

Newsletter

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Winter/
Spring
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Who Are Some ICCI Superheroes?

Superheroes abound in movies, comic books, TV and electronic devices. Wonder Woman, Batman and The Avengers are a few of those who fight evil and break up asteroids to save the world and make it a safer place for all.

Superheroes are not just fictional people. Unknown to many, local superheroes abound in our communities. They give rides to those who can no longer drive, pick up groceries and medications, make calls to have a friendly chat with someone who is isolated, check on those who have no relatives or friends nearby. They also manage and coordinate rides, update information, and keep the office humming along without any problems. Who are these superheroes? They are the ICCI Volunteers and Staff.

Who are some ICCI superheroes?

Linnie Page is one. She drives folks to medical appointments and grocery shopping, picks up groceries for other Neighbors and still finds time to make friendly phone calls to those staying home. She does all of this with a friendly smile.

Helen Ingalls is another who jerry-rigged her car to make it safer for herself and her passengers. She drives Neighbors to appointments, takes Neighbors grocery shopping and picks up groceries for others. Helen thought about other drivers and found a car shield for all to use.

Sally Sibulkin who drives, does shopping and coordinates at least two full days a month to arrange those rides and grocery shopping and prescription pick-ups for Neighbors as needed. Sally often takes last minute rides so Neighbors will not be disappointed.

Sylvia Detscher who drives, does grocery pick-ups and helps by serving on various ICCI committees. Don't be surprised if you see her do two trips a day or pick-up a Neighbor before 5:30 am.



Sylvia and Valerie Brown shopping

Paul Helfinstein who sometimes fills more than one ride a day during this pandemic and as many as four or more a week. Paul willingly drives longer distances such as to Concord.

Betsy Merkle, another superhero who acts as coordinator two or three times a month and who takes one Neighbor shopping weekly, drives others to appointments and also serves on the ICCI Volunteer Committee.

Missy Ballance who is willing to make friendly phone calls during the pandemic and can't wait to feel safe driving again. In Missy's own words, "I do have to say the calls made me miss driving even more but I know I will be able to drive as soon as this Covid thing is worked out."

All of our Volunteers are superheroes who make life easier and safer for the rest of us. It's obvious if you volunteer you care.

2020 BY THE NUMBERS

Throughout the public health emergency, ICCI has remained true our mission to serve our Neighbors in their daily lives.

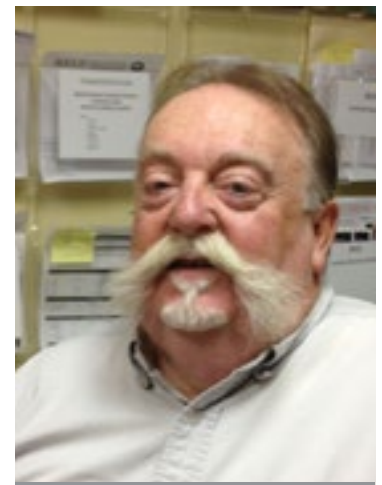
Services Provided:	1,898
Hours Donated:	2,761
Miles Driven:	30,844

Now that we have closed out 2020 here at ICCI, we look forward to the upcoming changes for winter into spring. We are still following the CDC guidelines and providing limited services. So many people, our Neighbors, our Volunteers and our Staff have been diligent in keeping themselves safe and healthy. **We have been very fortunate with our Volunteers who have continued providing their services to our Neighbors in the four communities we serve.**

Our successful Fall Annual Appeal reached out and asked for people's help and people responded generously. This assurance has allowed our agency to keep running and providing the needed service in our communities. Hopefully, as people get access to the vaccinations over the next few months this will encourage more of us to continue with the work of ICCI. **I am really proud of ICCI members for achieving all that they have and will continue to do.**

The ICCI office has seen some expansive physical changes over the past few weeks. After this Pandemic has abated, you are invited to come by and see the improvements. It is no longer a cramped broom closet type of office but an office we all can have a sense of 'getting it done'.

Thank you all for your understanding and support. I hope this brief note finds all of you to be healthy and persevering during these trying times.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Become a Volunteer Driver



**SIGN
UP
TODAY**

603-253-9275

CREATE A LEGACY

Please consider including ICCI in your will, trust, or retirement plan designation. Call Rachel Saliba at 603-253-9275 for additional information



Please join us in thanking Janet Pratt for her almost three years of service as our Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper. Janet will be leaving ICCI at the beginning of March to spend more time with her grandchildren and to conduct weddings as "Perfect Vows by Janet." She leaves shoes that will be hard to fill as Janet has been an invaluable member of the ICCI team. All of us have appreciated her sense of humor, experience with accounting and attention to detail.

