



# HOLTON HOME

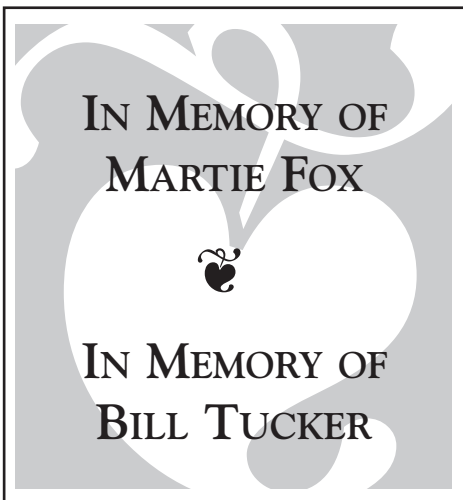
## N · E · W · S · L · E · T · T · E · R

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### WELCOME

Lou Patnode joined us in November. Her husband Russell had served on Holton Home's board for many years and it feels good to be able to give back by welcoming Lou. She also was a member of the Home's Visiting Committee and so had spent a lot of time with residents. Welcome, Lou.

Another long-time Visiting Committee member who recently joined us is Mary Dunham. Mary gets the credit for the nice greenery and red bows you see on the sign out front and the lamp posts. She's been dressing them for the holidays for many years and did so again this December. Welcome, Mary!



### CHALLENGE GRANT

**H**OLTON HOME is the recipient of a coveted challenge grant from the Thomas Thompson Trust. Any gift to our annual fund before February 29 (yes, it's a leap year!) by someone who has not given to the annual fund for at least 3 years will be matched by the Trust! Your gift will be doubled! Please consider us in your year-end giving, whether a regular donor or a new one. Thank you!

Babs Dunn came all the way from Horseheads, NY to be near her son David who lives in Dummerston. Babs continues a very active life, walking into town, visiting the library and driving to many of the music, theater and dance performances in the area. She's already proven to be a great friend and we are happy to welcome her to the Holton Home family.

Ellie Tortolani comes to us from Connecticut where she endured an endless power outage from the Halloween snowstorm. She decided to move to Brattleboro, to be near her son, Bob. Ellie is full of sweetness, humor and spark and is a fashion plate besides! Thanks for all you've brought, Ellie!

### CHUCKLE CORNER

#### Why Some Americans Shouldn't Be Let Out of the Country



*These are actual comments from US travel agents:*

- ★ I had someone ask for an aisle seat on the plane so her hair wouldn't get messed up from the window.
- ★ A man called, furious about a Florida trip we had booked for him to Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I explained that wasn't possible since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me. I looked at the map and Florida is a very thin state."

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## CHUCKLE CORNER

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- ★ A lady called, asking how it was possible that her flight left at 8:20 am and got into Chicago at 8:33 am. I tried to explain about time zones but she couldn't understand. I finally told her the plane went very fast – and she bought it!
- ★ A woman called, asking, “Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to who?” “No,” I said, “why do you ask?” She replied, “Well, when I checked in with the airline, they put a tag on my bag that said FAT. I’m overweight. Is there any connection?” After putting her on hold for a minute while I “looked into it,” (but was actually laughing), I explained that the airport code for Fresno was FAT and the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.
- ★ I just got off the phone with a man who asked, “How do I know which plane to get on?” I asked him what he meant, and he said, “I was told my flight number is 823 but none of these darn planes have numbers on them.”

### BIRTHDAYS

Residents celebrating birthdays in January include:

- ❖ **Dodo Rice** on the 1<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ **Helen Greenbaum** on the 5<sup>th</sup>

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

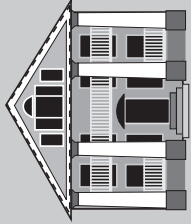
**2011 MUST BE A LUCKY YEAR!** We made it to see Shirley Squires' amazing nativities on the very day it was scheduled! For the past three years we have had to reschedule due to snow, sleet and freezing rain; one year the fourth time was the charm! We had a van of people eager to see her display. The amazement begins as you drive up her driveway lined with outdoor nativities. We are greeted at the door by a smiling Shirley, who welcomes us under a sign reading, “Shirley’s Touch of Heaven.” Inside, meticulously displayed with lights and beautiful fabric, lie hundreds upon hundreds of nativities. They are made of everything you can imagine, stones from Lake Champlain, stained glass, ceramics, beautifully carved woods from all over the world, dolls in beautifully crocheted clothes. Your eyes don't even know where to begin! While the angels look down on the scene, in what used to be half of Shirley's garage, there is still some humor in the air. If you look up in the right spot you can see Mr. & Mrs. Claus warming their bums by the wood stove!

