

A TOP HOSPITAL IN NEW ENGLAND

H E A L T H

Brattleboro Reformer

June 13, 2014

TOWNSHEND, VT – Grace Cottage Hospital has been named one of New England’s Top 50 Hospitals based on patient satisfaction, according to a report recently published by GoLocalProv. Grace Cottage was rated #14 of all New England hospitals in the ranking, the highest among Vermont hospitals.

Hospitals do not apply for this award, but are selected for this prestigious annual list based on a scoring process that incorporates Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) standardized surveys completed by patients. 88% of Grace Cottage’s patients who completed the

surveys said that “Doctors always communicate well,” and the same percentage said that, “Nurses always communicate well.”

“Everyone who works here at Grace Cottage goes beyond patient care,” said Grace Cottage CEO Roger Allbee, “and we are pleased that patients recognize this when they complete their patient satisfaction surveys.”

Grace Cottage Hospital, Copley Hospital, Mt. Ascutney Hospital, and Southwestern Vermont Medical Center were the four Vermont hospitals recognized in the Top 50 listing. For more information about the survey, go to www.golocalprov.com.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN SENIOR HEALTHCARE/ AGING GRACEFULLY

VERMONT IS GETTING OLDER by the moment: the state’s elderly population will increase by an astounding 42% in Vermont by 2017; currently Vermont is the second oldest state (in terms of age of residents) in the nation, topped only by Maine.

Thus it is no surprise that many of Grace Cottage’s patients have asked for help as they strive to age in place. Grace Cottage Hospital recently submitted a grant application to the Fanny Holt Ames and Edna Louise Holt Fund at Bank of America, and was awarded \$75,000 to determine if a Center of Excellence in Senior Healthcare/ Aging Gracefully would be feasible in Windham County. After a proposal and bidding process, Stroudwater, a health care consulting firm with an office in Portland, Maine, was selected to conduct the feasibility study over the next few months.

DR. KENNETH RUDD JOINS GRACE COTTAGE STAFF

GRACE COTTAGE HOSPITAL’S newest ER physician has fit right in with Grace Cottage’s culture. “I have always been family and community medicine oriented,” said Dr. Rudd, who is board certified in Family Medicine. “I love serving people through medicine, and I have found a gem in Grace Cottage.”

A native of Fairfield, Connecticut, and a graduate of Princeton University with a degree in Electrical Engineering, Dr. Rudd received his MD and Master of Public Health degrees from the University of Connecticut. After completing an Academic Medicine Fellowship in Tulsa, Oklahoma, he received a Master of Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College.

Dr. Rudd is fluent in Mandarin and practiced medicine in China from 2004-2011, where he helped to start up a government-certified Family Medicine Residency program and partnered with Chinese associates to further China’s national health care reform. He is also an Assistant Professor with the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

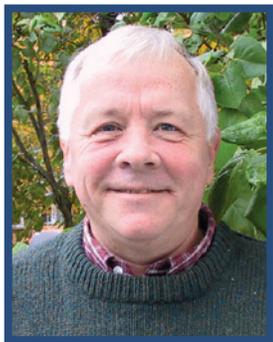
“We owe it to our community to provide all the services they need and want.”

“We owe it to our community to provide all the services they need and want,” said Dr. Robert Backus. “We are challenging ourselves and others to find new and better ways of helping our seniors (including me!) age gracefully.”



The Rudd family (l to r): Andrew, Rebekah, Timothy, Ken, Joseph, Wendy holding Pauline, and Danielle.

A WORD FROM THE CEO



I AM VERY PLEASED to report that we had an excellent FY14 (which ended on September 30) and Vermont's Green Mountain Care Board has approved Grace Cottage's FY15 budget. Our finances are solidly in the black, and donations were up over the prior year (to almost \$900,000). Also, we're extremely energized about our recent Fanny Holt Ames and Edna Louise Holt Fund grant to explore the possibility

of becoming a Center of Excellence for Senior Healthcare (see story page 1).

