



HILL HOUSE – SENIOR RESIDENCE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I took notice, a couple of years ago, when the Greenwich Housing Authority changed its name to Greenwich Communities. I saw it as a change from a bureaucratic designation to a description of what they intend to accomplish. Well done. And it reminded me about what is really at the foundation of everything we do here at Hill House: community.

We have a model of senior housing that is based on the idea that we human beings do best when we are in relationships. In our lives we connect with others in so many ways – in families, in neighborhoods, in social clubs and organizations, in religious communities, to name a few. Anthropologists identify the flowering of human culture in those times when we began to gather in villages as we developed the agricultural basis for being freed from hunting and gathering. Our senior housing model is a direct descendant of that gathering. Community builds, creates and enables us to be more fully human.

As we age, we find that the changes we experience will often lead directly to increased isolation. The loss of family members, friends and other loved ones, coupled with the burden of taking care of a home setting that was appropriate for a family but is a burden for one alone, can be overwhelming.

In a previous age, when extended family was usually close by, there were built-in community supports. With the advent of increased generational mobility in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, those supports are largely gone. I once asked a room-full of seniors how many had extended family close by. Fewer than ten percent did.

That's why Hill House is here; not just to provide a room and a meal, but to help seniors re-connect to a community of caring and support. That's why we have a communal meal in the middle of the day. That's why we have staff focused on providing programs and activities that support human connection.

And that's why our residents stay connected to activities outside of Hill House as well. They give back to the community by presenting programs to children and young people in our schools, by raising funds with Giving Trees for Holiday gifts to low income seniors, by developing a Christmas Gift Card program in the "Seniors Helping Seniors" program, by co-operating with Neighbor to Neighbor and by connecting with the Commission on Aging in the Dementia Friends program.

We are senior housing, sure. But we are also busy creating and sustaining community. That's the foundation on which Hill House is built.

~ Sam Deibler, *President*



## HILL HOUSE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

by *Carole McIvor*

The "HHRA" is a very dedicated and busy group that meets once a month, at which time various topics of concern and interest are discussed. Their activities calendar is filled with many choices of trips, classes, speakers and entertainment, thanks to the wonderful activities director, Lisa Crowley.

It is a sad moment to share the news of the passing in January of special resident Evelyn Fiore, who lived at Hill House for six plus years. Evelyn was a "beautiful presence always around Hill House" and would have celebrated her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday on



03/08/23. A dynamic lady, Evelyn was one of the first women ever to attend Hunter College, a freelance author of 35 works in 4 languages, a music lover (Frank Sinatra & Broadway tunes) and one of the oldest known survivors of Covid. One of her books, *Mugable Mary*, was adapted for a movie. At Hill House, Evelyn loved participating in the writers' program and the high school mentor program. All who knew her loved and respected her and her philosophy on life: "STAY IN MOTION - PHYSICALLY & MENTALLY."

Blessings and prayers for Evelyn and her family.

---

## In and Around Hill House

by Patricia Geismar

Our residents have learned that they don't have to go far for an excellent cup of coffee and a Danish or a sandwich. The Coffee For Good Cafe is located in the 1858 Mead House on the campus of the Second Congregational church. They work closely with the Abilis program in Greenwich. Coffee for Good has a three prong goal: to employ and train persons with disabilities, to be a self-sustaining non-profit, and to provide a warm and inclusive community gathering spot. The residents enjoy the opportunity to support this program.



And in the Activities Room, our own Maureen Van Deusen, who a year ago tentatively agreed to teach one water color class, gathers eight to ten "students" every month! They would never miss a class! Maureen's support and their desire to learn are producing some excellent results.

Mildred is still collecting "cantabs" for Ronald McDonald House. She is passionate about this fundraising opportunity and has been collecting these "cantabs" and delivering them to Ronald McDonald House in New Haven for several years. And, she has inspired a number of the residents to join her. For Hill House friends in the community, you are welcomed to join this effort by collecting the "cantabs" and delivering them to the front desk in an envelope addressed to Mildred Cogliandro.



Last month, Jen Benoit, a teacher at Greenwich High School, contacted Lisa Crowley hoping to reinstitute a popular exchange program from several years ago. Last month, nine Hill House residents traveled to GHS to visit a group of upperclassmen interested in career exploration.

After sharing a common dominator of food, the residents shared their reflections on their particular careers. From garbage collection to owning an excavator business, from assistant administrator to Office Manager, from going into nursing and then realizing it was "not right for me," to name a few. They spoke of necessary training, certification, education needed and personality traits that were valuable, and of gaining a positive balance between life and work.

