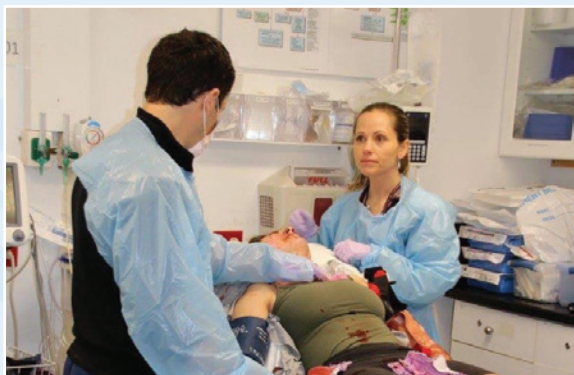


## ER Triage

*The following account was written by Christine Morris, Registered Nurse, Grace Cottage Hospital:*

On Tuesday, September 26th, three out of four beds in our ER were full: one patient with heart issues; someone else with kidney stones; and a patient who was suffering from fainting spells. Rescue, Inc. then called to tell us that two or three ambulances were coming in with three victims of a motor vehicle accident in Newfane. At that moment, someone else walked into the ER with chest pains. I filled the last bed with this patient, and wondered what I would do with the accident victims.



*Danny Ballentine, Physician Assistant, and Christine Morris, Registered Nurse, with a mock patient during a mass casualty drill in 2017.*

Thanks to our recent mass casualty drills, I knew just what to do. I called in nursing staff from elsewhere in the facility, and we triaged our patients, giving them the appropriate level of care. When the ambulances arrived with the car accident victims, we were able to use a few hospital rooms as ER rooms. Then a third cardiac patient came through the ER doors. We ended up with all of our ER patients monitored: cardiac patients on one side, and accident victims on the other.

It's not often that our small rural ER gets eight patients with such serious issues simultaneously. Everyone stepped up to the plate, and it went flawlessly thanks to our incredible staff and our great Emergency Preparedness training. All of our patients got the safe and timely care that they needed!

## Grace Cottage Welcomes New CEO



The Board of Trustees of Grace Cottage Hospital has appointed Douglas F. DiVello to the position of chief executive officer, effective February 12, 2018. DiVello is replacing Roger Allbee, who announced his plans last July to retire from this position as soon as a replacement was hired.

A graduate of Western Maryland College and with an MPA in Health Administration from Long Island University, DiVello was the CEO at Alice Hyde Medical Center in Malone, NY, from 2012 until 2017. From 2002-2012, he was the VP of Professional & Support Services at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, ME, and prior to that he was Assistant Administrative Officer at Norton Hospital in Louisville, KY, with previous experience as Associate VP for Ambulatory Health Services at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY.

"In today's complex and evolving healthcare landscape, Grace Cottage Hospital is remarkably unique," said DiVello. "The organization is a national leader in providing hands-on care in a personal and compassionate manner, and I am excited and proud that Grace Cottage has chosen me to join their talented and exceptional team."

With the help of healthcare search firm Phillips DiPisa and Associates, an extensive search was launched this fall. Approximately 300 contacts were made by the search firm, with more than 60 people expressing interest, of which five were selected for in-person interviews at Grace Cottage.

DiVello and his wife, Cathy, will be relocating to Windham County in February. DiVello was one of two finalists.

## Grace Cottage Stars Statewide!

In early January, WCAX-TV reporter Taylor Young and cameraman Matt Rector made a three-hour early-morning drive in a snowstorm from Burlington to Townshend to videotape a segment about Grace Cottage's need for generators (they'd seen the fundraising plea on Grace Cottage's Facebook page!). They spent 90 minutes here, and created a 2-minute video that captures Grace Cottage's essence so well that generous people made donations to the Generator Fund from all across the state. Their comment when they left was: "We wish every long drive [that we make] had a place like Grace Cottage at the end of it!"



*The WCAX-3 film crew at work.*

To view the video, go to [www.gracecottage.org/videos](http://www.gracecottage.org/videos).