Windham County has one of the fastest aging populations in the United States, and there is a need to address aging issues in a more holistic way, so we at Grace Cottage are leading this initiative. We've received a tremendous amount of positive feedback from our patients, our community, and organizations such as the Vermont Community Foundation and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center regarding the proposed Center of Excellence for Senior Healthcare. We've asked our consulting firm, Stroudwater, to think outside of the box on this one. Our intent is not to copy other programs, but to develop a Center that could work as an effective, comprehensive, and financially viable model for other rural health care organizations.

Health care is an ever-evolving arena and, to use a health care analogy, we are keeping our fingers on the pulse of changes that may impact Grace Cottage Hospital so that we can be proactive rather than reactive.

On August 7, 2014, Grace Cottage Hospital marked its 65th birthday. As we look back on our long tradition and look forward to the next 65 years, we are grateful that so many employees, volunteers, patients, community members, and donors share our passion for going beyond patient care.

Roger Allbee, CEO

NATALIE HARDING PA-C

CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT Natalie Harding joined Grace Cottage Family Health in early July and is currently accepting new patients.

A graduate of The Cooper Union in New York City, Natalie earned her Master of Physician Assistant Studies from Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire. She worked in Greenfield, Massachusetts, before coming to Grace Cottage Hospital.

A resident of Brattleboro for the

past 15 years, Natalie particularly enjoys print-making during her free time.

"What I appreciate about being here is that Grace Cottage is full of people who are committed to providing excellent patient care," said Natalie. "I also like that we serve a rural population and we are such an integral part of the community."



After 34 years as Grace Cottage Hospital's Social Worker & Discharge Planner, Carol VanderTuin has retired, with plans to spend her days in warmer climates (North Carolina and Vieques, Puerto Rico). At her retirement party in Grace Cottage's cafeteria, Carol's co-workers expressed their appreciation for her decades of service by presenting her with a scrapbook, quilt, pillow, and necklace all created by Grace Cottage employees.

A visitor says thanks:

"You certainly have very caring and experienced people on staff at Grace Cottage Hospital."

Christine Jagisch
DADE CITY, FL AND JAMAICA, VT



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The mission of Grace Cottage Hospital is to provide excellence in health care and well-being, putting people first. The vision for the future is to be the standard for patient care.

WISHES GRANTED...

- ♥ The Brattleboro Country Club Ladies Golf Association donated part of the proceeds from their annual golf tournament to Grace Cottage Hospital's Hospice Suite.
- ♥ Jean Danilow contributed the funds for the purchase of a Blast Chiller for the Dietary Department, so that foods can quickly be brought to a lower temperature for storage.
- ♥ Ernie & Sheila Friedli donated funds for the purchase of a variety of equipment for several areas of the hospital, and for new chairs and a table on the Hospice Porch.
- ♥ Stanley Knapp made a gift for the purchase of a standing push cart for pediatric patients; Greg & Susan Doak made a donation soon thereafter for the same equipment and, with their permission, their gift was used for the purchase of a flip-away lap tray for left-handed patients.
- ♥ River Valley Credit Union donated the funds to purchase a wall-mounted diagnostic unit for Grace Cottage Family Health. Memorial donations received for Jim Faas and Fanny Mantel were used, at the request of Jim's and Fanny's families, for the purchase of two additional wall mounted diagnostic units in the providers' exam rooms.

A visitor says thanks:

“ My four-year-old grandson had an asthma attack while we were at our home in Windham this summer. Our family was greatly pleased with the wonderful people that not only took care of my grandson, but made his sisters comfortable with cookies and milk, coloring books, and crayons. Everyone was compassionate and very friendly. Thank you for all your support and comfort; my grandson is now doing fine.”

Joann Rogers
NORWALK, CT

- ♥ The West River Westies made a generous donation for patient care at Grace Cottage, proceeds of the raffle they held at Bald Mountain Campground in July.
- ♥ Bill Tabell made a donation, in memory of his beloved wife, Leona, for the purchase of a trampoline for use by Rehab patients as part of their therapy exercises. His donation also included other Rehab and Dietary department equipment.

