

# Community Happenings

We had much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving, with our residents fully vaccinated and observing policies designed to keep us all healthy and safe. The dining room was buzzing with happy chatter as residents shared a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner reminiscent of traditional family feasts.

Nearly every resident was on hand recently to welcome Rick Walsh, a talented singer and pianist, as he made his Decatur House debut. Many in the audience sang along—a few even danced—with exuberance!



Artist Wendi Smith returned to conduct another painting class, where several first-time painters created colorful Christmas trees to help kick off the holiday season. One of their finished creations could grace the cover of the Massachusetts Assisted Living Association’s 2022 Resource Guide, which features a resident’s painting on its front cover.

Decatur House has been invited to submit artwork for consideration, and Wendi thinks we have an excellent chance of fielding the winning entry!



As the month drew to a close, residents were serenaded by the Sandwich Arts Alliance carolers. The carolers received enthusiastic support from residents, many of whom were happy to sing along.

The musical event generated a festive atmosphere throughout the house, paving the way for a joyous holiday season.  
—Maureen “Mo,” DH Activities Coordinator

*Spotlight: Resident Paul Gibbs, cont.*

Originally from central New York, Paul spent summers on the Cape beginning as a young child. He moved his own family to Sandwich permanently in 1998.

“I always loved the Cape – it’s beautiful,” he said.

Paul especially loves being on the waters off Cape Cod and has owned several boats over the years. Some of his favorite memories involve boating with friends and family, or landing a feisty striped bass.

And he passed along his love for boating to his daughters. “He used to take my sisters and me out on a Sunfish and taught us how to sail,” Chelsea said.

Despite his New York roots, Paul’s favorite team—“since I was 3 years old” -- has been the Red Sox, and Fenway Park one of his favorite destinations.

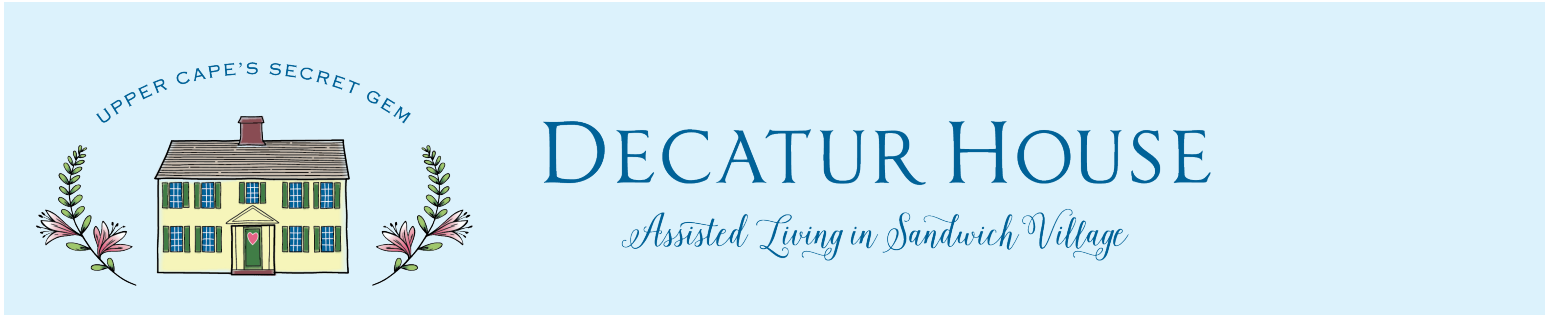


He may have been influenced by his dad. “My father loved baseball and the Red Sox,” Paul said. “And he hated the Yankees!”

Paul is also quite passionate about food – his favorite memory of Italy is its cuisine – and he knows his way around a kitchen.

“He was always a very good cook, and loved to experiment with food,” Chelsea said. “We were lucky to grow up with such a good chef!”

So the next time you see Paul—he’s the gregarious gent with a passing resemblance to Ernest Hemingway—be sure to say “Welcome to Decatur House” and “Bon Appetit!”



## Around the House

DECEMBER 2021

### News

Here Come the Holidays!

Thanksgiving was fun. While a number of residents visited their families for the day, a cohort of residents and staff gathered in the dining room to share a traditional and deliciously cooked midday meal.

