1. Getting a blood pressure check at the 2013 MVH Health Fair.
2. Wendy Bujak (phlebotomist).
3. Deb Glasser and Karen Bressler (volunteers).
4. (left to right) Volunteers Pamela Burke, Alice Franklin, and Alice Goyert.
5. Gayle Poggi, LICSW (case manager) and acute care nurse manager Nina Thayer, RN.
6. Deborah O’Malley, LPN.
7. Muriel Monaco (lab tech).
8. Maternity nurse manager Joyce Capobianco, RN.
9. Chris Porterfield, director of dietary services, and Elisa Natchioni.

PHOTOS BY HEIDI WILD

Caring for Our Community
Providing quality health care in the rural setting of an intensely seasonal Island community will always pose huge financial challenges, and in leading this institution we will always need to be alert for ways to contain costs and improve our efficiency. But with our new Hospital building now in its fourth year of service, and with our membership in the Partners HealthCare network now in its seventh year, the focus has shifted. Quality of care is firmly in the foreground at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital – as it should be – and it’s in this arena that the headlines are being made:

New Oncology and Hematology

The Hospital’s new oncology and hematology services, offered in a suite of rooms newly created in the former ER, are now being held at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, and new pain clinic services are sparing Islanders the need to travel for their medical care.

Orthopedic and Sports Surgeon

After a national recruiting effort, the Hospital announced this spring that Dr. Mark M. Scheffer, orthopedic and sports surgeon, is joining the medical staff in July. Dr. Scheffer, who brings a broad expertise in joint replacement and arthroscopic surgery, says that our Hospital’s affiliation with Mass General and access to its expertise featured heavily in his decision to come here.

Integrated Care Management

This spring, Martha’s Vineyard Hospital launched the Integrated Care Management program, based on a similar initiative pioneered at Mass General and focused on improving patient care through a team approach that coordinates communication among patients and their doctors, specialists and home care providers.

Comprehensive Restoration

And at the Windemere Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, a comprehensive restoration of the building’s exterior is underway, funded with $2 million from Mass General Hospital and $1 million from Partners HealthCare. This completes three years of renovations at Windemere, which began with improvements to the patient care facilities inside the building – work which now brings the physical plant up to a level that matches the compassionate care delivered daily by its staff.

Behind these headlines are countless stories of the small transactions that make up a year in the life of a community hospital – from the emergency room to the maternity department, from the offices of our primary care doctors to the pharmacy, the lab, the rehab center and the cafeteria. Our partnership with Mass General and the Partners organization gives us resources and support in this daily work, but our ultimate and most vital partnership is with the Vineyard community that supports Martha’s Vineyard Hospital and makes this work possible. We are so grateful for your support and we promise never to forget this institution’s mission: to safeguard the health of Islanders – year-round, seasonal and visitors – with high-quality, accessible medical care delivered in an atmosphere that fosters respect and compassion.

Chief of the Medical Staff Update

The recent Patriot’s Day explosion in Boston looms large as I write to you this year. As a trustee of Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, I received a detailed update at a recent Partners HealthCare general board meeting regarding the care provided to victims of this terrible tragedy at both the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. The care the victims received was exemplary and in keeping with the ranking of the two Partners Healthcare founding hospitals, among the best in the world. I must say that I am very proud of our hospital’s affiliation with the MGH and our membership in Partners Healthcare.

This past year we have continued to build on our affiliation with Mass General in numerous ways, all with the goal of providing world-class healthcare to residents and visitors right here on our Island. Our radiology department has completed the integration of the MVH imaging system into the MGH radiology image archiving system, allowing for improved specialist image interpretation and increased use of our state-of-the-art CT scan and MRI machines for sophisticated imaging tests. Our anesthesia service has expanded using a combination of telemedicine and on-site specialists to provide pain management services. Our ability to take care of critically ill newborns and young children has been enhanced through a telemedicine initiative involving neonatal and pediatric intensive care specialists from the Mass General Hospital for Children. And in what I think is the most exciting development in our affiliation to date, we have partnered with the Mass General Cancer Center to provide enhanced cancer services. These include weekly visits by their cancer specialists and a nurse practitioner specializing in cancer care. This new service will allow our cancer patients to benefit from the world-renowned expertise of the MGH while receiving their treatment locally.