A grateful patient writes:

“ Thank you all for your wonderful care during my visit to your Emergency Room in May. It was so good to see so many people there to care for me when I was feeling very ill, and thank you for letting my family members be there with me.”

Ellen Archambault
LONDONDERRY, VT

WISHES MADE...

- ♥ An additional AmbuaScope, a flexible intubation tube, is needed for the Emergency Room. \$3,500.
- ♥ A Critikon Dinamap to provide accurate vital signs readings is needed in the inpatient Rehab department. \$3,400.
- ♥ The inpatient Rehab Department needs a super pole system (\$194), a transfer aid (\$40), weights (\$40), a shoulder abduction ladder (\$90), and left and right arm rests for stroke patients in wheelchairs, \$280 each.
- ♥ The Dietary Department needs a case of commercial, heavy-duty chef knives. \$130.
- ♥ The Diagnostic Imaging Department is in need of 10" x 12" cassette protectors, (\$600), and an armless stool with anti-microbial vinyl (\$250).
- ♥ Housekeeping/Laundry needs a small heavy-duty top-loading washing machine and dryer. \$575 each.

Call (802) 365-9109 for additional Wish List items.

GRACE COTTAGE VOLUNTEERS HONORED



Many of Grace Cottage's volunteer Grace Greeters, couriers, and office volunteers were able to attend this year's summer BBQ in celebration of their services. Pictured here, left to right: first row: Jerry Farmer; second row: Pat Ballou, Dona Robinson, Nancy Santilli; third row: Liz Harrison (volunteer coordinator), Joan Lyman, Polly Lawrence, June Dibble, Marilyn LaBarr, Jean Danilow, Louise Chevalier, Helen Eddy, Pat Weisbrich, back row: Gene Horton, Galen Pinkham, Tom Lyman, Curt Lawrence, Ian Harrison, Phil Dibble, Lorraine Farmer, Paul Robinson, Donnell Camp, Al Weisbrich, Harvey Traison.

TOUR DE GRACE

THE 9TH ANNUAL *TOUR DE GRACE* bicycle rally, from Stratton Mountain to Grace Cottage Hospital, was held in perfect weather on July 12 and raised almost \$6,000, after expenses, for patient care at Grace Cottage.

A total of 105 bicyclists, ranging in age from 4 years old to 76 years young, participated in the 17.7 mile ride. Special thanks go to the many, many volunteers who helped to keep everything rolling smoothly throughout the event. Sponsors who make *Tour de Grace* possible include Solstice at Stratton



(Event Sponsor), D& K's Jamaica Grocery, Equipe Sport, Howard Printing, Stratton Village Square Shops, Stratton Mountain Resort, and Three Mountain Inn. Cota & Cota provided bottled water for riders. Kathryn Holzman of West Wardsboro won the silver Stratton Bear key fob donated by Von Bargaen's Jewelry of Stratton. For the first time ever, a raffle was held for a new 24-speed Trek hybrid bike donated by Tony & Mimi Cooke of North Scituate, Rhode Island, and Norm's Ski & Bike Shop in Keene, New Hampshire. The winner was Patricia Morrill of Guilford, Vermont. Save Saturday, July 11, 2015, for the 10th annual *Tour de Grace*.



FIFTH ANNUAL TEE IT UP FOR HEALTH

THE FIFTH ANNUAL *Tee It Up for Health* Golf Benefit was a tremendous success, thanks to the generous support of 22 sponsors, 30 teams of golfers, employees, auction donors, and 11 volunteers.

Held at The Hermitage Club at Haystack Mountain in Wilmington, Vermont, on Saturday, June 21, the event raised almost \$25,000 for Grace Cottage's Patient Care Fund after expenses, and the Online Auction brought in over \$13,500.

The winning team was David Allbee, Lester Lynch, Martin Hill, and Chris Cobb; second place team was John Streeter, Coop Bills, LindaJane Parson, and Scott Cleary. Jim Lindsay, Mark Lindsay, Doug Danemiller, and Dan Neviackas were in third place.

