Community Happenings

The personable Mike Dardis returned to entertain us with his popular guitar and piano stylings. As always, Mike's comical rendition of an utterly absurd song—the Mark Twain-inspired "I'm my Own Grandpa"—elicited a wave of uproarious laughter.

Next, Lourana settled in at the keyboard to challenge us in a "Name that Tune" competition, won hands-down by Jeanette, a welcome new addition to our burgeoning community.

We were also treated to a special violin recital by Sydney Meyers, a 15-year-old volunteer who helped lead activities before heading back to school. Sydney's poise and talent belied her young age as she flawlessly performed a challenging classical music program.

A group of residents went for lunch at the nearby Sagamore Inn. The experience proved so enjoyable that another lunch outing will be added to our September slate of activities.

We welcomed a return visit by artist Wendi C. Smith, who helped her class create a colorful still life portrayal of pears. We also launched the first "Paint with Mo" session, with an assist from YouTube, where a small group of artists created a dramatic tropical sunset.



We are supremely grateful to our summer volunteers (clockwise from top) Sydney, Ellen, and Emma. Thank you all for your energy and assistance this summer!

—Maureen "Mo," DH Activities Coordinator





Good News—The Ice Cream truck will visit us one last time in September!



Spotlight: Pat Casavant, cont.

On the Cape, Pat also has family nearby, an important consideration since early 2020, when she lost Arthur, her husband of 65 years.

She is proud of her four adult children—each a success in their chosen career—11 grandchildren and 4-month-old greatgrandson.

Pat had a long and interesting career as an educator, working in several Bostonarea school systems before joining the Massachusetts Department of Education, where she worked for 13 years.

Pat's teaching role was a bit of an anomaly: she was a home economics teacher without a home.

"I was a traveling teacher, going from school to school, and I loved it!" she said. "I sometimes visited seven schools in one day—I drove with a sandwich in my face," she added with a laugh, before singing a line from "On the Road Again."

Pat spent her summer vacations traveling, to destinations in the continental U.S., Hawaii and Europe, where she had a special affinity for Paris and Italy.

"But I always loved Cape Cod," she said.
"I'm so happy to return here in my early
90s as a retiree."

Welcome to Decatur House Pat!



DECATUR HOUSE

Assisted Living in Sandwich Village

Around the House

SEPTEMBER 2021

News

There's a New Chef in the House!

There's going to be a new face—and likely some new menu items—introduced at Decatur House this month as we welcome our new head chef **David Caron**.



After 2.5 years, we wish departing chef Helen Rogers, all the best in her next adventure. We will miss her, but are excited to welcome her replacement, David Caron, to the House.

David brings many years of culinary management experience to the team, most recently as Director of Dining Services at Brightview Senior Living.

David says his passion for exceptional high quality and healthy cuisine has been a mainstay of his experience, and believes that "ultimately, you are only as good as your last meal!"

David's first day at Decatur House is September 6th. "I'm looking forward to working with the wonderful team and interacting with the residents at Decatur House," says David.

And Decatur House is looking forward to getting to know David—and his cooking. Welcome David!



Patricia Casavant



Pat Casavant has been with Decatur House for only a month, yet already she is a cheerful presence at nearly every activity and social gathering.

"I'm happy to be here!" she said. "The food is wonderful, the people are friendly and the activities are fantastic!"

Pat is also happy to be back on Cape Cod, a place she first visited in her college days.

Previously, she and her family vacationed in Hull, where her grandfather had built a cottage in 1918.

"That's where I got my love of the ocean, but the water in Hull was cold!" she said. "Then I discovered the Cape had warm water."

Continued on back page

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