

# Newsletter

Summer 2026  
#63



## 2026 ANNUAL MEETING AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Volunteers, donors, and community partners gathered for our Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition event at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Meredith to celebrate ICCI. Thank you to everyone who supported us this past year and helped make it so successful. Thank you to McCarthy Lawn and Property Management, our presenting sponsor for our meeting. And thank you to The Platinum Group at RE/MAX Bayside and Community Laundry in Ashland for sponsoring the event as well.

Awards were given to volunteers for most miles driven, services provided, and hours donated. Frank Pope was honored with the Charlotte A. Leavitt Award for the kindness he shows our Neighbors and for going above and beyond behind the scenes to help. Jean Beadle, CPA, was the recipient of the Community Partner Award since she has donated her time and expertise for over 15 years to complete our audits.



We were excited to have representatives from some of our community partners - Revo Casino and Social House, Meredith Village Savings Bank, Quality Care Home Health and Hospice, and The Platinum Group at RE/MAX Bayside - to attend our meeting. Thank you to Scott Ouellette of Rubbin' Butts for catering a delicious BBQ luncheon enjoyed by all. *Photos: Max Cohen of Max Cohen Media.*



## Thank you to The Mug

Our third annual Mug fundraiser was once again an amazing success. Thank you to Leanne and her staff for their hospitality!



I am pleased to serve as the new Board Chair for Interlakes Community Caregivers. I want to thank Chris Kelly for his outstanding leadership over the past few years. The organization is focused and energized. ICCI volunteers work so hard every day to serve our Neighbors, and we are so grateful for those volunteers and for the Neighbors and communities that welcome and support our efforts. Our volunteers help our Neighbors keep their medical appointments, which enables them to continue to live independently, remain in their own homes, and maintain the lifestyle they desire. Our wonderful volunteers are the lifeblood of ICCI and we applaud the good work they do every day. Would you, or someone you know, be interested in helping your Neighbors as a volunteer driver for ICCI? We are currently looking for new volunteers to assist in 2026 and beyond. Do you have the time and/or the resources to help us meet our important goal of improving access to health care for Neighbors who need transportation to their medical appointments? Please keep us in mind and continue to support Interlakes Community Caregivers. Thank you!



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

*John Valpey*

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## Introducing ICCI's New Board Chair



Our new Board Chair, John, is a retired lawyer and bank executive who now focuses on impact investing, developing affordable and accessible housing, and supporting nonprofits and social enterprises.

### *How did you learn about ICCI?*

I've lived in Meredith for a long time and, as a developer of accessible housing, I'm familiar with the mobility and transportation issues that our Neighbors experience. ICCI has a wonderful reputation in the communities that it serves, and I was inspired to learn more about the important services that ICCI provides.

### *What interested you about the organization?*

I was drawn to ICCI's sharp focus on, and keen attention to, filling a significant gap in our health care system: transporting our Neighbors to their medical appointments

(and to pharmacies and grocery stores) when they are unable to drive. ICCI drivers are efficient and courteous, and they provide an essential service that improves the health and well-being of our Neighbors.

### *Why did you want to join the Board?*

I've always enjoyed supporting and assisting organizations that are doing good work in our communities, especially those that serve seniors by improving their health and independence. This is the twelfth nonprofit board that I've served on, and I have chaired several boards and committees over the years. I try to apply my skills and experience in ways that are helpful, and I really enjoy volunteering, giving back to our communities, and helping those in need.

### *How long have you been on the Board?*

Three years. I was the Vice Chair for the past year.

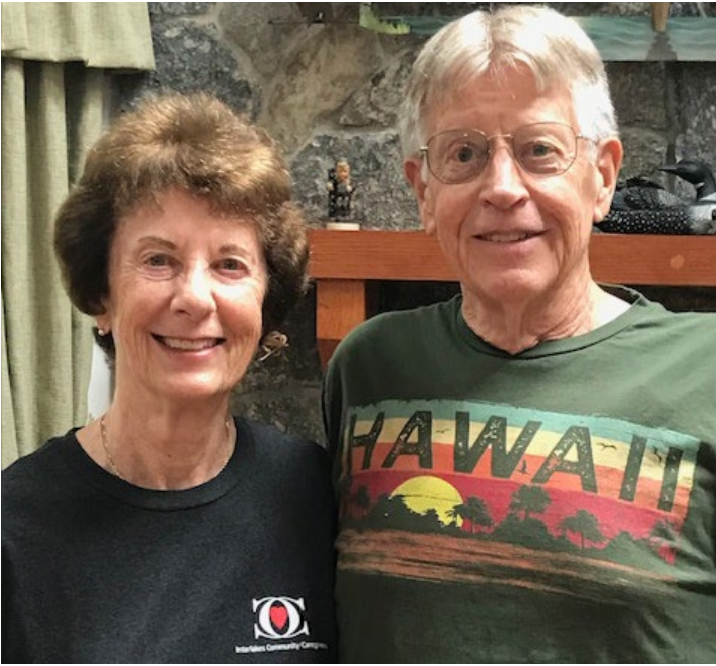
### *2027 goals?*

Looking ahead, we want to add more volunteer drivers so that we can satisfy the increasing transportation needs of our Neighbors. Our communities are growing, and the population is aging, so we need to be prepared to meet the growing demand for our important services. Please help us by volunteering and/or donating to ICCI.

