

# Community Happenings

In December we welcomed our new activities assistant, Kate Serafino (pictured here trimming the tree). Kate is a former schoolteacher with a fondness for crafts and fitness programs.

Kate has already won over many residents, with her easy going demeanor and warm personality.

Under her direction, residents decorated gingerbread houses, created holiday decorations and completed adult coloring projects.



Residents also painted with artist Wendi Smith, and enjoyed the song stylings of Harry French (left) and Julie Charland.

Our popular driver and tour guide, Linda Herbaugh, provided twilight tours of the

town’s unique lighted glass sculptures, affectionately dubbed, “The Giants.”

Each piece was designed and created by glassblower Michael Magyar, at his nearby glass studio.

Residents helped kick off our own light display with a tree-trimming party, a fun affair replete with hot cocoa, crisp ginger cookies and spiced apple cider.

The house enjoyed a jolly good Christmas party featuring a surprise visit from Santa, who brought a sleigh-full of presents for all.

Our festivities also included two very spirited and well-attended holiday singalongs. The first featured our talented pianist-in-residence, Lourana, at the keyboard.

—Maureen “Mo,” DH Activities Coordinator

*Spotlight: Pug-a-bration!, continued*

duced by Woody, long-time king of the roost and a very serious chap.

A one-man dog, Woody is the self-appointed deputy to Sheriff Steve Austin, with whom he patrols the halls with an air of authority. Initially, Woody watched with a marked air of disapproval as the puppies romped, playfully tussled, and tumbled about.

He frowned upon Rory’s silly pink unicorn outfit, and Maggie’s undignified pleas to be picked up and cuddled. As for the petit Evie – named in recognition of her birth date – Woody was a bit more tolerant. After all, she was a tad timid, being the tiniest of the litter.

Over the course of two years, the three furry pooches have delighted our Decatur House family, whether snuggling on a welcoming lap or savoring a table scrap surreptitiously offered by a resident.

As for Woody, the girls finally won him over, bringing out his long-hidden inner puppy. When he thinks nobody is looking, Woody playfully wrestles and cavorts with Maggie, or helps her search the nurse’s office for an unsecured bag of snacks.

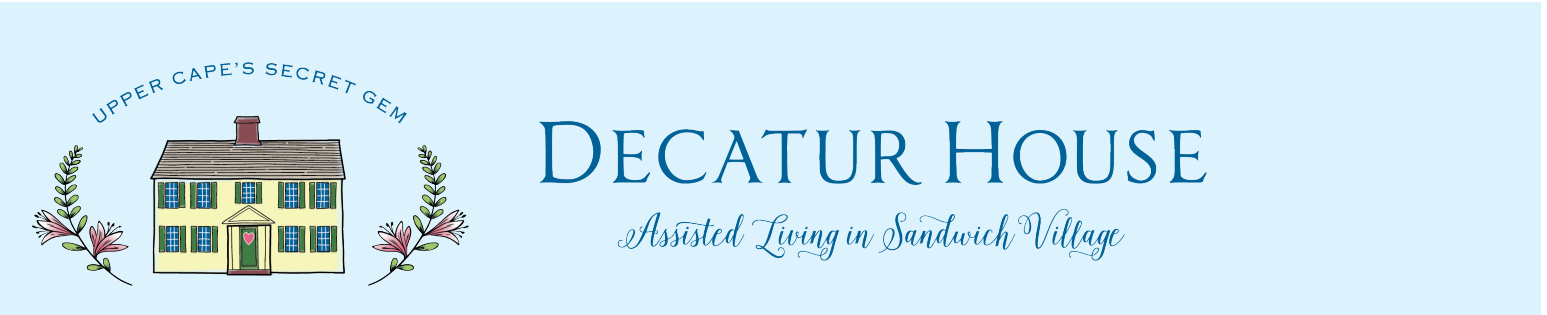
Even as we look ahead to the new year with optimism, hoping for sunnier times, we can take comfort in knowing our furry friends will help see us through any kind of weather.

*Art Honor, continued*

To put Jane’s accomplishment in perspective, our state boasts more than 225 assisted living communities and over 15,000 residents.

Jane created the winning entry in a painting class led by artist Wendi C. Smith, who had predicted that our residents’ work had “a very good chance” of being selected.

Congratulations to Jane!



## Around the House

JANUARY 2022

### Decatur House Resident Jane Martell Earns Art Honor!

In November, assisted living communities from across the state were invited to submit photos of their residents’ artwork to the Massachusetts Assisted Living Association. One painting would be selected to appear as the front cover of its 2022 Resource Guide.