# A Word From the CEO



## Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital... Known for Practicing Medicine the Way It Should Be Practiced

I have always known that Grace Cottage is a special place, as I grew up in the local community. Founder Dr. Carlos Otis was my doctor, and what he created was the center for good healthcare and patient needs in the West River Valley.

When I agreed to step in as the CEO of Grace Cottage just about four years ago, I knew this unique and special history. I knew that

Dr. Otis followed a long line of country doctors when he came to the West River Valley in 1939. I was also aware of the immense community support he received when he created Grace Cottage. He saw the need, and he had this passion, “build it and they will come,” and they came and still do to this day. This broad community support still exists and manifests itself in so many ways, from the many volunteers, to special giving for items and facilities, to scheduled events, including Fair Day.

My professional background has not been in healthcare management, but what I have found in my four years as CEO is that even those outside of Grace Cottage say it is a special place and a model for how healthcare should be practiced today. It is that special care, they say, treating the patients and their families as part of the Grace Cottage family and not as numbers, that has earned Grace Cottage its excellent reputation. Yes, Grace Cottage has changed over the years, but always in ways to better address patients’ immediate healthcare needs. In this day of mega-mergers in healthcare, it is good to hear many say (even a former Vermont hospital regulator, see quote below) that Grace Cottage is a model that other hospitals in Vermont should follow.

Doug DiVello, who has been selected by the Board to become the CEO of Grace Cottage, has many years of excellent experience in healthcare administration. The torch has been passed to him and the Grace Cottage team to help take the facility and its mission to the next destination. I believe and know it will be a destination that embraces all the values that Grace Cottage has today, a focus on providing the best healthcare for patients and their families, as a continuing model of how healthcare should be practiced. It has been a pleasure to serve.

— Roger Allbee, CEO

“Compared to the other hospitals, your patient satisfaction is through the roof. It really is a different model. Obviously, it’s got something to do with scale, but it’s got to do with other things that are tangible...we really do realize what a valuable resource you are to Vermont. You’re a standard in many ways that other people can’t even think about, and it’s important that you stay there and stay alive.”

— Con Hogan, State of Vermont Green Mountain Care Board member,  
at Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital’s Budget Hearings, August, 2017

## A Grateful patient writes:

“Grace Cottage saved my husband’s life. He was stung by a wasp when we were visiting our home in Vermont and by the time I got him to Grace Cottage he was having trouble breathing. The medical staff treated him immediately, and even avoided having to cut off his wedding ring by having him keep his arm above his head. The care was wonderful. We have since sold our vacation home in Vermont. As an expression of our gratitude for your superb care, we continue to contribute to your fine hospital.”

— Penny Panayotou,  
New Fairfield, CT

## Grateful patients write:

“This donation from us is a token of our appreciation for the work of the staff in early 2017 when I brought my wife Catherine into the Emergency Room suffering a heart attack. Their quick actions saved her in the midterm and got her to Dartmouth quickly where she could receive the stents she needed. We are forever grateful. Having brought our children to Grace Cottage since they were infants (now 18 and 21), we have valued the care you give for many years.”

— Gerald Leape,  
Washington, D.C.  
& Newfane, VT



“I want to thank Grace Cottage’s occupational and physical therapists for their compassion and skills, as well as your nurses and doctors. Actually, to be inclusive, I can commend the entire staff. Grace Cottage is large enough to offer an array of services, but it is also small enough to be personable and to target each individual’s needs.”

— Seeley Morton,  
Chester, VT



“I was a patient at Grace Cottage recently and I was amazed at the care I got. Every time I rang the bell, I didn’t have to wait – a nurse would be right there. You don’t get that everywhere!”