Since my last report to you, Martha’s Vineyard Hospital added a number of new members to our Medical Staff including Drs. Jon Pangia, Morris Rivera, and Tammy Thome to our Emergency Department. This summer we look forward to the arrival of orthopedic surgeon, Mark M. Scheffer, M.D. Dr. Scheffer, comes to us from Dartmouth-Hitchcock Orthopedic Center and will bring a wealth of expertise in minimally invasive joint surgery, including joint replacements. His arrival will allow us to continue to expand on our vision of providing world-class care locally.

Our work to enhance our information technology in our physician practices goes on. This year will see the addition of the “Patient Gateway” program, which will allow patients to communicate with their providers electronically. On the hospital side, we are well underway with the implementation of a new IT system, which will do away with paper all together while enhancing patient care quality and patient safety.

None of the exciting changes described above would have been possible without the generous support of our patients and our donors. On behalf of the medical staff, I would like to thank you for embracing our vision as we continue to make Martha’s Vineyard Hospital a place where you will get the best of care.

Best wishes for good health,

Timothy J. Walsh
President & CEO

Pieter Pil, MD, PhD, Chief of the Medical Staff.
Volunteers: Making a Difference

When Angela Rhoderick started work last summer as the new volunteer coordinator at Martha's Vineyard Hospital, one of the first tasks she set for herself was to survey every Hospital department in search of new volunteer opportunities. “I did that,” she says, “and it was such an eye-opener — because there are so many ways for volunteers to help and make a difference here.”

Seeing all these opportunities, and drawing upon her own long career experience with IBM, Ms. Rhoderick set up a volunteer management system called Volgistics – a package of software that manages all volunteer records, helps define each volunteer clearly, and creates schedules that make it easy to see where the openings are. But Ms. Rhoderick understands that the best software is only a tool, and that volunteering at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital is finally about people helping people. In less than a year, she’s grown the ranks of Hospital volunteers from fewer than a dozen to more than sixty people. This year, in the quiet months of January and February when many Islanders are away on their vacations, 31 Hospital volunteers delivered more than 20 weeks worth of service.

“It takes a very special person who can communicate and who wants to spend the time and make a difference and change someone’s day,” says Ms. Rhoderick. “Our volunteers from the high school are so amazing — they have such an interest in caring for others and in helping.”

Jackie had learned about opportunities at the Hospital from a high school classmate, Sophie Uyllatt, who volunteers regularly in the medical records department. Now she’s working with Ms. Rhoderick to develop the Friendly Visitors service, volunteering in the patient care unit every Friday afternoon.

This year, in the quiet months of January and February when many Islanders were away on their vacations, 31 Hospital volunteers delivered more than 20 weeks worth of service.

Thank You
To Our Generous Volunteers

1,000 hours
Sofia Anthony, Cynthia Schilling, Barbara Wallen
500 hours
Gail Burke, Anne Duss, Doris Gregory, Jack Rollins, Sara Wenner, Angela Rhoderick, Elders Garret Rushforth, Bruno Sousa
100 hours
Karen Bresler, Cynthia Harriman, Tuffy McCarthy, Ann Merritt, Sierra Simon, Katherine Smith, Katherine Wilson

Volunteers are an important resource to both Martha’s Vineyard Hospital and Windemere. Donating their time and energy to provide support to patients, residents, families and visitors, our volunteers’ talents and enthusiasm make an inestimable contribution to our community. Volunteering is a true win/win for all.

