WESBURY WINDOW

Special Edition 2020
Contributors Report

Spring/Summer 2021
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Family Reunions Bring Our Joy Back

On March 13, 2020 we had to take measures that just a few days before would have seemed unimaginable; we had to close Wesbury to all but essential workers. At that time, we figured it would be just a couple weeks so we could "flatten the curve."

In retrospect, it seemed like we were in slow motion in those early days. That first two weeks felt like forever as we wondered whether or not we could find toilet paper anywhere. Then those weeks turned into months, but as summer ended, we felt like we had been on the right track moving into fall. Families began reuniting with outdoor visits and we were preparing to start indoor visitations when our first positive cases began to appear, and we had to close all visitations again. This time, the ban on visitation went beyond the holidays and into the New Year. This was a tough time for the entire Wesbury community; residents, staff, volunteers, and our extended families and friends.

2021 brought hope. We had just started to get vaccines to residents and staff and it felt like light was beginning to shine after a very long night. There were ups and downs as the positivity rates dropped, but we could feel it getting better all the time.

Then, almost one year later to the date, we received word that we could safely open back up to visitors.

The feelings those first few days back to in-person visits were emotional and filled with beautiful moments for everyone. For some, it has been a year since they were together, and while we are still required to follow precautions, this time around, family members can be together in the same room. They can be close. They can even hug one another…an expression that seemed like a long time gone, but we're so happy to be back in each other's arms. During an interview with the local media, Sheila Bundy, Administrator for Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center was asked how it feels to offer visitation again to which she replied: "It's hard to put into words, simply put, having families back in the building has brought our joy back."

"The first visits really pulled on your heartstrings," says Melissa Swartwood, Director of Life Enrichment and Volunteer Services. "They were powerful, emotional, and intense! It was exciting

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Thank You!

Brian S. Nageotte
Wesbury President/CEO

Thank you for taking the time to read our Contributors' Report edition of the Wesbury Window, in which we honor ***you***, our supporters. During this past year, you have extended your generosity in so many ways. We cannot thank you enough for your gifts of time, talent, and treasure – and for your love and prayers.

Rhonda K. Thomas
Wesbury Foundation V.P. of Stewardship & Development

As we leave behind 2020 and enter 2021, we continue to face challenges while looking for opportunities to broaden our mission, growing as an organization every day! It is our pleasure to share this edition of The Window, in which you will learn about our collaboration with Meadville Medical Center, life at Vernon Square, the growth of the Wesbury at Home Cottage Program, the dedication of our employees, our upcoming events, and our tribute/memorial giving opportunities. Lastly, of course, you will learn how very grateful we are to all of you for your kindness.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, our residents, and their families, thank you for always believing in us, what we do and who we serve. This past year has proven we are stronger together. We owe our gratitude to you, our donors and volunteers, for your faithful service and the many blessings you continuously provide.

With sincere appreciation,

Brian S Nageotte

Brian S. Nageotte

Rhonda K. Thomas

Rhonda K. Thomas

A Year We Will Never Forget

As spring 2020 approached, most of us were expecting things to go a certain way. For all of us, it did not. We spent the rest of the year in what was deemed as "the new normal" thanks to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. As you can imagine, for senior lifestyle and healthcare service organizations like Wesbury, the environment changed very quickly as cases of COVID-19 increased around the country, especially at nursing care facilities. From the start, Wesbury faced restrictions and guidelines being put into place that were previously unprecedented. From Wesbury's perspective; resident and staff safety was the number one priority as we made sure we followed the evolving guidance and direction from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), P.A. Department of Human Services (DHS), and P.A. Department of Health (DOH).

Early on, Wesbury continued activities and visitations that met all guidelines working diligently to ensure families and residents could stay connected through various safe avenues like virtual activities and video calls and, as restrictions eased, offered socially distant visitations.

As we looked toward summer events, we weren't sure how things would play out. Typically, it's an extremely busy time at Wesbury, filled with festive outdoor activities and annual events. As things started to cancel all around us, we began to consider how to maintain safety yet still raise the funds that many residents rely on. As the saying goes, "Where there's a will, there's a way." The Wesbury Foundation went to work, modifying the normal, recreating the wheel, and made all of Wesbury's traditional summer events possible.

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Apartments Designed for Today's Active Seniors

When Wesbury purchased the former Days Inn of Meadville, PA, the vision was to create a moderate-income living option with amenities that will appeal to the area's active adult population aged 55 and older. For years, Wesbury sought a solution to the lack of senior-friendly housing options available to those who do not qualify for subsidized housing and cannot afford or are not interested in an entry fee model. Vernon Square's rental-only apartment complex is that solution.

While navigating COVID shutdowns and supply delays, the construction team made a vigorous comeback and completed phase one by the end of 2020. With the completion of the lobby area, resident entrance, pool, fitness center, locker rooms, and 15 apartments, the marketing team began providing tours in early January. By February, the first occupants had begun to settle into their new home.

It's been exciting to see this project take shape. The team has been busy placing furniture, adding décor, and working with prospective new tenants. By May, ten of the apartments were either occupied or under contract with only five remaining available. Additionally, a waitlist began to form for those interested in planning for the future timing of Phase 2, which we had hoped to have under construction by the end of summer. Unfortunately, the significant increase in material costs has forced us to delay the start of construction until prices stabilize.