— Pam Pellerin,  
Brattleboro, VT



## Wishes Granted...

- Pauline Jamardo donated the funds for the purchase of a wheelchair for bariatric patients in the hospital.
- King Martin made a donation in honor of his family members for the purchase of two wheelchairs for Grace Cottage Family Health.
- Norm & Carol Pacun made a donation for the purchase of an industrial-strength blender for the Grace Cottage Dietary Dept.
- Marina Potter made a donation for the purchase of yoga blankets for participants in Grace Cottage's yoga classes.
- The Thomas Thompson Trust made a grant to fund Grace Cottage's monthly videotaped segments for the HealthMatters series, which is on Brattleboro Community TV and produced by Marty Cohn. To view HealthMatters, go to [www.gracecottage.org](http://www.gracecottage.org).
- The Fanny Holt Ames & Edna Louise Holt Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, made a generous grant for Grace Cottage's Community Health Team and an additional grant for two Carescape Vital Signs Monitors.
- Steve McConnel made a donation for plastic bins for the Purchasing Department.
- Lisa's Love Charitable Association donated funds to replenish the Activities Cart for hospital inpatient use.
- The Brattleboro Women's Golf Association made a grant for Grace Cottage's Hospice Suite.
- The H.A. Vance Foundation made a donation in honor of Board Member David Parmelee's 25 years of volunteer service to the Vance Foundation.
- An anonymous donor made a gift of new dinner plates for patient meals.
- The Lyman Orton Fund at The Vermont Community Foundation and the Pollio Family Foundation made generous grants to Grace Cottage's Generator Fund, helping to quickly reach our \$115,783 goal (also see page 6). Additional generous donations for this purpose were given by Allan Baldvins, John & Kathleen Bryar, John & Beverly Cable, James Conneman, Sandra Dahl, Karl & Merrilyn Decker, Ernie Friedli, the Grafton Community Church, Roy & Angela Haynes, Helen Holt, Dr. Ernest & Barbara Kafka, Leo & Mary Laitres, Dick Lucier, Corinne Miller, Mark Powers, Mike & Andrea Seaton, Richard & Carol Steiner, Cay Stratton, John & Paula Streeter, Doug Thompson, and Dr. Marvin & Connie Wool.



## Wishes Made...

- The Dietary Department needs an industrial-strength food processor. \$850.
- The Dietary Department also needs a "Safe Hands Mandolin" for thinly slicing fruits and vegetables. \$112.
- Grace Cottage Family Health is in need of two ear lavages. \$75 each.
- An arm rest for stroke patients using wheelchairs is needed. \$280.
- The Rehab Department needs a Therapeutic Instrument Kit. \$1,745.
- The Rehab Department would like to purchase Riverstones to help patients who have issues with balance. \$75.
- The hospital is in need of three new wheelchairs for patients. \$175 each.

*Grace Cottage's Wish List is updated monthly on our website, at [www.gracecottage.org](http://www.gracecottage.org), or call 802-365-9109 for more information.*

"The quality of care at Grace Cottage was excellent. Grace Cottage is to be congratulated for having gotten its corporate culture right. I'm aware how hard it is to achieve a great environment. The nurses who attended me not only were patient oriented, but without exception, appeared to love their jobs and working at Grace Cottage. It was a pleasure to be under their care."

— Inge Cassidy,  
South Londonderry, VT

## Did You Know?

"Over the past six years, Vermont has dramatically improved services that help people continue to live at home as they age. A 2017 scorecard measuring state performance in providing such services ranked Vermont third overall, up from 20th in 2011. The Green Mountain State has shown more improvement than any other state in making services affordable and accessible for older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers."



*AARP Magazine, December, 2017*

## Lymphedema Therapy

Grace Cottage is now offering Lymphedema Therapy, with Certified Lymphedema Therapists Abigail Abbott and Cindy Kenyon. Abby has a BA degree from Columbia University and a Masters in Physical Therapy from Boston University, and has been at Grace Cottage since 2015; her Lymphedema certification is from the Academy of Lymphatic Studies. Cindy is a graduate of the University of Connecticut; her Certification in Lymphedema is from the Dr. Vodder School International, and she has been at Grace Cottage since 2008.

Lymphedema is a chronic condition characterized by swelling, usually in the arm or leg, but it can occur in the breast or in the feet and legs. In its earliest stages, it can be a swollen limb that feels heavy, with skin that feels tight, and perhaps a sense that clothing, watches, rings, bracelets, or shoes are becoming too tight. When it's detected early and treated with appropriate therapy, the effects can be minimal.

Initial treatment involves a mild form of massage, followed by specific exercises that can be done at home. Compression bandages are also often part of the initial treatment.

