

Staying FALL 2015 inTouch

No volunteer job is too big.

Every year our *Staying Put* staff and volunteers make giant differences in our members' lives. Door-to-door rides to doctors, health and safety advice, outings to lectures and museums, picnics and parties.

"I thought I needed an electrician, but the volunteer figured out all I needed was to reprogram my garage door remote."

Member P. B.



Anka Jones and **Janecke Madsen** are two of our volunteers who are ready at a moment's notice.

This year *Staying Put* responded to **5167** calls to give our **275** members help, support, and answers such as: **4003** rides door-to-door, **328** in-home visits, **321** home maintenance and technical help, **194** errands, **180** health and safety advice, **141** service provider referrals and discounts. We also organized **83** events and outings.

"That volunteer, Steve? If he were tripled that wouldn't be enough."

Member W. K.

No member request too small.

Sometimes all it takes is a personal contact and simple fixes. This year we initiated the *Care Connections* network to match 32 volunteers with 39 members for regular phone chats or friendly visits.

"I stopped on Sunday to see M. I brought macaroni salad and checked the fridge and freezer."

Volunteer K.D.

"Care Connections volunteers help us reach out to members we care about but rarely hear from," says Executive Director **Barb Achenbaum**.

"Conversations with this dear lady are a treat. If I had a magic wand, its first use would be for her."

Volunteer K.P.

Our 32 new *Staying Put Angels* make grocery runs, pick up mail, change lightbulbs, and fix electronics on short notice. The *Angels* will do the last-minute activities that typically fall to the staff, freeing up their time to keep *Staying Put* running smoothly and addressing the needs of our broader membership.

"Those volunteers can do anything! One reached up and took an old birdnest out of my gutter!"

Member N.M.



On a perfect summer night, the annual Woodway Beach Club picnic was a big hit with **Tom Towers** and 55 members.



Friday lunch at Mead Park throughout the summer brought members together for fun and fresh air. Here are (from left) **Ruth Kelley, Helen Tomaselli, Judy Johnson, and Anne Kniffin.**

Let's make a date!

Dinner at the Long Ridge Tavern

Tues, Oct 20, 6 pm \$30. RSVP

Men's Coffee

Wed, Oct 21, 9:30 am New Canaan Inn

Wed, Nov 18, 9:30 am New Canaan Inn

Wed, Dec 16, 9:30 am New Canaan Inn

Lunch and Learn

"Activating your Personal Pressure Points"

Thurs, Oct 22, 12 noon

Katie Takayasu, MD, will discuss how to integrate mind-body medicine into your daily health regimen. Lapham Center. Free.

"The Mystery of Edwin Drood" Town Players

Sun, Oct 25, 2 pm

A delightful musical murder mystery! \$20. RSVP

Tour and Tea at Grace Farms

Tues, Oct 27, 2 pm (also offered on Nov 24)

Explore the stunning River Walk building at Grace Farms and enjoy a lovely tea in the Pavilion.

Limited space. Free. RSVP

Town Hall Tour

Wed, Oct. 28, 10:30 am

Tour our newly renovated Town Hall with First Selectman **Rob Mallozzi** as your guide. Carpool from *Staying Put*. Free. RSVP

Hobby Fair at Lapham

Wed, Oct 28, 1 pm

Watch your friends and neighbors demonstrate their hidden talents -- from jewelry making to beer brewing! Free. RSVP

Boo! Halloween Lunch!

Fri, Oct 30, 12 noon

Ghou-licious lunch at members **Lois and Dick Sandberg's** home. Space is limited. RSVP

Daylight Savings Time ends

Sun, Nov 1. Turn your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on Halloween night, Sat, Oct 31.

Bruce Museum Outing

Tues, Nov 10, 10 am – 12 noon

Tour the collection at this local treasure. \$6. RSVP

Fall Boutique

New Canaan Artisans (formerly the Sewing Group)

Fri, Nov 13, 9 am – 2 pm

Exceptional handcrafts for home or holiday gifts. St. Mark's Morrill Hall

"Annie" New Canaan High School Musical

Sat, Nov 14, 2 pm \$15. RSVP

Gather your friends and watch the sun come out!

Dinner at Primavera

Tues, Nov 17, 6 pm \$30. RSVP

Tour and Tea at Grace Farms

Tues, Nov 24, 2 pm

See Oct. 27 listing. Free. RSVP

Holiday Train Show at the Botanical Garden

Tues, Dec 1, 10 am

\$18 admission. Carpool from the office. Lunch on your own. RSVP

Mitten Tree at the Office

Dec 7 to Dec 11

Stop by the office to hang mittens, hats or scarves on our holiday tree. Items will be donated to the Vine Cottage's winter clothing drive.

Holiday Luncheon at Judy Bentley's

Tues, Dec 15, 12 noon

Enjoy delicious holiday fare under the famous frog tree!

Lunch instead of Dinner

January through March, we will go out to lunch instead of dinner. First lunch location TBD.

