

# SSAFE Newsletter

*Senior Stewards Acting for the Environment*



## *In This Issue*

### **Shade, a cool new commodity!**



### **Leave the Leaves**

How leaf litter supports insects that feed the birds.

### **An award-winning waste recycling program**

Think you're recycling all you can? Think again.

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*Elders hold a unique position at this pivotal point in history.*

## **The 2024 Election: What's at Stake?**

*An interview with David Orr, Kendal at Oberlin, by Larry Daloz, Contributing Editor, Kendal at Hanover*

One of the most thoughtful voices in the climate world, David Orr shares his thoughts about the threats facing us and what we elders can do about it. He is clear from the outset: you can't separate climate change from everything else.

**DO:** Rapid climate change is an existential issue linked with the ongoing threat of nuclear holocaust and the insidious threat of artificial intelligence. We are in an era like no other, a global "crisis of crises." Our predicament is a

*cont'd p.2*

## Election (cont'd)

result of the failure of governance and our democratic institutions. It is the sum total of our collective greed, violence, injustice, and carelessness. And as important as it is, technology will not be sufficient without improving those institutions—and ourselves. No well-informed citizen would vote for a future of mega-storms, heat, famine, floods, and ecological devastation. The work before us is to make democracy more democratic and governance more effective, farsighted, and fair. To that end, a handful of other colleagues and I have just written a manifesto entitled *What's Really at Stake in 2024*, a ringing call for Americans to recognize that climate change cannot be adequately addressed without a more vigorous and inclusive democracy.

**LD:** So besides joining SSAFE, supporting other environmental and climate-friendly organizations and activities in our own SSAFE chapters—and voting, of course—what else can elders like us do?

**DO:** One thing is to use our age, experience, judgment, and perspective as elders in the public arena. Our years are an asset. We are small by volume but large by effect, and young people often need the inspiration and mentorship of elders like us. We can provide wisdom, along with skills, savvy, and hope. In building the Adam Joseph Lewis Center at Oberlin College—the first entirely solar-powered and zero-discharge building on a U.S. college campus—students worked with the architects, engineers, and landscape

designers throughout the process with the goal of building so as “to cause no ugliness—human or ecological—somewhere else or at some later time.” They learned that the world is still rich in possibilities, and that hope is built in concert with others. It's vital that we not be paralyzed by the seeming hopelessness of our situation, which is systemic and complex. The term “system” suggests interrelatedness and is close to the root of religion, which means “to bind together.” In other words, we are kin to all that ever was, is, or will be. The essence of our predicament is spiritual. We will have to grow and mature as whole people, as dual citizens in both our political and the larger ecological system.

“Our years are an asset. We are small by volume but large by effect, and young people often need the inspiration and mentorship of elders like us.”

**LD:** Erik Erikson said that the final spiritual challenge facing us as elders is the tension between hope and despair. Given all that we know, how can we still have hope?

**DO:** Despair is a sin. It assumes that we are helpless and so we do nothing—a self-fulfilling prophecy. Optimism is no better because it presumes that everything will come out all right in the end and thus we

*cont'd p.3*

## Election (cont'd)

don't have to act. But I like to think of hope as a verb, with its sleeves rolled up. It requires that we act, and that action is a solid foundation for changing the odds against us. It has a multiplier effect that creates enthusiasm, creativity, and courage that can make all the difference in the world.

LD: Thank you, David. Perhaps that's what SSAFE is as well: hope with its sleeves rolled up.

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Exercise your elder-power! Take action at [www.SSAFE.org/action/](http://www.SSAFE.org/action/)



*David W. Orr is the Paul Sears Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies and Politics Emeritus at Oberlin College, presently Professor of Practice at Arizona State University. His many books include Ecological Literacy and Earth in Mind. He remains actively involved in climate action both here and across the planet.*

## Advocacy Corner

### Is the Inflation Reduction Act on the Chopping Block?



The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 includes approximately \$369 billion in funding allocated for climate-related projects. The funding covers a wide range of initiatives, including tax incentives for renewable energy projects, support for electric vehicle adoption, and improvements to energy efficiency in buildings. Some funds and programs are already available, and other incentives and programs will start in 2025 and after.