Please support our generous sponsors:

EVENT: The Richards Group & The Hermitage Club at Haystack Mountain
HOLE-IN-ONE SPONSORS: Brattleboro Ford and The Hermitage Club at Haystack Mountain

PLATINUM SPONSOR: Elizabeth Walker and Eileen Ranslow (also the volunteer organizers of the event)

SILVER SPONSORS: Andy & Linda Barber, Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, Lawrence & Lober Electric Services, Multiview Corporation, People's United Bank, Physician Toxicology Lab

HOLE SPONSORS: Dead River Company, Five Maples (formerly Mailrite), Gordon Hickey Alignment & Repair, Howard Printing, Northeast Delta Dental, Primmer

Piper Eggeston & Cramer, Putney General Store & Pharmacy, Southern Vermont Podiatry, West River Family Dental, The Windham Foundation
BUSINESS SPONSORS: Advance Notice Advertising, Lawton Flooring, Morse Farm, Patriot Insurance.

Save the date for the 6th Annual *Tee It Up for Health*: June 13, 2015, at The Hermitage Club at Haystack Mountain.



(l to r): Chris & Jim Bogdany of Stratford, Connecticut, and Fred & Betsy DeFinis of Norwalk, Connecticut, whoop it up for the camera at Grace Cottage Hospital's fifth annual *Tee It Up for Health*.

A grateful patient writes:

“I was born at Grace Cottage Hospital and when I was 3 ½ years old, I broke my pelvis. I spent six weeks in traction at Grace Cottage, then six weeks of learning to walk again at home. I am grateful to say that not only have I had no ill effects from that accident, but I was even able, ultimately, to birth 4 healthy children. Keep that small town hospital going!”

Susan Doak
WOOLWICH, ME

AUXILIARY NEWS



Fair Day Chairperson Stan Holt takes a run around the Townshend Common on his scooter as the bagpipers prepare for the Birthday Parade. The New England Circus Arts performers rehearse behind him.



Homemade ice cream, maple cotton candy, balloons, face painting....who could ask for more?



The Cotton Candy girls always have fun and decorate their booth beautifully.

GRACE COTTAGE HOSPITAL would like to thank the Grace Cottage Hospital Auxiliary volunteers and the community for another highly successful Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day, held on August 2. The gross proceeds of Fair Day this year totalled over \$75,000, thanks to the generosity of so many who give their donations of time,

energy, expertise, and items for the many booths and very successful Auction. (The Auction alone raised over \$33,000, thanks to Kit Martin and Art Monet of Townshend Auction Gallery, who do such a wonderful job every year.)

All net proceeds from this year's event (\$48,000!) will be used to purchase new equipment for Grace Cottage Hospital, including: a Stryker Stretcher for the Emergency Department, a StatSpin Centrifuge for the lab, a Hi-Lo patient bed for the hospital, a bariatric Hi-Lo table for the Physical Therapy Department, a Sofia Reader to detect influenza virus for the physician practice, a commercial refrigerator for the Dietary Department, a commercial gas dryer and vacuum cleaners for Housekeeping, a new tile floor for the stock room, and a Bobcat Loader for the Maintenance Department.

Grace Cottage Hospital Auxiliary President and Hospital Fair Day Chairperson Stan Holt has announced that he is taking a well-deserved retirement from these two volunteer positions. Stan and his wife, Marge, have devoted countless hours to the Auxiliary, year-round, for the past 14 years, and we will be forever grateful for their service. Fair Day wouldn't be the tremendous success that it is without Stan and Marge's very hard work throughout the year, every year since 2000. And neither of them ever stopped smiling (honest!).

Townshend resident and former Grace Cottage Hospital employee Laura Smith has generously and enthusiastically agreed to take on both of these positions, effective immediately. Stan Holt will be the Vice President of the Auxiliary for the upcoming year as he mentors Laura in her new positions.

On behalf of all of Grace Cottage Hospital's patients and employees, thank you to Stan, Marge, Laura, and the rest of the Grace Cottage Hospital Auxiliary for their impressive gift of time and effort put into Hospital Fair Day. Save the date of August 1, 2015, to attend next year's Hospital Fair Day (always held on the first Saturday in August). And contact Laura Smith at (802) 365-9992 if you would like to become a Grace Cottage Hospital Auxiliary volunteer.