Mark your calendar for ICCI's Annual Meeting on June 24th at 4pm via Zoom. More details to follow.

This edition of the ICCI Newsletter is brought to you by the efforts of Deb Thiboutot, Connie Cunningham, Evelyn Lamprey, Rachel Saliba and Marie Samaha.

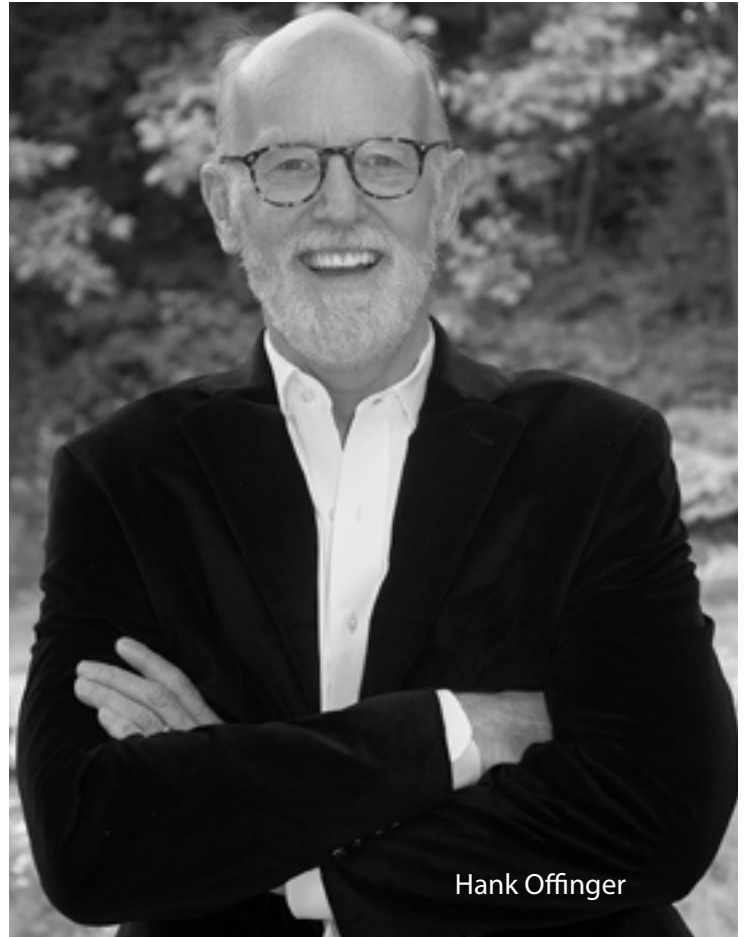
Meet the Newest Board Member

Hank Offinger recently joined the Board of Directors at Interlakes Community Caregivers. While becoming a full time resident of the Lakes Region is a relatively recent event, Hank has vacationed in the area for decades before finally choosing to make North Sandwich his permanent home.

Hank has been the Director of Care Management at the Taylor Community in Laconia for almost six years. In this role he manages the safety and comfort of over 400 residents across Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Support and Nursing levels of care. His department of six provides both residents and their family members with guidance as they navigate many of the complex choices that come with a move to the Taylor Community.

Hank found his way to Taylor via a rather circuitous route. He grew up on a farm in Connecticut and considered entering the ministry after completing his studies at Colby College. He deferred his entrance into Harvard Divinity School for one year when he entered a volunteer program through the United Church of Christ. He was sent to the Bensonville Home Society in the Chicago area, where he served as both chaplain and social worker. This facility was similar to the Taylor Community and Hank found that he loved his work with the elderly population. He knew then that he wanted to pursue a Master's degree in Social Work. He graduated with his degree from Smith College in 1982.

Unfortunately, in the 1980's, social service jobs working with the elderly weren't easy to find and Hank ultimately made a career change to business, selling management consulting services to Fortune 500 companies for over 30 years. Still, he wanted to return to his earlier interest in social work. When he and his wife Maureen decided to move to New Hampshire permanently in 2014, he began looking for employment. He was pleased and a bit surprised when the Taylor Community offered him a job in the field that he had left many years before. He is very satisfied to now be working with Taylor residents and their families in the career that he put on hold



Hank Offinger

after graduate school. It's clear to see how Hank's interests and background fit well with ICCI's mission.