According to the February 2024 issue of the *MIT Technology Review*, the IRA in particular may be in jeopardy. "The IRA's tax credits for EVs and clean power projects appear especially vulnerable, climate policy experts say. Losing those provisions alone could reshape the nation's emissions trajectory, potentially adding back hundreds of millions of metric tons of climate pollution this decade."

Read the full article from *MIT Technology Review* here: <https://tinyurl.com/IRAatStake/>

## SOLAR ON SSAFE CHAPTER CAMPUSES?

*A Status Report from SSAFE Board Members*

At their last meeting, the Board decided to adjust SSAFE's mission statement to include more focus on energy savings and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. At the heart of that effort is the move toward renewables, particularly solar, which can have a big impact on many of our campuses.

### **Crosslands**

Over the past few years, Crosslands has completed two major construction projects. Known as Mott and Woolman, they were designed with the latest sustainability measures in mind, including solar. Now there are 108 solar panels total connected with these two projects, with 44 at Woolman and 64 at two carports for the Mott cottages. The kWh produced by the solar panels are used at Crosslands and help to reduce the kWh purchased from the grid. The solar panels will operate for 20 to 30 years, with almost no maintenance required. The electricity from the solar panels emits no CO<sub>2</sub>.



*Judy and Bill Heald celebrate the activation of the solar panels at Crosslands.*

For some time after the panels were installed, they were inactive due to delays by the local power provider. It took repeated phone calls to get the power company to eventually activate the panels, which finally went into operation on September 14, 2023. A significant portion of the funding came from a resident.

### **Kendal at Longwood**

Approximately 132 solar rooftop panels are being installed on a new health center as part of the construction budget. The solar panels will produce 68,500 kWh of electricity per year—enough to offset 47.9 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. An additional rooftop installation of 100 more rooftop panels is anticipated, which will produce another 50,900 kWh of electricity and offset 35.6 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. A campaign to raise \$100,000 from residents of Crosslands and Kendal at Longwood has begun, and if it is successful, the administration will complete the \$180,000 cost. Added roof space may be made solar-ready during construction. Energy committees at both campuses have endorsed the fund-raising campaign to add more solar energy.

### **Kendal at Oberlin**

There are 60 solar panels mounted on a garage and carport that generate enough electricity to light those buildings, the EV charging stations they contain, and 75 LED light poles and posts. And any excess feeds into the Oberlin city grid!

*cont'd p.5*

## Solar (cont'd)

### **Enso Village**

Enso Village has solar panels that, when activated, will produce approximately 75 kWh of power to be sent back to the grid. These panels are located on covered parking spaces and are part of the original construction plans. The Enso Earth Care Team is collaborating with management on a proposal to add solar panels on community rooftops in the future. Some issues facing this project are concerns about leasing vs. purchasing the panels, capital availability, the ability to secure project financing, and accessing IRA funds.

### **Kendal at Lathrop North and East**

In order to investigate the solar potential for both campuses, a group of residents formed the Ad Hoc Solar Study Group. Lathrop North has many trees, whose solar "photochemical" collection is selfishly directed to their own growth and which largely blocks the addition of "photovoltaic" collectors. Lathrop East is more open, but the orientation of the roofs is willy-nilly, so not ideal. There are open fields that could hold solar arrays, but the question arose about how many of those are actually wetlands, which have been conserved from development, and whether the majority of residents would appreciate the "despoiling" of their views. The conclusion of that group was to consider some limited on-site solar (where practical) and consider buying into community solar, which is legal in Massachusetts. (See sidebar on community solar.) It was suggested that cottage residents at Lathrop who purchase their own electricity buy into community solar for their own use—and some residents

have! The latest breakthrough is that there is now money in the budget to put solar panels on the roof of Lathrop North's "Meeting House." This initiative is backed by the administration, which sees the savings such an endeavor will create over the next 25 years.