Partners in Excellence Award

(left to right) Ken Chisholm, director of Human Resources with nurse manager Nina Thayer R.N.; case manager Gayle Poggi R.N.; Dr. Merrie Beth Dodge and Martha's Vineyard Hospital President and CEO, Timothy Walsh. Ms. Thayer and Dr. Dodge received the award on behalf of the acute care service committee for their quality treatment and service through patient-centered care. Ms. Poggi received her award for “program in motion – managing our resources for excellent patient care.”
Every December a tree at the Hospital is lit with hundreds of lights, each donated by an individual in honor or in memory of a loved one. We are deeply grateful to all who helped to light the tree once again.
**Reaching Out to Improve Patient Care**

Martha’s Vineyard Hospital launched a new initiative in April. The program, developed by Massachusetts General Hospital, is called Integrated Care Management. It is based on the premise that medically complicated patients have improved clinical outcomes and enjoy a higher quality of life when an outpatient care manager assists with the care coordination and communication between patients and their team of doctors, specialists and home care providers.

Cheryl Kram, R.N., our new outpatient high-risk care manager has been working with Dedie Wieler, R.N., the Hospital’s chief quality officer, to adapt the program to the needs of the Vineyard community.

“A great thing about this program is that there’s a provision for home visits, so I can go to someone’s home and see how they’re living their day.”

In her new job, Ms. Kram will manage approximately 100 Vineyard patients who have been identified as medically high-risk. They might have multiple medical conditions that complicate their care, or chronic and severe conditions like diabetes or congestive heart failure.

Ms. Kram’s job is to keep in touch with the patients when they’re at home, making sure they follow the care plans that keep their medical problems managed. When her patients are hospitalized here on the Vineyard, she’ll work with Gayle Puglisi, R.N., the Hospital’s inpatient care manager, to set up a discharge plan that enables the patient to be stable and healthy by connecting them with appropriate services and resources. And, when Cheryl’s patients are hospitalized at MGH or any other Partner’s Hospital, she will work with their case managers to set up those discharge plans as well.

Ms. Kram noted that one of her first tasks with each patient in this program is to understand their circumstances at home, and to connect them with services they might need in the community. “Regular meetings with the primary care doctors are built in to review patients and how they are doing,” she says. “And a great thing about this program is that there’s a provision for home visits, so I can go to someone’s home and see how they’re living their day — how they’re taking their meds, how they’re cooking their meals, how they’re managing.”

Ms. Kram will measure the success of this new program by how patients are doing — mentally and physically — and whether the program is able to effect some change that supported them one in the community, living independently, taking care of themselves, having some quality of life and being able to do the things they want to do.

“For those of us who know Cheryl,” Ms. Wieler says, “it was obvious that she was a perfect fit. She has personal experience as a visiting nurse, a hospital case manager, and in a physician office setting, so she brings all the pieces of the puzzle to the table. In addition, Cheryl is familiar with the support services that are available on the Island. She’s the total package.”

Says Ms. Kram, “I feel this brings my 30 years of work experience together, all in one job.”

**New Surgeon Brings Broad Expertise**

Mark M. Scheffer, M.D., a surgeon specializing in orthopedics and sports medicine, brings a new level of surgical services to Martha’s Vineyard Hospital when he joins the medical staff on July 15. A 1989 graduate of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Dr. Scheffer spent his residency at the renowned Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., working with Dr. Mark Coventry, a pioneer in the development of hip replacement surgery.

While serving in the United States Air Force, Dr. Scheffer was a member of the medical team at the USAF Academy in Colorado, where he cared for the hockey team and had plenty of opportunity to practice sports medicine. “The Air Force Academy has 2,000 cadets banging themselves up every day,” he says, “doing combat training and sports. We got really good at sports injuries — knees, ACL tears, shoulder injuries, sprains, fractures. I also did a lot of joint replacements for retired military people — there’s a huge population there.”

