

Your Connected Community

A CULTURE OF OPPORTUNITIES—FOR EVERYONE

HELEN KELLER stated, “Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much.” This describes the Redwoods “to a T.” We describe our senior community as “a Culture of Opportunities”—you feel it when you come through the front doors. There is a buzz of activity and liveliness here that you won’t find in many other places.

There are many opportunities at The Redwoods to stay fully engaged in life: Arts, Celebrations, Entertainment, Exercise, Music, Nature, Politics, Technology, Spirituality, Writing and more. Every day, residents and friends continue to initiate new ideas. We are living at a time of increased feelings of isolation and loneliness—particularly among seniors. Fortunately, our residents, their families and friends, staff, and volunteers are united in helping create a unique culture that is supporting, affirming, and involved.

Bringing the Residents and Community Together

The “opportunities” go far beyond our campus walls and we are increasingly connected to the broader world. In addition to excursions to theater, museums, and concerts, residents annually raise funds for scholarships for



Middle schoolers and residents meet up in the Pen Pals program.



“We are a Culture of Opportunities, and the ‘opportunities’ go beyond our campus walls.”

*—Claire McAuliffe,
President, Board of Directors*

deserving high school seniors and regularly participate in community events, parades, and demonstrations. A resident Climate Crisis

Group has been formed, with plans to participate in a Climate Crisis strike in September. Plus, there are opportunities that bring both inside and outside together, like the Bazaar, that involve residents and community members alike on October 18th & 19th.

Pen Pal Program Unites the Generations

At The Redwoods, we have always valued bringing the older and younger generations together, so have created strong partnerships with our neighboring schools. This year, we organized a special Pen Pal program: individual Mount Tam Middle School students corresponded back and forth with a resident for six months. Last May, the program culminated in a special event where the students and Redwoods residents met in person for the first time. It was fun, emotional, and inspiring.

All of this is only possible by the combined efforts of each of us. You help protect, preserve and promote our community through the sharing of your time, talents and treasures. Thank you for your contributions to the Culture of Opportunities at The Redwoods—A Community of Seniors and so much more. ■

A COMMUNITY TREASURE— THRIVING & ALWAYS GROWING



THE REDWOODS is a true treasure for all of us in Marin. If you haven't stopped in lately to see our beautiful campus, come sit down for a game of cards with the residents, attend a lecture, or help harvest produce in the Robert Sinclair Scott Garden. You can also keep an eye out for the next Rock the Ages concert or honk in support of Seniors for Peace on the corner.

"I salute the tremendous job of our leadership and staff for their outstanding work." —Claire McAuliffe, President

By now, the news of the coming inpatient Hospice Center at The Redwoods has likely reached you. This is truly a dream come true for The Redwoods and a natural next step in our evolution. We are thrilled to welcome our partner, Hospice by the Bay, to The Redwoods family. When my husband's time was near, Hospice by the Bay held all of our hands and was a loving, caring presence. I could not have done it without them.

Outstanding Leadership Keeps Us Healthy

Like all organizations in the health care industry, The Redwoods is facing challenges with reduced reimbursements or increases well below inflation rates, as well as a highly competitive hiring environment—particularly for nurses and care professionals. I speak for the entire Board when I thank and salute the tremendous job of our leadership and staff for their outstanding work to bring in an achievable budget for next year.

Finally, two staff leadership notes: please stop by and meet Christian Mills, our new Director of Development. A Mill Valley native with deep experience in fundraising, he plays an important role in obtaining contributions for our Hospice Center and other programs—all needed as we are a relatively small, locally managed non-profit organization. Our CEO Hunter Moore has extended his reach in Mill Valley by being unanimously appointed to the board of the dynamic Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations, Hunter!

Wishing you a happy autumn season.

CLAIRE MCAULIFFE
President, Board of Directors

LETTER FROM J. HUNTER MOORE, CEO

LIFE IS BUZZING AT THE REDWOODS!



I LOVE THAT there really are so many opportunities to engage with life here. Our water therapy program, "SPLASH" (Supporting Posture, Longevity, Agility, Strength & Health), is so popular that we are working

on plans to expand it. The gym's "Climb Mt. Tamalpais" challenge saw over 30 residents achieve their goal. Residents have formed a Climate Crisis group, raised funds for scholarships, and are now busy planning for the Bazaar.

In addition to these wonderful programs, we continue to provide our quality services, and our work to keep up our campus continues. Recent work includes improvements to our siding, parking lots, hallways and several apartments. The team has had training on a variety of emergency responses and is ready for whatever the future brings.