If you think you may have lymphedema, talk to your primary care provider, who will evaluate your condition and decide if you need to be referred to a lymphedema therapist.

"My leg was so swollen, I admit I had my doubts the therapy would work. But after just two weeks, the swelling was down so much my shoes were too big! I'm in awe of the treatment."

— David Boulton,  
Townshend, VT



Abby Abbott



# 13th Annual Tour de Grace



Do you long to ride downhill in the scenic hills and river valleys of Vermont, with hardly any uphill bicycling required? Then this ride's for you! The 13th Annual Tour de Grace will be held on Saturday, July 7th. Approximately 100 riders join us each year, ranging in age from 5 to 85. Riders leave the Stratton Base Lodge anytime between 8-10 a.m. and ride at their own pace to Grace Cottage, along a signposted 19-mile route on dirt roads, paved roads, and forest trails (mountain bikes recommended, helmets required) with frequent refreshments stops along the way. Register by July 5th at [www.gracecottage.org](http://www.gracecottage.org) (\$25 includes a performance t-shirt for the first 100 registrants) or at Stratton on the morning of the event (\$30). Stratton Mountain Resort, an event sponsor, provides transportation back up to Stratton, or registrants may choose to leave a car at Grace Cottage and take the bus up before they ride the route, rather than after. For more information, call 802-365-9109.



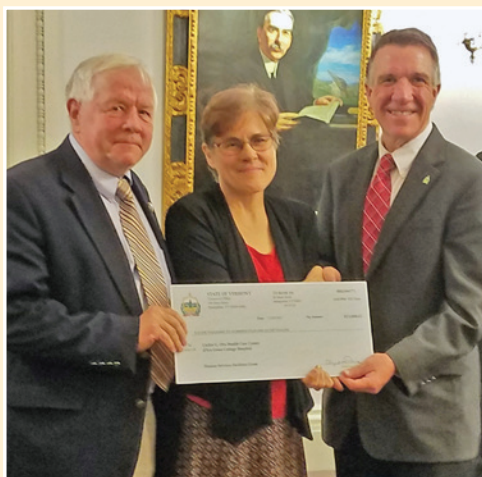
## 9th Annual Tee It Up for Health

Grace Cottage's wonderful annual golf benefit will be held at the Mount Snow Golf Club in West Dover, VT this year, on Saturday, June 9, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration is open now, at [www.gracecottage.org/events](http://www.gracecottage.org/events); \$150 per golfer includes greens fees, cart, lunch, golf balls, contests, and the Awards dinner. Sponsorship opportunities are available; all proceeds benefit Grace Cottage's Patient Care Fund.



## Spring Into Health 5K

Grace Cottage's ninth annual Spring into Health 5K will be held on Saturday, May 12th, beginning on the Townshend Common at 8:30 a.m. Online registration is open now, at [www.gracecottage.org/events](http://www.gracecottage.org/events). The first 100 registrants will receive a free Spring into Health performance t-shirt. The popular, free Fun Run for Kids, age 6 and under, will begin at 9:15 a.m. on the Townshend Common. Call 802-365-9109 with questions, or to register by phone. The 5K is professionally timed and suitable for racers, but walkers of all ages also are enthusiastically welcomed. The highlight of the 5K? Dr. Moss Linder with his bullhorn at the beginning, and great door prizes at the end! Can't get to Townshend on May 12th? Go to [www.gracecottage.org/events](http://www.gracecottage.org/events) for information about our Viral 5K, new this year. Run a 5K wherever you happen to be, on any day, and we'll send you a medal in exchange for your registration fee!



Grace Cottage CEO Roger Allbee and Grant Writer C.J. King accepted a grant award of \$11,605 from the Vermont Building Communities Program for the Grace Cottage Family Health Heat Fund, presented by Vermont Governor Phil Scott in Montpelier in November. Thanks to 49 generous individuals, foundations, and grants, \$542,000 was raised this summer for the new heating system in Grace Cottage Family Health. The installation was completed just in time, before sub-zero temperatures set in. Taft Heating & Cooling of Springfield, VT did a fabulous job. In fact, a representative from Dakin equipment said that it was the best installation he'd ever seen!



