

Activities Roundup

September brought a welcome addition to our staff, with the arrival of Cathy Ode. Cathy is stepping into, and will help to define, the newly created position of Community Life Director for Decatur House.

Cathy brings a wealth of activities and relationship-building experience, so we can look forward expanded activities and new ways for the house to engage with families and the greater community.

September also provided plenty of action for our passionate sports lovers. While the Bruins fell short in their Stanley Cup bid, the Celtics lost their chance for the championship, and the Red Sox had a dismal – and mercifully abbreviated – season, the revamped New England Patriots are bringing their fans much to cheer about. To be sure, whenever the Pats play, we will have the big-screen TV tuned to the game.

Our Lourana-led watercolor painting class is bursting at the seams, with the addition of artists Whitney, Helen and Virginia. Each created a unique depiction of an eastern bluebird, every one worthy of framing.



Word games continued to be popular, and some residents have proved particularly adept at certain variations. Joan and Lourana share top honors in Bananagrams and word search, while Dorothy is a whiz at words-in-a-word.

In October, we are adding Sudoku, a challenging numbers-based puzzle form, to our slate of activities. We will call upon Paul – a Sudoku enthusiast – to help introduce the popular pastime to his fellow residents.

Woody and the Gang, continued

spotted tumbling about on the floor like two exuberant lion cubs.

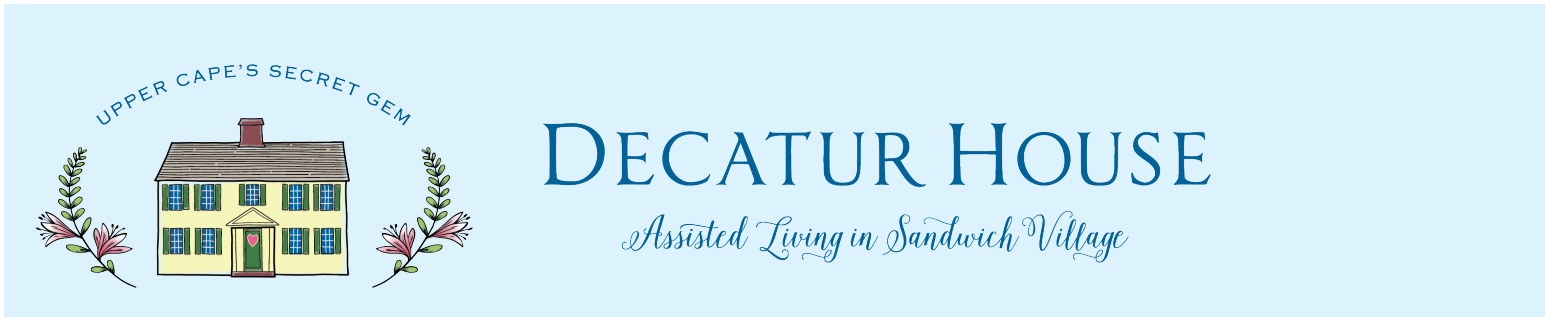
While Woody mostly strives to maintain his dignity – Maggie Mae, constantly begs to be picked up and cuddled. And unlike Andrew’s puppy, Aurora, Woody would never think of napping blissfully on Whitney’s lap or dozing alongside Helen. Furthermore, he wouldn’t be caught dead in Aurora’s pink unicorn costume!

Woody even cozies up to Evie, the tiniest of the three sisters, who makes her home with Sarah’s family. “We call her ‘Evie Bean’, because she’s so little,” said Sarah’s daughter, Bella. And while her potty training is not going swimmingly, little Evie’s actual swimming lessons have been a major success. “We all get in a circle in the (family) pool, and she swims to each of us,” Bella said “She’s like a torpedo!”

With cold weather on the horizon, Evie’s swimming days are numbered. She and her sisters will likely spend their days indoors, in search of snacks, laps and pats, while big brother Woody enjoys whatever me-time he can get (which he spends basically following Steve around the house.)



Pugs by Resident Care Director Jillian Hunt’s talented daughter Lila.



Around the House

OCTOBER 2020

News

Covid-free for a Reason

Thank you for helping keep our shared home safe during this pandemic. We have been fortunate at Decatur House that our community has remained healthy and that we have been able to maintain some sense of normalcy in our routines.

That said, we don’t take for granted the positive impact that our being extra-careful has had on our success in keeping the house virus-free.



As we move through fall, we will continue to follow guidelines by the CDC and Executive Office of Elder Affairs including social distancing (note BINGO above), health screenings, wearing masks when not 6’ apart, and not allowing anyone who feels sick to enter the buildings.

We look forward to the time when it is inarguably safe for indoor visits (with revised precautions.) But throughout October families can continue to sign up (at least 24 hrs in advance please) for outdoor visits at decaturhouse.com. Thank you for being safe!

PUG FAMILY **SPOT** LIGHT

Woody and the Gang



In February, the Austins welcomed three pug puppies to their extended family, and Decatur House residents immediately embraced them as their own.

