

CARING FOR MARGARET PRATT COMMUNITY – WAYS TO GIVE

Finding safe, supportive, and affordable senior living options is becoming increasingly difficult in Vermont. As the state’s population ages and the number of care facilities declines, many seniors face limited choices, especially those in the “forgotten middle” who cannot afford private pay but do not qualify for Medicaid.

Margaret Pratt Community was created to help meet this need. With attentive staff, engaging activities, healthy meals, and comfortable living spaces, MPC provides high-quality assisted living and memory care. We also accept Medicaid, which allows residents who outlive their resources to remain in our care.

Many families and community members know firsthand the difference MPC makes. Your tax-deductible donation helps ensure we can continue offering dignified and compassionate care to all who need it. Gifts may be made at any time of year, whether as a year-end contribution, in honor of a loved one, after a meaningful life event, or simply as ongoing support. Donations can be made by check, online, or through a donor-advised fund. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) for more information on how to donate.



In September, we hosted the *1st Annual James Barton Fund Golf Scramble*. The event brought together community members, families, and local businesses in support of Margaret Pratt Community. We’re grateful to everyone who took part and helped make the day meaningful for our residents and staff. Planning is already underway for next year’s tournament, and we look forward to continuing this tradition. Thank you for supporting MPC and helping us provide a welcoming and caring home for every resident.



HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

These gift ideas were chosen with our residents in mind and are sure to be appreciated.

- Large print magazines
- Valley News subscriptions
- Quarter rolls for Bingo
- Soft socks
- New pens and stationary with stamps



MPC LIVING

MARGARET PRATT COMMUNITY’S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

November 2025

6TH ANNUAL LEAF PEEPING PHOTO CONTEST TOP 4



WINNER: *Whispering of fall along the fence*, Angela Terril



A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – JOANNA STEVENS



As I settle into my role here at Margaret Pratt Community, I am filled with gratitude for the warm welcome I have received from residents, staff, and families alike. From the moment I stepped into this community, before I even made the decision to join the team, I knew it was a special place. Through my time here this has become more apparent, and I am inspired by the compassion and care I see in everyday interactions.

One of, if not the greatest, part of this journey has been getting to know the residents as individuals, hearing their stories, learning about their interests, and sharing their joy. They each bring a unique component to this community, and it is a privilege to play a role in their lives while continuing to build and expand a sense of community.

As we look toward the future, I am filled with a sense of excitement at the opportunities that will present themselves. Opportunities to expand recreational programs and services that will enrich the lives of our residents. I have been grateful for the enthusiasm of our leadership team and their overwhelming desire to serve the residents of Margaret Pratt.

Reflecting on my brief time here I am reminded that is not only about the work we do, but the people we serve and the relationships we build. I am truly honored to be a part of this community and look forward to the future and the difference we can make in the lives of our residents and our community.



A WORD FROM OUR HEALTH SPECIALISTS

The holiday season is upon us, along with the holidays comes the Flu and Cold season. Please be aware and wash your hands with soap and water frequently. If you are symptomatic (cough, sore throat, sneezing, etc.) please protect yourself, residents and staff by wearing a mask and staying home as much as possible. We do ask that you not come visit when ill.

Safety is our priority, as the

winter weather approaches, please remember to sign in and out when visiting. This can be helpful for fire safety purposes, but in case of transmission tracking we will be able to contact you.

The Health Services Department has many new faces, please be kind and helpful while welcoming them to our wonderful team of dedicated care givers.

KITCHEN CORNER



This autumn and winter, our residents can look forward to a menu that's both familiar and refreshing. We've introduced some new dishes to keep things interesting, while also adding seasonal twists to the favorites they already enjoy. And of course, the classics they grew up with are still very much at the heart of our community's menus.

The inspiration for our next menu really comes from that true

autumnal feeling. As we gear up for the colder weather, we're looking at homely, well-cooked comfort dishes that residents love, so we're focusing on classic and traditional dishes. After all, on a chilly day, nothing beats a hot bowl of stew or a heartwarming Shepard's pie served with creamy mashed potato and a side of nourishing vegetables. It's about creating food that feels like home.

*Please remember that we welcome friends and family to join their loved ones in our dining room. We ask that you please give us 24 hours notice if it's more than one person joining.*

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Eric Meyer, Facilities Director



I've been the Facilities Director for 5 months now, and I'm really enjoying the work and the community here at Margaret Pratt.

I have met and established relationships with many of the residents. I try to make myself available for everything: activities, transportation, conversation. I'm always around for anything you need: to hang a picture, adjust a rug, change a light bulb. Here's a little more about me:

I'm originally from just outside of Boston, a town called Dedham. Our little town lays claim to the oldest surviving wood frame house in America, the Fairbanks House, built in 1641(!). Dedham is also the site of the first taxpayer funded public school in the US, the first man made canal (Mother Brook), and also had several important roles in the American Revolution.

I grew up on the banks of Mother Brook: from an early age I was always attempting to build rafts and trying to be Huckleberry Finn. When the rafts inevitably

failed, I turned my attention to fishing.

In my teenage years, I became a musician. My mother plays piano and my Dad played Banjo, so there was always music in the house. I met some older kids in the neighborhood who played in a rock band, and I thought that was pretty much the coolest thing ever. I used to sneak over and watch them practice in their garage until they discovered me and invited me in. At first, I played bass guitar, but it was the drums that really called to me. I ended up going to music school, Berklee College of Music, with dreams of being the next big thing in drums.

Much like the rafts, my becoming the next big thing in drums also inevitably failed. I did get to play in some fun bands and toured the US, Canada and Europe. Playing music with my friends was a fun way to spend my 20s. I still play every so often, but now I play out in my garage just like those kids from the old neighborhood.

After my music career ended, I needed a "real job." I worked my way through cheese shops and gourmet food shops and restaurants before finally ending up a licensed plumber (go figure!). I worked for a few plumbing shops around the Boston area before moving to Vermont and going to work at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. And now, I'm here at Margaret Pratt Community.

LIFE ENRICHMENT NEWS

Fall is in the air! We had a wonderful Summer/Fall season with lots of fun things that took place- LOTS of trips in the new bus- parade, ice cream, fair, orchard, shopping and foliage trips.

We are looking into the Winter months and continuing to have fun even when it snows! We are enjoying our new bus which we are going to take trips to see holiday lights around our community.

Our Artist-in-residence rePlay Arts and music performer

Cooie will come visit thru the winter months. We are having some new activities planned for our residents to keep them entertained with laughter and smiles! We are enjoying our Men's and Women's group with our peers and staff. Please check the activity calendar and join us for any activities you'd enjoy.

We always look forward to hearing about other fun ideas and outings, please let us know if you have ideas. We are especially looking for choral groups to come sing for us!

FUN AT MPC

