



# NEWSLETTER

VNA Northwest, Inc. [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org)

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Spring 2010

*Serving Northwest Connecticut for over 80 Years!*

## *VNA Northwest: Where the Care Comes to You!*

### *"We're So Glad to Have You a Phone Call Away"*

Former VNA Northwest patient Dora Cox was extremely pleased with the home visits she received from our staff while she was recovering from surgery. "They go the extra mile. You can tell they care, that it's not just a job with them," she said.

Mrs. Cox received skilled nursing care, along with physical and occupational therapy and medical social work services from VNA Northwest. Before the surgery, she was very active in local clubs and organizations, and taught water color painting classes at the Litchfield Community Center.

When she got home from the hospital, she discovered she was facing a long recovery: "I couldn't even stand up...needless to say, I wasn't very happy."

However, once the VNA Northwest team started working with her, "I began to feel better both physically and mentally," she said.

The physical therapist got her started using an exercise bicycle, and the occupational therapist helped to ensure that both her bathroom and her walker were safe. The nurses "listened to me and took action," she said, adding that they communicated with the doctors and the pharmacy. Then the social worker recommended a chore service that sent "just the help I need." VNA Northwest provided "really good service in every area," said Mrs. Cox. "We are so glad to have you a phone call away."



*Malisa O'Neill, LPN, with Dora Cox*



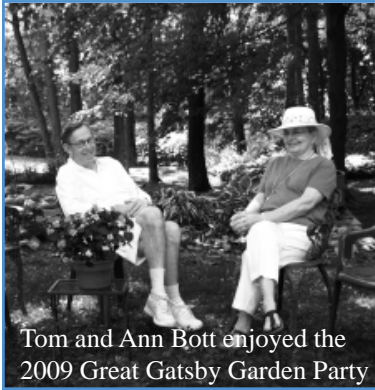
### Save the Date!

You are invited to our Annual Legacy Tree Celebration on Friday, October 15. This gathering is held to honor our donors, patients and friends, and to showcase the beautiful tree sculpture in our lobby. It is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. in our Bantam office. Please call us at 860-567-6000 or visit [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org) for more information.

**VNA Northwest is a 2009 HomeCare Elite Agency**

## Garden Party for Hospice is Saturday, July 17

Join VNA Northwest's staff and supporters on Saturday, July 17, for the "Great Gatsby" Garden Party in Harwinton. This annual benefit for our Hospice Program is sponsored by Victoria Elliot of Sotheby's International Realty, and co-hosted by Victoria's husband, Dr. Marvin McMillen in their lovely gardens at 10 Litchfield Road. Their historic home, the Truman-Kellogg house, was designed by the prolific American architect Henry Hornbostel. Please visit [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org) to see pictures from last year's party.



Tom and Ann Bott enjoyed the 2009 Great Gatsby Garden Party

These gardens are a lovely setting for the late afternoon event. It's scheduled from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$25 per person, and

includes light dinner fare, drinks and desserts. "Gatsby" attire is optional! Please call us at (860) 567-6000 to make a reservation, or email: [jdunn@vnanw.org](mailto:jdunn@vnanw.org).

## Annual Golf Tournament is September 20

Volunteers for VNA Northwest, Inc. have started preparing for the agency's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, scheduled for Monday, September 20, at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Harwinton. Proceeds from this event help fund care for local Hospice and Home Care patients. The tournament chairperson is Peter Belval of Woodbury.

Last year's golf tournament raised nearly \$23,000.

All prize donors and sponsors are listed in our fall newsletter, which is mailed to residents in most northwest Connecticut towns and linked to our website. Business owners and individuals may get involved by calling Bridget Beauchaine at 860-567-6000 or 1-800-752-0215. More information is available at [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org). Donations to the tournament are tax-deductible.

The registration fee is still \$150. Golfers are encouraged to reserve spots early — last year, we had a full course! You may register on-line at [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org). Or call us for a registration form. They're due by August 25.

Non-golfers: you can support us by coming to the social and dinner at Fairview Farm's spacious clubhouse for just \$35 per person. The social hour begins at 4 p.m. It's a fast-paced, fun evening. Visit our website to see pictures from last year's tournament, social and dinner.

*Above, one of the 2009 foursomes, from L-R: Paul Gibb, David Murphy, Ted Murpy and John Pudlinski.*



Please visit [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org) to learn more about our home health services, community wellness programs and special events.

Join Our Mailing List...  
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[info@vnanw.org](mailto:info@vnanw.org).



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## Former Patient Appreciates “Wonderful Care” from Staff

“I can’t say enough about VNA Northwest,” said former Litchfield patient Grace Cooper. Both she and her late husband, “Jack” received care from our agency, and Mrs. Cooper said she has always enjoyed visits from the members of our staff.

“They all care, that’s the most important thing. I think it’s remarkable that you get a group like that. They keep it light and very pleasant,” she said.

*Litchfield resident Grace Cooper, far right, chats with Mindy Garbin, MSW, of VNA Northwest.*



## Private Duty Care is Now Available Through VNA Northwest

VNA Northwest has purchased West Street Home Care, a Litchfield referral agency, and we are now offering private duty care in addition to our current programs.

The staff of VNA Northwest, Inc., a state-licensed, Medicare-certified agency, serves patients under doctors’ orders only. Private duty care includes home care services by companions and personal care attendants in addition to skilled nurses and certified nursing assistants, and does not require orders from a physician.

“We believe the mission of West Street Home Care is very compatible with our own,” said executive director Nancy Deming. “Through the years, our two agencies have worked alongside each other to provide the best care possible for local clients. And we have built a strong friendship with West Street’s founder, Ceil Kuhn,” she added. The experienced referral agency will continue to offer 24 hour service, including weekends and holidays, she added.

**For more information about private duty services, call West Street Home Care at 860-567-2476.**

## VNA Northwest Volunteers Were Honored at Annual Reception on April 28



*Some of the VNA Northwest Thrift Shop volunteers who attended the April 28 reception are: Jane Moore, (left front) Ann Schmidt, Lorraine Malone, Sally Wright, Ruth Schnell, and Dianne Locke, right front.*

Volunteers enjoyed cake and other refreshments at the Annual Volunteer Reception in New Preston on April 28. Several members of the VNA Northwest staff, along with Board President Art Mulligan, thanked all those present for the work they do throughout the year to assist VNA Northwest in its mission.

Among those who attended were Hospice Program volunteers, Thrift Shop workers and individuals who provide clerical help in our Bantam Office. Volunteers also serve the agency by participating in fundraising events, such as the Garden Party and Golf Tournament, and by preparing and delivering gift packages to our patients during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Please visit [www.vnanw.org](http://www.vnanw.org) or call our Volunteer Coordinator for information on volunteering for VNA Northwest.

## *Having Fun With Fall Prevention:*



The Probus Club of Torrington provided funding for a six-week Bend & Stretch clinic this spring at the Harwinton Senior Center. VNA Northwest sponsors the fall prevention clinics for older adults in many towns throughout northwest Connecticut. Shown in photo, L-R: Ruthellen Griffin, instructor; Frances Pescatore, and Jeanette Novicky.

**VNA Northwest is a 2009 HomeCare Elite Agency**

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