The lone detractor was nine-year-old Woody, the patriarch, who has reigned over his domain, unchallenged, for years. When the puppies arrived, he didn’t even try to hide his disdain at their frolicking, tumbling and pouncing on one another like caffeinated kindergarteners.

When they ventured into his space, Woody—who bears a passing resemblance to Winston Churchill—grumbled his version of, “You kids get off my lawn!”

But within a couple of months, the puppies won Woody over, and his inner puppy began to emerge. Today, when he thinks nobody is watching, he actually participates in their playful antics. Woody and Maggie Mae, Steve and Linda’s puppy, have been

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<div>1</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Putting Around (Golf) 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Bananagrams 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>2</div> 10:00 Painting w/Lourana! 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Classic Hang Man 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>3</div> 10:30 Let's Stretch! 11:00 High Roller (Dice) 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2:30 Words-in-a-Word 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time HAPPY BIRTHDAY RUTH!
<div>4</div> MANICURES w/MIKAELA 11:00 Gin Rummy 3:00 Bingo 4:00 Nostalgia Trivia 4:30 Patriots vs. Chiefs 10 - 10:30 and 2 - 2:30 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits HAPPY BIRTHDAY CATHY!	<div>5</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Beanbag Toss 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 BINGO 3:30 Category Trivia 4:30 Social Time	<div>6</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Let's Reminisce 2:00 BINGO 3:00 Armchair Travel 3:30 - 5 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>7</div> HAIR SALON DAY 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 3:00 Brian Kelly Entertains! <small>Meet in the Dining Room. Brian will be outside on the driveway. He'll sing and play for us through the open windows. (Rain date 10/8)</small> HAPPY BIRTHDAY BELLA!	<div>8</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Indoor Horseshoes 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 1:00 Scenic Rides 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>9</div> 10:30 Toning with Bands 11:00 Let's Make a Pumpkin! 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 My Favorite Things 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>10</div> 10:30 Sit & Get Fit 11:00 Word Search 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2:30 Storytelling 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time <small>Simchat Torah Begins</small>
<div>11</div> 11:00 Word Search 1:00 Patriots vs. Denver 2:00 Scenic Rides 4:00 Celebrity Twosomes 4:30 Social Time 10 - 10:30 and 2 - 2:30 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>12</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Beanbag Toss 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 BINGO 3:30 You Be the Judge 4:30 Social Time <small>Columbus Day</small>	<div>13</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Hot Apple Cider Social 1:45 Movie Matinee 3:30 - 5 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>14</div> HAIR SALON DAY 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits	<div>15</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Try a Chai (tea tasting) 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Classic Hang Man 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>16</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Indoor Horseshoes 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Words-in-a-Word 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>17</div> 10:30 Toning with Weights 11:00 Card & Board Games 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2:30 Nostalgia Trivia 3:30 Music BINGO 4:30 Country Music Social
<div>18</div> 11:00 Word Search 3:00 Bingo 4:00 Words-in-a-Word 4:30 Social Time 10 - 10:30 and 2 - 2:30 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>19</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Beanbag Toss 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 BINGO 3:30 Category Trivia 4:30 Social Time	<div>20</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 UNO 1:00 Scenic Rides 2:00 Fall Crafting with Dried Flowers 3:30 - 5 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>21</div> HAIR SALON DAY 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits	<div>22</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Card & Board Games 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Bananagrams 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time HAPPY BIRTHDAY HELENE!	<div>23</div> 10:30 'Big Band' Workout 11:00 Crossword Puzzle 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Create a Fall Tree 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>24</div> 10:30 Chair Tai Chi 11:00 High Roller (Dice) 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2:30 Classic Hang Man 3:30 Music Bingo 4:30 Social Time
<div>25</div> 11:00 Word Search 3:00 Scenic Rides 4:00 Words-in-a-Word 4:30 Patriots vs. 49ers 10 - 10:30 and 2 - 2:30 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>26</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Beanbag Toss 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 BINGO 3:30 "Tech Talk" 4:30 Social Time	<div>27</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Group Crosswords 1:45 Movie Matinee 3:30 - 5 Pre-scheduled Outdoor Visits	<div>28</div> 9:00 Halloween Stroller Parade! <small>Meet in the Dining Room; costumed babies will stroll by with their moms and dads from the Sandwich Partnership for Families!</small> HAIR SALON DAY 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits	<div>29</div> 10:30 Sit & Be Fit 11:00 Putting Around (Golf) 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Classic Hang Man 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>30</div> 10:00 Painting w/Lourana 2 pm: Pre-scheduled Resident Visits 2:30 Words-in-a-Word 3:30 BINGO 4:30 Social Time	<div>31</div> 10:30 Toning w/Weights 11:00 Card & Board Games 12:00 Outdoor Stroll 2:30 Halloween Trivia 3:30 Black Cat Bingo 4:30 Scary Social Time & Trick Or Treating <small>Halloween</small>

