

Right at Home (continued)

will be stepping down from the President's position after serving so ably in that position for 18 years. At our recent Board meeting, John challenged us to build on the traditions established at The Boston Home. To celebrate his leadership, we will honor him by naming our living room The John Woodard Room.

While John continues as a Trustee, joining Holly as officers of the Board are **Karen Quigley**, Vice President; **John Hannon**, Treasurer; and **Debra Frankel**, Clerk. Congratulations to all!

In this issue of *Notes from Home*, we salute our new leadership. We also present photos from our annual summer family picnic. It was a glorious day "under the tent," and these images illustrate the very essence of The Boston Home—a community nurtured by family and friends.

Finally, we revisit one of The Boston Home's newer ventures, our Spirituality and Wellness Program, which will continue to build new hope for our residents with the addition of **Sr. Bridget Haase** as Coordinator.



Marva Serotkin
Chief Executive Officer

THANK YOU, JOHN WOODARD, FOR THREE DECADES OF SERVICE

We fondly salute John Woodard, who has served The Boston Home for more than three decades, most recently stepping down as our Board President. John held that office since 1985, overseeing TBH's expansion from 42 to 84 beds in 1993—"one of the most rewarding things that occurred during my tenure," he recalls, adding that "today's building project is a continuation of that expansion."

Fortunately, John will continue as one of our Trustees, as he has done since 1971. An attorney, of counsel at Dane & Howe in Boston, he also chairs the Board of Partners Continuing Care, previously chaired the Boards of Faulkner and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospitals, and serves on the Board of the Dedham Community Association.

"The Boston Home has moved in a 30-year span from the 19th to the 21st century," says John. "If I leave any advice, it is to look forward guided by our traditions and values in decision making."

John lives with wife, Linda, in Dedham. They have two grown children.

John Woodard, first row, far right,
at our recent family picnic.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS CHEERS TO ROSEMARY AND PETER GILBERTO

Our Champions for this issue are **Rosemary** and **Peter Gilberto** of Wakefield. They are the devoted parents of **Laurie Gilberto**, a resident on our second floor.

Laurie graduated from Bentley College with a BA in Business and held a responsible job at Polaroid Corporation. She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1987 and began using a wheelchair in 1991. Subsequently, she retired on disability. Her mother, Rosemary, became an active volunteer at the MS Society in Waltham.

When Laurie moved to The Boston Home, Peter and Rosemary became frequent visitors and enthusiastic volunteers. Peter, an avid golfer, took part in a golf tournament to benefit TBH. Both Peter and Rosemary often accompany our staff on outings with residents.

Recently, the Gilbertos spearheaded a drive to collect money to provide new channels for the residents' television viewing. They have raised over \$3,000, which has helped us set up seven new TV channels for our appreciative residents. We are very grateful to Rosemary and Peter as well as all the other generous friends who made this gift come true!

A Special Kind of Ministry:

Sister Bridget Haase Leads Spirituality Program



— Sister Bridget Haase

Sister Bridget Haase’s life journey has included ministry throughout the country and the Third World: HIV/AIDS day care in Dedham; education and social services in Appalachia, Mexico, and West Africa; and feeding children of the famine in the East African desert. Most recently, she was a volunteer in the popular Spirituality and Wellness Program at TBH, teaching in our “Life’s Questions” speaker series.

And now, Sr. Bridget continues her ministry close to home as Coordinator of our holistic program. “The goal of the Spirituality Program is to nurture the mind, body, and spirit of the residents,” says Sr. Bridget. “We all have the same hunger for understanding our place in life, and my goal is to help the residents with that spiritual journey.”

Sister Bridget, who lives in the Ursuline Convent in Dedham, is the author of *Well Said*, a collection of children’s words of wisdom. She has a B.A. from the College of New Rochelle in New York and a Masters of Religious Studies from the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas.

Welcome to our Home!

Another Spiritual Journey:

Local Author Shares Lessons at TBH

Spiritual journeys sometimes start with rejection and turn into joy. Such was the case with Kate Young Caley, a Quincy author and teacher, who recently spoke with residents about her quest to find a spiritual home, as reflected in her book *The House Where the Hardest Things Happened*.

Kate’s book is a memoir that details her family’s eviction from an evangelical church in New Hampshire. Rather than being bitter about her church’s hypocritical actions, Kate channeled her energy to write some inspirational prose.

“I think (we) are born with a longing for God, and things in life get in the way of that,” says Kate. Messages like this resonated with many of our residents, who enjoyed listening to Kate read her book to them.