For the past 15 years, Dr. Scheffer has been an orthopedic surgeon at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Orthopedics Center in Concord, N.H. He saw the Vineyard job advertised around Christmas time. After visiting the Island for a long weekend in January, he decided this job was for him.

The combination of training at Mayo, with an emphasis on joint replacements, and spending time in the military with a focus on sports injuries, has given him experience that’s useful here, Dr. Scheffer says. “A lot of young doctors now are trained to be ultra-specialist in one area: a knee, hip or a shoulder. My spectrum of practice has been much broader. I’ve felt very comfortable for many years now in the operating room; I’ve done thousands of surgical cases. I feel very comfortable doing arthroscopic cases, trauma cases, joint replacements. I think my range of experience is really ideal for the Island.”

Dr. Scheffer plans to offer a new service as well — a new approach to hip replacement surgery that he believes will someday be the standard. Called anterior hip replacement, it involves an incision at the front of the hip instead of through the buttocks or the side of the hip. This approach, permits the surgeon to reach the hip socket without cutting through major muscle groups.

“After anterior hip replacement,” Dr. Scheffer says, “people are typically up on their feet the afternoon after surgery, if done in the morning, and sometimes they’re leaving the hospital the next day. My experience is that people come off the crutches and start walking much faster, it’s a much quicker recovery.”

Dr. Scheffer says about two-thirds of his surgeries are arthroscopic — involving access to injuries through tiny quarter-inch incisions. As with anterior hip replacement, one great advantage of arthroscopic surgery is that because the incision wound is so much smaller, recovery time is shorter.

Dr. Scheffer says the affiliation of Martha’s Vineyard Hospital with Massachusetts General Hospital was a big factor in his decision to come here. “With our integrated X-ray services, I’ll be able to communicate in real time with Mass General, looking at the same exact images they’re looking at, confronting with orthopedists and radiologists up there. Knowing there’s that kind of support and technology, and that resources are there to back me up — that’s so important.”

The satisfactions of work as an orthopedic surgeon, he says, are deep. “In other areas of medicine, often you’re managing chronic illnesses, and there really isn’t a cure. Orthopedics is a great way to take someone who’s injured, often depressed by their injury, immensely dissatisfied about not being able to do the things they enjoy — and return them to a level of function that restores not only physical health but mental health as well. There’s nothing more gratifying, because you really do get that closure. You can say goodbye to people who are better — they’re fixed — and they go back to doing the things they enjoy again.”

“When people can’t exercise, their health suffers — blood sugars, weight, and blood pressure all go up — all these other health problems can develop secondarily from an orthopedic injury or a degenerative condition. We can reverse that. To see people come in a year later, having lost thirty pounds, is so gratifying. I had a patient who bicycled across the country after I fixed his knee. It was one of the proudest moments of his life. I had a patient who was able to participate in the senior Olympics after recovering from his orthopedic procedure. Shortly afterwards, he arrived in my office and presented me with his medal, saying that he couldn’t have done it without me.”

Dr. Scheffer and his wife Susan are avid sailors. They look forward to their arrival and navigating in Vineyard waters.

**Prudence Look Society**

In memory of Prudence Look, one of the founders of Martha’s Vineyard Hospital and the first president of the Hospital’s Women’s Auxiliary, we have established The Prudence Look Society to honor the generosity of individuals who support the mission of Martha’s Vineyard Hospital through planned gifts.

This year, we are pleased to be able to thank these members:

Reverend Alden Besse
Mr. and Mrs. Garth W. Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hale

Janice and Bill Lehmburg
In March, a team of seven inspectors from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) paid a visit to the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital Lab. CAP, which serves as the lab’s accrediting and certifying body, visits member hospitals every two years with a daunting amount of requirements to work through the inspection.

“It was a long day,” says Lena Prisco PhD, lab director, but she quickly adds: “It went fine.” There are always a few items that require follow-up on inspections like this, but the Hospital lab was recommended for a full two-year accreditation.