Renovating the building in phases is intentional and beneficial as it allows us to review feedback and market demand, and make adjustments as we go. Phase 2 will offer larger bedrooms, additional storage, and more two-bedroom balcony units which are in high demand. If all goes as currently planned, renovation of the annex building will be the final phase. Once complete, the project is expected to yield approximately 80 total units with additional community amenities for socialization.

There are a lot of reasons to consider Vernon Square including the lifestyle, amenities, and location. For those seeking a carefree retirement, these non-subsidized, beautifully designed apartments are available for rent with no entrance fee or buy-in costs. Qualified applicants simply sign a one-year lease which becomes month to month thereafter. There is a security deposit at the signing that is equivalent to the first months' rent and a pet deposit if applicable.

"It is exciting to bring Crawford County a new moderate-income housing option for active individuals aged 55 plus as we see a need coming over the next 10 years," says Brian Nageotte, Wesbury President and CEO. "Vernon Square is an economical option for maintenance-free living and provides the quality that people expect coming from Wesbury's 100 years of providing senior living options in the region."

The two-story complex includes the pool, fitness center, and gathering areas to keep residents active year-round and is within walking distance to a church and several eateries. Located close to downtown Meadville, the area is known as the "Golden Link" for its central location between Conneaut Lake and Meadville which is the

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Family Reunions Bring Our Joy Back

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to see the long awaited reunions bring so much joy to the residents and their families. Understandably, there were some tears, but some families lost an entire year of quality time and memories with their loved ones, it is going to take a little while to process those feelings. From a life enrichment perspective, we are committed to using all our efforts and available resources to make up for some of that lost time as restrictions continue to loosen up even more."

Residents of Grace and Cribbs are permitted to go out/off campus without quarantine upon return as long as they are fully vaccinated and have not been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Available visitation options,

days and times may vary by care level and location based on COVID-19 activity at Wesbury and/or within the county. For more information, please visit our website at *www.wesbury.com* and check the COVID Updates page.

Apartments Designed for Today's Active Seniors

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business center of Crawford County and home to many stores, hotels, restaurants, a movie theater, and other businesses. Meadville, a county seat, offers big-city amenities in a small-town atmosphere. Allegheny College, The Meadville Community Theatre, and the historic Academy Theatre host cultural events and performances. Several fine shopping, dining, financial and medical facilities are all close by. For the outdoor enthusiast, Vernon Square is near many natural resources including game lands, Conneaut Lake and French Creek as well as golf courses, bike, and walking trails.

Apartments are furnished with all appliances, including a washer and dryer, and a full kitchen with an electric stove, dishwasher, refrigerator, garbage disposal, and microwave. Additional amenities include a full bath with walk-in shower, units with a balcony or patio, and welcoming common areas. The building is equipped with elevators, indoor mailboxes, and secure entrances. Pets are permitted and there is an enclosed dog park on the premises. There is ample parking, but when tenants don't feel like driving, Vernon Square boasts the added convenience of an on-site Crawford Area Transportation Authority (CATA) bus stop.

For more information, visit us online at *www.vernonsquare apartments.com*.
To schedule a tour, call 814-332-9009.

Thank You Donors - Hyatt M. Cribbs Society

The organization that would become Wesbury began in Conneautville, PA during 1918 when Hyatt M. Cribbs offered his farm home to the Erie Conference of the United Methodist Church as a place for those in need. The Ida M. Cribbs Methodist Home was officially born out of that gift which included 22.75 acres of farmland. Today, The Hyatt M. Cribbs Society is a family of distinguished individuals, groups, and organizations who are committed to continuing in Wesbury's benevolent tradition.

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Please note: To be more environmentally conscious and good stewards of the donations that are so graciously made to Wesbury, we continue to condense our annual report listings. For a complete listing of donors and sponsors please visit *www.wesbury.com*.

Thank you once again for your continuous support of Wesbury residents.

* Deceased

Thank You Donors - Circuit Rider Society

In the early years of the United States, clergy in the Methodist Episcopal Church and related denominations were assigned to travel to specific geographic territories and minister to congregations. They were called "Circuit Riders". Wesbury maintains a strong relationship with churches throughout Western Pennsylvania as these connections are a cornerstone of Wesbury's foundation. Methodist churches and church groups listed in the "Circuit Rider Society" have contributed to Wesbury directly and through the Sunset Auxiliary.

Frances Asbury Circle ($2,500 +)
Grace U. M. Church, Oil City
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Thomas Coke Circle ($1,500 - $2,499)
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A Gift of Love Lasts Forever

She sat at the kitchen counter, legs wrapped around those of the barstool, coffee in front of her, next to an open checkbook. She wrote "Memory of Sean Carter" in the check memo, took a sip, and wondered what he'd be doing now. He would be 82. He died five years ago. With a gulp and a giggle, she fondly remembers her dad; his infectious laugh, his kind demeanor, and his love of practical jokes. He was such a caring and giving man…

Another word for remember is recall. And another meaning for recall is to call back. As she writes the nonprofit's name and the amount on the check, she is calling him back to her present, making him real again, knowing that he mattered. She smiles, sure in the knowledge that, if he could write the check himself, he would.

