

## Spotlight continued - Fran Piekarski

It wasn't until the children were a bit older that Fran pursued a career in real estate. It's no surprise that her tenacity earned her a top broker spot at DeWolfe & Company Real Estate Agency in Milton.

Eventually, Fran and John retired to Osterville half the year and Florida the other half. They both enjoyed golfing and going to the beach. Fran was an avid walker. John came to Decatur House before Fran and we loved having him too.

Fun fact about Fran? She sold Howard Johnson's house in Milton!



*Residents enjoyed the parade and the cookout on the patio. Pictured are Addy (left), Lourana and Connie (below).*



## MAY ROUNDUP



May was in full bloom at Decatur House! The property was lush with flowering trees, and melodies from sweet songbirds filled the air.

We added additional days of drumfit to the calendar per resident request, which have been well attended. (See photo of Marilyn above middle) Additionally, the walking club has been gaining new participants. We have been taking nice walks along Main Street, as well as through our gardens.

Residents have been getting out in the sunshine to do some gardening. Chef Alana loves having the homegrown herbs at her fingertips! We've also been going on scenic spring drives with Linda around town, sometimes stopping at the Canal to watch the freighters.

Resident Maggie's daughter, Malu, came to the House and played her crystal sound bowls (see photo above right) for the residents and Susan Lee Nolan performed Reiki massage. Residents said that they really enjoyed this and felt relaxed and recharged.

Artist Leonie came to the house to do a painting class with residents. They painted beautiful vases of flowers with bright spring colors. (See Maggie's painting above left). Musician Matt York performed, as did Janice Hannah, our volunteer who we are happy to have back from Florida to play the piano at social hour.

We also celebrated Memorial Day with a delicious cookout on the patio. Chef Alana grilled up burgers and hot dogs, served with potato salad, corn salad, watermelon and popsicles. Residents enjoyed watching the Memorial Day Parade go by the house. They were waving to the parade participants singing along and enjoying every moment!

## Grateful for Jess



Jessica Bingamon is one of the people who makes Decatur House a very special community.

Born and raised in Plymouth and now a resident of Bourne, Jess joined the DH team two and a half years ago as a Personal Care Assistant.

"I was a waitress and bartender for 14 years. I decided that I would become trained as a PCA for extra income, but I fell in love with Decatur House so I decided to come here full time," she said.

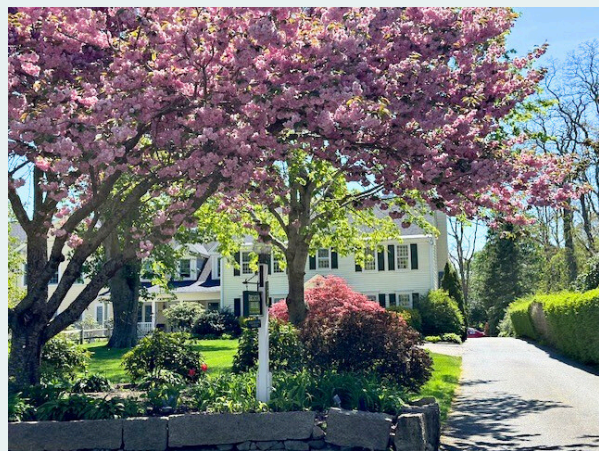
"I love the environment, the residents, their families, the staff, it's like a big family. You don't get that anywhere else," she continued.

And Decatur House fell in love with Jess! Resident Care Coordinator Nicole Cabral said, "If I could clone Jess I would. She's personable, gives fabulous care, she's very reliable, she has a great work ethic, I never have to ask her twice for anything, she's intuitive, she does what needs to be done without even having to be asked.

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- Just a reminder, if you plan on having a meal in our dining room with your loved one, please let [alana@decaturhouse.com](mailto:alana@decaturhouse.com) know at least 24-hours ahead of time so she can plan for your visit.
- If you aren't feeling well, please visit your loved one at another time. COVID-19 is going around again. We have plenty of tests that you can take home with you. Just ask one of the PCAs next time you're in and they'll be happy to give you some.



*Our cherry tree is in full bloom above! Sally at morning mingle and Pat and Shelby getting some fresh air!*



## Jess Continued

Jess can often be found dancing with the residents and has even started leading BINGO games. This is a big deal for her because before she came to Decatur House, she says she was very shy and never would have done either of those things. She feels as though she has come a long way and is finding her voice.

Jess is married with 3 children ages 13, 6 and 3 and a big dog – a 113lb boxweiler who they love to take for walks along the canal. “I like to cook. I’m outdoorsy and make my family do fun things with me,” she said.

On Jess’ arm she has a tattoo of the name “Alice” with a red tube of lipstick. I asked her to tell me about it. She said that Alice was her great grandmother that lived with her family while she was growing up. Alice had Alzheimer’s and loved wearing red lipstick and walking around the house in high heels; waking everyone up early on Sunday mornings! Being at Decatur House reminds Jess of Alice and family and love.



*Jess visiting with Clara left.*



*Residents playing a game below.*

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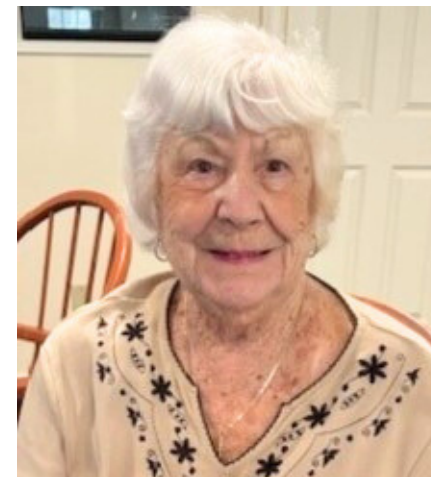
# DECATUR HOUSE

*Assisted Living in Sandwich Village*

## Around the House

### Community SPOTlight

#### FRAN PIEKARSKI



Fran can't fathom why she's feeling tired these days. At almost 98 years young, her son John encourages her to give herself some leniency. He explains that his mother has always been driven, competitive, successful and on-the-go. “Slowing down is just not part of her personality!”

At Decatur House Fran is very involved in all of the activities. She enjoys playing games, crafting, doing exercises, going on outings, and is frequently visited by her friends and family members.

Fran was born in Sharon, Massachusetts and had a “wonderful family.” She graduated from Sharon High School and took classes at Chandler (University of Massachusetts at Worcester). She and her girlfriends used to take the milk train into Boston to go dancing. That is where she met her husband, John at a dance before the war in the South Pacific. “He was a wonderful person, handsome, and kind,” said Fran.

The two married and moved to Milton where they welcomed two children, son John and daughter Elaine. Fran worked at Filene's Department Store so she could be home when the kids got home from school. She drove them around and always attended their sporting events. John describes his mom as “kind, loyal and a great mom.”

The family had a lot of traditions. They enjoyed big traditional Italian family dinners every Sunday at Nana Maria's (Fran's Mom) and elaborate Christmas Eve celebrations. But the things that remained most special were the simple consistency of family dinners and spending time together at their summer home in Manomet, where they made wonderful memories together.

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