

# Comforting News...

## ...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume V

Winter, 2012

### From Potatoes To Truffles – Quite A Journey!



When WCCH board vice-chairman Bob Anderson was 5 years old he was digging up potatoes at the family farm in northern Maine. He drove a truck in the field when he was 12. By the time he graduated from high school he had earned enough money to pay his own way (along with a college job) through the University of Maine.

Eventually, a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Maine and a master's degree in mechanical/electrical engineering from Georgia Tech led him away from farm life. An MBA from RIT solidified his career interests - corporate finance and management at Eastman Kodak Co., a career spanning 32 years.

Bob and his wife, Jackie, who live in Webster, have two grown children, Charlie and Christina, and two grandchildren.

Now retired, Bob, as well as being the vice-chairman of the board, currently serves on its finance committee. He also is the committee chair for the Annual Appeal. He makes a myriad of financial details clear to the public. In addition to his duties at the Home, Bob continues to be very active at Webster

Presbyterian Church. Currently he serves on the church's endowment committee and plays in the bell choir, a group which his wife directs. From time to time he is called to do Elder only duties and participates in a variety of trustee projects. He also is a volunteer tax aide for senior citizens. In his spare time he enjoys reading, computer work, and traveling. He and his wife recently hiked in Manarola, Italy, an area Bob says is "absolutely wonderful!"

How did Bob transition from potatoes to truffles? His daughter Christina and husband, who live in Irondequoit, wanted to establish a Limited Liability Company (LLC) importing truffles from Italy for sale to restaurants around the world. Bob had the business savvy to successfully complete all the necessary transactions. Locally, if you happen to eat at 2 Vine Restaurant you will see those truffles on the menu.

Bob says, "Since retiring I have wanted to volunteer, to give back to the community that has been so good to me and my family. WCCH is the perfect opportunity." The Home is so glad he feels that way. His financial acumen is one of the reasons WCCH is a success.

### Our Delectable Jar Lady

If you visit the basement at the Home you will see an area that resembles a small factory. A large table is covered with clean empty glass jars. Shelves nearby hold colorfully-filled jars containing one of over 30 mixes for sale. Everything from mocha coffee mix to vegetarian bean soup mix; from banana chocolate mini-muffin mix to cocoa peanut butter yummys are there. Even dog biscuit mix is present! Adjoining shelves hold a plethora of spices, bags of



dried beans, flour, and brown sugar.

Overseeing this "factory" is its CEO, Joann Fisher. She procures the ingredients, organizes groups (scouts, etc.) to fill the jars, and with her husband, Don, sells the finished products. Saturdays, at the Webster Public Market, Sundays in local churches, and often at craft fairs and local business clubs she and her husband donate hours upon hours selling the jars. Since she has taken on the project, approximately \$10,000 has been earned for the Home.

Besides being the "Jar lady", Joann also volunteers with resident care. She reports, "Seeing a resident smile is one of the most rewarding parts of volunteering. The terminally ill deserve all the comfort and care we can give them. I believe volunteerism is a very necessary part of life." The Home is blessed by Joann's presence, and we all are "richer" because of it.

### Wine Tasting Gala Update



The Wine Tasting Gala held at Webster Country Club was a great success. The

gross earnings were over \$12,000. Guests sipped wine from 7 vineyards, ate delectable appetizers, and enjoyed a live band. They bid on more than 60 items featured in the silent auction; everything from an heirloom hand-made doll house to an airplane flight. Congratulations to Elaine McGrady, chairwoman and her hard working committee: Bill Fulton, Angelo & Kathy Truisi, Carolyn Johnson, Christopher Kotary, Barbara Jones, Bonnie Epner, Marge DeMonaco, Jeanne Filpowski, Karen Phelps, Marge Martellotta, Kerry Tobin, and Alan Jones.

**Au Revoir Mr. Cake Man!**

Every Thursday morning since the Home opened a man would come to the door, ring the bell, and deliver a delicious home-made cake. Over the years he has created approximately 400 cakes for the residents and volunteers to enjoy. He never wanted to take credit; he always wanted to remain anonymous.



Our generous Mr. Cake Man retired this month. He will go south to a warmer climate. We wish him well. He has been a generous and thoughtful friend as well as an excellent dessert maker. Will we miss him? You better believe it!!

**New Volunteers Come On Board**

Last fall 12 people completed the volunteer training program taught by our primary nurse, Linda Weisbeck and our volunteer coordinator, Maisy Buckley. It is always interesting to discover why some of our new volunteers decide to join the WCCH family. Connie Muscato remembers the wonderful care her mother received at a local hospice four years ago. Now she wants to “give back.”

New volunteer, Jean Spindler, first discovered WCCH through The Webster Herald and the Fashion Show. “I find it

very peaceful at the Home and enjoy meeting all the seasoned volunteers.” New volunteer, Becky Allen, states “I had a great need to give to the community. I chose WCCH because it is located in Webster. The free training sessions were great! Once I had been to the Home a handful of times, I was completely awed by the huge amount of caring and love that occurs in this Home. What a wonderful place to spend a few hours each week.”

Connie, the mother of two sons, Becky, the mother of 4 boys, and Jean, a full-time dental hygienist, are proof positive that even very busy people can and do find time to volunteer. Welcome, ladies. We are very glad you are on board!

**Winter Wonders – Giving Thanks**

Every season brings a diverse set of gifts to the Home, but during the holidays people seem especially generous. Here is just a partial list of people’s contributions:

- Hanks Ice Cream store once again provided hundreds of Webster citizens with an absolute wonderland of lights. Horse-drawn wagon rides added to the delightful experience.



- Taylor Rental, across the street from Hanks, on the same evening, provided the space for a deliciously spicy chili contest, and a marvelous fireworks display. Both Taylor Rental and Hanks contribute earnings from the evening to the Home.
- The Webster Extreme Softball Team, led by Danny Laudisi, decided to buy items on the Home’s Wish List, rather than exchanging gifts among

themselves. They delivered to the Home a huge box of much needed items.

- For the second year in a row Vicky and Mike Page delivered a beautiful 7 foot Christmas tree to the Home. Volunteers covered the tree with an array of ornaments donated by the Pages last year.
- Recently Dave Wissick, an electrician, and Randy Powers, a volunteer and board member, did a ton of work on all the outside lights. They all work now thanks to their expertise.
- Volunteer Barb Rindo, in addition to her regular shift, returned to the Home with childrens books and DVDs and helped take care of 3-year-old Chloe, whose 38-year-old mother was in her last hours as a resident.

**WCCH Word Search**

Our night aide, Rosalee Rosser, came up with the idea for a WCCH Word Search. We are grateful to her for this nifty challenge. Below are 10 words she suggested. See if you can find them in the puzzle.

compassion volunteer trust  
board schedule nurse resident  
families medication donations

D T N E D I S E R M  
O C A D L U P N E E  
N M F B O A R D E L  
A O A B D R I R T U  
T E M U U C N T N D  
I R I S A U R A U E  
O I L T R U P O L H  
N O I S S A P M O C  
S O E T M E U N V S  
N A S R D E S E E T

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