In the kitchen there are lovely sets of beeswax and ones made of local wool. Every step you take opens up a vista of more nativities and Shirley can tell you about each one, where it came from, who gave it to her, where she got it, etc. No question stumps this incredible woman! There are sets made of nails, hay, ashes from Mt. Saint Helens, teeny ones made in match books and ones from over 50 countries all over the world. She makes sure to show the unique pieces, of a pregnant Mary and Joseph with his arm around Mary as well as the one of Joseph holding Baby Jesus!

It may seem overwhelming, and it is in many ways, but Shirley takes a break part way through the tour to offer a wonderful array of refreshments and a chance to sit down and ask questions and be serenaded by singing and dancing Santas and snowmen and even a teddy bear that reads you a bedtime story! Upstairs, in what used to be Shirley's bedroom, is her fantastic collection of nearly 200 Fontanini, Italian-made figurines, accompanied by a picture of Shirley and her daughter visiting the factory! And Shirley, being Shirley, takes a group picture and sends off every one of our residents with a gift!

Shirley delivers communion to Holton Home residents twice a month and accompanies us on trips as a volunteer several times a year. She volunteers for Hospice and has single handedly raised over \$200,000 for AIDS research in honor of her son, Ron. The one thing that is more impressive than the hundreds of nativities is Shirley herself. On the way home and the morning after everyone kept commenting on what a wonder she is! We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have such a phenomenal woman as part of our community! Shirley is truly an inspiration to us all!

