

# Comforting News...

...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume XII

Spring, 2014

## Thoughts From The Executive Director



As I was composing thank you notes to those many people that made the Fashion Show a great success, I was reminded of a quote from Mother Teresa. "None of us, including me, ever do great things, but we can all do small things with great love and together we can do something wonderful."

In the course of a day or a week, at our little Home on the corner, there are many "moving parts" that working together makes WCCH who we are: a strong team of dedicated people who openly and honestly share ideas, empower each other and develop trust as we move toward achieving our common vision and mission.

Thank you for the part you play, no matter how large or small. A weekly shift of resident care, working on an event committee, doing yard work, typing thank you letters to donors or making and selling our jar mixes at the market, each job carries the highest

level of importance to making our Home a comfortable and safe haven for our residents and their families.

## Nurses Recognition

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Directors invited the nursing staff to a reception in their honor to recognize their

dedication and service to WCCH. Nine per diem nurses and our primary nurse Mary Barnhart were presented with a small token of appreciation and some very thoughtful messages collected from volunteers expressing their gratitude for all the support and kindness shown to them. Our nursing staff is the "cream of the crop", "the best of the best". We are so fortunate to have such an exemplary group of professionals working side by side with volunteers providing their expertise and moral support.

## Day of Caring – May 8th

Once again, Webster Comfort Care Home was able to benefit from the hard working leadership team from Xerox managed by Barry Mandel. The crew arrived at 8:30am with garden tools in hand, greeted by Dave Knauss and Bob Nash to begin the annual sprucing up of the yard and gardens. Mulch and wood chips were spread, the deck and deck furniture were power washed, the gazebo was cleaned out and the windows washed inside and out. The group completed the tasks about 4:00pm, leaving us to appreciate all the hard work and to enjoy our beautiful grounds and gardens. Thanks to Don Gibson and his daughters, Linda and Donna, for supplementing the hot dog and chips lunch with homemade salads and dessert.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fashion Show

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> was our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Fling Fashion Show at Penfield Country Club. It was a wonderful spring day filled with our beautiful volunteer models wearing the latest spring colors sponsored by Christopher and Banks. Thanks to the models and the committee for their hard work to make this year's event a huge success.

## Plant Sale

Again this year, we were able to bring the gifts of our gardener extraordinaire, Bob Nash, to our community through our plant sale. We have received \$1200 in proceeds from his efforts and the generosity of plant donations from Ida and Jack Taft, Sarah Stein from Country Gardens and Gail Brozek. Thank you for making our plant sale an amazing success.

## Finally, A Special Thanks to our 2013-14 Community Partners

Hank's

Greece Baptist church  
Webster Auxiliary of K of C  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Maplewood Nursing Home  
Thomas HS Girls Basketball Team  
Webster Bible Church  
Webster Masonic Lodge #538  
Hunt Real Estate Corp  
Webster United Church of Christ  
Taylor Rental  
Boy Scout Troup 363  
Duffy's Duffers  
Webster Rotary  
Women's Club of Webster  
Webster Presbyterian Church  
Webster Baptist Church  
Webster United Methodist Church  
Webster Volunteer Fire Department

## Our Dynamic Duo



One of the really special things about being a part of WCCH is that you meet absolutely wonderful people. Wednesday evening volunteers husband & wife team Lynne

MacConnell & Len Franklin have been a part of our Home collectively for 17 years.

Lynne first met Len at the Bayview YMCA, through his wife, Eileen. She was a needle pointer, as is Lynne. They both enjoyed sharing the fine points of the art. When Eileen passed on in 2003, and Lynne's husband Gene died a year later, Len and Lynne reached out to one another to talk about their spouses, their grief, and their faith. Shortly thereafter Len moved to Texas to be closer to his family. As time went by, however, he couldn't forget about his friend up north. In February, 2006, he invited Lynne to the Super Bowl, and she accepted. And you guessed it, the rest is history. They were married here in Webster, in Lynne's backyard the following October.

Since their marriage this duo has been a poster couple for helping others. They volunteered after Katrina in New Orleans. (Lynne is a nurse. Len is handy with construction.) Through Hope Unites they have gone on mission trips to India & Kenya. They have traveled to Nicaragua for Project Chacocente. They traveled to Binghamton after the flood there to aid in the cleanup effort. This month they will go to Mission Central in Mechanicsville, PA, to help assemble health kits and flood buckets.

In their leisure time they enjoy gardening and their six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Len loves to golf, and Lynne continues to enjoy needlepoint. This Dynamic Duo is an inspiration to all of us!!

### Powers' Points

This past year we lost over 30 years of experience from our board. Bob Anderson, Deke Beh, & Kay Coleman all reached their term limits (a maximum of 3 terms of 3 years each). In looking back at their service, all I can say is WOW!

Bob began doing resident care, but soon found his niche working with financial reporting for the Home. He was key to developing our current reporting system. He ran our successful annual appeals for many years. He has spent the last 6 months assisting us in moving to a new reporting system with a new

bookkeeper. (Don Young will take on the Financial Secretary duties starting this month.)



(l. to r. Janet Brower, Executive Director, Deke Beh, Bob Anderson, Kay Coleman, Randy Powers, Board Chairman)

Deke has worked at the Home since it opened. He mowed the lawn, did resident care, and, for many years has served as our treasurer. He was always willing to take on any job that needed to be done, so it is hard to find something he did not know about.

Kay began working at WCCH even before it opened. She provided administrative, computer, and secretarial skills. After we opened she also provided resident care. Now, Kay quietly comes in weekly and does data entry, typing letters, and has been the board secretary for years.

I asked each of them to give me a reflection about their years at WCCH. Bob – "It takes many different talents to keep the Home running. I feel good about being a part of the effort."

Deke – "It is rewarding to think of all the people we have supported in their last 90 days of life."

Kay – "I enjoy supporting our mission to provide a safe and loving environment for our residents and their families."

I thank these three gracious people who have given hundreds and hundreds of hours just because they care. I also thank all of you, who each in your own way make WCCH the wonderful place it is!

### Wonderful Wacky Wednesday

One of the wonderful aspects of being a part of our Home is the ingenuity of the people involved. About 3 years ago a shy resident was

hesitant to leave the security of her bedroom. In an effort to get her out & into the living room/kitchen area where she could socialize with others, the staff and volunteers created a delicious lunch and urged her to attend. The plan worked, and Wacky Wednesday was born. The lady had a wonderful time socializing and sampling the delicious food. What initially was good for the resident turned out to also be fun for all the participants around the table that day. Approximately 150 Wednesdays later, each week you will find a jovial group of people, (staff, residents, volunteers, & nurses) gathered around the kitchen table enjoying each other's company and delicious recipes. Sometimes there are 5 people; one day there were 12! Volunteer Marian Langren recalls, "There never has been a time we haven't had enough food."

One day, a lady who was lost came to the Home to ask for directions. She was invited to stay for lunch, and she accepted. Another day a husband of one of our residents joined the group. After finishing his lunch he commented, "This group shows me that not all the angels are in heaven yet." Thank you, Don Gibson. What a lovely compliment for our Home and the Wacky Wednesday group.



*"Compassion is sometimes the fatal capacity for feeling what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy for you too."*

*Frederick Buechner  
(1926- ) USA*