### **Kendal at Hanover**

The administration is currently opposed to considering rooftop solar. As a result, the focus has shifted to energy measures that are more obtainable in the short term: heat pumps (to get off of propane), attic insulation, and EV charging stations. Solar in the long term, however, is very much on the minds of residents.

### **Kendal at Ithaca**

Ithaca is in the process of selecting a company to do a sustainability audit. Based on the results, decisions will be made about capital expenditures. Solar is definitely in the mix, but the campus is getting electricity from wind, so it may be more likely that heat pumps or some other energy initiative will take precedence.

### **Wake Robin**

The administration and residents at Wake Robin have investigated the possibility of solar on campus and determined that it is not a viable option at this time. Wake Robin does benefit indirectly (via credits) from an off-site array—an arrangement made some years ago that covers a small portion of their electric bill.

### **Piper Shores**

In lieu of on-campus solar, Piper Shores has opted to purchase shares in two community solar fields and is negotiating

*cont'd p.6*

## Solar (cont'd)

with a third. (See sidebar on community solar.)

### **Kendal at Lexington**

The possibility of a KaLex solar installation has been discussed for the last 5 years. Despite a few preliminary assessments of installing solar panels on the main building roofs or creating a free-standing solar field, no progress has been made. The main barriers include: (a) the sizeable upfront costs; (b) logistical and cost impediments to integrating solar power into the electrical utility's single meter system; and (c) the lack of a location on a relatively small (185 acre) campus where a solar field with proper exposure could be constructed. In 2023 the resident Sustainability Committee prepared a report that explained the challenges and opportunities of solar. The report concluded that rooftop solar panels would be a viable alternative for meeting some of KaLex's future energy needs, but it would take up to 25 years to recoup its capital investment. Additionally, airtightness of the building envelopes is equally important as solar, and both initiatives should be developed in tandem.

### **Collington, a Kendal Affiliate**

While Collington has no solar on campus at this time, a study of solar opportunities is part of their Sustainability Plan and will hopefully be funded in the 2025 budget. Also, the project team for Vision 2030--a major, multiphase expansion project--the Climate Action Committee, and the administration are looking at ways to introduce clean, renewable energy.

### **The Admiral at the Lake**

Because it is a high-rise building, there is not enough roof space at The Admiral to accommodate the number of solar panels needed to be effective.

## **What is Community Solar?**



Community solar projects generate electricity from sunlight, and the electricity flows through a meter to the utility grid. Community solar subscribers (i.e., households, businesses, or any other electricity customer) pay for a share of the electricity generated by the community solar project. This is typically in the form of a monthly subscription fee. The local utility pays the community solar provider for the energy generated, and each subscriber receives a portion of the dollar value generated by their community solar subscription as a credit. Usually this credit is applied directly to a subscriber's monthly electric bill, helping to reduce customers' electricity costs. Not all states allow community solar, so be sure to investigate the situation in your state.

For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/community-solar-basics>

## A NEW TWIST ON "LEAVE THE LEAVES"

By the SSAFE Newsletter Editorial Team

Autumn is with us again, and before long all those beautiful fall leaves will be on the ground, nourishing the soil, providing shelter for worms and beneficial insects, and suppressing weeds. But...say what? Rake them up? Blow them away? Because they ruin the grass, you say?

Enter Doug Tallamy, entomologist, leaf-lover, and author of the *New York Times* best-seller, *Nature's Best Hope*. Back in April, he spoke to our SSAFE General Meeting. "Caterpillars," he said, noting that they are the single most nutritious bird food, "develop in the canopy and then drop. Having grass right up to the tree is hard on them. But if you stop mowing [or leave the leaves], they can snuggle into shelter...ecologically it's great." He also argued against using peat moss. "Leaves are a much better mulch," and he went on to describe the nifty attractive boxes one of his fans created called "Larval Landings."