## Hill House Honor Roll of Donors – April 30, 2023

Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Abelson	Mr. and Mrs. Douglas N. Carlson	Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Dommerich	Hon. Lile R. & Mr. John A. Gibbons
Mr. and Mrs. James Adams	Mr. and Mrs. Peter E. Carlson, Jr.	<del>Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Downey</del>	<del>Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Downey</del>
Mr. and Mrs. Gino Aguda	Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Casazzone	Mr. and Mrs. James A. Drakos	Mr. and Mrs. Albert B. Gordon
Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Alexander	Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Cassidy	Mr. and Mrs. John P. Driscoll	Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Graves
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Asher	Mrs. Patricia Cea	Mr. and Mrs. Marc Ducret	Mr. and Mrs. James W. Green
Mr. and Mrs. Merl W. Baker	Mrs. Jacqueline R. Chamandy	Mrs. Lucien C. Ducret	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Grieco
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baltuck	Mr. and Mrs. George Chelwick	Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Duerst	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. S. Groves
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Barba	Mrs. Nan Chequer	Ms. Beth Eaton	Ms. Linda Grunow
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Barletta	Mr. and Mrs. Jerome J. Cincotta	Mr. and Mrs. Delbert G. Eberhardt	Ms. Mary C. Halloran
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Barolak	Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Cioffari	Mr. and Mrs. James L. Elrod, Jr.	Mrs. Robert C. Harper
Ms. Katherine N. Bartels	Drs. Michael & Debra Clain	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard R. Epand	Mrs. William H. Harrington
Mr. and Mrs. Philip H. Bartels	Ms. Carolyn Cleveland	Mr. and Mrs. David S. Erickson	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey D. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bartholomew	Mr. and Mrs. James J. Clifford	Mr. and Mrs. Miroslav M. Fajt	Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot L. Harris, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald A. Baruno	Ms. Jeanette H. Clonan	Mr. and Mrs. Scott Falconer	Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Hart
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Bass	Mr. and Mrs. Bruce F. Cohen	Mr. and Mrs. Craig W. Fanning	Mr. and Mrs. J. Sebastian Hartong
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Berg	Mr. and Mrs. Timothy R. Coleman	Mr. and Mrs. Ed Feeley	Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hascher
Mrs. James R. Berger	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Collins	Mr. and Mrs. William V. Ferdinand	Ms. Sally Haver
Mr. and Mrs. Renato L. Berzolla	Mr. and Mrs. Timothy E. Conroy	Ms. Susan Ferris	Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Heimbold
Ms. Judith Biggs	Mr. and Mrs. John F. Coppinger	Dr. and Mrs. Mark P. Figgie	Mr. and Mrs. Norman S. Heller
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Bingle	Ms. Lillian B. Costaregni	Mrs. Judy Finneran	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Henkes
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Boardman	Mrs. Kathleen B. Cowan	Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Fiore	Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hennessey
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen B. Boies	Mr. Alexander James Cox	Ms. Elizabeth C. Foley	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Henry
Mrs. Barbara Roldan and Mr. Mark W. Bologna	Dr. and Mrs. John F. Crowe	Mr. and Mrs. Eraldo Foschi	Mr. and Mrs. William Henry
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony W. Bologna	Mr. and Mrs. Peter DaPuzzo	Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Fox	Mrs. Dennis Hess
Ms. Francine J. Bovich	Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Davenport	Mrs. Helen Fox-Obrien	Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Hogan
Mr. and Mrs. Amir Bozorgmir	Mrs. John de Csepel	Mr. and Mrs. L. Scott Frantz	Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Hogan
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brady	Mr. and Mrs. Allan B. Deering	Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Freeman, Jr.	Dr. Ira Honig
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Brendel	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Deibler	Ms. Lynn E. Friend	Mrs. Richmond B. Hopkins
Mrs. June M. Brice	Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. Delmhorst	Mr. and Mrs. W. Michael Funck	Mr. and Mrs. William C. Howland
Ms. Carol Burns	Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. DeMadona	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Gagliardi, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Philip M. Huyck
Dr. and Mrs. William J. Caragol	Mr. John H. Denne	Drs. Henry & Michele Gasiorowski	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Caravella	Mr. William J. Deutsch	Mrs. Patricia W. Geismar	Mr. and Mrs. Bo Jarnstedt
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Carey	Mr. and Mrs. Philip J. DiGennaro	Mrs. Marie Genteale	Mr. and Mrs. Jerry J. Jarombek
Mrs. Elizabeth Callaway & Mr. R. Carey	Ms. Kathleen DiGiovanna	Mr. and Mrs. Antreas Ghazarossian	Mrs. Bon Jasperson
	Ms. Jean M. DiNatale	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Gianquinto	Mr. and Mrs. Jay Jayaraman

