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UPCOMING EVENTS

- * December 25 Christmas — Business office, CSS Day Program and The What Not Shop will be closed
 - * New Year's Day — Business office, CSS Day Program and The What Not Shop will be closed
- *Please see our Facebook page for more details

Congratulations!

The following employees have added another year

December 2023

- Fawn Palmer 13 yrs
- Robin Austin 8 yrs
- Jesse McClay 2 yrs
- BobbiJo Gendron 1 yr
- John Glover 1 yr

Thank you for your dedication and hard work!!

Western Maine Brain Injury Support Group Co-hosted by : Debra Hanmer and Cynthia Dawson

The meetings are held at 5pm, on the first Tuesday of each month, at Hope Association
85 Lincoln Avenue, Rumford, Maine
Please use the front door.

January 2nd, 2024 at 5pm
February 6th, 2024 at 5 pm

These meetings are free and open to individuals with brain injury, caregivers, or anyone interested in learning more about brain injury.

For more information, please contact Jessica Hines @ 207-507-2029 or by email



For inspiring stories, go to:
Biausa.org

THE What Not Shop - Thrift Store

DONATION HOURS

Sunday: Closed
Monday: 7:30am-3pm
Tuesday: 7:30am-3pm
Wednesday: 7:30am-3pm
Thursday: 7:30am-3pm
Friday: 7:30am-3pm
Saturday: Closed

STORE HOURS

Sunday: Closed
Monday: 9am-4pm
Tuesday: 9am-4pm
Wednesday: 9am-4pm
Thursday: 9am-4pm
Friday: 9am-4pm
Saturday: Closed

While we greatly appreciate donations, if you're donating something that you would **NOT** purchase for your son/daughter, mom/dad or loved one that is stained, soiled, chipped, dented, or damaged, then it isn't something we can sell in our store. Please keep this in mind as you decide what to donate, and what to throw away. Our manpower and time is limited, and a lot of effort goes into making sure the items we sell are of good quality. Also, as a reminder, **WE DO NOT ACCEPT** car seats, weapons, or knives. You must call Vickie Morton at 507-2041 to ensure we can take any furniture, large appliances, televisions or for any large donations and to schedule an appointment to drop off large donations. Thank you so much for your support.

January 2024 What Not Shop Sales

Jan 1 to Jan 5 All Christmas Decorations 75% off
Puzzles 2/\$1.00 Hard cover books 2/\$1.00
Paperbacks books 4/\$1.00

Jan 8 to Jan 12 Fill A Basket \$12 excludes Designer

Jan 15 to Jan 19 Craft Items 50 % off

Jan 22 to Jan 26 Curtains and Linens 50% off

Jan 29 to Feb 2 All Shoes 50% off



THE What Not Shop - Thrift Store

Miki Skehan
Executive Director
364-4561

Community Support Services
Community Case Management Services
Nursing Home Outreach Services
364-4561

Shared Living
364-4561

Brain Injury and Other Related Conditions
364-4561

Home Supports
369-0019

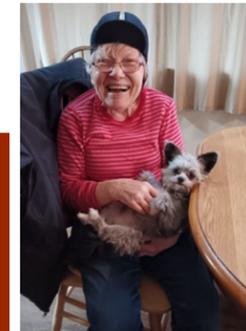
Residential Programs:

Fourth Street
Horizons
New Hope
Kimball Ave

Call 364-4561 to connect with any of the homes

www.hopeassociation.org

WE ARE THE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD (Revisiting our friend, Marty!)



Our beautiful friend Martina, who we highlighted earlier this year in our Newsletter as a valuable, generous, and kind member of our community, passed away 12/19/2023, at her home, Horizons Unlimited, with her cousin and friend Jan by her side. She was a great friend of ours with a sharp intellect and radiant smile that lent as much warmth to a room as it did to the hearts of the people on the receiving end of it. Her friends will miss her stories, her gentleness, her stubbornness, and the way she reached out to hold our hand or affectionately rub our arm when we stopped to say hi or to spend some time. Thank you for making our world brighter, Marty. May we continue to spread the warmth you bestowed upon us to others who do the same.

Revisiting our friend, Marty (An article we shared this past January)

Oh, my goodness...what can be said of our beautiful friend, Martina? (A lot, it turns out. 😊) There is so much to admire about this intelligent, kind-hearted, and strong willed woman, even far beyond the obviousness of the light that just seems to set her face aglow when she deploys that wide, warm, beautiful smile.

Martina has been affiliated with Hope Association since the 1970's, eventually moving into one of the association's five residences and then another that better suited her needs, at the time. Martina attends Hope Association's Community Support Program 5 days a week and has developed important relationships, through the years, with the people she has met through the program. She enjoys time in her community; shopping, meals out, spending time with the dogs at Sissy's Stay and Play where she has developed a great relationship with the owners, listening to live music, events, and going on sight-seeing rides and adventures. She is also a member of the local gym, Ill B Fit, which she attends, regularly, and where she knows how to operate every single one of the exercise machines. To relax, Marty enjoys cutting and cleaning off buttons collected at Community Supports, doing word searches,



Our Monthly Recognition:

Nine Dragons
And
Mountain Valley Variety

We warmly appreciate your support to our programs

VISION STATEMENT:
Hope Association envisions a world where all people are treated with respect.