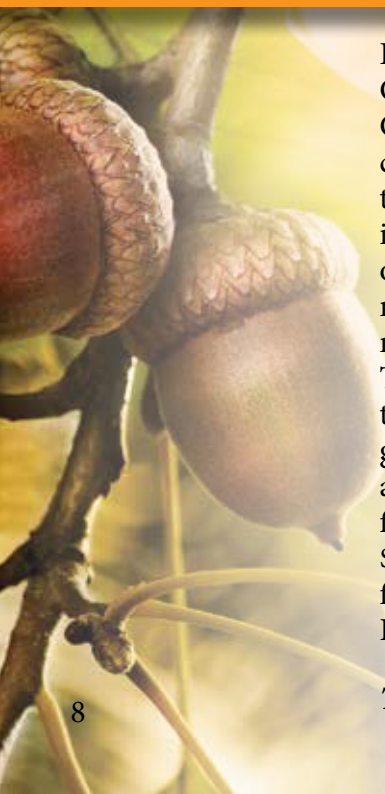
At Wesbury, any gift can be donated "in memory of" or "in honor of" beloved family members and friends, but we realize that the most meaningful of these gifts may be more permanent reminders in commemorative places that you can visit any time and feel that person's presence in real time.

Over the years, many have chosen to leave a lasting customized gift for their loved ones. With this in mind, we'd like to introduce you to some of our memorial/honoree gift opportunities:

- Benches placed in a special location
- Circle of Friends Patio brick
- Trees, shrubs and other on-campus plantings
- Christmas Luminaries
- Charlie's Angels Annual Scholarship Fund- Awarded to a Wesbury employee or a student at the Crawford County Vocational-Technical Center who is pursuing a degree in nursing
- Tree of Life Recognition

To make a monetary tribute gift in honor or in memory of a loved one, please return the enclosed remittance envelope. For more information on other tribute gifts, please call The Wesbury Foundation at 814-332-9264.

Support Wesbury during Crawford Gives 2021



Last year, the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation's second annual Crawford Gives day was held over two consecutive days in August. During this special fundraising event, generous individuals and businesses had the opportunity to support Crawford County nonprofit organizations that are helping meet the needs of our local communities. The event was a huge success! Three thousand one hundred and eighty-eight total gifts were received totaling $379,848.84 for area nonprofit organizations. Wesbury was first place in dollars raised with a total of $57,383 from 85 gifts and matching funds from The Crawford Heritage Community Foundation 2020 Crawford Gives event.

This two-day event provides a platform for participating nonprofits to share their stories, connect with new donors, and is a gateway for people to connect to causes doing good work in areas they care passionately about. **For 2021, Crawford Gives will take place on August 30th and 31st.**

Our communities are filled with amazingly generous people and we all know the past year has been tough on everyone including our area nonprofits that support so many of our friends and neighbors. Please consider supporting Wesbury or any of the other worthy organizations in the 2021 Crawford Gives event.

To find out about all the nonprofits participating, visit crawfordgives.org.

The Senior Citizen's Guide to Moving

At some point older adults typically make a move to simplify their retirement lifestyle or meet changing needs. Downsizing can be stressful, but knowing when and where to start can ease much of the anxiety. The key is to start early and develop a plan. Here are some tips to help you downsize like a pro.

- **Start small**
  Start with things that you've been considering getting rid of. Throw away or donate things that have little emotional attachment and work your way to more important items. If you start in your laundry room or linen closet you will ease into the process and get used to letting go of things.
- **Eliminate whole rooms**
  If you are moving from a four bedroom to a two bedroom house, eliminate the stuff in the extra rooms. Almost everything in those spaces will need to go, so it should be easier to decide. Pick out the things you do want and pass down, sell, donate or toss the rest.
- **Toss duplicate items**
  If you have more than one of anything, pick one and get rid of the other. You will find that spaces like the kitchen have duplicate items you have accumulated over the years. Let go of the extra ones and watch your clutter disappear!
- **Reduce your collections**
  If you have collections it can be tough to get rid of them. Remember that in your new home with less space collections can end up as clutter. Keep your favorites and take pictures of the rest to remember your treasures.
- **Make yes or no piles—no maybes**
  Often times a "maybe" becomes a "keep". If you're really serious about downsizing then you will need to be efficient about letting things go.
- **Make money off unwanted items**
  You can sell things you don't want on Craigslist, eBay, Facebook Marketplace, a local consignment shop or yard sale. If there are items that might be worth money, have them appraised. Price your items to sell. You never know—you might get a little extra money towards your retirement!
- **Pass down special items**
  There will undoubtedly be valuable or sentimental items that will not fit in your new home. Pass these down to younger relatives who might have more space. It's never too early to start giving gifts. Ask your relatives what they want!
- **Allow yourself time to reminisce**
  While you don't want to drag this process out, you also should allow yourself a reasonable amount of time to think about the memories some items dredge up. It's OK to pause and reminisce, then let go and get the job done.

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Staying Home is Complicated

While the home may be where the heart is, each season, it also comes with a long to-do list. The beauty of spring and the welcome warmth of summer brings both joy and frustration…there is yard clean-up, flower beds to weed, and thick bright green grass that seems to need to be mowed every few days. As the sun shines through our homes we see spring cleaning that needs doing, and sometimes, a few repairs are apparent after a long season of ice and snow. Each season presents different challenges. The summer mowing leads to falling leaves, raking, and cleaning gutters. Winter brings on snow removal, icy walkways, challenges with getting to the mailbox or taking out the trash, and the worry of how to get out to run errands. Isolation sets in.

How do we get all this done? Who will help? Can we hire someone? Will they even show up?

It's a cycle that gets continually challenging as we age. At some point the joy of staying home is overshadowed by the stress that comes with it and staying at home becomes complicated.

