



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Message of Hope, Good Health, and A New Year Filled with Promise



As 2022 begins, I want to extend my heartfelt wishes for a healthy, happy New Year to all my fellow

Woman's Board members and their families.

Despite the ongoing changes and challenges we faced this past year as a result of the continued pandemic and life in general, many of us approached the holiday season with a sense of hope, reflection, togetherness, and renewal. We were looking forward to getting back on track with our traditional holiday experiences, but a surge in COVID cases changed all that. As the month of December approached, we found ourselves in virtually the same position as in 2020 regarding how we would gather and celebrate our holidays. So much of what we missed from holiday experiences of the past left us clamoring to go back to spending time together, engaging in family traditions, and enjoying simpler things we may have taken for granted. No doubt, the thought of another holiday in isolation was not what most of us were looking forward to. Clearly, we were hoping to replace the pandemic minutia and mundane with something much more meaningful and rewarding.



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As we look to rebound from COVID-19, the Omicron variant, and all that the pandemic continues to throw at us, I can only hope that we can all stay on course - persevere and grow from what we have faced individually, organizationally, and within our community. Despite the setbacks, we must continue to find ways to forge ahead, stay positive, show compassion, extend kindness, and make adjustments when needed. Though this may take larger than normal amounts of time, energy, and patience, we really need to stick together as families, organizations, groups, and communities, so that we can continue to achieve positive outcomes. No one can do it alone!



As President, I couldn't be more proud of the successful outcomes our group collectively managed to produce over the last two years despite the circumstances and challenges we faced. Communication, back-to-basic fundraising strategies, and everyone playing their part are what's working and getting us through the tough times. Many within the community are amazed by the extent of our success and what we have been able to accomplish!



I cannot thank each and every one of you enough for going above and beyond when called upon to do your part. Together we are making things happen! Together we have persevered! Together

we will shine! Thank you so much for your continued dedication, commitment, hard work, and can-do spirit! I really appreciate all that you do! Stay Safe & Stay Healthy!

With Warm Wishes for a New Year filled with Peace, Hope, Love, Happiness, and Prosperity!

Valentín Iamartino

Fundraising Report

**Co-Chairs Arlene Baril,
Linnea Sarantopoulos, & Cheryl Medlyn**

The Fundraising Committee would like to provide you with an update about recent and upcoming Woman's Board events.

Ladies Annual Golf Tournament

The Annual Golf Tournament, which was held on September 11 at Harrisville Golf Course, was extremely successful, raising \$7,023. Special thanks go to Jane Bullock and her team for doing a wonderful job organizing the event.



It's a Holly Jolly Cash Calendar

The holiday cash calendar raffle was a huge success, with a different winner selected each day, from November 25, 2021 through Christmas Day. Participation in the raffle was impressive, with over 100 people purchasing calendars and a total of \$10,600 raised for Day Kimball Hospital. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought calendars!

 "It's a Holly Jolly Cash Calendar" November 25th - December 25th						
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 27 \$100 Cash & \$50 Home Cash Sponsored by: Deborah Robinson & Deborah Robinson	NOVEMBER 28 \$100 Farm to Table Market Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	NOVEMBER 29 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	NOVEMBER 30 \$50 Dinner & \$50 Bakery & \$50 Bakery Sponsored by: Christine Robinson	DECEMBER 1 \$150 Cash Sponsored by: Christine Robinson	DECEMBER 2 \$50 Dinner & \$50 Lunch Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 3 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon
DECEMBER 4 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 5 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 6 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 7 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 8 \$75 to Anya Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 9 \$100 GC to LL Bean Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 10 \$50 Cash & \$50 Farm to Table Market Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon
DECEMBER 11 \$200 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 12 \$100 Amazon Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 13 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 14 \$250 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 15 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 16 \$50 Christmas & \$50 Christmas Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 17 \$100 Amazon Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon
DECEMBER 18 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 19 \$50 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 20 \$100 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 21 \$50 Con & \$50 Home Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 22 \$100 Amazon Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 23 \$100 Amazon Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon	DECEMBER 24 \$250 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon
DECEMBER 25 \$500 Cash Sponsored by: Mary Ann Reardon						

Valentine Dinner Dance

It was with good intentions that we were expecting to hold our annual Valentine Dinner Dance on February 12, 2022 at Wright's Mill. However, as the surge in coronavirus cases took hold in December and the first week of January, we were forced to make the decision to once again cancel it. While it was a difficult decision, we knew as partners of a community hospital, we had to do the right thing - what was best for everyone's safety and well-being. Though the dance itself is canceled, we will be sending out a letter to (past) sponsors and donors giving them the option to make an in-kind contribution to our cause. Please do not hesitate to contact Arlene, Linnea, or Cheryl with COVID-safe fundraising ideas.