## 68th Annual Hospital Fair Day Saturday, August 4, 2018

**W**e're getting ready for another fabulous, fun Fair Day but...Dr. Robert Backus is asking for help:

"Hospital Fair Day is a community tradition that dates back to 1950. It's a day when people come down out of the hills, or up from the cities to gather on the Townshend Common and raise money for our little hospital. It's part of what's kept Grace Cottage going all these years.

Laura Smith will remain as Auxiliary President, and will run the Fair Day raffle, but is no longer able to dedicate the time required to be Fair Day Chair. We are extremely blessed that two angels, Eileen Fahey of Townshend and Dot Maggio of Brookline, have stepped up to the plate and will be Hospital Fair Day Co-Chairs. Eileen is coordinating vendors and infrastructure and Dot will coordinate volunteers.

"We are also in need of volunteers with a free weekend or two, a pickup truck, and a good back, to pick up donated auction items from various households around Windham County during the months of May, June, and the first half of July. We'd like to identify one person from each of the towns in our service area to help out, by arranging pickups when phone calls come in from his/her town. Please let us know if you can help! When you do pickups, you get to see some great places and meet great people in Windham County – I've had some fabulous experiences and have formed lifelong connections!

"Our booth chairpeople, all 22 of them, are a dedicated, talented, energetic, and passionate bunch, and they can always use more help if you're able to give it. Your reward will be making new friends and community connections, and helping to raise funds that Grace Cottage so depends on for the purchase of medical equipment and patient care items."

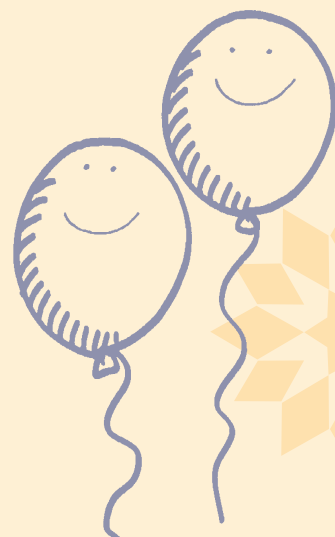
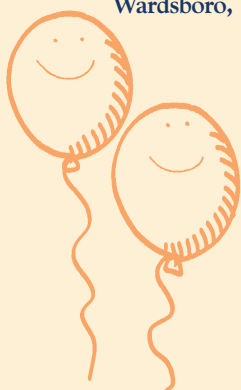
Humbly and Ever-Gratefully Yours,

— *Dr. Robert Backus,*  
Wardsboro, VT



Held the first Saturday of August on the Townshend Common, Grace Cottage Hospital's Fair Day includes an all-day auction, 22 bargain booths offering collectibles, plants, books, food, toys, art show, jewelry, chicken BBQ, homemade ice cream, baked goods, cotton candy, fried dough (yes, we do promote a healthy diet, the other 364 days of the year!), plus free pony rides, free entertainment throughout the day, free admission, and free parking. What's not to like? Fair Day won the Vermont Chamber of Commerce's Top Summer Events of 2017, and 2018 promises to be even better!

Mark your calendar now so that you and your family can enjoy this wonderful event: Saturday, August 4th, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.





## The Gift of Giving

A decades-long benefactor of Grace Cottage (ever since founder Dr. Carlos Otis repaired her after a bad skiing accident), Dorothy “Dottie” Mattison Nessel left a very generous bequest to the hospital, which was received after her death on August 8, 2017. This bequest went directly into Grace Cottage’s Endowment Fund, to help ensure patient care for future generations of West River Valley residents and visitors.



*Dottie Nessel at her 100th birthday party in June, 2017*

Born on her parents’ farm in Bruce, WI on June 6, 1917, Dottie attended the University of Wisconsin and moved to Chicago, where she worked for Maybelline, Montgomery Ward, and Kemper Insurance. After her marriage to Irwin Nessel, who worked for the Alexander Proudfoot Company, the couple ultimately lived in Westport, CT, and built Fawn Ledge Farm, a Morgan horse farm in Jamaica, VT, where they retired until Irwin’s death. Dottie then moved to Tequesta, FL, and then to Redding, CT. She is survived by her son, David and his wife Judy; her grandson, Paul and his wife Anna; and her great-grandson, Sawyer. She was pre-deceased by a granddaughter, Amy.