Maybe you've reached the point where you can manage it all, but it's no longer fun, it's not how you want to spend your time and energy. Maybe your health has changed and household chores, building maintenance, paying bills, cleaning, preparing meals, and managing your personal daily tasks is just too much. Maybe you've become a caregiver to a spouse. Maybe you've been relying on family and neighbors to help you get out to shop or go to the Doctor. Maybe the house is too quiet and you long for social interaction, someone to have dinner with or to go to church. If any of these scenarios describe you, then it may be time to start considering alternatives.

Options include hiring in-home services, moving to maintenance-free housing, or choosing a personal care environment. All are good options depending on the circumstances. Make a list and weigh the pros and cons. While in-home services may be tempting, be sure to evaluate what you want help with and if these services will check all of the boxes. Consider whether you feel comfortable coordinating caregivers, repair, and lawn personal. Review the costs of paying your household expenses, taxes, insurance, repairs, groceries, and added cost of in-home services and compare that with the costs of moving to a maintenance-free home, apartment, or personal care home. There is usually a tipping point where the costs, both emotional and financial outweigh the costs of making a move. When this becomes too complicated, it's time to make a change.

Today, we have more options than ever before. There are services for a variety of scenarios and income levels. Wesbury is continually growing to provide as many alternatives as possible. We offer in-home care with Wesbury at Home, active maintenance-free living at Thoburn Village and Vernon Square, personal care inclusive apartments at Cribbs Residential Center, skilled nursing care for long-term needs and short-term rehabilitation at Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center, specialized memory care at the Larcom Memory Support Center, and affordable home-style alternatives to personal care environments in our seven Care Cottage locations. Staying home is complicated, moving is complicated. Call us to discuss your personal needs and we can guide you toward what best fits your circumstances and budget.

The Senior Citizen's Guide to Moving

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- **Hire a moving company**
  Professional movers have the equipment and skills to move your items safely. Some offer packing services. Do your research, compare prices and hire a company that has a good reputation several weeks in advance.
- **Packing**
  Start early and pack slowly so you don't get overwhelmed. Break packing into smaller tasks to make it more manageable, like a drawer or closet. Go room to room. Label your boxes so you know what they contain. Keep all pathways clear so you can easily move about your home and avoid trip hazards.
- **Take pictures of things that you may need to remember**
  Things like the cord setup behind your entertainment center or the way your rooms are decorated so you can set up equipment properly or arrange your new home to look similar.
- **Pack a suitcase of daily essentials and keep it accessible**
  Think about what items you need. Pack toiletries, medications, a few pairs of clothes and shoes, a set of bed linens, essential utensils and shower items so you feel comfortable in your new home.
- **Get connected in your new location**
  If you haven't moved far this will be easy. If you've moved to a new area it will take more effort. Reach out to your loved ones and encourage them to visit. Make new friends with like-minded people through joining a church, civic, arts or cultural organization or at the local senior center.

As long as you stay connected in your new community there is no reason you shouldn't love your new home just as much as your old one. Choose a location that makes sense, plan ahead of time and ask for help when you need it. You may be only a few steps away from a new beginning!

Originally posted on Hireahelper.com

Do You Have Items for Donation?

The Wesbury Foundation is once again accepting in-kind donations! If you have rummage or used books (no electronics, clothing or exercise equipment) that you would like to donate for future Wesbury fundraiser sales in support of Wesbury residents, you may drop them off at the Wesbury Foundation Office by appointment only. Please do not drop donations at Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center. To schedule a drop off or for information, please call The Wesbury Foundation at 814-332-9264.

The Time is Now, the Place is Wesbury

When asked why they chose to move to Wesbury, residents and their families provide a variety of answers. For some the decision is automatic. They have been connected to Wesbury for years through local community involvement, their church affiliation, or generations of family members that lived here. For others, the choice comes after much research into financial stability, quality measures, area crime rates, cost of living comparisons, and more.

Whether choosing a place to live out your retirement dreams in a maintenance-free setting or seeking a healthcare solution, Wesbury stands ready to serve both the long-term planner and the family in crisis. With over 102 years of experience, Wesbury offers strong Christian roots and the value of a nonprofit mission that includes providing benevolent care to on-campus residents that outlive their resources.

Why Meadville?

"It's amazing to us, how many people consider retirement at Wesbury, even from other parts of the country," states Melissa Porter, VP of Sales and Marketing. "Due to low costs of living, they do a Google search for retirement communities in Northwest PA and find themselves intrigued by what's here." Those of us who live locally may take it for granted, but we are fortunate to live in an area with low costs of living, low crime, wonderful lakes, streams, bikes trails, and golf courses while being close to the interstate for easy access to larger metropolitan areas. It's really an easy and enjoyable place to retire, add the value of a nonprofit continuing care community with a 5-star rating and you have a win-win!

Why Wesbury?

When choosing a retirement lifestyle or care for a loved one, it's paramount to choose wisely. In today's world, it takes constant effort for any organization to stay viable. Look for a commitment to safety, financial stability, sustained quality, investment in staff, and the foresight to anticipate and prepare for the growth needed for the future. Wesbury is committed to the health and wellbeing of all residents. That's why when the pandemic hit we dedicated a team to focus on the needs of the community and the fulfillment of the regulatory guidance. It's why we started offering vaccines as soon as they came available and continue to do so for all new residents and staff, it's why we have specialized training for various disciplines to offer the best possible care, it's why we keep growing with more service options each year and it's how we have continuously maintained top ratings for care, quality and lifestyle options.