It seems there's a whole "Leave the Leaves" movement afoot these days. An understanding of the role that leaf litter plays in providing essential habitat for insects and laying the foundation of the food web for birds and other wildlife is growing. And not only are the leaves good for the soil and for the birds, but ridding ourselves of the noise of those hellish leaf blowers that shatter our ears and fill the air with sooty CO<sub>2</sub> is good for all of us.

Increasingly, the practice of removing leaves, often seen as a necessary part of

maintaining a tidy yard, has come under scrutiny for its negative impacts on wildlife and soil health. Today, "Leave the Leaves" is part of a broader trend towards sustainable gardening and landscaping, reflecting a shift towards more eco-friendly practices that prioritize the health of local ecosystems.

### Larval Landings

A new concept called "Larval Landings" provides a unique and effective method to collect leaves in areas where aesthetics are important. Modular honeycomb-shaped frames can be placed in creative arrangements around the base of trees. Leaf litter from the tree canopy then provides habitat for insects and allows them to safely complete their life cycles.



*New Larval Landing frames made in the wood shop at Lathrop North await leaf litter.*

For more on Lathrop's Leave the Leaves efforts, see <https://tinyurl.com/Leave-the-Leaves>

## ARE WE UNDERESTIMATING THE VALUE OF SHADE?

By *Stu White, Kendal at Hanover*

Dr. Alan Lockwood delivered a wake-up call to our communities earlier this summer when he addressed a General Committee meeting on the life-threatening impacts of global warming, especially on the elderly population. One comment in particular stood out for me—that this summer may be the “coolest” we can expect going forward. At about the same time the northeast was experiencing a heat wave that made outdoor activities uncomfortable at best, and as we learned, downright risky.

I was determined to keep to my morning hiking routine, but for self-preservation I had to modify the game plan: start earlier in the morning and seek the shade. With heat indices in the 90s, the deep woods are a blessing, but at times I found it necessary to traverse the relatively treeless main drag heading north out of Hanover. I began to hug the east side of the street, benefitting from the shade cast by buildings due to the low-angled morning sun, but which often meant encroaching on the grounds of commercial properties. Would the office workers start to worry about this creepy old guy slinking alongside their buildings?

A recent *New York Times* article entitled “The Hottest Commodity at the U.S. Open? Shade.” shows how climate change is affecting all variety of summer sports. Arthur Ashe stadium’s retractable roofs, originally designed to prevent rain delays, are now being used to keep out Old Sol, once our friend and now the summer enemy. The article cites several high



*A deep energy retrofit of the 150-year-old Alliance for the Visual Arts building in Lebanon, NH, added wisteria to a trellis to shade the west wall.*

school football deaths just this month from practicing when the heat index is as high as 98 degrees.

The heat island effect of cities is common knowledge, and treeless streets (invariably in the poorest sections) are a major cause, as the dark pavements absorb sunlight and radiate heat into the neighborhood.

With a heightened appreciation of shade, I wondered if SSAFE campuses, in addition to creating meadows, should also be considering planting more trees for the benefit of future residents. Should we be thinking of transforming our grounds to resemble more the urban wooded park than the manicured suburban lawn? How can we best prepare for even hotter times, say 20 years down the road? Some climate experts once frowned upon “adaptation” measures, preferring the active pursuit of greenhouse gas reductions instead. Now it appears we must do both.

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## Shade (cont'd)

For campus design, it means we need to give more thought to orientation in planning future layouts and find ways to keep the sun off our buildings in summer, especially off the glass. Advanced glazing technology can be used to block solar gain at windows. Cottage design could benefit from an earth-sheltered approach. Judicious tree plantings—not too close to buildings for obvious reasons, but close enough to provide shade—are the classic passive solution. There are ways to retrofit shade onto our existing buildings through architectural elements such as roof overhangs, vine-laden trellises, or even fixed awnings supporting a solar array. And providing abundant shade trees in our open spaces between buildings will provide a legacy of beauty and utility in the fight against a warming world.