Decatur House submitted several paintings for consideration, and on Dec. 16 we learned that Jane Martell’s beach dune scene was the winning selection.



Her acrylic piece, titled *Unfinished*, will serve as the cover of the annual guide, which is due for release this month.

“We are very excited to display this artwork on the cover – it’s lovely!” said Christina Greenberg, the association’s Manager of Marketing & Communications.

A not-for-profit association, Mass-ALA advocates on behalf of its members and the many seniors they serve.

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### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

#### It’s a Pug-a-bration!



Our New Year’s Eve party is a two-fold festivity, welcoming in another year while also celebrating the second birthday of three very special sisters: Aurora (“Rory”), Evie and Maggie.

The delightful pug trio entered our lives two years ago, just in time to help us weather a very dark time, a period of isolation, distancing and separation from friends and family.

Those days were made more bearable by the rollicking antics of the pugs, born Dec. 31, 2019.



L-R: “Uncle” Woody; Aurora (“Rory”); Evie; Maggie

Immediately embraced by residents and staff alike, the playful pups were at first only grudgingly en-

*Continued on back page*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
<b>2</b> 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Board Games 1:00 Patriots vs. Jaguars 2:00 Activity with Kate <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY LINDA H.</b>	<b>3</b> 10:30 DrumFIT 11:00 High Roller Dice Game  2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour	<b>4</b> 10:30 Chair Pilates 11:00 Bananagrams  2:00 BINGO 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>5</b> -- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Walking Club 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour  Concierge Service	<b>6</b> 10:30 Let's St-re-t-t -tch! 11:00 High Roller Dice Game  2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>7</b> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Laugh w/YouTube 2:00 POKENO 2 - 4:00 Activities with Kate 3:00 Let's Play Rummy! 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>8</b> 10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138)  2:00 Audio Book Club 4:00 Hedbanz Game
<b>9</b> 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Board Games 1:00 Patriots vs. Dolphins 2:00 Activity with Kate <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY NICOLE!</b>	<b>10</b> 10:30 BINGO  2:00 Monday Movie Matinee 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour	<b>11</b> 10:30 BINGO  2:00 Residents' Meeting 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour	<b>12</b> -- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 Vase Painting 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour  Concierge Service	<b>13</b> <b>11:00 Rick Walsh Entertains</b> 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Classic Hangman 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>14</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 Paint with Mo 2:00 Crafting with Kate 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>15</b> 10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138)  2:00 Audio Book Club 4:00 Hedbanz Game
<b>16</b> 9:00 Sunday Morning (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Board Games 2:00 Activity with Kate	<b>17</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 Monday Movie Matinee 4:30 Sunroom Social  Martin Luther King Jr. Day	<b>18</b> 10:30 Chair Pilates 11:00 Bananagrams  2:00 BINGO 3:00 Words-in-a-Word 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>19</b> -- Hair Salon Day -- Manicures by Mikaela 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Walking Club 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour  Concierge Service	<b>20</b> 10:30 BINGO <b>2:00 Massage &amp; Reiki w/Susan Lee Nolan</b> 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>21</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 POKENO 2 - 4:00 Activities with Kate 3:00 Let's Play Rummy! 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>22</b> 10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138)  2:00 Audio Book Club 4:00 Hedbanz Game
<b>23</b> 9:00 Sunday Morning (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Board Games 2:00 Activity with Kate  Activity Professionals Week	<b>24</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 Monday Movie Matinee 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour  <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY BETH!</b>	<b>25</b> 10:30 BINGO <b>2:00 Painting w/Sandy</b> 4:30 Sunroom Social  <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY LINDA!</b>	<b>26</b> -- Hair Salon Day -- 2:00 & 3:00 Scenic Drives 2:00 Cookie Decorating 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour  Concierge Service	<b>27</b> <b>11:00 Julie Charland Sings!</b> 2:00 BINGO 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>28</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 POKENO 2 - 4:00 Activities with Kate 3:00 Let's Play Rummy! 4:30 Sunroom Social	<b>29</b> 10:00 "The Rosary" (TV-138)  2:00 Audio Book Club 4:00 Hedbanz Game
<b>30</b> 9:00 Sunday Morning (CBS TV-channel 4) 10:00 Catholic Mass (TV-138) 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Board Games 2:00 Activity with Kate	<b>31</b> 10:30 BINGO 2:00 Monday Movie Matinee 4:30 Sunroom Social Hour					