Why Now?

The housing market is booming. Across the country, we are seeing the strongest housing market in decades. In a recent conversation with the past President of the Crawford County Board of Realtors, ERA Richmond RES Associate Broker, David Gordon explained, "Pre-pandemic, a house listed in the area would take an average of 3-7 months to sell, now homes are selling in anywhere from 2 hours to 2 weeks and at times, with offers higher than the asking price!" He went on to say, "It's a sellers' market, if you have been giving

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An Alternative Care Environment

Area seniors have an alternative to living in a personal care facility with Wesbury at Home's unique approach to senior living, the Care Cottage. Care Cottages are a residential three-bedroom home that offers a maximum of three residents' around-the-clock "Wesbury at Home" services to meet their day-to-day needs. Staffed twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, the cottages are furnished, private homes that are beautifully decorated with plenty of room for the residents to visit with one another, with family, or to have privacy in their own space. There are seven Care Cottages in Crawford County with locations in Meadville, Titusville, and Cochranton. Meadville's newest Care Cottage just completed its renovations and is now accepting new residents.

Care Cottages are designed to provide safety and support to low-income residents who qualify for the PA Waiver Program or to those that can pay privately who prefer to reside in a homelike setting as an alternative to a care environment. Fees are determined on an individual basis and never exceed the resident's income and affordability.

While living in their Care Cottage, residents receive meals, housekeeping and laundry services, transportation to appointments and social outings. Each resident has an individualized care plan that may include assistance with bathing, dressing, ambulation, and medication reminders. Residents are encouraged to participate in exercise, activities and help plan menus. They are welcome to be involved in tasks around the cottage including meal and dessert preparation if they wish. Residents may also participate in games, movies, bird watching, gardening, or simply kick back to relax and enjoy the peaceful setting. In addition to the resident's hobbies, and playing favorite games, residents look forward to the new activities and crafts that are delivered monthly to the cottages by the Care Cottage Coordinator. All of the cottages are smoke-free, have easy access from the garage into the house and outdoor communal spaces as well as the spacious bathrooms and walk-in showers.

To to learn more about Wesbury at Home's Care Cottages, please call 814-332-9186.

"Our care cottages provide the needed home services to help residents maintain their independence and the pursuit of their interest. I love that residents are able to spend time using the common areas for socializing together and with visitors, at the same time, they also have their own space when they want privacy to spend time by themselves."

- Jackie Palmer, Wesbury at Home Care Cottage Coordinator

Volunteer to Make a Difference

Normally in our Annual Contributor's Report, we would celebrate and acknowledge the thousands of hours support provided to the Wesbury community by our friends and neighbors who make up our volunteer work force. Each year, whether they are visiting with residents, transporting to rehabilitation appointments, managing the Gift Shoppe, or stuffing envelopes for mailings, Wesbury volunteers go above and beyond averaging close to 15,000 hours of service to residents, staff, and families. Last year was anything but normal. When visitation for Wesbury ceased in March 2020, volunteers were included.

Since that time, we have dearly missed every volunteer, and with visitations opening back up, we want you to know, we would love to see you again. We still need you! If you are a current volunteer, please contact Volunteer Services to schedule an annual orientation, and receive the new guidelines on volunteering at Wesbury. If you have never volunteered with us, we would love to meet you and get you started with the many opportunities available to serve with Wesbury.

In order to maintain quality volunteer services, Wesbury requires that all volunteers:

- Be at least 14 years of age. (Minors must have parental consent)
- Fill out a volunteer application
- Attend orientation/job training

Currently, we have needs with:

- Mealtime Assistance
- Patio Partners (Outside Visits)
- Companion Visits
- Entertainers
- Activity Assistance

New in 2021, Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center will be implementing a program within the Volunteer Services Department to assist Grace Residents during mealtimes. The **S**upport for and **P**romotion **O**f **O**ptimal **N**utritional **S**tatus (**SPOONS**) Volunteer Assistance Program will focus on three important factors of the mealtime experience: socialization, functional assistance, and staffing challenges using trained volunteers. With these challenges in mind, the SPOONS program aims to provide: assistance with meals to persons without known swallowing difficulties, socialization, and cognitive stimulation during mealtimes, and support to direct care staff caring for Wesbury residents.

Your time, talents, and energy are valuable to us, but more importantly to Wesbury residents and their families. Some services would not be possible without the caring, giving, and sharing of our wonderful volunteers. For more information, please phone Melissa Swartwood, Director of Life Enrichment and Volunteer Services, at 814-332-9235 or email at mswartwood@wesbury.com.