*An example of solar panels used as an awning.*

To read the *New York Times* article referenced in this article, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/shade-commodity>

## Education Corner

### May The Forest Be With You!

*By Merle Tanis, Cartmel*



Have you ever hugged a tree? Felt its strength in your embrace? Traced its furrowed bark with your fingers? Are you lost in wonder as you gaze at branches swaying at dizzying heights? Do sun-drenched, backlit leaves startle you with their beauty? Are you amazed by the interactions between trees and other life forms? Have your tree encounters helped you gain perspective in life? Are trees sacred beings to you?

In addition to providing beauty, insight, and inspiration, trees meet our physical needs as well: food, wood, shade, and oxygen we breathe. Have you ever thanked trees for their precious gifts? Our great ally in the fight against climate change, these huge photosynthetic factories remove heat-trapping carbon dioxide from Earth's atmosphere and tirelessly sequester the carbon in their tissues. Trees evoke our awe and respect.

If you enjoy nature poetry, check out Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Mary Oliver, whose deep personal connection with the environment inspired her captivating, insightful poems. "When I Am Among the Trees," "Fletcher Oak," "The Country of the Trees," and "Ordinarily I Go To the Woods Alone" are just a sampling found in book compilations such as *Devotions*, or accessed individually in an online search.

## WAKE ROBIN WINS SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

By Mary MacEwan and “Greeny,” Wake Robin

Environmental stewardship is a core value of the Wake Robin community. Including more than 400 residents and 200 employees, we are committed to campus-wide recycling and reuse. Notably, in August 2023, Casella Waste Systems, our local trash and recycling contractor, honored us with a Sustainability Leadership Award for excellence in sustainable material management practices.

**What methods do we use to recycle and reuse?** Green Rooms in all apartment buildings and cottage neighborhoods house large bins for the mandated recycling of glass, plastic, metal, and paper; bagged trash; and plastic bags/wrap. Small bins are provided to collect used batteries; CFL lightbulbs; small plastic caps; and refundable bottles and cans, which help fund activities of our residents’ association. Pull tabs from aluminum cans go to the local Ronald MacDonald House, and there’s a bin for “What do I do with this?”

Our Community Center cloak room has bins for coffee capsules; wine corks; dental care products; disposable pens, highlighters, and glue sticks—all of which go to TerraCycle®, which handles hard-to-recycle items. Clean, empty pill bottles go to Matthew 25: Ministries in Ohio in support of their efforts to improve medical care in developing countries. Elsewhere on campus is a bin to collect gently used clothing for a nearby thrift store and another for unusable clothing and worn linens to go to a district drop-off



*Gail White sorts waste in the cloak room.*

center. Dried flowers, potting soil, and yard waste go to our own compost pile, and used plastic garden pots go to a garden center.

Our Environmental Services Department handles our hazardous waste, miscellaneous metal, electronics, small appliances, and larger trash items.

Residents take food scraps to several collection points on campus, and Casella takes the scraps to Green Mountain Compost to make high quality compost for sale.

Volunteers in our woodshop saw off and discard the spines from donated hard-cover books that can’t otherwise be donated to local organizations. Then they

*cont'd p. 11*

## Waste (cont'd)

recycle the pages and send the book covers to the art room for potential use as canvases. This avoids sending literally tons of hardcover books to the landfill.

The crowning glory of our reuse effort is our annual Tag Sale, which attracts staff, residents, and hundreds of people from the local community and beyond. Sales contribute a large sum to our residents' association, and leftover items go to charitable organizations.

**With so many types of recycling and reuse, how do our residents stay current with everything?** In 2019, "Greeny," our recycling gnome, was created to spread the word. Greeny publishes recycling/reuse best practices and tips in print and online, and residents can send him questions via [greenyvt@gmail.com](mailto:greenyvt@gmail.com). He and his friends staged an acclaimed skit to encourage people to cancel unwanted mail. Greeny relies on his team of Green Room monitors who reside in every independent living neighborhood. They orient new residents and keep all residents updated on the tasks of recycling, and they join others who volunteer their time to sort and deliver collections wherever they need to go.