Meet Linnea Sarantopoulos

Elaine Turner



Linnea graciously agreed to be interviewed on a last-minute basis. However, my first attempt at contact had challenges with email and phone, and we were not able to connect. But timing is everything, and I believe

we are exactly where we belong, doing just what we choose to do, with the very person we are supposed to be doing it with!

I have said it before - most members I speak with don't know how their story can help anyone else. They often wonder if the things they do have an impact on the world. Well, I can tell you this - your life matters, nothing happens by accident, and every time you help someone, it has a ripple effect. This is the story of an individual who has had a major impact on her community!

Linnea grew up in a Finnish and Swedish family of new immigrants. Her family in the United



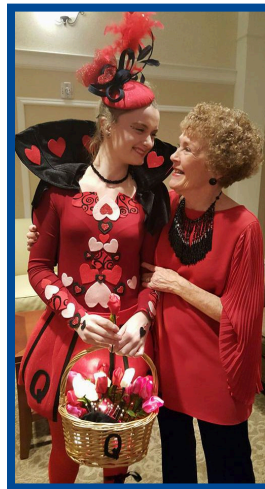
States was small, consisting of Linnea, her parents, a brother, and an aunt. When she married into a large Greek family, her extended family expanded to include her husband's ten siblings, nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles. "I spoke fluent Finnish at home, and the culture was very much shared with the close community and the children," reflects Linnea. "I had been around people from the old country where something was always going on like celebrations and gatherings, so marrying into a large family was great."

They went on to have two sons - Christian, an attorney, and Gregory, an electrical engineer, both of whom are civic-minded, volunteering for the town and schools. Both are also musical, having played classic piano since the age of 8 years. Grandchildren round out the family, so what once started off small has grown significantly, bringing a tremendous amount of joy.

"I have always been involved in civic activities but had little time to do much while working and raising a family," recalled Linnea. "In 1964, I graduated from Simmons College and married, starting my career as a Home Economics Teacher at Ellis Tech." That summer, Linnea worked with the Head Start Program and ran a Nursery School with little experience beyond the years she taught Sunday School as a young woman. In 1965, she was hired by the Killingly Junior High School, moving to Killingly Intermediate School later in her career.

"My first real civic involvement was the Northeast Cancer Crusaders in 1988. I was still working, but Arlene [Baril] and I worked closely with a great team, and we successfully fundraised quite a bit of money," she exclaimed. When Linnea was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1989, she realized how important her local hospital and effective treatment were to her recovery.

In 2008, Arlene (already a member) invited Linnea to join the Woman's Board of DKH and its Fundraising Committee. Together, they applied the fundraising skills they had developed while working with the Northeast Cancer Crusaders. "I wanted to raise funds from the community, and my first ever event involved hosting actor Brian Dennehy for a 'Stew and Story' fundraiser," Linnea remembers. "And it was successful, with the expenses covered by sponsors."



Linnea with her granddaughter at 2017 Valentine Dinner Dance

"Besides my family, my Woman's Board pride and joy is the Valentine Dinner Dance in February. We started with these ideas, and at the time, there was not much support for it. We decided to forge ahead with it, selling ads, and acquiring community support. We held it at Wright's Mill in a roaring snow-storm, raising \$9,600. In 2014, the Dinner Dance was held at Stonehurst, raising \$14,000," Linnea proudly shared.



"Since then I have been working as part of a trio: Arlene, Cheryl [Medlyn], and I have been coming up with new ideas and expanding our Committee," said Linnea. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it was even more essential to think up creative ways to fundraise. "Cheryl Medlyn



created the Christmas Wreath Fundraiser, Heidi Hare the Cash Calendar Raffles. Debbie Cornman is invaluable at putting together the Newsletter. Jane Bullock and the Committee take the reins on the Golf Tournament, and Valentine has been steering the Woman's Board in a good direction with her community contacts and knowledge of marketing and social media. Sometimes you need five or six members; other fundraising requires twelve or fourteen. The Woman's Board is blessed with so many members, too numerous to mention, who have their own special interest or expertise and who bring valuable contributions to our fundraising efforts. To those, I am grateful." In the future, Linnea imagines the Woman's Board will need to have more community involvement, not just the members, to continue to be successful.



The powerhouse trio of Arlene Baril, Linnea Sarantopoulos, and Cheryl Medlyn

After having recent surgery, Linnea reflects on her need to stay active. "I cannot stand to sit around doing nothing! After a day or two, I need something to plan. Right now, I am getting ready for Thanksgiving. The kids will help prep the house and bring the side dishes. I already made my apple pies, and they are in the freezer ready to go!" Of course they are, I thought. No time to waste, my dear friend and fellow Woman's Board Member. When something needs to get done, we know just who to call!