Hank and Maureen have two children, Ross and Caitlyn and three grandchildren, with a fourth on the way. They and their families have recently purchased a farmhouse in North Sandwich to use as a vacation home. Hank is also an actor, performing in theater, television and movies. He and Maureen lived in New York City for a while after their children moved away, where he found acting opportunities, but he has also performed in local productions. We hope that you'll take a moment to introduce yourself to Hank when in-person events resume. He looks forward to learning more about Community Caregivers and to add his considerable knowledge to the Board in the future.

ICCI Board of Directors

David Hughes, President	Center Harbor
Marie Samaha, Vice President	Moultonborough
George Jewell, Treasurer	Meredith
Robin E. Woodaman, Secretary	Moultonborough
Connie Cunningham	Sandwich
Darlene M. Fritz	Moultonborough
Susan Gutches	Sandwich
Hank Offinger	Sandwich
Peter K. Van Winkle	Sandwich
W. Lee Woodworth	Center Harbor

Our 2021 Spring Appeal is starting soon. Our services to promote and maintain independence and healthy living for people in our local community are important, please donate to Interlakes Community Caregivers. Through your generosity, we can continue to offer these direct services free of charge. Over eighty percent of our program budget comes from donations from generous individuals and local businesses and organizations. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, all donations qualify to be tax deductible. Donate securely online at <https://interlakescares.org> or mail your donation to PO Box 78, Center Harbor, NH 03226. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Since the beginning of my tenure at ICCI, I have been impressed by our loyal, dedicated and courageous volunteers who continue to drive our Neighbors, pick up their groceries and prescriptions, call them to check in, and govern and lead this great grassroots organization. I anticipate that ICCI will be facing some of the same COVID-related challenges in the months ahead, but am optimistic that we will continue to thrive despite these challenges.

Due to the impact of the pandemic on our services and the decline of new volunteers in 2020, this year, members of ICCI's Volunteer and Public Relations Committees and I will be collaborating with other local organizations to recruit and train more volunteers and inform as many people as possible about our program. We welcome anyone interested in being a part of these efforts.

On a personal level, I am very grateful for the generous outpouring we received last year in response to our appeals for financial support. Our donors recognized our Neighbors' needs to have access to healthcare, nutrition and mental wellbeing and helped us to reach and surpass our financial targets! I am confident that we will be able to achieve our increased goal of raising over \$128,000 in 2021 to fulfill our mission and encourage all of our ICCI community members to continue to make a difference in the lives of our Neighbors.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



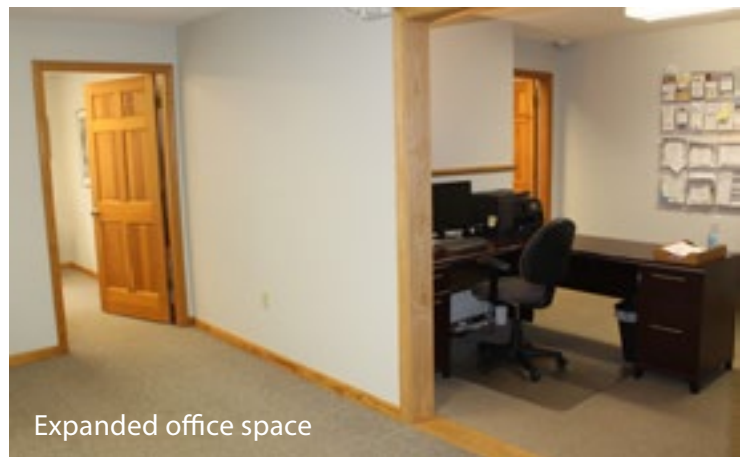
~Rachel Saliba

ARE YOU OVER 70?



Did you know that if you are over 70 and a half, you can request to have all or a portion of your required minimum distribution from your IRA sent directly to ICCI or another charity? This provides needed funds to ICCI and avoids income taxes on the distribution. Call Rachel Saliba at 603-253-9275 for additional information.

ICCI recently expanded our office space with the generous support of Danny and Linn Ringelstein from Harbor 1, LLC and Chris Cakars from Chris Cakars Painting, LLC. The additional space is a great boon for our program this year as we finally have the space we need to hold more in-person volunteer trainings and educational programs while also keeping a safe distance while we work.



Expanded office space

MISSION STATEMENT: Interlakes Community Caregivers, a 501(c)3 nonprofit volunteer organization, provides supportive services and information for our neighbors to assist them in their daily lives.
PO Box 78, Center Harbor, NH 03226



Thank you to the New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation for support of this newsletter.