— Kate Young Caley



Nurses and Numbers

Congrats...to **Norma Harrington**, LSW, MSCN, Care Manager, for receiving the highest credential in the MS field—Multiple Sclerosis Certified Nurse (MSCN). We’re also proud to announce that two former CNAs have passed their nursing exam and are working at TBH—**Dany Exanthus**, RN and **Chantal Loiseau**, RN. We are committed to career development for all staff, and we have a special enrichment program for staff enrolled in nursing school. Also, we recently received a \$75,000 state grant to continue our highly acclaimed career ladder program.

Welcome...to our new CFO, **Paul Carroll**. Paul previously held top financial posts for VNS of Greater RI, Partners Healthcare Inc., and Deaconess-Glover Hospital.

Construction Update

Phase I...of our construction and expansion is nearly complete. Residents are enjoying the bright and spacious new Activities Room, new resident lounges have opened on floors 1 and 2, and our laundry and food service staff is in their new “homes.”

Phase II...is underway with the excavation in the back for the new dining rooms. Some functions have been relocated to accommodate renovation for the new rooms in the 1927 building, so please check signs for directions. We apologize for any inconvenience during this time.

HIGH TIMES UNDER



Christine Colangelo and guests



Fred Holway and family
from the James T. Walsh



Eleanor Kasilowicz and guests



Don Dalpe and guests



Robert Manning and guests

UNDER THE BIG TENT!



...y present a check
...sh Memorial Fund



Francine Evans and Claudia
Badgett and guests



Lisa Ciavattone and guests



Bernie Sneed and guests



Our Staff

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CLINICAL SERVICES
- MARK WILLIAMSON**, EXT. 259
HUMAN RESOURCES

Family Picnic

Our festive annual picnic on the grounds of The Boston Home took place on August 25th this year.

Laurie Gilberto enjoys being entertained.



HAPPENINGS AT HOME

Holiday Dinners

Please make your reservations for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners.
Contact Jeff Meech at ext. 277.

TRANSITIONS

Welcome to our newest resident, Farzin Saberi!

The "Original" Boston Home of 1881



The Boston Home

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Member of **AURUM**,
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Reserve Holiday Dinners—
see back page

Notes from Home

RIGHT AT HOME

NEW BOARD PRESIDENT CONTINUES TRADITION OF COMMUNITY BUILDING

Skill in the building and rebuilding of community...“is one of the highest and most essential skills a leader can command.” Those words, written by John Gardner, former Secretary of HEW, reflect the leadership demonstrated

throughout the years by our Board of Trustees—and they have special meaning today with the election of Holly Burnes as our new President.



—MARVA SEROTKIN

Holly, elected at our October Board Meeting, is the second generation in her family to serve in this capacity, and she has personified the spirit of community building since she became a Trustee of The Boston Home in 1985. As a clinician, Holly brings a unique perspective to the challenge of balancing the traditional nursing home role and our commitment to community building for our residents.

Holly’s election followed the announcement by John Woodard that he

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NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP PLEDGES FURTHER COMMITMENT TO RESIDENTS’ QUALITY OF LIFE

The Boston Home extends our congratulations and warmest welcome to **Holly Burnes**, RN, MS, CS, newly elected President of our Board of Trustees.

Holly’s election represents two milestones: She’s the first woman and the first medical professional to preside over the Board. A nurse and mind-body psychotherapist in private practice, she’s been a Board member since 1985. “At that time,” she muses, “The Board had his-and-hers roles—the women helped the residents, and the men made sure the numbers worked.”



— Holly Burnes

Holly joined the men and set out to shape TBH strategy: She sat on the Board’s Investment Committee, chaired the Board Development Committee, and served as Vice President for the past four years.

Before starting her private practice, Holly was Director of Mind/Body Programs at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, where she led groups for patients with MS, among other diseases.

She reflects, “At The Boston Home, we take care of mind, body, and spirit. As residents are with us longer, the mind and spirit components become much more vital. My commitment is to ensure that residents’ quality of life continues to grow as our physical space grows.

“TBH has evolved into an institution that’s setting the pace for excellent care of residents with complex needs,” she adds. “Outgoing President John Woodard had done a magnificent job of stewarding the Board for many years, and I will do my best to follow in his footsteps. I envision this becoming a higher-profile institution and reaching out for affiliations with many other organizations, including teaching hospitals.”

Adds Marva Serotkin, TBH CEO, “Holly brings many talents and exciting aspirations to her important new position. I’m grateful for her past contributions, and we all look forward to an exciting new chapter for The Boston Home.”

A Chestnut Hill resident, Holly also serves on the Board of the Brookline Community Fund. She and her husband, Daniel, have three grown children.

THE BOSTON HOME SALUTES JOHN WOODARD

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