



HOLTON HOME

N•E•W•S•L•E•T•T•E•R

158 Western Avenue, Brattleboro, Vermont 05301 • (802) 254-4155 • e-mail: info@holtonhome.org • www.holtonhome.org

AROUND THE HALLS OF HOLTON HOME

Each spring & fall Holton Home goes on its bi-annual pilgrimage to the Smith College Botanical Gardens for their bulb and Chrysanthemum shows. It is always a great pleasure and never gets old seeing the fireworks of colors and textures of the mums or breathing in the sweet smell of the bulbs, and the promise, desperately needed in March, that spring will indeed arrive!

We always then meander through the greenhouses starting with the Camellia Corridor, where blooming camellia and citrus trees, in various stages of fruit and flower, line the walk. It is like a botanical world tour, the dry sage smell of Australia, glimpses of red coffee beans, to the warm thick air of the tropical rainforest in the Palm House where vines climb, cocoa pods grow off the branches and fuchsia banana flowers reach towards the sky. The deserts of the world collide in the Succulent House where living rocks grow and every beautiful plant seems to be out of the pages of Dr. Seuss and has thorns, spikes or prickles. Hidden jewels delight at every turn, blooming gardenias, carnivorous hanging pitcher plants, star fruits, orchid menageries...



We always have wonderful conversations (or light naps) in the van, stop for special treats in Northampton, and recently have been meeting Eva's daughter Lenore, which is a delight for everyone, especially mother and daughter!

And we always have a wonderful time!



It's official – The Boards of both Holton Home and Bradley House have decided to merge. On December 31st, Holton Home, Inc. will become a parent organization, overseeing two great residential care homes – Bradley House and Holton Home. Together, we'll both be stronger, and better able to offer our community's elders excellent options.

See page 3 for more details from Holton Home's Board president, Linda Rice.



Staff

Félicité Adjoua, *Resident Assistant, Per Diem*
Morgan Aldrich, *Resident Assistant*
Julie Ball, *Activities Assistant*
Tracy Bartella, *Activities Assistant, Temporary*
Nancy Bonneau, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Pam Boyd, *Cook*
Chris Clark, *Maintenance Director*
Sherri Deyo, *Licensed Practical Nurse, Per Diem*
Cindy Downs, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Julie Emery, *Resident Assistant & Housekeeper, Per Diem*
Rose Gerry, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Joshua Hart, *Chef/Manager*
Linda Hastings, RN, *Resident Care Administrator*
Abi Healey, *Gardener*
Cindy Jerome, M.A., *Executive Director*
Ruth Kibby, *Licensed Nursing Assistant, Per Diem*
Carol Killay, *Resident Assistant*
Robin Lindsell, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Lynn Miner, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Meghan Miner, *Licensed Nursing Assistant, Per Diem*
Shirley Morrill, *Housekeeper*
Kelly Morse, *Resident Assistant*
Mike Mrowicki, *Site Director*
Wendy Parent, *Senior Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Karen Penson, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*
Kree Rinfret, *Executive Assistant*
Chelsea Saber, *Resident Assistant, Per Diem*
Ashley Squires, *Housekeeper*
Ellenka Wasung-Lott, *Activities Director*

Board of Directors

Jill Brehm, *Visiting Committee*
Cathy Coonan
Paul Dedell
Marion Dowling
Vern Grubinger
Allan Hansell, *Vice President*
Lee Madden
Kris McDermet
Joe Meyer
Cathy Osman
Andy Reichsman, *Treasurer*
Linda Rice, APRN, *President*

december: [dē-'sem-bər] -n.
a month of lights, snow and feasts; time to make amends and tie loose ends; finish off what you started and hope your wishes come true

Birthdays

Residents celebrating birthdays in December include:

- ◆ Barb Seeger on the 6th
- ◆ Ellie Tortolani on the 16th
- ◆ Mary Harrington on the 16th



Welcome to two new Board members

Cathy Coonan

I was born in Brattleboro and grew up in Williamsville, Vermont. I am a Certified Insurance Counselor and have worked in Commercial Insurance as an Agent/Risk Management Consultant at The Richards Group for over 30 years, specializing in health care and human service organizations.

