

Spotlight Continued - Karen Hickey

Karen's husband, Owen, was a pilot and the little family of three did a lot of traveling together – Ireland, Paris, Amsterdam, and Italy were just a few of the wonderful destinations they explored.

One of Karen's favorite memories was going to Europe with her family. Her dad was an Army vet. They went on trip to the battlefields of Normandy Beach and then took the train to London and toured Buckingham Palace, afterwards going to Paris. She says it was a special memory to share with the whole family.

After Owen retired, he and Karen spent winters in Myrtle Beach, playing golf together. Karen also enjoyed riding bikes, running and gardening. She even participated in the Falmouth Road Race and the Bonne Bell 10K.

Fun fact about Karen? She's a big Red Sox fan! One of her birthdays her family took her to Fenway and they put "Happy Birthday Karen" on the Jumbotron!

Karen says that her family is her greatest accomplishment – her daughter Megan and Megan's 2 children. "My daughter is my best friend and my grandchildren – they call me Nan - are the loves of my life. My grandson brings me fresh flowers every Wednesday." *See photos of Karen on botton left with DH buddy, Addy and on the right with her daughter Megan.*



JUNE ROUNDUP



Summertime is the best time on Cape Cod! We welcomed the start of summer with a lemonade luau out on the patio. Leis, lemonade, iced tea, tasty snacks, great music, and festive decorations turned Decatur House into a tiki hut! *See photos on page 2.*

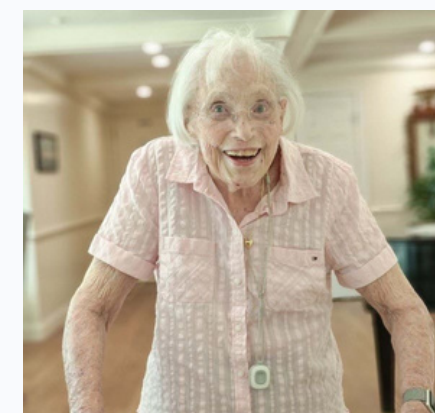
In other fun this month, the Cape Cod Slushie ice cream truck came by to surprise residents and staff, all of whom were able to pick out their favorite ice cream treat! *See photo of Joe below middle and Ginny below right!*

Our lunch outings included trips to Captain Scott's and Seafood Sam's, where many residents chose to indulge in another Cape Cod summertime favorite: fried clams! *See photos on page 2*

Residents have been enjoying arts and crafts and love painting, gardening and beading. We have also been celebrating a lot of June birthdays - *See photos of Manny above left and Donna above middle.*

Keeping with the spirit of summer fun, we watched "Footloose," and residents said they loved the movie when they first watched it years ago and still loved watching it today.

Additionally, our live musical performances with Janice Hannah, Julie Charland, Dawna Hammers, and Gary Landgren were big hits. And Morning Mingle continues to be a favorite. *See photo of Jeff above right and Chuck below left.*



Apply for a Disability Placard



When visiting your loved one at Decatur House, you may notice that it is tough to bring them out to doctor's appointments or on outings because of their mobility.

Disability placards can help. They are free of charge and issued to qualified Massachusetts residents who meet the eligibility requirements. At Decatur House we feel that all of our residents meet the criteria. Please ask the Nursing Office if you have any questions.

To apply for a disability placard, you must: Complete an application (we have printed them out and they are available for you here at Decatur House in the Nurse's Office).

- Your healthcare provider will have to fill out a section to verify your disability status
- Retain a copy of your 2-sided placard application

Send the completed, original application and any supporting documentation to:
Registry of Motor Vehicles
Attn: Medical Affairs
PO Box 55889
Boston, MA 02205-5889

- Please join us for the 4th of July Parade, which passes right in front of Decatur House. Plan on arriving around 10 before they block off the street. Bring beach chairs and we will have plenty of popsicles!
- Just a reminder, if you plan on having a meal in our dining room with your loved one, please let alana@decaturhouse.com know at least 24-hours ahead of time so she can plan for your visit.



We enjoyed the summer luau! Pictured left to right - Pat, Mary Clare, Addy, and Judy



Above- Nancy smiles at BINGO- Lourana is bright eyed at Morning Mingle.

Summertime and the Eating is Delicious!

Chef Alana has rolled out her summer menus and there's so much New England in there you won't be able to contain your smile.

Locally grown fruits and veggies are topping our menus. It wouldn't be Cape Cod without lobster rolls right? Ours, are served up on brioche buns with homemade sweet potato fries and coleslaw! Fried clams and French fries are also on the menu for our pescatarians.

You say Fenway and I say... Franks! Yup, we've got hot dogs on the menu. Most New England kids will say that hot dogs, baked beans and brown bread were staples of their youth and they remember them fondly, so we're bringing them back for summer.

We also have BLTs on the menu, which is another summer favorite that reminds many of us of juicy ripe tomatoes fresh from grandma's garden served on fresh bread. Yum. We can't wait!

Of course, we still have the heartier stuffed chicken breasts with cranberry rice pilaf and the prime rib with mashed potatoes too.

And there is always ice cream!



The fried clam crew! Mary Clare, Tom, Joe, Manny and Connie

JULY 2024



DECATUR HOUSE

Assisted Living in Sandwich Village

Around the House

Community SPOTlight

KAREN HICKEY



Her whole life, Karen Hickey has been taking care of someone. But she wouldn't have it any other way! She says that she likes to help people and "be their support system."

Compassionate, friendly and always smiling, Karen was born and raised in Barrington, RI. The oldest of 5 children, she took good care of her 2 brothers and 2 sisters while both her mother and father worked full-time.

Her mom was a dietician and a career-woman back in a time when it was unusual for women to follow their dreams. Her grandparents also lived nearby and were an integral part of the family dynamic. (Karen would later take care of them). They would enjoy family dinners together every evening.

Karen graduated from Barrington High School and from Rhode Island Junior College. She knew a cute boy named, Owen Hickey when they were in high school together. When he came back from Vietnam, he worked at a gas station and she would go there to get gas for her car so she could see him! She worked her charm and he asked her out.

The two got married and moved to Cape Cod where they welcomed daughter, Megan together. Karen was the ultimate involved mom. Megan's friends always wanted to visit because Karen would make them fresh cookies!

Megan describes her mom as kind, caring, loving and passionate. "She sacrificed her wants and needs for her family," said Megan.

Karen worked at Filene's in the shoe department. She had certain customers who would only come in when she was working and only wanted her to help them. She was a top seller for years.

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