

Comforting News...

...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume XV Spring, 2015

Executive Director Update



Thank you is a sentiment that is not expressed enough or it is said too much without being sincere. For fear of not saying thank you enough, I would like to highlight our recent successes and express my gratitude.

Thanks to Joseph Aldridge and his Boy Scout Troup #362 for assisting Joe with his Eagle Scout Project that benefitted WCCH. His organization and coordination of a Sunday afternoon coffee house provided us with 4 large boxes filled with paper products, cleaning supplies, and jar mix supplies as well as a number of gift cards from local stores to replenish our supplies when needed. It was a great day!

The Remembrance Ceremony was beautiful. The Chapel at Webster Presbyterian Church was the perfect setting. We had over 75 people attend from 12 different families who had been in the Home over the pasts 2 ½ years. The committee of Eleanor Scott, Kathy Whitlock, and Kathy Fulton did a great job organizing the event. Thank

you to these women, our cookie bakers and the kitchen crew at church.

The 2015 Compassion & Fashion Show was phenomenal!! Laura Haseley and the amazingly talented women on her committee put on the best show WCCH has ever experienced. It was a fun filled day of clothes from *Chandeliers and All About Eve*, a silent auction that included MacKenzie Child, Vera Bradley, local artist's work, and many dinner and entertainment gift cards.



The final accounting credits the committee with raising just over \$25,000. Thank you to the wonderful group of women who created this awesome event.

I also wish to thank our amazing gardener, Bob Nash, for organizing and managing the WCCH plant sale. Through his efforts we raised over \$1800 this year. A giant thanks to Bob.

Lastly, we are so grateful to welcome 12 new volunteers that completed training in our May class and were immediately placed on shifts that have helped fill some holes in the schedule on weekends and early

mornings. Thank you for your interest and service.

"Life holds so many simple blessings; each day brings its own individual wonder."

John McLeod

Two Peas in a Pod



If ever there were "two peas in a pod" volunteers, Joan Ferguson & Sharon Blackman fill the bill perfectly. They have been working the Tuesday evening 7-11 shift for about 4 years. They both have medical backgrounds; Joan is a nurse, Sharon is a physical therapist. Over the years, while using their combined skills to aid our residents, they have become fast friends. While the residents are sleeping or visiting with evening guests, these two neat ladies get caught up on each others' lives. They chat about new restaurants (Jeremiahs in Penfield is worth returning to), share photos (Sharon's new granddaughter, Brianna, born this past December, is absolutely darling), exchange

news from the past week, and discuss future travel plans.

Each of them have had memorable experiences at our Home. Joan recalls a male resident who was both grouchy and rude. "He never had a good thing to say about anyone." One day after being there for some time, Joan says, "He grabbed my hand and said 'Thank you' and gave me a kiss on the cheek." Never underestimate the power of TLC!

Sharon's memorable moment involved a different type of resident. Sophie was a positive, upbeat lady with a wonderful sense of humor. One day Sharon asked her if she wanted to put on some new PJs. With a wry smile and a twinkle in her eye, she laughed and said, "No – because if I go quick they can return them to Kohls."

Both ladies had hospice experience before coming to the Home. Joan's mother was in hospice when she died. Sharon worked with hospice patients at RGH. They acknowledge that sometimes it is sad work, especially when a resident is young. And at times it is difficult not to become too emotionally involved. Yet they both continue to feel a calling to comfort residents and their families. Because of people like Sharon and Joan, our Home is the amazing place that it is. Thank you, ladies!

Welcome Home, Randy



After 73 days and over 3000 miles and travel through 8 states on a bicycle, our WCCH board chairman, Randy Powers is home safe and sound. "It was one heck of an adventure!"

When asked what was the most beautiful part of his journey, Randy replied, "The people – people who opened their house to me, people in fast food places who just wanted to know what I was doing, and people who stopped me on the road to talk. I found that 99.5% of people are wonderful – we just have to go meet them. You can't do that on the interstate." Would he take another similar journey? He answered, "YES, if all goes well I would do another long ride tomorrow. Life is good, and I really enjoy the world at 10 miles per hour."

A Blizzard Comes in May



Resident Barbara Muszynski has always loved horses. She has owned three over the years. She commented recently, "I never married because I found the company of horses better than the company of boys!"

The Social Work Dept. of Lifetime Care learned of Barbara's passion for horses and hatched a plan. Since they couldn't get Barb to a horse stable, they arranged for a pony to visit Barb. "Blizzard" was

brought to the Home by her owner, Beth Thomas, of Bristol, NY. He was taken to her bedside where she welcomed him with open arms. It was a special moment, not only for Barb, but for all the people who were lucky enough to see the look on Barb's face that day.

And a Tree Shall Grow

On June 9, 2015, a flowering dogwood tree was dedicated to our friend and co-worker, LauraCochi. The tree was planted next to the gazebo where Laura loved to sit.



Laura was part of the nursing staff at the Home almost since the beginning. Her shining smile will remain with us always.

Dates to Remember

Mandatory Skills & Procedures refresher:

Sept. 15th, 9-10am
Sept. 17th, 1-2 pm
Sept. 19th, 9-10 am
Sept. 23rd, 7-8 pm
Sept. 24th, 7-8 pm

Fall Pot Luck Dinner:

Liberty Lodge on Tuesday, Sept. 29th. Save the date!

Lift Your Spirits – Wine and Beer Tasting

Eagle Vale Golf Club
October 16, 2015 – 7:00 pm