

Comforting News...

...told with care

Webster Comfort Care Home

Volume XXIX

Winter, 2020

Executive Director Update



The home has experienced a very difficult time over the past few weeks with the loss of 2 cherished individuals; one, a major supporter of our Webster community, the other, one of our own. I have had the opportunity to receive praise and gratitude from many family members of our two residents.

In addition, the word "proud" has been used. "You should be proud of the work the staff and volunteers did for our family". A new volunteer working the morning that Sandy passed commented that I should be proud of what the staff and volunteers did that morning for Sandy and her family. I have always thought of pride as a self-serving emotion and question my motives when feeling proud. I found a positive description of pride; a state of holding another in high esteem, like being a parent proud of a

child's accomplishments. For this article, I am choosing to use this description. I am proud to be associated with WCCH. I hold in high esteem each and every one of you; volunteers, staff and overnight aides. It is my extreme privilege to work with such an outstanding group of compassionate, loving and dedicated people. I can say without hesitation, I am proud to represent WCCH and all of you to our community partners, sponsors and donors. WCCH is held in high regard in the community because of your service.

Thank you for everything you do to support WCCH, our residents and families.

"Compassion is sometimes the fatal capacity for feeling what it is like 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-)

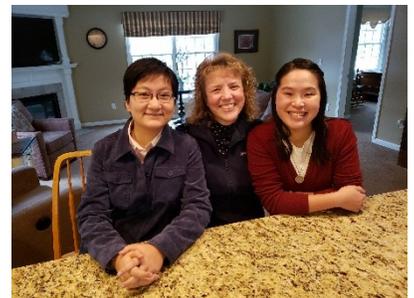
Deafness Not a Problem

Resident care volunteer Karen Martz (Friday 7-11 AM) was born deaf. At age 2 her parents enrolled her in an intensive 5 days a week hearing and speech program in Buffalo. At age 5 she was

proficient at reading lips and entered a mainstream kindergarten. She graduated from high school, entered RIT, and graduated with a degree in biotechnology. She was hired by Kodak as a polymer technician.

In 1988 she met and married Guy Martz. In 2001 they adopted a 15-month girl from China they named Julianna. In 2004 the Chinese International Adoption Agency called and asked, "Would you be willing to adopt a deaf child?" Karen said, "How could we say no?" The good news was that Bethany, a 17-month girl, was misdiagnosed. She could hear just fine!

Karen home schooled both girls. They both learned to play the violin and the piano and sang for years in the Eastman School of Music choir.



While Karen was acting as mother and teacher she was also volunteering as a caregiver to others. Before coming to WCCH she volunteered at Journey

Home in Greece for over a decade. Since 2013 she has volunteered at our Home, often bringing her girls to help with a variety of activities, such as assisting with resident care and serving at spaghetti dinners. Watching their mother perform her hospice duties has influenced the girls' life choices. Julianna is enrolled in the nursing program at Monroe Community College. Bethany, a senior, will follow in her sister's footsteps this spring.

Thank you, Martz ladies, for being willing to share such a unique story! It is an inspiration to learn about your life's journey.

? F.A.Qs. ?

What was the total cost of buying the Klem Rd. land and building the Comfort Care Home?

- a. \$4,000 b.\$40,000
- c. \$100,000 d.\$140,000

Answer at end of 3rd column.

Jelly, Anyone??



One day, a gentleman called the home. "Is this the place that sells pepper jelly? My wife tasted it at a friend's

home, and that's all she wants for her birthday." WCCCH aims to please! Later that day the gentleman happily left our Home with 6 jars of pepper jelly.

Those 6 jars are part of the 4,564 jams and jellies Don Fisher has made and sold over the past decade. His wife Joann, with the help of a variety of young people, has put together and sold 4,597 soup and cookie mixes. Because of their amazing dedication to this project the Home has garnered proceeds totaling more than \$46,000.

Now, the couple are retiring, although, Don says he is open to making special orders. After all, there still may be more husbands out there looking for the perfect gift for their wives. 😊

Thank you Joann and Don for such a long and dedicated effort to benefit the Home. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Winter Comfort Food

When our bookkeeper, Don Young, retired from Kodak he began a new career as "head cook" at the Young household. It wasn't long before he fell in love with Slow Cooker Cooking. He comments, "Slow cookers are great! The recipes are usually easy, and it's hard to make a mistake." This recipe, served at the Volunteer Fall Potluck Dinner was one of his first culinary efforts and has become a family favorite. Enjoy!

Favorite Chili

- 2 16 oz. cans red kidney beans, drained
- 2 14 ½ oz. cans tomatoes
- 2# coarsely ground chuck, browned and drained
- 2 medium onions, coarsely chopped
- 1 green pepper, coarsely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 to 3 tbsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. cumin
- Salt to taste
- ½ cup ketchup

Put all ingredients except ketchup in crock pot, stir once and cook on low 10 to 12 hours. (or cook on high for 5 to 6 hours.) Add ketchup during last hour. Garnish with shredded cheese and/or sour cream.



F.A.Q. Answer

The cost to purchase the Klem Rd. property and build the Home was just \$4,000! All the land was donated. Gerber Homes contracted to build the Home, and asked a large group of sub-contractors to donate materials and services. Talk about a community coming together for a wonderful cause!!