Activities Coordinator Maureen (Mo) Boyce asked residents and staff to share what they are thankful for this holiday season. Below are some responses—

*I am thankful for . . .*

- “My supportive family”
- “Good friends”
- “Being able to live at Decatur House”
- “Our wonderful volunteers”
- “My health and my family’s health”
- “My granddaughter—and turkey!”
- “My job at Decatur House”
- “Working together for the same purpose”
- “The people close in my heart—and my dog”

We are looking forward to more holiday celebrations with each other and our families this season. But with a new coronavirus variant on the rise in some parts of the world, we want to remind everyone the importance of celebrating safely by keeping gatherings to a minimum, wearing a mask whenever possible, and not attending gatherings if you or anyone you’ve spent time with is feeling ill.

Residents and family members who have questions about how to celebrate the holidays safely can talk to Jillian or Sarah.

COMMUNITY **SPOT** LIGHT

Paul Gibbs



Any given day at Decatur House might find new resident Paul Gibbs enjoying Bingo, trivia, an art class, massage and Reiki, DrumFIT, a music event or the pre-dinner social.

“I like pretty much everything,” he said, smiling.

Paul’s daughter, Chelsea, was not surprised. “He’s always been very active,” she said.

As a child, Chelsea played in several of Sandwich’s recreational sports programs, including soccer and basketball. “He coached all of my sports,” she said. “He’s a great dad!” Chelsea’s sisters, Hailee and Jillian, were cheerleaders, and Paul attended all of their games as well.

*Continued on back page*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>December 2021</div> <div>  decaturhouse.com </div>			1	2	3	4
			10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Classic Hangman  2:00 BINGO 3:00 Laugh YouTube 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour Concierge Service	10:30 Let's St-r-e-t-t -tch! 11:00 Perfect Your Putt!  2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 High Roller Dice Game  2:00 BINGO 3:00 Bananagrams 4:30 Sunroom Social  HAPPY BIRTHDAY ISIAH!	10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138)  2:30 Kate's Crafts: Make a holiday ornament.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 <i>Sunday Morning</i> (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 An activity with Kate	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 High Roller Dice Game 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour 8:15 Patriots vs. Buffalo  HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN!	--Hair Salon Day--  2:00 BINGO 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour	10:30 Sit & Be Fit 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour Concierge Service	10:30 Let's St-r-e-t-t -tch! 11:00 Indoor Horseshoes 2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social	10:30 BINGO 2:00 <i>Harry French Entertains</i> 3:15 Discussion 4:30 Sunroom Social  HAPPY BIRTHDAY ELAINE!	10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 2:30 Kate's Crafts  HAPPY BIRTHDAY ELAINE!
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 <i>Sunday Morning</i> (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 An activity with Kate	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 Bananagrams 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Coloring for Adults 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour  HAPPY BIRTHDAY PATRICIA!	10:30 Chair Pilates 11:00 High Roller Dice Game 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour	-- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour Concierge Service	10:30 BINGO 2:00 <i>Paint with Wendi!</i> 4:30 Sunroom Social  HAPPY BIRTHDAY JEANNE & MIKAELA!	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 Laugh along w/ YouTube 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Bananagrams 4:30 Music Trivia & Social	10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 2:30 Kate's Crafts: Gingerbread House Part 1 8:20 Patriots vs. Colts
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 <i>Sunday Morning</i> (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Kate's Crafts: Gingerbread House Part 2 1:00 Patriots vs. Cleveland	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 High Roller Dice Game 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour	10:30 BINGO 2:00 <i>Massage &amp; Reiki</i> w/Susan Lee Nolan 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour  Winter Begins	MANICURES by MIKAELA -- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour Concierge Service	10:30 Let's St-re-t-t -tch! 11:00 Ring Toss 2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 Bananagrams 2:00 Residents' Meeting 3:00 BINGO 4:30 Holiday Sing-along	MERRY CHRISTMAS!  Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31	dec
9:00 <i>Sunday Morning</i> (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 An activity with Kate 1:00 Patriots vs. Buffalo  Kwanzaa Begins	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 High Roller Dice Game 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour	10:00 <i>Paint with Mo</i> 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour	-- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 5:00 Sunroom Social Hour Concierge Service	10:30 BINGO 2:00 <i>Julie Charland Sings!</i> 3:15 Discussion 4:30 Sunroom Social  HAPPY BIRTHDAY STEVE!	10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 Card & Board Games 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Bananagrams 4:30 New Year's Eve Social  New Year's Eve	