride to Willey's 3 Scrabble	2710 Bone Bldrs 12:45 Bible Study 2 pm Bingo w. Cleo	28 11 Golf Putting 3:15 Bingo	29
30 Church Across the street 2pm Movie	31 10 Bone Bldrs 10 Skip-bo game 6 New Year's Eve Party	All activities listed are from the best available information; additions, substitutions and changes may be made. Volunteers willing to play a game or just visit are especially welcome on Saturdays!				

Craftsbury Community Care Center

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Rumor has it that the "Jolly Old Elf" will be putting in an appearance again this year...Ho, ho, ho! everyone changes seats, was discussed. This would mean extra effort from the staff to keep meds and food preferences sorted. It was noted that residents may ask to be switched to a different table if they wish to change.

Generally, the food here is well appreciated; especially the trouble staff goes to in providing for individual tastes and portions. Several people suggested that more vegetables would be welcome. Beets, cabbage & apples, dried beans, and legumes were mentioned. Fresh salad and raw vegetables are considered a real treat by many. Residents may share favorite recipes for adaptation.

Gardening next spring is happily anticipated with a suggestion from Judy Locke that her 5th graders from Craftsbury come in spring and plant pumpkins for next Halloween. More raised beds or barrel planters for the patios were suggested.

How to keep in touch with those who may be ill or moved was discussed. Staff is bound by legislation protecting patient privacy, but sometimes we would like to express sympathy and support. We will continue to seek answers to this question.

Phil Gray and Rosann thanked all who attended for participating. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 28th at 9:30.