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Annual Report for the Cabot Community Association, Inc.

The CCA is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization led by a volunteer Board of Directors and part-time paid staff members (approximate annual payroll \$32,000 for 5 individuals). The CCA supports the following programs – Cabot Visual Arts, Greater Cabot Area Working Landscape Network, Economic Development Workgroup, Cabot Child Care Initiative and *The Cabot Chronicle* – and provides support to other grassroots efforts led by Cabot residents.

The CCA is a valuable resource to the Cabot community and consistently acts to expand its service to the town and Cabot residents. Activities this past year that demonstrate the CCA mission include:

--Working with a large team to coordinate the **Cabot 4th of July** festivities. July 4 2022, was reported to be the biggest and best organized parade, which was made possible by collaboration between the CCA, Cabot Fire Department, the Town of Cabot and other team members. We promoted local business to ramp up food offerings and profit from the holiday traffic. Individual organizations adopted various activities as fundraisers, and we will build on that model for the 2023 event.

--Hosting the **Cabot Fall Foliage** event to provide opportunities to promote local businesses (Burt's Orchard, Molly's Falls Farm, Goodrich's Maple Farm, The Den, Cabot Village Store, Cabot Art Barn) and enjoy Cabot's fall foliage (Cabot Trails, Shutterbug car tour). An important success this year was convincing the NEK Fall Foliage committee that, after nearly 60 years of events, Cabot deserved a weekend day, not a Tuesday, to maximize the economic impact this event could have for our local businesses.

--Publishing *The Cabot Chronicle*, the only local news source that reaches every household in Cabot. *The Chronicle* helps bridge the communication gaps in town by offering free advertising space to local not-for-profits and community groups and providing extensive space to town government.

--Providing bookkeeping, administrative assistance and grant research to **seven local grass roots organizations/projects** who, because of their affiliation with the CCA, can solicit tax-deductible donations. These groups are Cabot Christmas Dinner, Friends of Cabot Mentoring, Ride the Ridges, NEK Warriors Soccer Club, Friends of Cabot Library, Friends of Cabot Trails, and Cabot Community Theater.

--Updating the CCA website (**CabotVermont.org**) to better represent the vitality and diversity of Cabot and provide information on how residents can get involved in the community.

--Promoting and administering **CCA Community Grants** for not for profits and grass roots organizations. In Fiscal Year 2022, we awarded funds totaling \$ 10,000 to thirteen projects sponsored by Cabot organizations. Including grants to village businesses for spring beautification, the Neighbors in Action winter toy & clothing drive and Cabot Arts 12th Night Celebration.

--Maintaining the work of the **Economic Development Work Group**, which meets regularly to discuss opportunities for supporting and recruiting local businesses. The EDWG maintains relationships with Cabot Creamery administrators and state agencies to assist in its efforts.

--Creating the **Cabot Child Care Initiative** to address the urgent need for child care in Cabot. This group includes representatives from Cabot Creamery, Cabot School, United Church of Cabot, and child care professionals. The CCCI received a \$27,000 grant to hire a Project Coordinator and provide start-up funds for renovation of a space.

--And perhaps most important to note, leveraging the town's investment of \$10,000 last year in the CCA to secure more than \$75,000 in participant fees, charitable contributions, and grants, that directly support the projects that Cabot residents lead and participate in.

We welcome new volunteers and ideas. If you are interested in being involved in any projects mentioned above or in joining the CCA Board of Directors, please contact us.

Respectfully submitted by the CCA Board of Directors:

Paul Wade, President

Roz Daniels

Lori Augustyniak, Executive Director

Frank Kampf, Vice President

R.D. Eno

Jeannie Johnson, Secretary

Susan Robinson