## Hill House Honor Roll of Donors – April 30, 2023

Mrs. Thomas M. Johnson	Mr. and Mrs. Martin F. McGrath Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Pierce	Mr. and Mrs. John Stout
Ms. Penelope D. Johnston-Foote	Mr. and Mrs. John McIvor	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Pinelli	Mr. H. John Sweger, Jr.
Ms. Louise Kaminer	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McLaughlin	Mr. and Mrs. Hans Plickert	Mr. Andrew Taylor
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Katz	Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Mendelsohn	Mr. and Mrs. Erford E. Porter II	Mr. and Mrs. Samuel T. Telerico
Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Kauffmann III	Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Meskers	Ms. Claudia M. Powers	Mr. John Thorndike
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Kavanagh	Ms. Kathleen C. Millard	Mr. and Mrs. John E. Prunier	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Torretta
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy E. Kaye	Mr. and Mrs. John A. Minor	Mrs. John H. Prunier	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel P. Tredwell
Mr. and Mrs. Michael B. Killeen	Mrs. Katharine S. Minton	Mr. and Mrs. David M. Renton	Mr. and Mrs. Hobart G. Truesdell
Mrs. William A. King	Ms. Livia Verfy Moller	Dr. and Mrs. Albert J. Repicci	Mr. and Mrs. Peter L. Uhry
Mrs. John M. Kingsley, Jr.	Mrs. Darlene Moore	Mr. and Mrs. Russell S. Reynolds Jr.	Mrs. Marnie L. Valley
Dr. Robert N. Kitchen	Mr. and Mrs. Chris Moran	Mr. and Mrs. William T. Reynolds Jr.	Dr. Jana Waters
Dr. and Mrs. James S. Krinsley	Mrs. Robert A. Morelli	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Riddell	Mr. and Mrs. William D. Watt
Mr. Richard F. Kriskey	Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Morgan	Dr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Robinson	Dr. Jeffrey H. Weinberger
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kriskey	Mr. and Mrs. James E. Morris Jr.	Ms. N. Wolf & Mr. J. Rosengarten	Ms. N. Voye & Mr. M. Weissler
Mrs. William T. Lapcevic	Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Mountain	Dr. and Mrs. Allen Rothman	Ms. Caralliene Westbrook
Dr. and Mrs. Robert H. Lawrence, Jr.	Ms. Karen C. Mueller	Mr. and Mrs. Felix Rovelli	Mr. and Mrs. Anthony E. Whyte
Mr. and Mrs. James Y. Lee	Dr. and Mrs. Robert Mulcare	Mr. and Mrs. Evan Salop	Ms. Michele M. Loughridge & Mr. Mark Loughridge Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Lewis	Mr. and Mrs. James A. Mullins	Mr. and Mrs. James F. Santora	Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wilson
Ms. Catherine Lewis	Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Murphy	Mrs. Judy Schedler	Ms. Barbara Zappavigna
Estate of Wayne Leizear	Mr. Jon C. Nesvig	Mr. and Mrs. G. Peter Schieferdecker	Dr. and Mrs. Eric K. Zitzmann
Mrs. Eleanor A. Lorig	Mrs. Bruce Nicholas	Mr. and Mrs. Craig Schneider	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Luce	Mr. and Mrs. John T. Norrgard	Ms. Diana G. Serrell	<b>CORPORATION/FOUNDATIONS</b>
Mr. and Mrs. Neil P. Lucey	Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Nye	Mr. and Mrs. John C. Shaw	Charities Aid Foundation America
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Machen	Mr. and Mrs. G. Peter O'Brien	Mr. and Mrs. Laurence B. Simon	First County Bank Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Scott James and Ms. Mary Machnicki	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Olson	Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Simpson	Hall Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Marasso, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Olsson	Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Sloane	Edith and Herbert Lehman Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Donat Marchand	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Malley	Mr. James J. Smith	Perrot Memorial Library Asso. Activities Fund
Mrs. Daniel F. Marciano	Mrs. Mirelle B. Oplinger	Mr. Keith G. Smith	Pitney Bowes
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Masalski	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Oppedisano	Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Smith	The Resource Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Mascaro	Mr. Knowlton J. O'Reilly	Mr. and Mrs. Raymond M. Soto	Summer Rain Service
Mr. Richard V. Masi	Mr. and Mrs. C. Richard Pace	Mr. and Mrs. R. Stephen Soule	The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher McCormack	Mr. and Mrs. Charlews Parkhurst	Ms. C. and Dr. A. F. Stancell	
Mr. Miles F. McDonald	Mr. and Mrs. E. Howard Perkins III	Mr. and Mrs. George J. Stapleton	
Mr. and Mrs. Shane McGrath	Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence D. Phillipps	Mr. and Mrs. Steven P. Stearns	
	Mr. and Mrs. Robert O Phillipps	Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stevens	

*Thank You!*

# Spring Has Sprung!

by Beth Eaton

The Garden Club of Old Greenwich welcomed in Spring with Hill House residents on March 27<sup>th</sup> with a Spring Decorations Program. Everyone enjoyed creating a festive floral-themed decoration for their apartment. Options included Grapevine Wreaths, Easter Bunnies, Floral Arrangements and always the option to return a previous decoration for a “refresh!”