It’s not as if the CAP inspection is the only time the Hospital lab checks its procedures and the accuracy of its methods and instruments. During daily operations, quality control is run and in alternate inspection years the lab does its own self-inspection, Dr. Prisco says, and all through the year, CAP submits random unknown samples to be sure the lab’s work is spot-on.

Dr. Prisco, who serves as a CAP inspection team leader herself, says the peer-review process at its best is quite a useful experience. “You can learn a lot of things visiting other labs,” she says.

The biggest advances at the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital laboratory since the last CAP inspection two years ago have been in two areas: expanding the number of in-house tests the lab performs, and handling both test orders and the communication of lab results electronically.

In all, Dr. Prisco says, the Hospital lab now performs about three dozen tests in-house, about the same number that were sent off-island as recently as two years ago. There’s an improvement in patient care and a potential cost savings passed along to patients, she says. “When a test is done here,” she says, “we can contact the doctor faster.”

Perhaps one of the most dramatic changes at the lab is its ability to test for Lyme disease and return a result in as little as 60 minutes to a doctor in the emergency room. Another example is that the lab can now do hormone tests, enabling Martha’s Vineyard Hospital to provide laboratory support for fertility treatments.

Meanwhile, the work of the Hospital lab has been fully integrated into the new electronic medical records system since January. “There’s no more hand entry or faxing,” says Dr. Prisco, “which is more accurate and has really decreased the paperwork. People are still used to paper, but they are thinking more electronically now.”

Most of the lab’s older equipment was updated when the Hospital moved into its new building, but they had to replace one faulty chemistry instrument, a workhorse nine years old, with a new one earlier this year. Because that instrument’s work is so

New Service: World-Class Cancer Care, Delivered Here

Martha’s Vineyard Hospital embarked this spring on the biggest expansion of medical services in its recent history, with the launch of a new comprehensive medical oncology and hematology service program.

In a suite of newly renovated rooms in the 1972 Hospital building, expanded cancer care for Island patients is now being provided by a team of six clinicians from the Mass General Cancer Center.

Chemotherapy infusions are being administered by infusion nurses Monday through Friday, and by advanced practice nurse Jane Kelly, APRN, BC every Wednesday through Friday. Jane works Mondays and Tuesdays at the Nantucket Hospital, which is also an affiliate of the Mass General in the PartnersHealthCare system.

Patients living at Martha’s Vineyard now have access to one of the finest cancer treatment programs in the United States,” says Dr. David Ryan, chief of Hematology/Oncology at MGH and clinical director at the Mass General Cancer Center. “We’re very pleased that our cancer providers are working together with Martha’s Vineyard Hospital as a team.”

“Isn’t it neat,” says Dr. Penson, clinical director of medical oncology at the Mass General Cancer Center, is heading up the team of six doctors bringing this new service to Vineyard. Joining him are Dr. Christopher G. Azzoli, whose special expertise is lung cancer, Dr. Jeffrey A. Barnes (lymphoma, Dr. Marcia Browne (breast, GI and lymphoma), Dr. Donald F. Lawrence (head, neck and melanoma), and Dr. Leslie Schapira (breast).”

“A standard course of chemotherapy is six cycles, administered every three weeks,” says Dr. Penson, “and the typical appointment takes half a day or more.” That means Vineyard cancer patients traveling to Boston for treatment most often have to stay overnight off-Island, at great cost both in money and in time.

“We’re committed to delivering compassionate care, ensuring that patients get the standard of 21st-century medical care, right at home on the Vineyard.”

Anne Lemenager receives infusion therapy at the new MGH/MVHH Hematology, Oncology & Infusion Service at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital.

Dr. Jane Carroll knows the drill by heart, having driven her late husband Tom to Boston for regular cancer treatments for more than two years. “I can’t tell you how many snowstorms I drove through to get Tom to his appointments,” she says. “If we could have done those treatments down here, what a major savings on money, stress and time that would have been.”