I have served on many local boards over the years including Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, Building a Better Brattleboro, Brattleboro Country Club and Brattleboro Rotary Club. Currently, I am a Board Member of Youth Services and Chair of Brattleboro Rotary Club's Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

My husband Rick Manson and I live in Brattleboro. My Aunt Mary moved to Holton Home several years ago and has been very happy in her new home. Our community is very lucky to have such a caring and friendly residential care home that allows the residents to maintain their independence. Serving on the Board of Directors is an honor and a privilege and I look forward to my tenure.

Cathy Osman

Having worked at Marlboro College as a Professor of Fine Arts for 18 years, ten of which I have been a resident of the town of Marlboro, I feel deeply connected to community both through my many graduating seniors as well as the friends I have made in and around Brattleboro. I commuted from Amherst, MA for years until my children finished high school. Leaving the five-college area of Northampton/Amherst was hard but I have found a rich artist community here in Southern Vermont.

In addition to teaching at the college, my husband and I continue to support two initiatives in Cambodia, a small rural school for English, computer skills and projects which focus on clean water and health. I currently volunteer in the Big Brother/Big Sister program, have served on the Brattleboro Museum advisory board, chaired the World Studies Program at Marlboro College and have an active art exhibition schedule in New England.

"The Hilton" as my mother, a resident of four years has renamed Holton Home, is a place my husband and I, plus extended family are so grateful to have found. The care given to each and every resident is graced with dignity and a careful attention to each individual resident's needs. My life has been profoundly enriched getting to know the other residents and the dedicated staff, and witnessing the daily intricacies of life at Holton Home. Joining the board is an honor.



From Board President Linda Rice

The Boards of Holton Home and Bradley House have spent a great deal of time and due diligence over the past several months working with Cindy Jerome, our Executive Director, studying benefits and possible detriments of merging the two homes under one governing body. We see, moving forward, many positive benefits which have been reflected in the unanimous votes of both boards to merge.

What does this mean for Holton Home Residents? There will be little impact on the Residents and their lives at Holton Home other than Cindy continuing to spend the majority of her time at Bradley House, with a few hours each day at Holton Home. Her expertise will be needed to drive operational and physical improvements necessary at Bradley House to preserve and build on the reputation of excellence that facility has enjoyed.

Staff and daily operations at Holton Home will remain unchanged with the exception of the departure of Mike Mrowicki, our interim Site Director. Mike must return to the Vermont Legislature in January. We are actively searching for an exceptional person to fill the role of Site Director at Holton Home. Think you know someone who might fill that role well? Please send them to the job listings on the Contact tab of our web site.

On December 31, 2015 the Board of Directors of The Bradley House will dissolve. The ownership of Bradley House will be transferred to Holton Home, Incorporated and we will continue to set the standard in elder care with two homes. Rather than being viewed as competitors, Holton Home and Bradley House will be "sisters" in providing excellent care to our community's elders as they navigate through the aging process to their greatest potential.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Cindy or myself.

Linda Rice

Chuckle Corner

A husband asks his wife, "Honey, if I died, would you remarry?"

"After a considerable period of grieving, I guess I would," she replies. "We all need companionship."

"If I died and you remarried," the husband asks, "would he live in this house?"

"We've spent a lot of money getting this house just the way we want it. I love it here, so, yes, I guess he would."

"If I died and you remarried, and he lived in this house," the husband asks, "would he sleep in our bed?"

"Well, the bed is brand new," the wife replies, "and it cost us \$2000. It's going to last a long time, so I guess he would."

"What about my car," the husband asks. "Would you let him use my BMW convertible?"

"Hmm, I guess so. It's such a nice car, and it would be nice to have it in the summer."

"If I died and you remarried, and he lived in this house, slept in our bed, and drove my car, would he use my golf clubs?"

"Oh, no!" the wife replies. "He's left-handed!"