Dottie was a talented and generous artist, and many of her oil paintings can be seen in the hallways at Grace Cottage. She enjoyed her time in Vermont, particularly during foliage season. She was determined to make it to her 100th birthday, and danced her way to the cake at the celebration in Connecticut in June. Dottie was an inspiration to all who knew her.

## Cottage Door

is published by Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital  
185 Grafton Rd. (Route 35) Townshend, VT 05353  
(802) 365-7357 info@gracecottage.org  
gracecottage.org

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.

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.

## #GIVINGTUESDAY

For the past four years, Grace Cottage has participated in Giving Tuesday, a national day of charitable donations, held on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, once the dust has settled from Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. This year, over \$15,000 was raised in one day, which allowed us to purchase a Non-Invasive Ventilator for the ER and hospital and a new state-of-the-art microscope for the lab. Additional donations went to the Patient Care Fund. Contributions came from supporters in 13 different states and Grace Cottage employees as well. On behalf of all the patients that Grace Cottage serves, thank you very much!



On January 17th, members of the Vermont Lions Charities visited Grace Cottage to present a donation of \$13,250 for the Generator Fund, as a result of the segment they saw on WCAX-TV earlier in the month (see page 1). Andrea Seaton, Grace Cottage’s Director of Development, accepted the check held by Connie Laplume (Troy & Area Lions Club) with: (back row l. to r.) Roger Allbee, Grace Cottage CEO; Claudia Sofield, Valley Lions Club; Yvan Laplume, Troy and Area Lions Club; Stan Patch, Jr., Vermont Lions Charities; and Woody Stoddard, Springfield Lions Club. “It means so much to all of us here at Grace Cottage that Lions Clubs, whose motto is ‘We Serve,’ stepped up from all over the state to help us out with such a generous gift,” said Andrea Seaton, Grace Cottage’s Director of Development. “Thanks to the Lions Clubs, Vermont Lions Charities, and many other people from throughout the state, near and far, who have contributed, we met our Generator Fund goal of \$115,798 within one month!”

## Donations Were Recently Received In Honor Of:

Andrea Anker ♦ Dr. Bob Backus ♦ Peter, Jennifer, Hayden and Grayson Brooks ♦ Beulah Daigle  
Phil & June Dibble ♦ Holly Domanski ♦ Ernie Friedli ♦ Dr. Maurice Geurts ♦ Steve Goldberg  
Grace Cottage's Medical Providers, Nurses, Employees, and Volunteers ♦ Ben Hubert & Tamara Strehli  
Lawrence, Eliza, Dalton and Garet Jatsek ♦ Kathleen Kaster ♦ Dr. Moss Linder ♦ Reginald & Sheila Lowe  
David & Nancy Martin ♦ Peter & Kathleen Martin ♦ Seth & Devona Martin ♦ Catherine Phillips ♦ David Plants  
Desiree Plumley ♦ Dr. Miles Powers ♦ Andrea Seaton ♦ Dr. Timothy Shafer ♦ Suzanne Welch

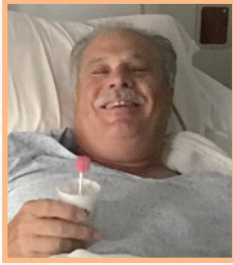
## Memorial Gifts

*Donations have been received between August 16th and January 5th in memory of the following individuals:*

