

# Comforting News...

...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume XXIII

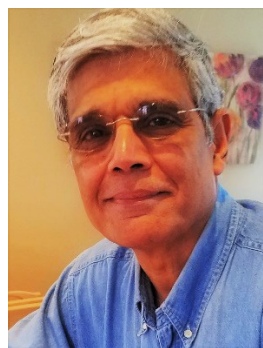
Winter, 2018

## Executive Director Update



In August 2017, WCCH welcomed four new members to the Board of Directors. They have brought new energy which has added diversity in thought and insight and has afforded the returning members the opportunity to re-focus our priorities for the future. I'd like to introduce our new members:

**Abde Kapadia:** I first met Abde and his wife Usha at a strategic planning focus group. He expressed an interest in volunteering in some capacity. Shortly thereafter, he attended volunteer training and now has a weekly shift doing resident care. He is retired from Xerox



after 20+ years of experience in project management, finance and IT. Abde has been instrumental in helping us decipher our plans for a new database. He also serves on the finance committee.

**Sharon Kruger:** Sharon has described herself as a "professional volunteer/fundraiser". She has been a stay-at-home mom, who recently started her own business helping people organize their personal belongings and downsize. She has supported her children's



school as a PTA member, and fundraiser for various school events. Additionally she is an Eagle Scout coach and merit badge counselor. She has a background in marketing promotions and will be assisting WCCH's development committee.

**Rick LaDue:** For the first time in our board history, we have invited a pastor from a local church to participate. After serving in the southern

tier for many years, Rick has returned to the Rochester area as the lead pastor at the United Methodist Church of Webster. His calm demeanor and focus



on pastoral care is a great addition to our board.

**Barb Darbey:** When I arrived at WCCH (Feb., 2013), Barb was on the board. She took a hiatus to care for her mom and young grandchildren. She has remained a supporter and counsel to me while away from the board. When approached



with the idea of re-joining the board, timing was right and she said yes. She also was quick to

take on the role of treasurer of the corporation after our devastating loss of Dave Knauss. Barb spent her entire professional career in the non-profit sector and is a great asset to our organization.

### A 3 Act Play

Act 1: She is born in Rochester, NY, in 1928. She graduates from John Marshall High School where she fondly remembers being a cheer leader for “most of my 4 years.” At age 17, former resident, Ilene Lustig, leaves for New York City to attend The Feagan School of Drama and Radio. “In those days there was no TV, so drama was really big.”



Act 2: In 1947 Ilene graduates from The Feagan School and is hired as an actress at the Barbizon Theater in NYC performing in a host of productions including *Another Part of the Forest*, *The Royal Family*, and *Dinner at Eight*. During the same period of time she is hired as an actress at the Foothill Play House at Boundbrook, NJ. “It was very exciting - some of the happiest times of my life!”

Act 3: In 1950 she returns to Rochester and meets Sonny Lustig, a man who is 15 years her senior. He is the owner of Le Frois Foods in Webster, NY. He asks her out. She says yes,

but “only if my mother and father can go too.” He agrees. Two weeks later Ilene recalls, “We sort of eloped. We were married at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo with my parents and relatives looking on.”

“Lots of people thought our marriage wouldn’t last, but it did.” Ilene and Sonny were married for almost 50 years before he died in 1994. Together they raised three sons; Bob, a retired clinical psychologist; Doug, a lawyer; and Aaron, an actor. It is Aaron who this past Christmas put two scrapbooks together celebrating his mother’s life, including her years as an actress. Like mother, like son. Job well done.

Note: Because of Ilene’s improving health condition, she is now a resident at The Jewish Home where she welcomes your cards and visits.

### A Time To Sow



At times a person, or a group of people, are so embedded in an organization’s life that it is hard to imagine the organization existing without them.

In 2000 Dave was a weekly volunteer at Pines of Peace in Ontario, NY. One day the head nurse, Cheryl Haak, said “Look at this large stack of folders, Dave. They represent all the

people who need a hospice home. Why don’t you build one in Webster!” And the seed was planted. Dave, with the support of Kathy and a small group of like-minded individuals spent almost two years going to any group who would listen to their idea; gathering support for the Home, raising funds, and finding a location.

Since the Home opened in 2002, Kathy and Dave have been participants in a variety of roles (board chairman, advisory board) but none more important than their 15 year commitment to weekly patient care.

Some interesting facts about Kathy and Dave:

\* Dave is a graduate of RIT and the General Motors Institute. He worked for 32 years for the Rochester Gas & Electric Co. He teaches two bible study classes and currently drives the wheel chair van part time for Maplewood Nursing Home. In his spare time he enjoys woodworking.

\* Kathy is a Potsdam SUNY graduate. She is the organist at the United Methodist Church of Webster and teaches piano students in their Corning Park home each week. She loves to cook, and all who know her LOVE to eat what she has prepared.

Both Kathy and Dave enjoy gardening – no surprise as they do such a wonderful job “planting seeds.” Thank you, Kathy & Dave for contributing so much to this community you call home.