Dr. Penson says he appreciates that after a round of chemotherapy, most patients want nothing more than to get home and curl up under the covers of their own bed. With this new service, he says, “For many patients, they’ll be able to receive world-class care without ever having to leave the Vineyard.”

Mrs. Carroll says the entire board of the MV Cancer Support Group was impressed by Dr. Penson’s recent presentations to them on the new Island cancer service. “He told us that even if you’re a patient with a doctor at another off-Island hospital, you can get your chemotherapy done here. And they’ve arranged so that people on their summer vacations can also get their chemo here. That’s just wonderful.”

“The new infusion suite is a great space,” says Dr. Penson. “We do think that a lot of cancer care can be transferred to the Island. We’ve committed to delivering compassionate care, ensuring that patients get the standard of 21st-century medical care, right at home on the Vineyard.”

Patients under the active care of a medical oncologist can transition their care to one of the new physicians from the Mass General Cancer Center and will be seen in the Mass General Hematology/Oncology Service at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital. For questions, please call Nurse Practitioner Jan Kelly, APRN-BC, at 855-508-5275, or call your Primary Care Physician.
Summer Events Benefit the Hospital

27th Annual MVH Golf Tournament
July 14th & 15th
Farm Neck Golf Club
with special guest Dan Boever, sponsored by Columbia Construction Company.
For more information
www.mvhospital.com/golf

25th Anniversary Sullivan 5K Run/Walk
August 24th
Get details and download a registration form at
www.mvhospital.com/runwalk
For more information about these events, call the Development Office 508-693-4645
In grateful appreciation, this list of names pays tribute to the donors whose annual gifts to Martha’s Vineyard Hospital help ensure the health and safety of all who live or visit here. Their generosity exemplifies the best of this community’s spirit—the readiness of Vineyarders to help a neighbor in need.

Contributions of $2,500 to $4,999

Anonymous (1) 13M

Dr. & Mrs. Peter O. Lawson-Johnston, Sr. 14M

Contributions of $50,000 to $99,999

Dr. & Mrs. Francis J. Partel, Jr. 14M

Contributions of $100,000 to $499,999

Eleanor M. Groel 14M

Contributions of $500,000 to $999,999

Dr. & Mrs. P. Roy Vagelos 14M

Contributions of $1,000,000,000 to $999,999,999

Dr. & Mrs. Ann B. Hurley 14M

In appreciation of the generosity of donors who have given $1 million or more to Martha’s Vineyard Hospital, a list of names appears on the last page of this Annual Report. For a complete list of donors, please visit our website at mvhospital.org/donorlist.

Loven’s pediatric vistas suit him just fine.

PHOTO BY HEIDI WILD

Contributors
January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

MARTHA’S VINEYARD HOSPITAL 2013 ANNUAL REPORT — Page 9
Windemere Nursing & Rehabilitation Center


January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

Along with our residents, the Board of Directors & staff of Windemere extend our sincere thanks for the community’s generous support during this past calendar year. Since 1995, our mission has remained unchanged – to provide the highest level of care in a caring environment that our residents proudly call home. With continued community support, Windemere will be able to carry on its vital role of caring for our Island’s elderly for many more years to come.

Brenda Campbell visits her mother Jane Tyrone at Windemere.
Windemere Gets Facelift

Windemere Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is receiving much-needed room renovations this spring and summer, thanks to financial support from its corporate parents – a $2 million grant from Massachusetts General Hospital and $1 million from the Partners HealthCare organization.

“This couldn’t be coming at a better time,” says Ken Chisholm, Windemere’s administrator. The work now underway at Windemere has been a long time in the planning: Windemere applied to the state four years ago for a Determination of Need (DON), and over the past two years has spent $300,000 on a range of interior improvements – a new boiler, new showers, new beds and furniture in every resident’s room, as well as new carpeting and other renovations to the recreation area, cafeteria and conference room.

