

November Roundup



Christmas may be weeks away, but our house already has taken on a festive holiday atmosphere.

The season

kicked off in grand fashion with a performance by the Glass Town Carolers, before a packed house of residents and family members.

Decked out in traditional Victorian garb, the carolers led a spirited sing along of favorite Yuletide Noels.

Artist Wendi C. Smith guided residents in creating a wintry scene depicting snow-kissed evergreens.

The personable Cathy Kearney, an accomplished knitter, is leading a weekly session for both former and “never” knitters. Already she has attracted a loyal and enthusiastic following.

We were treated to a surprise performance by our own Nancy Duggan, whose beautiful voice and guitar stylings enthralled fellow residents during a recent afternoon social.

The always-entertaining Jana Ahnquist led a Sunday-morning hymn sing, and returned for a fun, afternoon sing along at month’s end.

Our veterans enjoyed an informative coffee and donut meet-up where they learned about little-known benefits for which they may be eligible.

Spotlight: Barbara continued -

Community Development Office. Following her retirement in 2001, and John’s death shortly after, Barbara ran the group travel program of the Sandwich Council on Aging.

“I traveled all over the place!” she said, to destinations that included Iceland, Austria and Germany. She particularly loved Sedona, Ariz. and the Canadian Rockies.

“But my very favorite favorite was a bus tour of our national parks,” she said.

Barbara also made time to serve – for 30 years! – as assistant treasurer for the First Church of Christ, a Sandwich landmark built in 1847. The storied church is pictured on the cover of Elvis Presley’s 1960 album, How Great Thou Art.

“Visitors always asked, ‘Is this Elvis’s church?’” Barbara recalled, with a grin.

Around the House: Volunteers continued - *Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative...* Jana sings as she explains that it is one of her mom’s favorite songs.

Retired music teacher and choir director, Janice Hannah of West Barnstable who also sings with residents says, “Your residents have graced me with their beautiful voices. I hope they enjoy it as much as I do.”

Oh, they do Janice! Thank you to all of our beloved volunteers.

If you have a little extra time, Decatur House is always looking for volunteers to greet visitors and lead activities. Please contact Sarah via email at sarah@decatourhouse.com or phone 508-888-6404 for information.



Around the House

DECEMBER 2022

We get by with a Little Help from our Volunteers!



Decatur House is home to 38 fabulous residents. Our committed staff members attend to their every need from outings

and activities to meals and maintenance. However, our benevolent volunteers help to make daily living even more special.

Sandwich resident, Cathy Kearney volunteers 2 hours of her time each week to teach knitting. According to Cathy, “My mom was a big knitter and when she passed away, I wanted to carry on her tradition by volunteering with older adults. Decatur House felt like the right, special place to do that.” Pat Cram (left) smiles as she enjoys the lesson and Cathy’s company.

Our resident Donna’s talented daughter, Jana Ahnquist, also of Sandwich, volunteers by playing piano and singing with the residents. “I moved my mom to Decatur House from Ohio and feel so much joy having her here. Music helps to spread a little joy.

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COMMUNITY **SPOT** LIGHT

BARBARA BUCHENAN



A well-traveled multi-tasker, Barbara Buchanan grew up in Bolton, Mass., where she and her late husband, John, raised a family of three. In addition to being ‘mom’ she also served as administrative

assistant to the school superintendent and bookkeeper for John’s machinery business.

“She’s always been a busy lady,” her daughter, Kirby, said.

Barbara’s family relocated to Sandwich in 1980 and Kirby still teases her mom about the timing.

“Sure, the same year I get married, you go off and leave me in Bolton!” Kirby said, with feigned dismay.