### *What do you love about the Lakes Region and towns we serve?*

The Lakes Region is such a picturesque and pleasant place to live, and it's wonderful to see the impact that our volunteers have in helping our Neighbors. Our Neighbors are able to continue to live independently and have access to the services that they need here in the communities they know and have been a part of for a long time.

## Volunteering Side by Side



**2026 has been a year of recognition for Pauline and Frank Pope.** Pauline received the Governor's 2026 Older Adult Volunteer Award for Carroll County. The Award is given in appreciation of older adults who provide a vital resource to our communities through their leadership, dedication, and outstanding volunteer service. From her award ceremony narrative: "A dedicated volunteer with Interlakes Community Caregivers, she provided 235 hours and drove more than 3,200 miles last year to ensure that Neighbors can access appointments and personal errands. Pauline is also known as the program's 'Birthday Fairy,' delivering gifts, singing to Neighbors, and offering friendly visits that ease social isolation. Her kindness, reliability, and joyful spirit have made a lasting impact on clients, volunteers, and the broader community." In addition to her ICCI service, Pauline also volunteers in ministry at Golden View, packs meals for Got Lunch, and is an active member of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Meredith.



But Pauline isn't the only volunteer in the family. Frank is the recipient of the 2026 Charlotte Leavitt Award, in recognition of outstanding volunteer service for Interlakes Community Caregivers. To say that Frank was surprised by the award is an understatement. He didn't know until the announcement that he was being considered. He was so stunned that Pauline said he forgot to smile as he accepted the award. His dedication, reliability, and willingness to assist Neighbors has been the hallmark of his volunteer service with ICCI.

In addition to his ICCI service, Frank also volunteers for Habitat for Humanity. Married for 54 years, Pauline and Frank were vacationers to the Lakes Region for many years, enjoying all that the area has to offer. They decided to move permanently in 2012. At a visit to ICCI's Ben & Jerry's ice cream event they learned more about the services and then trained to volunteer regularly in 2018. They both love their experiences with Neighbors and feel that volunteering for ICCI fills a real need in this rural area of New Hampshire. They've met so many great people and enjoy learning about them and sharing life stories when driving to appointments.

Pauline is a former elementary school teacher, and Frank is a former electrical engineer, working on digital signal processing. Frank, who has always had an interest in flying, has set up an in-home cockpit using flight simulators and computer control panels designed for specific aircraft. It is an impressive system and clearly a labor of love. The engineer in Frank is not fully retired!

Please join the ICCI community in congratulating and thanking these two outstanding volunteers for all they do.

*Deb Thiboutot*



One of my favorite ICCI events is our Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition celebration. I have had the pleasure of being a part of ICCI for more than 5 years. It is amazing to me to see how we have grown, and continue to grow.

Helping our Neighbors to remain independent and helping to avoid social isolation is of utmost importance to me. Our volunteers are wonderful and we are fortunate to have dedicated and truly special individuals help us meet our goals. Bravo to all!

*Kathryn Holt*



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

## NEW VOLUNTEERS

**Rich B.**  
"I found out about ICCI through a friend who is one of your volunteers. I joined because I want to help bring a good quality of life to those who need assistance and I like meeting people and getting to know and learn from their experiences in life. It gives me a great feeling to help where I can and learn at the same time! I also want to appreciate what their lives are like in their later years so that I can also follow the paths of those I help. I moved here eight years ago from Philadelphia to retire from being COO of a major company. I enjoy skiing, boating, swimming and being around water and the beautiful countryside!"



**Dee S.**  
After living in Massachusetts and Maine, Dee now resides in North Sandwich. She recently retired from MIT and is enjoying her new found freedom. She is an avid golfer, and also enjoys hiking and biking. She is excited to volunteer and help our Neighbors.



## Meredith Parade

Thank you to our volunteers for participating in the parade in Meredith on July 4 and thank you John and Susan for driving the jeep!





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### BECOME A NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Your ad helps to offset printing and postage costs.  
Call Kathryn at 603-253-9275 Ext. 3 for details.

### OUR MISSION

ICCI's mission is to improve access to healthcare and community resources in the communities we serve by providing transportation through a volunteer network.  
PO Box 78, Center Harbor, NH 03226

### ICCI Board of Directors

|                                  |                |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
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| Jason Hall, Secretary            | Sandwich       |
| Danielle Bertagna                | Sandwich       |
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| Dyan Lowman                      | Meredith       |
| Diane Poh                        | Meredith       |
| Will Speers                      | Sandwich       |
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To learn more about our board members, services and how you can volunteer, visit [interlakescares.org](http://interlakescares.org)

If you would like to receive the ICCI Newsletter via email, please contact Amy Blongy at [ablongy@interlakescares.org](mailto:ablongy@interlakescares.org) to be added to our email list.