*—Ellenka Wasung-Lott*



# JANUARY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 1:00 Bells are Ringing 3:00 Rummikub 6:00 Chariots of Fire	<b>2</b> 10:00 Current Events 10:45 Exercises 1:00 Resident Council 1:00 Yahtzee 2:15 Bingo	<b>3</b> 10:00 Reading Circle 11:15 Catholic Communion Service 1:00 Bible Study 2:30 Yoga 6:00 Ken Burns: Empire of the Air	<b>4</b> 9:00-11:00 Painting Class 11:00 Holton Home Chorus 1:30 Exercises 3:30 Brain Exercises 6:15 An Evening with Ken Burns at Latchis <b>ERRAND DAY</b>	<b>5</b> 8:00 Hairdresser Is In 10:00 Make Anadama Bread 1:15 Jackie in Greece 3:30 Eat Anadama Bread	<b>6</b> 10:45 Exercises 1:00 Crochet with Jane 2:30 Good Times with Judy: Sing-a-long 6:00 Reading Group: Women of the Bible	<b>7</b> 10:00 Games with Julie 1:00 Ben-Hur 3:00 Scrabble
<b>8</b> 1:00 Love in the Afternoon 3:00 Rummikub 6:00 Blue Hawaii	<b>9</b> 10:00 Current Events 10:45 Exercises 1:15 Bingo 2:30 Skip Bo 6:00 America's Civil Rights Years, Part I	<b>10</b> 10:00 Reading Circle 11:15 Bingo 1:00 Bible Study 1:30 Reading Buddies 3:30 Karaoke with the Stockwells	<b>11</b> 9:00-11:00 Painting Class 11:00 Holton Home Chorus 1:30 Scrabble 3:30 Exercises 6:00 Brain Exercises <b>ERRAND DAY</b>	<b>12</b> 8:00 Hairdresser Is In 10:00 Yoga 1:15 Trip to BMAC with Cathy Osman 3:00 Church Service 3:45 Fresh Fruit Salad	<b>13</b> 10:45 Exercises 1:00 Crochet with Jane 2:30 Joe Cook's Trip To Austria 6:00 Reading Group: Women of the Bible	<b>14</b> 10:00 Scrabble 1:00 The Unsinkable Molly Brown 3:00 Rummikub 6:00 Storytelling with Linda Puzan
<b>15</b> 10:00 Winnie-the-Pooh 2:30 Concert Choir: Salisbury Vespers 3:00 Skip Bo 6:00 The Thin Man	<b>16</b> 10:00 Current Events 10:45 Exercises 1:15 Bingo 2:30 Dominos 6:00 Americas Civil Rights Years, Part II	<b>17</b> 10:00 Reading Circle 11:15 Catholic Communion Service 1:00 Bible Study 2:00 Make Chinese Lanterns 3:30 Yoga	<b>18</b> 9:00-11:00 Painting Class 11:00 Holton Home Chorus 1:30 Exercises 3:00 Birthday Party 4:30 Library Lecture: Glorious Ghosts: Libraries of Central Europe <b>ERRAND DAY</b>	<b>19</b> 8:00 Hairdresser Is In 10:00 Yoga 2:00 Make Yogurt & Drink Our Hard Cider 3:30 Vermont: A Video Tour	<b>20</b> 9:00 Eat our Yogurt 10:45 Exercises 1:00 Crochet with Jane 2:15 Brain Exercises 6:00 Reading Group: Women of the Bible	<b>21</b> 10:00 Scrabble 1:00 Annie Get Your Gun 3:00 Skip Bo
<b>22</b> 1:00 On Golden Pond 3:00 Dominos 6:00 Imitation of Life	<b>23</b> 10:00 Current Events 10:45 Exercises 1:15 Bingo 2:30 Year of the Dragon: Chinese New Year Celebration	<b>24</b> 10:00 Reading Circle 11:15 Bingo 12:00 Lunch at Panda North 1:00 Bible Study 2:30 Yoga 6:00 America's Civil Rights Years, Part III	<b>25</b> 9:00-11:00 Painting Class 11:00 Holton Home Chorus 1:30 Exercises 3:30 Brain Exercises 6:00 Get to Know You <b>ERRAND DAY</b>	<b>26</b> 8:00 Hairdresser Is In 10:00 Yoga 1:15 Make & Eat Pizza 3:00 Church Service	<b>27</b> 10:45 Exercises 1:00 Crochet with Jane 2:15 Mozart's Birthday Cocktail Party 6:00 Reading Group: Women of the Bible	<b>28</b> 10:00 Scrabble 1:00 Strangers in Good Company 3:00 Skip Bo 6:00 Storytelling with Linda Puzan
<b>29</b> 1:00 Pan's Labyrinth 3:00 Rummikub 6:00 The Magnificent Seven	<b>30</b> 10:00 Current Events 10:45 Exercises 1:15 Bingo 2:30 Skip Bo	<b>31</b> 10:00 Reading Circle 11:15 Bingo 1:00 Bible Study 2:30 Yoga 6:00 Proteus: The Work of Ernst Haeckel				

## NOTE CARDS

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE the availability of packets of six note cards for a donation of \$5 or more. The cards feature three portraits done by Deidre Scherer, a fiber artist. Deidre uses fabric and thread to depict her subjects, many of whom are elders. The portraits on the three cards in our packets feature women who were Holton Home residents. Florence, Mary and Anabel were each remarkable women whose memory we are very pleased to honor. Our thanks go to each family for allowing us to use their loved one's portrait and to Deidre for donating the images. Please call Cindy Jerome at the Home, 254-4155, if you'd like a packet.

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Pam Boyd, *Cook*  
Chris Clark, *Maintenance Director*  
Cindy Downs, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
Else Devoid, *Art Instructor*  
Rose Gerry, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
Joshua Hart, *Chef/Manager*  
Jessica Harvey, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
Linda Hastings, RN, *Resident Care Administrator*  
Cindy Jerome, M.A., *Administrator*  
Carol Killay, *Resident Assistant*  
Robin Lindsell, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
Lynn Miner, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
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Cheryl Richards, M.A., *Social Worker*  
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Lisa Everett Vose, *Licensed Nursing Assistant*  
Ellenka Wasung-Lott, *Activities Director*

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