John moved his business to nearby Wareham, where Barbara took a position as administrative assistant in the town’s

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Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

December 2022



<p>10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Craft Time w/Alex</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Let's Stretch! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Alexander Entertains! 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 POKENO 3:00 Balloon Volley 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Classic Movie Trivia 11:00 High Roller Dice Game</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN!</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 BINGO 2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 2:30 Scenic Drive 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>10:30 Music Trivia 11:00 Categories Challenge</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 4:00 Afternoon Social 8:15 Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills</p> <p>-- Concierge Service --</p>	<p>10:30 What's in the News? 11:00 Team Trivia</p> <p>2:00 "Your Choice Friday" (Choice of Group Activities) 3:00 Knit with Cathy! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY GINNY!</p>	<p>10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY ISIAH!</p>
<p>10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Craft Time w/Alex</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Let's Stretch! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Alexander Entertains! 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 POKENO 3:00 Balloon Volley 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Classic Movie Trivia 11:00 High Roller Dice Game</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN!</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 BINGO 2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 2:30 Scenic Drive 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Music Trivia 11:00 Bananagrams</p> <p>2:00 Bananagrams 3:00 Let's Stretch! 4:00 Tree-trimming Time!</p> <p>-- Concierge Service --</p>	<p>10:30 "Your Choice Friday" (Choice of Group Activities)</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Knit with Cathy! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Balloon Volley 11:00 Categories Challenge</p> <p>2:00 Paint with Mo 4:00 "Name That Tune" w/Lourana at the Piano!</p>
<p>9:00 Sunday Morning (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138)</p> <p>Puzzles, Word Games and Art Supplies available all day.</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY ELAINE!</p>	<p>10:30 Classic TV Trivia 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Balloon Volley 4:00 Afternoon Social 8:15 Patriots vs. Cardinals</p>	<p>10:30 Irving Berlin Trivia 11:00 High Roller Dice Game</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAT!</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 BINGO 2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 2:30 Scenic Drive 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 What's Your Sign? 11:00 Categories Challenge</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Balloon Toss 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>-- Concierge Service --</p>	<p>10:30 "Your Choice Friday" (Choice of Group Activities)</p> <p>1:30 Mike Dardis Sings! 3:00 Knit with Cathy! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKAELA & JEANNE!</p>	<p>10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>
<p>10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Craft Time w/Alex</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Let's Stretch! 4:00 Afternoon Social 8:20 Patriots vs Raiders</p> <p>Hanukkah Begins</p>	<p>10:30 Alexander Entertains! 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 POKENO 3:00 Let's Stretch! 4:00 Sing Along w/Janice!</p>	<p>10:30 Classic Movie Trivia 11:00 High Roller Dice Game</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>-- Manicures by Mikaela --</p> <p>10:30 Winter Trivia 11:00 BINGO 2:30 Scenic Drive 2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed</p> <p>Winter Begins</p>	<p>10:30 What's Your Sign? 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 Bananagrams 3:00 Balloon Toss 4:00 The "No Boys Allowed" Girls Choral Group</p> <p>-- Concierge Service --</p>	<p>10:30 "Your Choice Friday" (Choice of Group Activities)</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Knit with Cathy! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>10:30 Balloon Volley 11:00 Categories Challenge 1:00 Patriots vs. Bengals</p> <p>2:00 Color a Suncatcher 4:00 Christmas Party with Jana!</p>
<p>Merry Christmas</p> <p>Christmas</p>	<p>10:30 Classic TV Trivia 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 POKENO 3:00 Balloon Volley 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>Kwanzaa Begins</p>	<p>10:30 Word Assn Trivia 11:00 Julie Charland Sings!</p> <p>2:00 Paint with Sandy! 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed 4:00 Afternoon Social</p>	<p>-- HAIR SALON DAY --</p> <p>10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 BINGO 2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 2:30 Scenic Drive 3:45 Winter Lights Ride! - sign-up needed</p>	<p>10:30 What's Your Sign? 11:00 Categories Challenge</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Balloon Toss 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY PATTY! -- Concierge Service --</p>	<p>10:30 "Your Choice Friday" (Choice of Group Activities)</p> <p>2:00 BINGO 3:00 Knit with Cathy! 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY STEVE!</p>	<p>10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Fitness Fun 11:00 Words-in-a-Word</p> <p>2:00 Seasonal Craft w/Alex 4:00 Afternoon Social</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>