*"Greeny," the recycling gnome, helps educate residents at Wake Robin about waste.*

The backbone of our recycling/reuse programs is our many resident volunteers. We couldn't do it without them.

Read more about Wake Robin's Sustainability Leadership Award here: <https://tinyurl.com/WR-award>

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### A Controversial COP29?



**COP29**  
Baku  
Azerbaijan

Once a year, under the United Nations flag, the nations of the world gather to limit climate change by reducing planetary emissions to zero by 2050, and agreeing on ways to do that. It's almost time for the 29th COP (Conference of the Parties) meeting. This decision-making body represents global leaders from the 198 countries that have signed the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Mark your calendars for November 11th to 22nd, and prepare for high drama, for this year it will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan—a country where fossil fuel extraction and export make up a good portion of its gross national product. Billed as the "finance COP," let's see how effective COP29 turns out to be. We'll have a full article on COP29 in our next issue.

## WHAT MAKES US COOL IS ALSO HEATING US UP

By Stu Graves, *Wake Robin*

Many refrigerants have a potent greenhouse effect. The magnitude of that effect is called their global warming potential (GWP), a measure of the warming they cause over time compared with carbon dioxide. Project Drawdown estimates that hydrofluorocarbons, for example, have a 1,000 to 9,000 times greater capacity to warm the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. Refrigerants are released into the environment when appliances are produced; they leak from existing appliances and equipment; and they are emitted during disposal.

That's why the EPA recommends reducing leakage from air conditioning and refrigeration equipment and using refrigerants with lower GWPs. In addition, proper recovery, recycling, and destruction of refrigerants at end of life is essential. The good news is that once they are carefully removed, refrigerants can be purified for reuse, or transformed into chemicals that do not cause warming.

So what can SSAFE members do about refrigerants in their own homes and on their campuses?

First, we can make sure existing equipment using refrigerants (walk-in coolers, refrigerators, heat pumps, air conditioners, etc.) are not leaking; are functioning properly; are maintained/recharged carefully so as not to release refrigerant; and finally, are decommissioned and disposed of properly.

Second, when equipment is broken or wearing out, we can replace it with



*Service technician using gauges to check refrigerant. Source: Getty Images.*

equipment that uses a refrigerant with the lowest GWP possible. Different refrigerants vary in their ability to warm the climate. GWP condenses all the considerations into one easy number for any given future time period. The lower the GWP, the better the gas is for the climate.

Third, waiting for equipment to wear out before mitigating greenhouse gas dangers will not get us to net zero on time. So, of all the greenhouse gas mitigation projects that could be done on campus now, what is the path—what should we do first so that our money and resources go the furthest and thus remove the most greenhouse gases?

Many factors unique to each campus bear on that question, e.g., the projects themselves, availability of personnel and material, cash flow, debt service, etc., but there is a common factor enabling a rough first ordering of projects. Each project can be characterized by the estimated amount of money it will take to eliminate the same amount of greenhouse gas—call it an abatement price, e.g., \$/metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e\* eliminated. Starting with projects

*cont'd p. 13*

## Refrigerants (cont'd)

having the lowest abatement prices enables any given amount of resources to go furthest. A project may have a higher price tag overall, but the dollars will go further, getting us faster to our goal of carbon neutrality.

One could simply look at the energy savings gained by moving from old to new equipment and calculate the corresponding greenhouse gases saved. But a more sophisticated analysis could estimate the CO<sub>2</sub>e released in creating the old appliance, the CO<sub>2</sub>e in commissioning it, the CO<sub>2</sub>e leaked over the years, and the CO<sub>2</sub>e in decommissioning it. The same could be estimated for the new appliance's expected lifetime. The difference plus the CO<sub>2</sub>e eliminated from energy above becomes the denominator. The estimated purchasing, commissioning, and maintenance cost of the new equipment plus the decommissioning cost of the old and new appliance added together make up the numerator of the abatement price.