Don Albano ♦ Harlan & Jessie Allbee ♦ William Allen ♦ Kjell Anker ♦ Joseph & Grace Austin  
Gene & Marie Avenia ♦ Christopher & Priscilla Ballou ♦ Pat Ballou ♦ Mollie Beattie  
John "Jack" & Shirley Benson ♦ Cecil & Lydia Bills ♦ Rosalee Bills ♦ Marion Boese ♦ Ted Boggio  
Susan (Wright) Bristol ♦ Michael Brooks ♦ Mort Brooks ♦ Roy & Margaret Brooks ♦ Beryl (Berry) Brown  
Gladys Brown ♦ David Brownell ♦ Sam Bunker ♦ Dorothy Bush ♦ Dennis Butchko ♦ Anne Carroll  
Effie Chamberlin ♦ Nancy Chard ♦ Bill Cobb ♦ Chris Coleman ♦ Kenneth Coleman ♦ Phil Coleman  
Ralph Coleman ♦ J. Walter Corcoran ♦ Lewis & Neva Corse ♦ Wendell Covey ♦ Dottie Coyle ♦ Shirley Creasy  
Bob & Muriel Crowell ♦ Chuck Cummings ♦ John Daigle ♦ Richard & Mary Dexter ♦ John Dittrich ♦ Joan Dunham  
John "Jack" & Geraldine Easton ♦ Lilian Ebeling ♦ Marjorie Eginton ♦ Herb Eisenberg ♦ Don Elliott  
Victor English ♦ Brian & Nancy Evans ♦ Bryan & Ruby Evans ♦ Doug & Alice Evans ♦ Father John D. Evans  
Lodovico & Bianca Farrarin ♦ John C. Follett ♦ Hugh & Mary Folsom ♦ John & Dorothy Fornuto ♦ Mary (Evans) Fox  
Shelly Friedman ♦ Marie Goodrich ♦ Roland Gould ♦ Henry "Hank" Grabowski ♦ Howard Graff  
Ellis Greenwood ♦ Dr. I. William Grossman ♦ Frank & Francis Grout ♦ Kathleen "Kay" Gunther ♦ Kristen Handshaw  
Stephen Haseler ♦ Peter Hayward ♦ Florence Hicks ♦ Rona Hicks ♦ George & Thelma Holden ♦ George Holden, Jr.  
Luetta Holden ♦ Stan Holt ♦ Vance Hosford ♦ Bert & Louise Howard ♦ Gene (Cotti) Howe ♦ Laura Howe  
Edward Hurley ♦ Silver S. Huskey ♦ Robert "Bob" Jones ♦ Craig Karnal ♦ George & Eda Kent ♦ Melba (Harlan) King  
Otto & Beatrice Kleppner ♦ Marjorie Klimoski ♦ Warren Kronemeyer ♦ Alexander Kruedener-Struve, Jr.  
Norman Lake ♦ Jack Lambert ♦ Jerry & Ruth Lamprey ♦ Richard & Barbara Lamprey ♦ Richard Lang ♦ Richard Lapan  
Frederick & Kathleen LaTaille ♦ Frederick LaTaille, Jr. ♦ Sally Lawrence ♦ Steve Lazelle ♦ Christine Leigus  
Rocco & Irene Lettiere ♦ Otto Leuschel ♦ Richard Libbey ♦ Barbara Litchfield ♦ Howard Lott ♦ Wally Lowe  
Gertrude MacDougall ♦ Jeanne Marion ♦ Dr. Bill & Joan Martin ♦ Gary Martin ♦ Larry Martin ♦ Lucille Martin  
Lester & Susan Mayer ♦ Dawn McCormick ♦ Jim & Barbara McMennamin ♦ Frank & Betty Merrill  
Hans & Mary Meyer ♦ Frank Mitchell ♦ Art Monette ♦ Arlo & Eleanore Monroe ♦ Florence Moore ♦ Connie Nelson  
Dorothy Nessel ♦ Thomas Nicholson, Sr. ♦ Lisa (Young) Noble ♦ Walter Olsen ♦ Dr. Carlos & Ruth Otis  
Lore Parks ♦ Marion Parks ♦ Jesse Parsons ♦ Phyllis Patrick ♦ Charles "Red" Pearson ♦ Neil & Ruth Pelsue  
Mildred (Danielski) Petelle ♦ Gladys Peterson ♦ Iver & Esther Peterson ♦ Kelli Peterson ♦ Oliver Peterson  
Irene Phelps ♦ Stephen & Celia (Romano) Pike ♦ Cheryl Pinkham ♦ Earle & Barbara Pinkham  
Oscar & Bernadette Plumley ♦ Mary Plunkett ♦ Richard Plunkett ♦ Ernest & Virginia Pomroy ♦ Elaine Prouty  
Roy Putnam ♦ Betty Radens ♦ Connie Redford ♦ Joseph & Ann Reither ♦ Lois Penner Riley ♦ Winston Rose  
Ken & Marguerite Ryan ♦ Henry "Hank" Sanders ♦ Norma "Sandy" Saunders ♦ Joanne (Garcia) Shepherd  
Heidi Shine ♦ Rose Marie Short ♦ Joan Smidutz ♦ Mildred Smith ♦ Jane Staib ♦ Clayton Stowell ♦ Della Stowell  
Janet Stowell ♦ Catherine N. Stratton ♦ Donna Taft ♦ Ruth Teeke ♦ George & Molly Tomlinson  
Dr. Jim & Dr. Marge Trousdell ♦ Henry Turner ♦ Irene Victoria ♦ Arlene P. White ♦ Dr. Bill Wallace  
Euphemia Wallace ♦ Henry Wallstein ♦ Michalina Wasung ♦ Leonard & Bernice Welch ♦ Mona West  
David Williams ♦ Harry & Phyllis Wolff ♦ Richard Zahacewski ♦ Joan Zully