After all this interior work, attention shifted to the exterior of the nursing home, which dates to 1994. The price tag was overwhelming, Mr. Chisholm says: “We’re going to be in good shape, top to bottom, inside and out.”

As pleased as the administration and staff are with the physical renovations, they haven’t forgotten that Windemere’s mission is the daily care of its residents. The nursing home’s string of awards and high scores on national quality-of-care measures suggest that this mission hasn’t been lost in the carpenters’ bustle.

For the second year in a row, Windemere received the highest 5-star rating granted by the federal government’s Medicare program.

The exterior work involves new siding, new windows and doors, and new decks for the entire facility. “When this project is completed at the end of September,” Mr. Chisholm says, “We’re going to be in good shape, top to bottom, inside and out.”

Windemere offers short-term rehabilitation, independent living accommodations, and long-term care, with specialized programs for those with Alzheimer’s and dementia. The facility includes a 21-bed dementia care unit, 40-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation unit, and a 13-bed residential living wing.

Windemere Family Dinner

The exterior work involves new siding, new windows and doors, and new decks for the entire facility. “When this project is completed at the end of September,” Mr. Chisholm says, “We’re going to be in good shape, top to bottom, inside and out.”

As pleased as the administration and staff are with the physical renovations, they haven’t forgotten that Windemere’s mission is the daily care of its residents. The nursing home’s string of awards and high scores on national quality-of-care measures suggest that this mission hasn’t been lost in the carpenters’ bustle.

For the second year in a row, Windemere received the highest 5-star rating granted by the federal government’s Medicare program.

The exterior work involves new siding, new windows and doors, and new decks for the entire facility. “When this project is completed at the end of September,” Mr. Chisholm says, “We’re going to be in good shape, top to bottom, inside and out.”

As pleased as the administration and staff are with the physical renovations, they haven’t forgotten that Windemere’s mission is the daily care of its residents. The nursing home’s string of awards and high scores on national quality-of-care measures suggest that this mission hasn’t been lost in the carpenters’ bustle.

For the second year in a row, Windemere received the highest 5-star rating granted by the federal government’s Medicare program.

We make every effort to correctly identify our donors. If omissions or discrepancies are noted, please advise us & we will update our records.

MVP Development Office: 508-693-4645

For more information about how you can support Windemere or Martha’s Vineyard Hospital go to: www.mvhospital.com/giving
Dear Friends,

Nobody’s “bucket list” includes a hospital stay, but if you have the good fortune to live as long as I have, there’s a good chance you’ll have that experience anyway. On more than one occasion, I’ve had reason to be grateful that Martha’s Vineyard Hospital is here for all of us.

Most recently, there was a day in December 2011 when I experienced a medical emergency that precipitated a call to 911 and an ambulance trip to the Hospital. I vaguely remember being carried from the house by EMTs – then awakening the next morning in the acute care wing.

I could not have wished for service any better or more caring than I received in my December stay at Martha’s Vineyard Hospital. That service matched, in every respect, the care I was given during a later hospitalization which required an emergency airlift to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Let me tell you, the seamless coordination of care between our small Island hospital and one of the world’s greatest medical centers was a sight to behold – and a tremendously reassuring experience for me.

Our new Hospital, so recently completed, is a beautiful new facility. But what I appreciate most is the part of Martha’s Vineyard Hospital that has little to do with bricks and mortar. What we must never take for granted – what most merits our support – is the quality of the medical services that are delivered day in and day out, in a myriad of caring transactions, inside those new walls.

I’ve lived a long and rich life – more than long enough to appreciate the distinction between those things we need to be grateful for, and those we can safely take for granted. I hope you’ll join me in responding generously to this appeal from Martha’s Vineyard Hospital. I can’t think of an Island institution more deserving of our support.

Meverell Good