Refrigerants are perhaps not as well recognized for their major contribution to global warming as are other factors. It is hoped that this guidance will raise awareness of the dangers of refrigerants, give our campuses the tools to reduce refrigerant greenhouse gas emissions, and move SSAFE chapters down the path toward net zero.

\*The CO<sub>2</sub>e (CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent) is easily calculated by multiplying the amount of a greenhouse gas by its GWP—for example, 1 metric ton of methane X 30 = 30 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

## SSAFE Expands Again!

Earlier this year, we announced the approval of two new SSAFE chapters. Now, we would like to introduce two more new chapters, **Enso Village** and **Riverwoods Durham**.

**Enso Village** is a Kendal affiliate and Life Plan Community offering a full continuum of care on its 16-acre campus in Healdsburg, CA. Enso Village has 221 residences, including 30 affordable housing units and 54 healthcare units. Enso is SSAFE's first Zen-inspired community built to the most stringent environmental standards of any Kendal community.



*Enso Village in Healdsburg, CA.*

SSAFE's newest chapter, **Riverwoods Durham**, is a Continuing Care Retirement Community located on 34 acres in Durham, NH, near the University of New Hampshire. Just over 276 residents living in 150 independent units and 72 healthcare residents call Riverwoods Durham home.



*Riverwoods Durham, in Durham, NH.*

## THE TORCH HAS BEEN PASSED—A NEW CHAPTER FOR SSAFE BEGINS!

*By the SSAFE Newsletter Editorial Team*

We are pleased that Joel Brody from Collington, A Kendal Affiliate, has been appointed the new SSAFE Chair. Joel will step into some big shoes filled by Mary Lindley Burton for the past four years! Mary's visionary leadership transformed SSAFE from a small group of dedicated individuals into the thriving organization it is today. You may have noticed Mary's infectious enthusiasm and quick wit at General Committee meetings. We owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for her untiring service. As she passes the torch to Joel Brody, she will stay on the Board for another year as Immediate Past Chair.

After a long search, the SSAFE Board is thrilled to have found another tireless leader in Joel Brody. His organizational creativity, coupled with a deep understanding of sustainability challenges, will be instrumental as he leads the board in setting strategic goals and priorities. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering and has had a distinguished career in the computer industry. Joel has held leadership positions on the boards of several Jewish temples, including multiple terms as president. After retiring, he served as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner in South Lake Tahoe, California, further demonstrating his commitment to community service.

Please join us in welcoming Joel Brody as our new Chair of the SSAFE Board of Directors and thanking Mary Lindley Burton for her exemplary service!

### **A Farewell Salute from our Departing Chair**

*Rarely does one get the chance to be in on the ground floor of an effort, let alone at the right moment in life.*

*Margaret Powell, fellow resident at Kendal at Hanover, gave me that chance in late 2019, and as we applied for SSAFE's 501(c)(3) status I became your "accidental Chair."*

*Drawing on fellow board members and other resident-members with invaluable domain expertise, SSAFE evolved from a small group of Kendals to an organization of 15 chapters, including five non-Kendal communities. In the process, we shared our learnings and gained new insights, while growing our individual members to over 800 strong!*

*Whether you've been with us since the beginning or just joined, I hope you will find your affiliation with SSAFE as rewarding as I have. You are contributing to an expanding organization, one determined to bring as many senior living communities into compliance with the IPCC carbon neutrality goals as our human and financial resources permit.*