Wesbury Chicken Run 5K Postponed

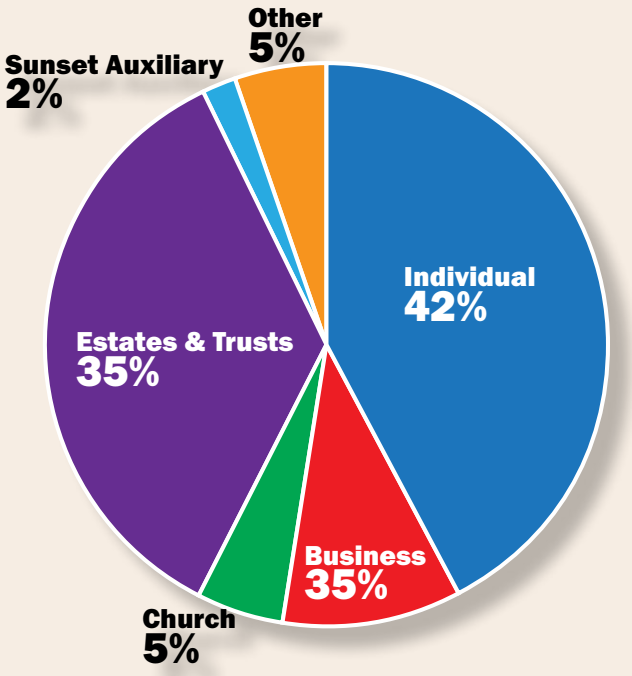
Over the past five years, the Wesbury Chicken Run 5K kicked off BBQ weekend. This event was created by Wesbury employees to raise funds and support the residents they care for. Last year, we made the event virtual, where participants did the 5K in a place of their choosing and reported their time electronically. As you can imagine, a virtual event does not evoke the excitement and comradery that we enjoy during an in-person event. Consequently, 2020 saw less participation than in previous years.

At the start of 2021 while still working through the pandemic, the focus of the Wesbury employee volunteers who run the Chicken Run was solely on our residents and families, so for 2021, they have decided to take a gap year! But in 2022 we will hold the event the way it was intended to be, together.

2020 Financials

Wesbury donations are allocated to support benevolent care.

The Wesbury Foundation Sources of Funds



As you can see, a large share of our gifts come from thoughtful people who have named The Wesbury Foundation in either their Will or as a beneficiary of a trust. Please consider leaving a legacy of compassionate care for people in need by including Wesbury in your estate plans. For more information, please contact The Wesbury Foundation at 814-332-9264.

The Wesbury Foundation Promise

The Wesbury Foundation promises to use your gift carefully and wisely, never to ask for money that is not needed, and to abide by all generally accepted accounting practices.

The Wesbury Foundation Mission

The Wesbury Foundation is dedicated to advancing the Christian mission of Wesbury United Methodist Community through promoting the needs of seniors, encouraging charitable contributions, and prudently managing philanthropic donations to and assets of the corporation.

The sponsors listed below partnered with Wesbury for all 2020 fundraising events. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their very generous support of Wesbury!

Leadership Partners

THE JOHNSON TRUST

Neighborhood Partners

First National Bank

Northwest

UPMC Health Plan

Supporting Partners

PNC

REJohnson ELECTRIC

sodexo

Connect Spiritually... Any Time, Any Where

Wesbury Chaplain, Rev. Sam Marchetta, has established several opportunities to spiritually encourage the entire Wesbury community. From time to time, we are all in need of a little extra support, and Rev. Sam is here to be that spiritual anchor for the Wesbury community. During some of our most stressful times, he is available to pray and support either in-person, over the phone, or via Zoom. Residents and staff can dial extension 9800 to find "Inspiration for You," where every day there is a new devotional reading, and on Wesbury's Prayer Line; prayers are available for those in need of a prayer for the day.

In 2020 Rev. Sam started something new for Wesbury employees. He sends out a weekly email devotional to provide food for thought during some of our most stressful times. Encouraged by the positive responses he received; Sam thought it would be great if he could share these with the whole Wesbury community. He feels the Wesbury community is not limited to our campus as we feel anyone with a connection to Wesbury is a part of it. In order to reach everyone, Rev. Sam records these weekly devotionals and posts them to our Facebook page. So whether you're a resident, family member, volunteer, former resident, or staff, or just a friend of Wesbury, we want to be there to support you and offer some encouraging words.

You can check out Rev. Sam's videos every Monday morning, just hit "like" on the Wesbury Retirement Community Facebook page and scroll to find him.

"The devotionals on Facebook are not meant to be a sermon or a lengthy exegesis of scripture, but a brief message of encouragement that is applicable no matter one's faith background," says Rev. Sam. "My hope is that it serves as a weekly reminder that God understands the depths of our struggles, and promises to journey with us through life's challenges. Problems and challenges are unavoidable, but so also is God's goodness."

The Time is Now, the Place is Wesbury

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ANY consideration to selling your home, this is the time. Priced appropriately, sellers are getting a better overall value by achieving a higher selling price and a faster sale than what is typically possible." Why is this happening? There are a variety of reasons. COVID-19 has affected both supply and demand. The pandemic has caused a surge in people working from home allowing them to work from anywhere. This has both reduced the number of people moving, lowering the number of houses available on the market, and increased buyers seeking to migrate from cities. The price of a house is tied to the supply and demand for housing and with fewer houses available, prospective buyers bid up the price in order to get one. People are also scrambling to take advantage of plummeting mortgage rates.

Mortgage rates reached a record low of 2.65 percent in January 2021, making the cost of buying a home much cheaper. This is a great time to sell – if you have been thinking about it, call us so we can talk to you about what is available at Wesbury or Vernon Square and help you set a plan in place for listing your home.

We are Here for You.

We know change is hard. Deciding when, where, what to do with excess stuff, how to sell the house, and every other aspect of moving is no small accomplishment. We hope you are ready now, but at the very least, we urge you to explore your options, join a waitlist, and get a plan in place for the future. Regardless of your timing, we will be here to answer your questions and help you find solutions. For more information call 814-332-9009 or visit *www.wesbury.com*.

