

MARCH ROUNDUP



March is Women’s History Month, and at Decatur House we spent time remembering important contributions that women have made throughout history; including paving the way for human rights, scientific and financial advancements. We enjoyed activities that focused on these achievements: Women’s History Bingo, the movie: ‘Hidden Figures’, and an outing to the Women’s Art Exhibition at the Sandwich Arts Alliance.

Some of our veteran residents enjoyed camaraderie and coffee with guests Lorrie Moran and Owen Earl from Heroes in Transition. It was a nice way to restart what, in the past, was a well-attended support opportunity. *See photo top left.* March was a great month for visiting. Natalie Guerin from the Cape Synagogue presented on Purim-a Jewish holiday. Residents agreed, it was very interesting. Susan Nolan, Reiki practitioner and Kristen Gorrasi, personal trainer (*see photo of Joan H. with the ball top left*) returned alongside artists L’eonie Little-Lex and Mary Shea. *See photo of Mary with our artists top middle.* Also see pictures of Chuck and Bernadette painting top. We also welcomed back volunteers: Donna Klucevsek of Feisty Lion Martial Arts (*see photo of residents stretching bottom left*), Joyce Frye (*see photo of Joyce with Francine bottom left*), Julie Long (*see photo of Julie with Donna bottom left on nail day – see also Nancy S. on nail day*), and spiritual advisor Mike Hayes of Corpus Christy Church (*see photo offering Communion bottom middle*).

Popular Folk singer, Julie Charland provided a special treat where she sang for us many Irish melodies. It was ever so lovely and residents were transported to Ireland with her music and fun facts. Most everyone joined in St Patrick’s Day festivities, which included a fun beer and pretzel tasting. We sang along to traditional Irish music, then enjoyed a wee game of leprechaun trivia. There were no losers and no pinching!

Other March fun included lunch outing to Seafood Sams and volunteering at Sandwich Montessori Elementary school. Students there recited poetry and we all participated in a poetry writing exercise. As we turn the page to spring, we carry forward these moments of connection, learning, and celebration that make life at Decatur House so meaningful.



Spotlight: Ginny Pietrzak continued -

She also treasures lifelong friendships, especially with her dear friend Phyllis, who has been by her side for more than 50 years.

These days, Ginny enjoys spending time on her computer, whether she is playing games, connecting on Facebook, or ordering what she needs online. She looks forward to celebrating birthdays with Chinese food and enjoys cooking chicken cacciatore during the holidays.

Now settling into life at Decatur House, Ginny is looking forward to getting to know her neighbors and becoming part of the community in her own calm and thoughtful way.

We are so glad to have you here, Ginny and we're glad that you are enjoying the art classes!



Our Newly Paved Driveway is Looking Great!

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during our paving project! These improvements are part of our ongoing efforts to keep Decatur House beautiful, safe, and welcoming for all of our residents and you, our families and loved ones.

Here are a few photos of the new driveway!



Around the House

Community SPOTlight

GINNY PIETRZAK



At Decatur House, every resident brings a lifetime of stories, and Ginny's is one rooted in family, resilience, and deep New England ties.

Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Ginny Pietrzak grew up as the youngest of eight siblings in a close-knit family. Those early years helped shape her strong sense of connection and appreciation for the people around her, values that have remained at the center of her life.

Ginny is a proud mother of four children, Michelle, Nicole, Deidre, and Richard, and a loving grandmother to six grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Her family continues to be one of her greatest sources of joy, and she holds especially close the memory of her son Richard, who passed away in 2010.

Over the years, Ginny has called many places home, including Somerville, Hyannis, Falmouth, and West Yarmouth, as well as time spent in New Hampshire and North Carolina. Most recently, she was living in West Yarmouth before joining the Decatur House community.

Ginny spent much of her professional life working as a payroll manager for Fidelity, a role that reflected her thoughtful and detail-oriented nature. She describes herself as grounded and realistic, someone who values quiet moments and meaningful conversations.