A selection of faux flowers, wreaths, bunnies and ceramic eggs enabled everyone to find something to get their creative juices flowing. Garden Club ladies were on hand to help get everything all together – wielding glue guns and wire cutters. Helen DeLago was on hand to whip up her famous ribbons, always the perfect finishing touch.

Wishing all a happy and healthy Spring!

*Garden Club member, Elle Bowman, demonstrates her craft skills to Hill House resident, Lung Yee.*

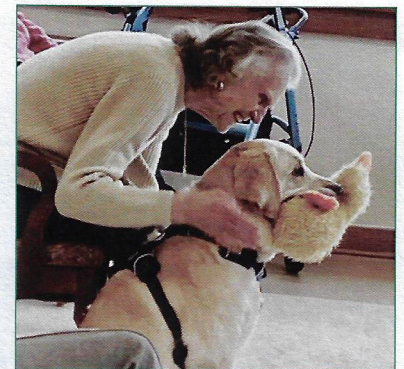


# Residents Greet Canine Visitors

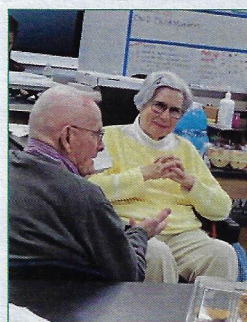
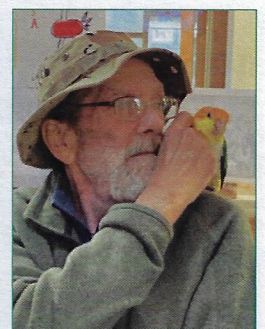
by Lisa Crowley

Hill House residents were recently treated to a fascinating presentation about service dogs. Lindsey Fahey, volunteer for Precision Service Dogs and owner of Dog Inn Training, shared information regarding the training and selection process of picking potential service dogs and about how they are used to support people with various disabilities, such as Parkinson’s, seizure disorders, PTSD, anxiety and more.

Joining Lindsey was Maverick, puppy-in-training, and Cece, retired service dog. Both dogs showed off their training and enjoyed visiting with many members of the audience.



# Some Special Moments...



## 2022 – 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Samuel E. Deibler, *President*  
Diane W. Fox, *Vice President*  
Allan Mascaro, *Vice President*  
Edward Oppedisano, *Vice President*  
Claudia M. Powers, *Vice President*  
Samuel T. Telerico, *Vice President*  
Adriana vdB Phillips, *Secretary*  
Robert E. Wilson, *Treasurer*  
Diana Whyte, *Assistant Treasurer*



Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 6003  
Stamford, CT

SENIOR RESIDENCE  
10 Riverside Avenue  
Riverside, CT 06878  
203.637.3177

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Susan S. Bartels  
Ros Brady  
Michele Brendel  
Carol A. Burns  
Libby Callaway-Carey  
Carolyn Cleveland  
Jeanette H. Clonan  
Bobbie Collins  
Lynne Davenport  
Kathy DiGiovanna  
Marc Ducret  
Beth Eaton  
Patty Kaufmann  
Christina McIntyre  
Carole McIvor  
Darlene Moore  
Geoffrey W. Robinson, DDS  
Caralliene Westbrook

### DIRECTORS EMERITI

Kathryn G. Gagliardi  
Joan Kadlec  
John H. Kuck  
Joy Lautenbach  
G. Peter O'Brien  
Suzanne Prunier

### ADVISORY BOARD

Allison Frantz  
Patricia Geismar  
Lile Gibbons  
Judy Gordon  
Jevera Kaye Hennessey  
Barbara H. Hopkins  
Carol L. Johnson  
Gail P. Telerico  
Jeffrey H. Weinberger, MD

Patricia Speroni, *Administrator*



### NEWSLETTER STAFF

Libby Callaway, Beth Eaton, Pat  
Geismar, Carole McIvor.  
Pictures courtesy of Lisa Crowley  
and Beth Eaton.

Please remember to like us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/hillhouseriverside/](http://www.facebook.com/hillhouseriverside/)



Visit our website at [www.thehillhouse.org](http://www.thehillhouse.org)  
and click on "Calendar" for more activities.

**MISSION:** To offer affordable housing for the area's low to moderate income well elderly population in a safe and caring homelike atmosphere which encourages older people to be independent, physically active, and involved with their families, friends and community.