A Community Coming Together

It is often said that something good comes out of everything and that in times of difficulty, communities pull together to support each other. That is what happened when Wesbury and Meadville Medical Center came together to battle COVID-19. As area positivity rates began to rise, and Wesbury opened our COVID-19 isolation unit to care for COVID-19 positive residents, Wesbury and Meadville Medical Center began to discuss a collaboration that would benefit Wesbury residents, Meadville Medical Center patients, and support the needs of the greater community.

The hospital was in need of a facility where they could safely discharge recovering patients for extended care, freeing much-needed hospital space to meet the urgent demand for critical care and/or new patients. Wesbury was looking to provide the highest level of care possible onsite and felt that partnering with MMC would improve our ability to offer that higher level of care to residents that generally are not present in a long-term care facility. Working together, a solution was realized.

Under the guidance of Dr. David Williams, the lead attending physician of Wesbury's COVID-19 unit, a multidisciplinary team from MMC was available for supplemental support to residents with COVID-19. The team consisted of MMC Pulmonologist, Dr. Andra Fee, respiratory therapists, nurse practitioners, infectious disease specialists, and included complete routine rounding of residents as needed.

Additionally, MMC initiated monoclonal antibody infusions for the treatment of individuals most at risk to develop serious illness associated with COVID-19. Monoclonal antibodies assist the immune system with fighting off viruses, and on November 9, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Agency approved the use of the monoclonal antibody for the treatment of COVID-19 in adult and pediatric patients.

Dr. David Williams

Dr. Andra Fee

Wesbury's COVID-19 Unit

Wesbury President and CEO, Brian Nageotte notes, "This collaboration was directly in line with the mission of both organizations and is especially relevant to Wesbury's 102-year-old Methodist roots whose founder, John Wesley stated, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the places you can, in all the times you can, in all the ways you can, for all the people you can"….These words embody the very essence of what this collaboration meant to both organizations."

A Year We Will Never Forget

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As the leaves began to turn, we had felt very good about keeping the virus out of the Wesbury community. For eight months, we had not seen a positive case. That changed at the end of October, starting with one staff positive case. As we all know, COVID-19 is extremely contagious, and the senior population is the most vulnerable. Through the end of 2020, as we saw cases rise throughout the region, there was an increase in positive cases among Wesbury residents and staff.

This was an extremely stressful time for Wesbury residents, staff, and families. For Wesbury staff, thank you is not enough for the extraordinary efforts that everyone put forth since COVID cases increased in the area. Even at the peak of the positive cases, the challenges that we experienced were never an impediment to what we were able to accomplish together - while keeping the care, comfort, and emotional well-being of Wesbury residents our highest priority.

Even amid this global pandemic, when the Department of Health came in for their annual inspection, they left Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center citing zero deficiencies. We also maintained a 5-star rating with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and are ranked an impressive 7th Best Nursing Home in Pennsylvania, according to *Newsweek's* Recent Best Nursing Homes 2021 Report. For the report, *Newsweek* partnered with the respected global data research firm Statista Inc. to establish a ranking of "Best Nursing Homes" by analyzing data from over 10,000 nursing homes in the U.S. The 400 "best" nursing homes in the 20 most populous states are published in the report.

At the start of 2021, we were optimistic as the county positivity rate began to decline and the vaccine was offered to Wesbury as soon as it became available in our region. We are grateful to the many residents and staff who consented to take the COVID-19 vaccine, a decision that will protect not only those on Wesbury's campus but also those in the greater community.

As we continue to move in the right direction and the guidelines scale back, there will be a day when we look back and marvel at how we came together supporting those we worked alongside. We thank them for all they do for every Wesbury resident, every day. During a year of intense stress and long hours, our staff continually rose to the occasion, doing everything in their power to keep residents healthy and our community safe.

Yes, I'd like to learn more about Wesbury.

Please send me information about:

- ❑ Independent Living
- ❑ Enhanced Living & Personal Care
- ❑ Skilled Nursing
- ❑ Short-term Rehabilitation
- ❑ Vernon Square Apartments
- ❑ Wesbury at Home
- ❑ Care Cottages
- ❑ The Wesbury Foundation/Making a Donation
- ❑ Other Areas of Interest

_____

❑ Send information via ❑ e-mail ❑ mail

❑ Contact me to schedule an appointment

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2021 SW

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please clip out and mail this completed form to:
Wesbury - 31 N. Park Ave., Meadville, PA 16335 - Attn: Marketing Dept.

Let's Consider the Dandelion

Some of you may recognize the dandelion motif from our spring appeal, where we suggested that this much-maligned herb (or weed, depending on your perspective) has several admirable qualities - qualities that actually remind us of Wesbury!