*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, the donor is thanked, and the next of kin is notified of the gift. (The amount given is never divulged.)*





"We were visiting our Stratton condo when my husband was admitted to your ER at 10 p.m. on September 22nd due to acute pain related to

kidney stones. Dr. Kenny Rudd and the ER team did a wonderful job of making Bob comfortable. When they saw on his chart that his birthday was September 23rd, they came into his ER room singing Happy Birthday, with a "cake" made of ice chips in a cup with a cotton swab "candle." He enjoyed his ice chips, which was all he was permitted to eat, under the circumstances. Thank goodness for Grace Cottage!"

– Sue Hallenbeck,

Baltimore, MD, & Stratton, VT

**GraceCottage**

FAMILY HEALTH & HOSPITAL

P.O. Box 216

Townshend, VT 05353-0216

2017

National Rural  
Health Association

**TOP 20**

Critical Access Hospital

"Best Practices -  
Patient Satisfaction"

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PUTNEY, VT  
PERMIT NO. 1

## Online Cabin Fever Auction February 14-28

Grace Cottage's Online Cabin Fever Auction is always a great way to help beat the winter blues, especially this year, with such a wicked, wild winter, and so many great items donated. Go to [www.32auctions.com/gracecottage2018](http://www.32auctions.com/gracecottage2018) and check out all of the donations from generous individuals and businesses that help to make this Cabin Fever Auction such a success. A vacation on Cape Cod, in Mexico, in Africa, perhaps? Or dinner



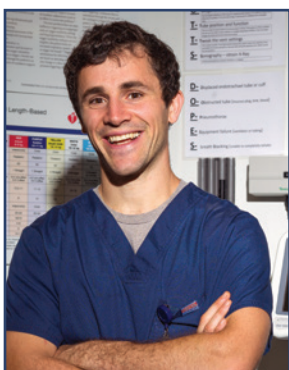
out at Peter Havens, The Eatery, Two Tannery Road or The Last Chair? If you're interested in art, or unique experiences (a mention in Archer Mayer's upcoming book), or gift baskets, there are a lot of options to

consider. The Cabin Fever Auction begins on Valentine's Day, February 14th, and ends at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a winning bidder!

[www.32auctions.com/gracecottage2018](http://www.32auctions.com/gracecottage2018)



## Danny Ballentine at Grace Cottage Family Health



Danny Ballentine, Physician Assistant, is now accepting new patients at Grace Cottage Family Health, returning after several years caring for patients in the ER. An employee of Grace Cottage since 2012, Danny has a degree in Wellness and Alternative Medicine from Johnson State College and

a Master of Physician Assistant Studies from Franklin Pierce University. He specializes in men's health and sports medicine and is great with young kids! He and his wife, Heidi, live in Newfane with their two children.

*Grace Cottage Family Health is a federally-designated Rural Health Clinic that has been certified by the National Committee of Quality Assurance as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home, the highest level achievable. Grace Cottage's primary care providers offer family practice, pediatrics, geriatrics, urology, and mental health services.*