— Andrea Seaton,
Grace Cottage Foundation



Jenny & Tom Connor of Jamaica and their team of volunteers always do a wonderful job at the Face Painting and Costume Booth, as this fairgoer demonstrates.



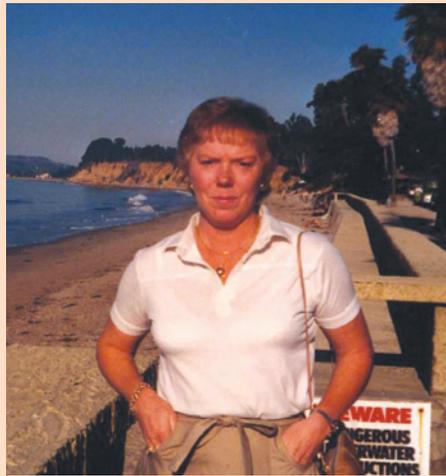
Volunteers assemble to bake over 100 pies in the Grace Cottage Hospital kitchen the day before Fair Day. Apricot, apple, blueberry, peach, pecan, raspberry, and strawberry-rhubarb pies, are all fresh and delicious.

THE BARBARA B. CRAWFORD Endowment Fund has been established at Grace Cottage Hospital by Robert Crawford of Grafton, in thanks for the care that Barbara received at Grace Cottage during the last few years of her life.

“The staff, nurses and everyone else were incredibly caring and supportive during this difficult time. It is hard to imagine not establishing an Endowment Fund, given the wonderful way Barbara was treated,” said Bob Crawford.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Barbara was a buyer at Henri Bendel when she met Bob on Fire Island, and the pair were married in 1966. They lived in Brooklyn Heights and when Bob’s employer, Chubb Insurance, moved Bob to San Francisco, Barbara became a buyer for Macy’s in San Francisco until their daughter, Jennifer, was born. Chubb moved the Crawfords to Portland, Oregon, in 1970, where their son, Perry, was born. Two years later, Minneapolis was their port of call for Chubb, where Bob and Barbara purchased their first home. However, when Chubb called Bob to a job at corporate headquarters in Short Hills, New Jersey, they eagerly accepted.

“If it sounds like we were corporate vagabonds, that’s an apt description,” said Bob. “For Barbara, each move was like a new start, a new city with new friends and challenges. After these early moves, I finally figured out how to be promoted without uprooting Barbara and the kids. From 1976 to 1992, we lived only in Michigan (3 ½ years) and Pittsburgh (12 years), though my responsibilities changed a number of times.”



Barbara B. Crawford

When Barbara was diagnosed with diabetes in 1978, she treated her condition with diet, blood-sugar monitoring, and insulin dosages. In 1996, Barbara began experiencing renal failure and she received a transplant. When Bob retired in 1998, the couple purchased a home in Grafton (Barbara’s idea), and moved there to live year-round in 1999. Until her death in 2006, she was very active in the Grafton community.

“Barbara traveled so far to get to Vermont and, because of her diabetes, her stay here was way too short,” said Bob. “But everyone who knew her remembers her, despite her medical issues and complications, as a warm, wonderful, funny, strong, and smiling person. I know that she would be very pleased that the Barbara B. Crawford Endowment Fund at Grace Cottage has been established to help ensure that, long into the future, others can enjoy the kind of care that she so appreciated at Grace Cottage Hospital.”

YOUR GENEROSITY

YOUR SUPPORT of this small community hospital helps to ensure that the patients of the West River Valley continue to receive professional, compassionate care. As Dr. Maurice Geurts has often been heard to say, “Every hospital says that the patient comes first, but at Grace Cottage it’s really true.” Grace Cottage is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation so all giving is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

WAYS TO GIVE:

Monthly Donations: Many people ask us to charge their credit card \$10-\$100 monthly or quarterly, and find that this is an easy and convenient way to donate; others ask their bank to automatically send a check every month. At the end of the calendar year, we send you a cumulative donation receipt for tax purposes.