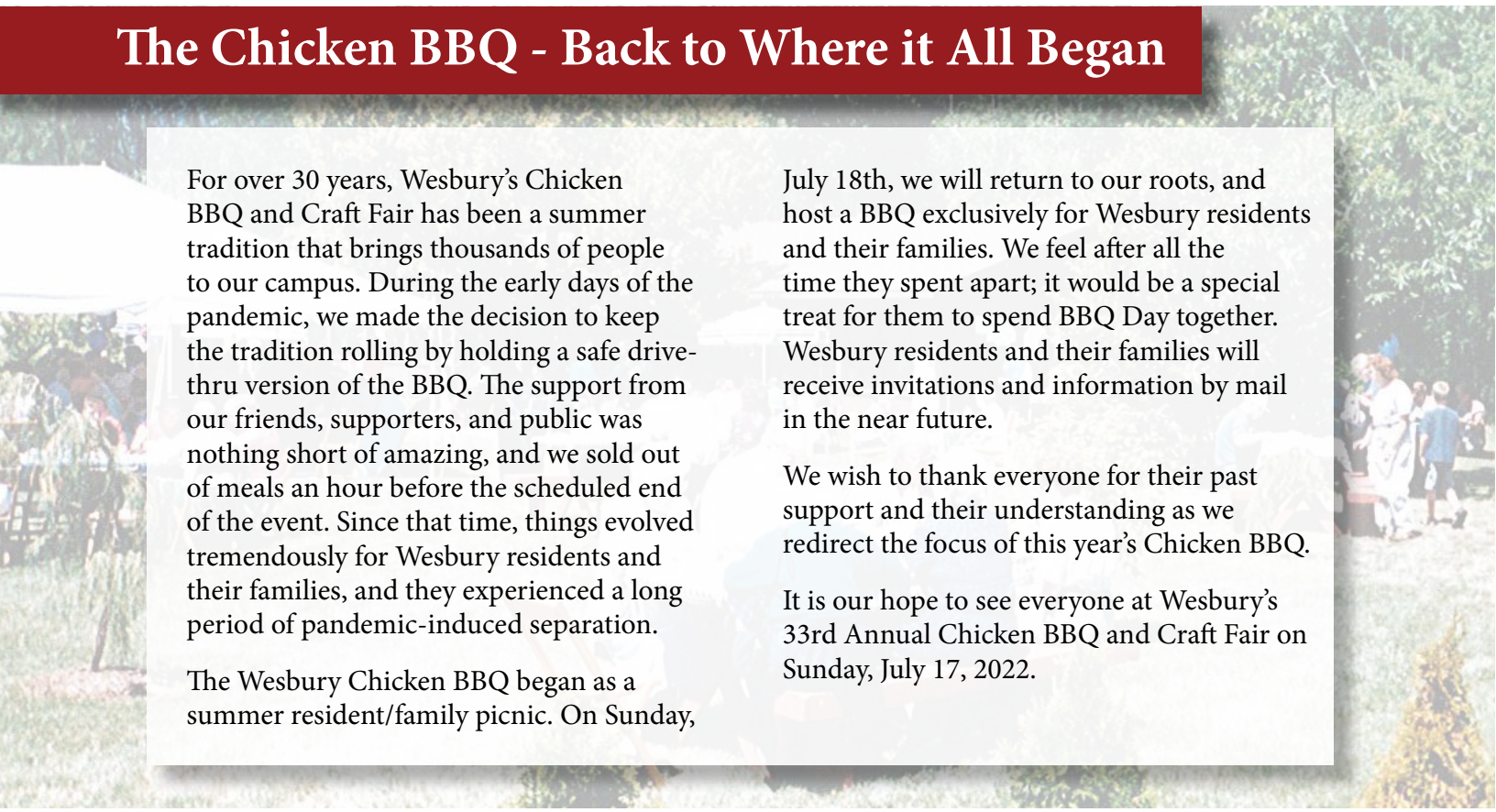
Most garden experts agree that, despite our efforts to rid ourselves of dandelions, they are here to stay. And no matter how hard we try to dodge aging, it's here to stay too - along with all the complications it brings. At Wesbury's Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center, we see those complications every day in the form of impaired mobility, fading memories, and lost independence.

Yet, as with the dandelion, we also see points of wonder at Grace. New friendships blossom and special relationships develop between residents, staff, and volunteers. With a renewed sense of community and belonging, residents are willing to become engaged in activities that help them broaden their emotional, intellectual, social, and spiritual interests.

At The Wesbury Foundation, we feel akin to dandelions because we recognize their value and because we see ourselves in them. We feel akin to our residents for the same reasons. And this makes it natural for us to empathize with them. Our staff displays empathy in spades, and if you donate to our Benevolent Care Fund you display it too. Your gifts support Wesbury residents with diminished financial resources, so that despite their challenges they too can notice and find pleasure in small wonders.

Wesbury United Methodist Community
31 N. Park Ave. · Meadville, PA 16335
814-332-9000 Toll Free 1-877-937-2879
www.wesbury.com

The Chicken BBQ - Back to Where it All Began



For over 30 years, Wesbury's Chicken BBQ and Craft Fair has been a summer tradition that brings thousands of people to our campus. During the early days of the pandemic, we made the decision to keep the tradition rolling by holding a safe drive-thru version of the BBQ. The support from our friends, supporters, and public was nothing short of amazing, and we sold out of meals an hour before the scheduled end of the event. Since that time, things evolved tremendously for Wesbury residents and their families, and they experienced a long period of pandemic-induced separation.

The Wesbury Chicken BBQ began as a summer resident/family picnic. On Sunday, July 18th, we will return to our roots, and host a BBQ exclusively for Wesbury residents and their families. We feel after all the time they spent apart; it would be a special treat for them to spend BBQ Day together. Wesbury residents and their families will receive invitations and information by mail in the near future.

We wish to thank everyone for their past support and their understanding as we redirect the focus of this year's Chicken BBQ.

It is our hope to see everyone at Wesbury's 33rd Annual Chicken BBQ and Craft Fair on Sunday, July 17, 2022.

Wesbury provides individualized proactive health care and life enrichment services to assist mature adults in maintaining their independence, dignity and spiritual wholeness in a secure, Christian environment.
- Mission Statement -