MISSION STATEMENT:
As partners in our community, we will provide leadership, residential, case management, vocational and community support services to individuals and their families through programs that enhance independence, dignity, choice and individual well being.

Board of Directors

PresidentRichard Philbrick
Vice President ...Dick Lovejoy
Treasurer.....Richard Allen
Secretary.....Amber Durant

Members

Jeanne Gaccetta
Terry Richards
Jeff Sterling
Cindrie Cormier
Richard Jennison
Catherine Ross
Vacant

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and snacking on her stockpile M&Ms while enjoying her shows in the afternoon, including Wheel of Fortune, the Andy Griffith show, Bonanza, and the Waltons when she can catch it.

Many people, local and visitors to our community, may recognize Martina and that contagious smile of hers. She has spent years volunteering at our local Information Booth, helping people get their bearings and informing those who pass through of all that is wonderful here in our beautiful River Valley area. Martina also volunteers throughout our communities, weeding and watering the gardens at Adopt-A-Spots, and delivering meals, throughout our community, for the Meals on Wheels program.

Marty's community is very important to her, and she enjoys sharing stories of what it was like to grow up, here, in Rumford. Marty tells the stories regarding her childhood years with her family, in a way that makes the love and comfort she found, there, in that time with them, tangible to those she is sharing the story with. Pictures of her mom, dad, brother, and a sweet, young, bright eyed Marty with a little curl in her hair adorn the shelves of the hutch she now owns, that once sat in her mother's dining room. Marty shares that her brother Jim passed away, "too young" but adds that she feels lucky to know his three daughters who live out of state but stay in touch. Marty's mom and dad have also passed away, but not before leaving her with the fondest of memories and teaching her skills that she has carried, proudly, throughout her life. Marty's mom, for many years, was the head of nursing at the local hospital and she instilled in Marty a deep sense of organization, time management, affection, and ethics which served her well through school, work, and life in general.

Martina shares that she enjoyed being active growing up and shares how she used to play basketball with her brother, and states with confidence that she was once a pretty decent ice skater. She shares, "I used to walk up the hill to ice skate when the ice skating rink used to be located off of Maine Ave". Although it's been many years since Martina has laced up a pair of ice skates, to this day she still enjoys watching ice skating events, both in person and on television.

Marty loves all bodies of water and shares that she spent many summer days at Webb Lake where her family had owned a camp for generations. With a gleam in her eye, Marty shared that, as a little girl, she took swimming lessons at Roxbury pond and became an avid swimmer, however, the water in Webb Lake remained shallow for quite a distance before becoming deep enough to swim, so her dad built a dock for her, so that she could easier access the deeper, swimmable water. "He built a ramp so I could just go to the end and jump right in", shared Marty with a grin. She says that, now, she enjoys sitting near the water and dipping her feet in.

Marty's love of all things ocean is no secret to anyone who knows her well. Just a visit to her home, where there's a collection of ocean themed art and accessories would prove it, if she didn't tell you, herself. Marty shares that she developed her deep love for of the sea while vacationing for two weeks, every Labor Day, as a child, with her family and her mom's family at Bailey's Island. She says that that's where she fell in love with the salty air, the big boats, the waves, the water, light houses, the rocky beaches, and last but certainly not least, seafood.

Martina attended Chisolm Grade School and Stephens Memorial High. Her classmates remain important to her, and she often attended class luncheons when they are scheduled. After high school, Martina attended the Auburn Maine's School of Commerce for business administration, learning shorthand, and typing. "This was before computers," she notes, "so it was all done on typewriters." Upon returning home from secondary school, Martina worked in the office of the Hope School, briefly, before taking a job at the Rumford High School Library.

A storyteller, a reminiscer, a great teacher by example, a warm and dedicated friend, a giver of time and love to her community, an adventure seeker, and a one-of-a-kind talented and skilled individual in the art of organization. She is dear to us, here, at Hope Association, and we are grateful to have her in our lives, to laugh with, debate respectfully with, and to grow with.

May you all have a 'Marty' in your lives to celebrate.



With assistance from staff, Martina was able to visit her favorite place, the ocean



Christmas cookie bakers Mary and Donna



Jamie, Patrick and David accepting Thanksgiving dinners donated by Mountain Valley Variety



Bryan, David and Richard enjoy Coffee with the Holmans



Cedar stopped for a picture. While checking out the Christmas lights in Freeport

Carol models a hat she won playing Christmas BINGO.



Clayton, David, Matt, Raymond, Karin and Kristin help decorate a tree for Rumford Festival of Trees. The Hope Association Tree won 3rd place in the non-profit division.