The Shop at Day Kimball Hospital Chair Kim Lecuyer



The Woman's Board and The Shop at DKH helped paint Putnam pink during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in

October 2021. We sold Pink Shirts in The Shop, and all proceeds plus a \$100 donation were donated to the DKH Oncology Department.

Our Shop hours are Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If those hours do not work with your schedule, please contact Gift Shop Manager Kim Lecuyer at 860-508-1382 to find a more convenient time.



We ask that you enter the hospital at the upper Staff Entrance and that you always wear a mask when inside.



We want to give a special thanks to all the volunteers who help keep The Gift Shop running. We could

not do it without all of you! Your commitment and dedication warm our hearts!

We look forward to seeing you at The Gift Shop, where you can do your shopping and support The Woman's Board! Happy New Year!

Membership

Chair Wanda Mineo

Please join us in welcoming our newest Woman's Board members!



Lisa Aguiar

Lisa resides in Plainfield, CT. She is the Director of the Supply Chain at Day Kimball Healthcare.



Carmel Osterlund

Carmel resides in Brooklyn, CT. She is the Owner and President of 101 Business Solutions LLC in Brooklyn.



Carmen Pisc, MD

Carmen resides in Andover, MA. She is the Medical Director of the Oncology Department at Day Kimball Healthcare.



Susan Walkama

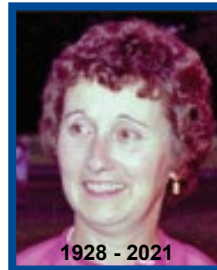
Susan resides in Dayville, CT. She is a retired Healthcare Administrator.



Linda J. Warner

Linda resides in Brooklyn, CT. Before retiring, she worked at Charter Oak Federal Credit Union in Dayville. She also worked for Hospice through Day Kimball Hospital and the Plainfield School System.

In Memoriam



It is with much sadness that we announce the passing of **Muriel Walker** on October 10, 2021 at the age of 92. She "lived most of her life in Danielson," worked as "a clerk in the insurance industry," and volunteered for many

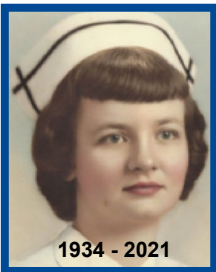
organizations, including WBDKH. "She was deeply committed to her family, her faith, and her community." (See Obituaries in [Killingly Villager](#), 19 November 2021, page A10).



It is with a heavy heart that we inform you of the passing of **Evelyn Richards Russell** on December 6, 2021 at the age of 101. Evelyn was "a music educator who was married for 58 years and raised her two sons in Putnam, CT. She was

very active in helping the Woman's Board raise funds for Day Kimball Hospital. "She and her good friend, Gertie Margolick, helped organize annual events to raise funds for the Hospital. 'The Caberet' was one which showcased her musical talents as well as those of the Hospital staff." A Tribute to Evelyn can be found at:

<https://gagnonandcostellofh.com/tribute/details/7764/Evelyn-Russell/obituary.html#tribute-start>



We are saddened to report the passing of **Helen Ballou** on December 21, 2021 at age 87. Resident of Woodstock, CT and mother of six children, she “dedicated most of her career to Day Kimball Hospital” and “was a pioneer and instrumental in creating the first birthing center” at DKH. She joined The Woman’s Board in 1988, where she served as a past President and a Director. A Tribute to Helen can be found at: <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/23454516/helen-e-ballou>

Our condolences to the families and friends of Muriel, Evelyn, and Helen.



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On December 23, 2021, WBDKH President Valentine lamartino presented a check for \$1000 on behalf of The Woman's Board to Christine Collins, Crisis Center Grants Coordinator for SACCEC (Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut). The WBDKH Officers and Directors approved the donation for needed forensic monitoring equipment and advocacy programs. With Northeast Connecticut being one of the highest per capita in the State for sexual abuse, child abuse, and domestic violence, the group agreed that they needed to do their part to help address abuse in all its forms. For more information, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/wbdkh/posts/4690019244410196>



More information about the Woman's Board can be found on our website at wbdkh.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/wbdkh.





\$200,000

WOMAN'S BOARD
OF DAY KIMBALL HOSPITAL

**The Burdick Family
Birthing Center
Renovations**

**Our Current
Pledge Effort**



This is why we work hard...
Visit www.wbdkh.org
to see how your
donation can help...

The infographic features a vertical thermometer with a red liquid level reaching the \$200,000 mark. The thermometer scale is labeled from \$0 to \$200,000 in increments of \$20,000. The background of the infographic shows a brick building, likely the birthing center, and a silhouette of a man holding a pregnant woman.

**"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."
- C.S. Lewis**