

Comforting News...

...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume IV

Fall, 2011

“Hanks” Makes Happiness Happen



Their laughs are infectious. Their warm, easy-going manner makes you think you have known them forever. And when they talk about Hanks with much enthusiasm, it is easy to understand why the ice cream store on Webster Road is such a success.

Matt and Chris Frank bought the store 17 years ago. Over the years they have built two additions so that customers can eat a complete meal on the premises, rain or shine. In addition to Hanks, the brothers own the A-Plus Gas Station across the street and the Country Store on Lake Road. One would think their lives were filled to the brim, managing three establishments.

When talking with them though, you discover that the most fulfilling part of their business lives, the part that gives them the most satisfaction is thinking creatively about how to best serve the Webster community. Each year they print approximately 15,000 ice cream coupons for all the sports' teams in Webster. On any given summer evening you can see whole teams with their families visiting Hanks. Matt says, "It's a place where victories can be savored and losses can be soothed."

At Christmas time Hanks becomes a magical place. Thousands of lights welcome the holiday season. Santa arrives on a fire truck. There are

hay rides on horse-drawn wagons. There is a chili contest and a raffle. Taylor rental, a business just across the street, provides fireworks.

And the reason for all of this? Matt and Chris love giving back to the community. Over the years the Christmas celebration has garnered approximately \$10,000 for WCCH. They are the kind of people who demonstrate why Webster is the place where life is worth living!

Note: This year's Christmas lighting ceremony will be December 11. Mark your calendars.

Primary Nurse Primarily Teaches



In 2007 when WCCH was looking for a person to oversee resident care they found a "gem" in Linda Weisbeck. Well educated (she is a registered nurse, has a BS in nursing, and a master's degree both in nursing and counseling) she came to the Home already having 18 years experience as a patient/family advocate at The Genesee Hospital. In her role as primary nurse manager she leads a group of 11 RNs and LPNs who see to the day to day needs of the residents.

But most importantly Linda is a teacher. She trains volunteers. She meets with potential residents and shares with them the hospice philosophy. She talks with families who are considering hospice care

for their loved one. She writes weekly notes instructing the care givers about each resident's condition. She is the "go to" person when residents have a medical question. She is the person who educates the resident's doctor about his/her patient's needs. And she listens at the resident's bedside.

Linda comes to her present job not only well-educated, but also well-sensitized to the needs of a life-threatening condition. In 1975 she was diagnosed with leukemia. In 1978 she relapsed, and her options were few. She became the first bone marrow transplant recipient at Roswell Cancer Institute in Buffalo. That experience gave her first hand insight into what challenging choices some people are required to make.

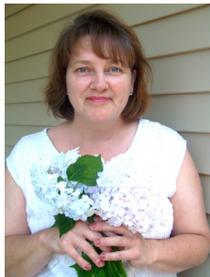
Her education and life experience combine to give the care givers and residents a strong anchor on which to hold. Linda certainly is the steady ship which keeps each day at the Home sailing smoothly, and we all are grateful.

Happier & Healthier

A 2001 Indiana University study found that adults who volunteer are more likely to feel happy and satisfied, possess high self-esteem, have a sense of control over their lives, and enjoy good health. Why is this such cheering news? Maybe because it taps into key human instincts. "It's very important for many people to feel that they're going to leave the world a better place, particularly as they get older," says Linda Fried, dean of the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.

WCCH has a wide variety of volunteer opportunities which can enhance your life. Give us a call at 872-5290. Maisy Buckley, our volunteer coordinator, would love to speak with you!

Kathy, Kathy, How Do Your Gardens Grow?



When the Kathy is Kathy DiPaolo, and the gardens are at the corner of Klem & Holt Road, the answer is a unanimous “Very well, indeed!” With daisies, and lilies, and clematis, and hosta, and countless other blooms, Kathy for the last 4 years has tenderly nurtured the gardens, making WCCH one of the most beautifully landscaped areas in Webster. When families first drive up and see the freshly-turned soil, the neatly-trimmed beds, and the colorful and prolific blooms, it is their first indication that 700 Holt Road is the perfect fit for their loved ones. They intuitively sense that the house is a home, not an institution.

Kathy came to the Home 8 years ago via an ad in the D & C asking for volunteers. She began volunteering in patient care shortly after the Home opened. (She currently works the Sunday evening 7-11 shift.) In 2009 she became a board member. For the last three years she has been in charge of the building and grounds committee, coordinating the care for both the inside and the outside of the Home. It is a volunteer position which, on average, occupies her 10 hours a week.

Kathy lives in Webster with her husband, Stephen, and their 3 daughters, Deana, 20, Marissa, 18, and Janelle, 16. In her spare time (hard to imagine she has any) she loves “jamming.” Recently she gifted the Home with 12 cases of strawberry jam! The colorful jars, which sell for \$3.50, make perfect hostess gifts. In the winter she makes a wide variety of taste-tempting cakes which the volunteers LOVE to sample. And in her quiet time she enjoys reading; Ken Follett is a favorite author.

Kathy retired from the board this past August. Thank goodness she will continue with patient care and nurturing the gardens. The residents, the families, the staff, and the whole Webster

community thank you, Kathy for all that you do. You have given hundreds of people a cornucopia of beautiful sights, and we are continually grateful.

Kneelers Needed

Do you love seeing beautifully kept gardens, weed-free, dead-headed and neatly edged? Kathy is looking for several “kneelers” who would enjoy beautifying the gardens. Call the Home at 872-5290 and leave a message for her. She will welcome your call.



A Resident Reminisces



When Eleanor Jelline’s parents, Simon and Irene Hewit welcomed their first-born child in New York City, the year was 1909, and William Howard Taft was president. In an era when few young women pursued education beyond high school, Eleanor entered Hunter College in New York City majoring in Latin and Greek. When the depression hit, while she was still in college, she knew she needed a job and began working part time at Macy’s. Upon graduation she applied for, and was accepted into, Macy’s Retailing School for college graduates. After completing that training she became first an assistant buyer and then a buyer for Macy’s, a job that lasted for 10 years.

In 1941 Eleanor received a call from a Mr. Gimbel, owner of Saks 5th Avenue. He hired her to be the buyer for moderately priced dresses for all the Saks’ stores in the United States, approximately 25 stores at that time.

She remained with Saks for over 30 years. To be on top of new dress trends she took, over the years, 28 trips to Europe, visiting England, France, Italy, Israel, Belgium, and Switzerland. While she was away live-in help kept their New Rochelle home running smoothly, a place where her lawyer husband Mitchell and their 2 children, Ruth and Daniel could retire comfortably to at the end of each day.

Eleanor and her husband came to Rochester in 2000 to be closer to family. She became a resident of the Home this past May after living for 10 years at the Village at Unity Hospital. A grandmother of 5, and a great-grandmother of 6, she is content now to be at WCCH. She says, “The atmosphere of the Home is very pleasant. The people here are so nice. Just by the feeling I get in this place I know Webster is a very caring community.” For someone who has lived through the terms of 18 presidents and experienced such an abundant life, that is a mighty fine compliment indeed. Thank you Eleanor!

Angels Around Us

This column is dedicated to those who, above and beyond their regular duties, recognize a need and quietly go about taking care of it. Here is just a partial list:

- Webster resident Nancy VanHooydonk delivers delicious, warm out-of-the-oven cookies to the Home each Tuesday. She is fondly known as the “Cookie Lady” and the Tuesday volunteers are the lucky recipients.



- Webster resident Mary Lynn Vickers, who owns and manages The Phantom Chef, donates scrumptious soups and casseroles for the residents, staff, and volunteers to enjoy. Bon Appetite!

