## **Avery Wood MD and John Hearst MD**

PO Box 726, 10 Bank St North Bennington, VT 05257

July 14, 2023

Although I had been considering retirement next year, the immediate permanent departure of my partner, Avery Wood, for medical reasons due to a breast cancer diagnosis, has forced me to shift those plans to a sooner timetable and unfortunately with less notice time to you than I had anticipated. Dr Wood will stop seeing patients in the next several weeks, and I will do my best to maintain our joint practice through October 27, 2023 to give our patients some time to transition. I plan to continue seeing patients in the office Tuesday thru Saturday, being off on Sunday and Monday. I will do walk-in hours Tues-Fri mornings from 7:30-8:30AM initially, dropping Mon morning walk-in. Walk in hours may be adjusted down the road to meet my capacity to sustain.

I deeply regret that we are not able to give you more time to help find new practitioners, which was my initial intent, especially when most practices are very full already. Dr Wood and I both know of the difficult position we are leaving you, and this is heart breaking to both of us. Frankly, I would have retired earlier if I felt my patients had more options open to them.

I have been fortunate to have known many of you over many years, and it has been a privilege for me to have been a part of your lives in this way. I will continue to see patients at my home practice in energy medicine for the foreseeable future. Enclosed is a records release form so that your records can be sent to the practice of your choice once you have found a new medical home. Additionally on the back of this letter you will find the names of practices that are taking new patients.

Thank you in advance for your patience with this transition, and deep appreciation for all of you,

John Hearst