On other key developments, I'm proud to say that we are making excellent progress on our inpatient Hospice Center (*see article on page 3*). It is also a pleasure to report that we are operating within our financial targets and have adopted a good and realistic budget for the coming year.

* * *

In closing, I want to thank you for your support, understanding and contributions that make this all possible.

J. HUNTER MOORE
Chief Executive Officer

Inpatient Hospice Center Update

OUR GOAL is to hold an official opening in Spring 2020 and we are making great progress! Renovations on six of the twelve suites have been completed; three have been fully outfitted and are spacious, warm, and comfortable; furniture, fixtures, and amenities have been ordered for the remainder. The common and support areas that will truly make this a “center” will not be done until sometime early next year; however, demand is so high that we have already served eight residents with a hospice diagnosis.



Responses to the Center’s newly-completed serenity garden have been so positive that we are entertaining proposals to do something similar on the Health Care Center’s

other side. An architect has provided preliminary drawings for the revitalization of the Hospice Center common areas and thoughts are coming together for the adjacent bistro and porches. We are now fully into fundraising mode for the remainder of the support needed to complete the Hospice Center. Persons interested in donating to the area’s first and only inpatient Hospice Center should contact **Christian Mills** at cmills@theredwoods.org



Want a Tax-Saving Way to Help The Redwoods?

IF YOU ARE 70½ years old or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to benefit The Redwoods and receive tax benefits in return: you can donate up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to us.

Why Should You Consider this Gift?

- Your gift will be put to use today, allowing you to see the difference your donation is making.
- You pay no income taxes on the gift and you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- Without a gift like this, your required withdrawals from a traditional IRA are considered taxable income.

- If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution for the year, your IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement.

And, if you have already named The Redwoods as the beneficiary of your IRA, there are benefits to making the gift now.

Rules to remember: we must receive your gift by Dec. 31st for your donation to qualify this year; the maximum contribution allowed is \$100,000 per person, per year; distributions must be made directly from the IRA to The Redwoods.

For more information, contact **Christian Mills** at (415) 383-2741 or cmills@theredwoods.org.

Good News!

**RESIDENTIAL LIVING
APARTMENTS AVAILABLE**

While you or a loved one may be on the waiting list for a fully Independent Living Apartment, it may take several years before your ideal apartment is available. But there is good news: a Residential Living Apartment (RLA) could be available within a few weeks.

Do you want something interesting and engaging to do each day? Good food that you don’t have to cook, housekeeping support, wellness programs, and Assisted Living support if needed?

A Culture of Opportunity awaits! So why put off enjoying all the events, programs, transportation, support and fun that comes with life at The Redwoods.

Call or e-mail our Admissions team today at (415) 383-2741 or admissions@theredwoods.org to schedule a visit.

ABOUT THE REDWOODS: A not-for-profit and non-denominational 501c(3) senior community, our mission is to maintain a creative, affordable community that promotes good health, well-being and security. Located in Mill Valley, CA, we offer 3 levels of care, a variety of living style options, and an array of innovative programs. For more information: 415-383-2741 * www.theredwoods.org * 40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley, CA 94941



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Make a Lasting & Meaningful Difference

Come to Our Planned Giving Workshop & Reception

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019

6pm – 7:30pm

(wine and small bites included!)

Mt. Tam Room, The Redwoods,
40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley

WANT AN INSIGHT into how you can support those organizations important to you? Please join us for a special evening with expert Genevieve M. Moore, a partner in the law firm Bancroft & McAllister LLP and member of The Redwoods Board of Directors. Learn the basics of planned giving and obtain the tools needed



to start your planned giving program.

Ms. Moore, who has over 30 years'

experience in charitable giving, will cover estate and gift planning through the use of wills, trusts, and beneficiary designations, as well as estate tax and probate considerations. We will hope you will join us!

RSVP to Christian Mills
at 415-383-2741 or
cmills@theredwoods.org

Estate Planning is for Everyone!

REGARDLESS of your age or assets, estate planning may be just right for you. Why? It allows you to protect the people and causes you care about—no matter what.

Planned gifts from your estate use current tax laws to maximize your gift's impact and return financial benefits to you. This enables you to make larger gifts that you would make from your income alone, maximize your donation, and minimize the impact on your estate.

Your Investment Matters

The Redwoods is a perfect investment. We have dedicated over 45 years to taking care of elders and stayed true to our mission—providing affordable housing in a community setting full of possibilities. (See page 3 for how to make a tax-free gift of your IRA.)

For more information on how to create your own legacy, visit www.theredwoods.planmylegacy.org, contact **Christian Mills** at cmills@theredwoods.org, and come to our seminar!