*Onwards!*

*Mary Lindley Burton  
Immediate Past Chair*

## ELECTION SEASON WORD SEARCH

G I V B F M W Y X O P K K K Y J H R O F B  
 P S Q W D T B H A F T U R N O U T E R M K  
 S A Z T H R H C O U E C S B C M Y B E A Z  
 Z R B Z M E H I J T C Q W C W X O F G L R  
 H Z K S I I J J P N P C W A G M Q T I A I  
 M P T T E W G G P E Y N O U P O L I S R D  
 Y I Y C P N W B F B I W F C L W E Q T E P  
 V H N R E B T T H M P R O U J E H K R D M  
 T Y F E C X X E Q U Z E A S O G O Z A E J  
 O C W N U R V X E C R W H A C A C P T F S  
 L N S G N B K R D N U K L Y Z R A E I L N  
 L E E T R J Z K C I E T S F B F M A O A B  
 A U H R H L D D Q D L C U E I F P O N R P  
 B T W H H T X L F X P I Z F P U A L T O Y  
 P I G F W M B S I J J W S O V S I Z W T C  
 L T X X S G N O V E M B E R T O G W M C A  
 B S C B J N S A Z U P Y I K J F N R R E R  
 G N R A V I A I L E G I S L A T I O N L C  
 C O L I K L X D C O L N W H Z N U C M E O  
 U C P W G L B W P R E C I N C T X O Q S M  
 U L J X D O F L S I H A B J H W T V S Q E  
 W T E O R P O K B D R P T P S U I R N V D

Locate the given words in the grid running horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, forwards or backwards. Answers are on the back cover (don't peek!)

- Absentee
- Ballot
- Campaign
- Caucus
- Constituency
- Democracy
- Electoral College
- Federal
- Incumbent
- IRA
- Legislation
- November
- Polling
- Precinct
- Registration
- Suffrage
- Turnout

# Wrapping Up

## Newsletters for Assisted Living

Despite some dismay over printing hard copies of our newsletter, with the help of a few generous angels, we make a point of spreading it about widely here at Kendal at Hanover, handing it out at meetings, mailing copies to our administrators and board, placing it strategically in sitting nooks and corner crannies, in our library with periodicals and in a simple holster on our bulletin board. But shockingly, it never occurred to us to distribute it to folks in Assisted Care! We have corrected this, and here's our friend Dave Colt enjoying the current issue.



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## Word Search Answers

Answers for the puzzle on page 15.

G I V B F M W Y X O P K K K Y J H R O F B  
P S Q W D T B H A F T U R N O U T E R M K  
S A Z T H R H C O U E C S B C M Y B E A Z  
Z R B Z M E H I J T C Q W C W X O F G L R  
H Z K S I I J J P N P C W A G M Q T I A I  
M P T T E W G G P E Y N O U P O L I S R D  
Y I Y C P N W B F B I W F C L W E Q T E P  
V H N R E B T T H M P R O U J E H K R D M  
T Y F E C X X E Q U Z E A S O G O Z A E J  
O C W N U R V X E C R W H A C A C C P T F S  
L N S G N B K R D N U K L Y Z R A E I L N  
L E E T R J Z K C I E T S F B F M A O A B  
A U H R H L D D Q D L C U E I F P O N R P  
B T W H H T X L F X P I Z F P U A L T O Y  
P I G F W M B S I J J W S O V S I Z W T C  
L T X X S G N O V E M B E R T O G W M C A  
B S C B J N S A Z U P Y I K J F N R R E R  
G N R A V I A I L E G I S L A T I O N L C  
C O L I K L X D C O L N W H Z N U C M E O  
U C P W G L B W P R E C I N C T X O Q S M  
U L J X D O F L S I H A B J H W T V S Q E  
W T E O R P O K B D R P T P S U I R N V D

## SSAFE Newsletter

This newsletter is a publication of SSAFE, a non-profit organization started by residents from Kendal senior living communities. SSAFE has no official affiliation with the Kendal Corporation.

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## Submissions & Comments

We want your feedback! We're always looking for good stories to provide inspiration to other senior living community residents. Send us your articles, ideas, questions, or comments!

We'd love to hear from you—drop us an email at [info@SSAFE.org](mailto:info@SSAFE.org)