Matching Gifts: Currently, we receive matching gifts from employees and retirees of GeneralRe, IBM, Intuit, Pfizer, Prudential, State Street, and UBS. If your employer matches gifts that you make to charities, this is a wonderful way to double your gift.

Charitable Gift Annuities: This can be a very attractive fixed investment opportunity that also gives you tax benefits. Quarterly payouts vary from 4.5% to 9%, depending on your age. Any of our many annuitant beneficiaries would be happy to speak with you about their experience with Grace Cottage Hospital’s Charitable Gift Annuity program.

Planned Gifts: Grace Cottage’s Endowment Fund has grown 40% over the past four years, thanks to generous gifts, excellent stewardship, and the bull market. Our current endowment is almost \$6,000,000, and our goal is to increase that by 30% within the next two years. A gift of stock, cash, or a bequest is a great way to leave a lasting legacy at Grace Cottage.

For more information about any of these ways to give, call (802) 365-9109 or e-mail info@gracecottage.org. Your inquiry will be completely confidential unless you request otherwise.

A grateful family member writes:

“I want to thank everyone for all the prayers and hugs during the most difficult time of losing my mom. The nursing staff and doctors were wonderful to my mom and family.”

Marcia Horrigan
BROOKLINE, VT

IN TRIBUTE – EFFIE CHAMBERLIN



After a lengthy and very courageous battle with lung cancer, Effie Bartlett Chamberlin died on July 9, 2014, surrounded by her family.

One of the pillars of Grace Cottage Hospital, Effie worked at Grace Cottage for a total of 48 years. She retired in 2000, was called back into service, and retired again in 2009. During her tenure at Grace Cottage, she held a multitude of different positions in nursing and administration, and she was also a volunteer on the Otis Health Care

Center Board and the Grace Cottage Foundation Board.

“Effie loved Grace Cottage and was the face of it for many, and she was fierce about patient care. She knew the difference between right and wrong,” said CEO Roger Allbee. “Effie’s perceptiveness, intelligence, dedication, wisdom, and ethical soundness have been shining examples for all of us for decades,”

said Dr. Tim Shafer. “A woman of untiring loyalty, rich in common sense, imbued with a work ethic that said, ‘If you see a job that needs doing, do it, and do it until it is done,’” Dr Backus noted, adding, “Effie’s legacy will live on at Grace Cottage, in tribute to a woman who was always thinking of ways we can help one another.”

A grateful patient writes:

“The best of care was given to me when I was a patient at Grace Cottage, by everyone who works there. You seemed like a family to me, making what was a hard experience much more bearable thanks to the kindness and caring that was shown to me by everyone. All the therapy I had was excellent!”

Marybelle Riendeau
CHESTER, VT

Grace Cottage Hospital & Grace Cottage Foundation are 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations.

The mission of Grace Cottage Foundation is to raise funds on behalf of Grace Cottage Hospital.

Donations to Grace Cottage Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Grace Cottage Foundation’s Federal Tax ID # is: 03-0343282.

Donations may be made by cash, credit card, check, stocks, bonds, or other tangible assets. Call Andrea Seaton, Executive Director, at (802) 365-9109.

An audit of Grace Cottage Hospital & Grace Cottage Foundation is available upon request.

◆ MEMORIAL GIFTS ◆

Donations have been received between May 17th and September 16th in memory of the following individuals:

Frances Baldvins ◆ Bruce Barnard ◆ John Basta ◆ Therese Bell
Jack & Shirley Benson ◆ Cecil Bills ◆ Edward Bretz ◆ Michael Brooks
Mort Brooks ◆ Norm Brooks ◆ Roy & Margaret Brooks ◆ Clarence Brown, Jr.
Gladys Brown ◆ Liliane Brown ◆ Gladys Bruce ◆ Frances Capen ◆ Bernardine Cate
Effie Chamberlin ◆ Elaine Chapin ◆ Chris Coleman ◆ Phil Coleman
Luella Conklin ◆ Miriam Crispe ◆ Muriel Crowell ◆ John Dittrich ◆ Leo Duffy
Marjorie Eginton ◆ Don Elliott ◆ Jim Faas ◆ Edith Field ◆ Roland Gould
Frank & Frances Grout ◆ Harry & Bernice Hall ◆ Sherb & Ella Hall
Skip Hall ◆ Luetta Holden ◆ Pamela Hall Holton ◆ Irma Isham ◆ Joel Johnson
Arnold & Claire Judd ◆ Arnold Judd, Jr. ◆ Betty Karg ◆ Carlton Kenyon
Luanne Kopecky ◆ Ruth Lamprey ◆ Beverly Landman ◆ Richard Lapan
Sue Lescher ◆ Barbara Litchfield ◆ Joe Lombardo ◆ Verne Moberly
David Parker, Sr. ◆ Allan Penner ◆ Irene Phelps ◆ Barbara Pike
Lawrence Pike ◆ Mary Helen Randall ◆ Dick Raymo ◆ Lois Penner Riley
Charles Slover ◆ Elizabeth Sorensen ◆ Marina Spektor ◆ Ethel Standish
Janet Stowell ◆ Catherine Stratton ◆ Leona Tabell ◆ Ruth Teeke
Florence Thomas ◆ Mary Veysey ◆ Harold Wenker ◆ Joyce Wright

We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of these loved ones, and our appreciation to those who have given in their memories. When memorial gifts are received by Grace Cottage Hospital, the donor is thanked, and the next of kin is notified of the gift. (The amount given is never divulged.)

GIFTS WERE RECENTLY RECEIVED IN HONOR OF:

Dr. Robert Backus ◆ Grace Cottage Hospital staff ◆ Louise McDevitt
Arline Olson ◆ Carol Parker ◆ Victor Rabinowitch ◆ Dr. Timothy Shafer

A grateful patient writes:

“ Grace Cottage saved my life! In June I came to the hospital, not feeling well. When the doctors checked me, they found that I was in atrial fibrillation. They sent me on for open heart surgery, and I am fine now. Thank you to the Grace Cottage ER doctors and nurses. ”

Monica Corriveau
NEWFANE, VT



P.O. Box 216
Townshend, VT 05353-0216

NON-PROFIT
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PERMIT NO. 1

A visitor says thanks:

“ On the afternoon of August 9, 2014, I fell while on a walk, incurring a few external injuries, including a 12-stitch laceration in my right palm. We visit Vermont every summer, and had sometime ago identified your hospital as a 24-hour place to go if/when needed. My wife drove me to your ER. We soon found that the only thing small about Grace Cottage Hospital is its physical footprint. The lady at the admission desk was efficient and cordial. Within five minutes, I was in an ER bed, and had the attention of Dr. Chris Schmidt and a nurse named Alison. After the nurse had finished the supply preparation, Dr. Schmidt promptly showed up and explained to me quickly and plainly the process he was suggesting. Maybe 30 minutes later, I was all sewed up, had my tetanus shot, and was being observed for reaction and made ready to leave by a nurse named Deb. I had been very well taken care of by capable, articulate, and friendly professionals from start to finish. We are back home now...showing off Dr. Schmidt's fine needlework by request. Thank you, one and all. ”

Jim Sexton
GRANBURY, TX



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 16, 2014

Mr. Roger Allbee
CEO
Grace Cottage Hospital
185 Grafton Rd
Townshend, VT 05353



Dear Roger and the Grace Cottage Hospital Staff:

I would like to offer my congratulations on being named one of New England's Top 50 Hospitals by GoLocalProv.com.

This award signifies the outstanding work that the Grace Cottage Hospital team has done to become one of the finest hospitals in the region. Especially impressive is Grace Cottage Hospital's high level of patient satisfaction, which demonstrates the dedication the Grace Cottage staff brings to the job. Your service to your community and to the citizens of Vermont has been tremendous and you should take great pride in all you have accomplished.

I join with your families, your friends, and the community in congratulating you on this well-deserved recognition. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

BERNARD SANDERS
UNITED STATES SENATOR