Tues, Jan 15, 12 noon

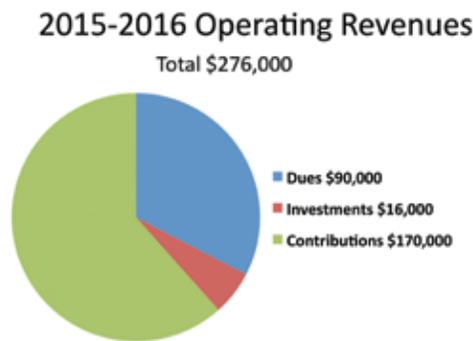
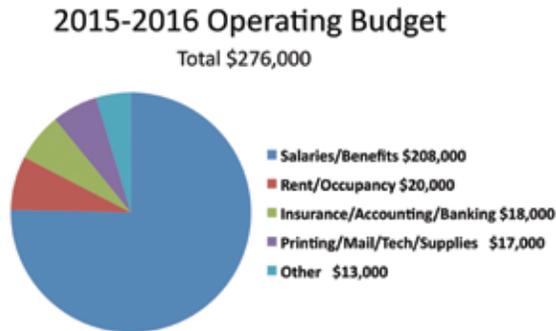
Save the date! Sun., Jan. 10, 2-4 pm, our 8th birthday party

Thanks to contributors for this issue: **Patti Geanakos, Barb Achenbaum, Kathy Collins, and Donna Simone.**

Your contributions at work

Expenses in 2015-16 are projected to be \$276,000, mainly for salaries and benefits. Membership dues are projected to be \$90,000, which is about 40% of expenses. The difference must be covered mainly by donations.

These charts illustrate expenses/revenues:



“Our goal for the 2015-16 year is to raise \$250,000,” said President **Judy Bentley**. “Of that, \$170,000 will go toward current operations and the balance toward building our Long Term Fund. Our long-term objective is to build a total fund of \$1.5 million that will allow us to maintain affordable dues for the long term. As of today, we have already built a fund of over \$1,000,000 of which \$525,000 is invested with the New Canaan Community Foundation.”



Our youngest volunteers

Ten-year olds **Matthias** and **Nelson** have started their own lawn business called **Lawn Monkeys!** Along with their mom and younger sister, they helped out one of our members. Matthias loved whacking all those weeds. He said, “Mom this is my dream!”

So you say you need a ride?



Everyone loves *Staying Put* rides. It's our most often requested service. So at the summer sidewalk sale we decided to have a drawing for a ride — a pint-sized, ride-on dump truck. Above President **Judy Bentley** and **Lila Coleman** show off the prize to attract volunteer drivers to our table.



The winner was little **Myles** (shown left). We hope when he grows up he'll join our 50 fabulous *Staying Put* drivers for real! Just don't expect to be picked up in a dump truck any time soon.



A tour of a volunteer's beautiful garden and lovely tomato salad lunch with **Levora D'Acosta**, **Marion Blose**, **Mary Fearon**, **Judy Schurman**, **Nancy Sessions**, **Pat Stoddard**, and **Maru Brown**.

Troubleshooter solves gas fix

When member **Phyllis Linden** took her gas grill tank to be filled, she had difficulty lifting it out of her car, so she called us. We dispatched volunteer **Chris Matyszewski**, an executive who moonlights as a *Staying Put* troubleshooter. He lifted the tank out and then connected the line. A few days later, he even made a return trip to loosen up the nozzle.



Jim Cole's
"Ready, Set, Safe"

"Keep these numbers at hand for health and safety help right in New Canaan," says **Jim Cole**.

- **Medical Emergency.** 911. Get help for immediate medical needs or falls. The New Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps responds at no cost to New Canaan residents.
- **Emergency Outcall** will call or email you what to do in town emergencies. Sign up for free at newcanaanct.org, then "quick links" and scroll to Emergency Outcall System. Enter your information and you'll get emergency alerts.
- **New Canaan Immediate Care**, 38 East Ave., 203-594-9520. **Walk-in** daily 9 am-7 pm, Sat 9-4, Sun 10-2. For minor illness and injury diagnosis and treatment.
- **Coastal Orthopedics**, 30 East Ave., 203-920-1305. **Walk-in** Mon-Fri 8 am-5 pm. Urgent care for muscles tendon, ligament, and discs Injuries. X-rays, musculoskeletal ultrasounds
- **A home visit from the town nurse.** 203-594-3076, Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30. New Canaan Public Health and Senior Outreach Worker. Health assessment; wellness checks.
- **Smart 911 Free service 24/7.** Your confidential medical information for emergency professionals. Sign up at www.smart911.com or ask *Staying Put* for help.
- **Staying Put Care Connections** Network. 203-966-7762. Weekdays 9-5. For a visit or call from a staff member.

Staying in Touch is published by *Staying Put in New Canaan*, a private, nonprofit corporation to help New Canaan residents live full lives in their own homes as they grow older. Editor Lois Sandberg.



A Staying Put membership: the perfect gift for one you love



Members took a "trip" to Hawaii at the New Canaan Inn, complete with leis, a PuPu platter and eukele music by **Uncle Zac** and the **Lapaleles**. Members (above) **Lila Coleman** and **Jill Stevens**, both of whom lived in Hawaii for several years, performed traditional Hula dances.

Staying Put Holiday Hours

The *Staying Put* office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Nov 26 and 27 and for the holidays from Fri, Dec 25 through Fri, Jan 1. Rides will be provided according to volunteer availability. If you have requests for that week, please contact the office before Wed, Dec 23.