Monthly Update | January 2025





Thank you! The generosity and goodwill shown through your gifts to the Staff Appreciation Fund brought holiday cheer to New Horizons employees and their families. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you all, and wish residents and their loved ones much happiness now and in the year to come.

Investing in our community: As you may recall, New Horizons was the fortunate beneficiary of a major gift from **Tidd Home** (formerly Home for Aged Women in Woburn) upon that historic institution's 2021 dissolution. To date we have invested \$440,000 of this donation in assorted community improvement projects, including the replacement of hallway carpeting with a more attractive, durable, and comfortable vinyl, common area furnishings, new dining room chairs and tables, a façade upgrade, and a complete living room makeover, including new furniture, lighting, ceiling, and carpet.

A Joyful December

It was a warm and bright holiday season at New Horizons. Our newly renovated living room was decked with festive seasonal décor thanks to **Barbra Graham's** (pictured right) design expertise.



It took a village to decorate the Christmas trees this year. Special thanks to **Toula Wouralis** (pictured left) who decorated not one, but two Christmas trees! Toula made the trees



in the third floor living room and the fourth floor Baldwin living room look just beautiful.

Many thanks to Joanne Cuozzo, Tricia Kane, Jean McElhinney, Ellen Rowe, Helen Sheeran, and Fran Tringali for doing such a great job and having so much fun decorating the tree in the Courtyard area.

A song and dance presentation by the **Merry Minstrels**, a piano concert by **Mark Tavenner**, and a choral performance from **Sounds of Grace** (pictured below) each resulted in a packed living room of appreciative residents.



Residents also enjoyed a few annual traditions. First, a visit to Hancock United Church of Christ in Lexington for the **Comfort and Joy Handbell Concert** featuring the Morning Glory Ringers and Hancock Carillon. Then, we ventured out after dinner for our **Christmas Lights Ride** to view the decorations in various neighborhoods and downtown areas.

Many residents attended our own **Celebration of Lights** during Hanukkah this year. Each evening has included readings, music, and conversation skillfully led by resident Len Karoll (standing) along with fellow resident Leon Bernstein (left).



The annual door-to-door caroling tradition initiated by staff members continued. Several residents joined in the fun: **Zar Capua**, **Joy Draper**, **Tricia Kane**, **Phyllis Marques**, **Mike Sheridan**, **Mary Wilde**, **Eunice Wilson**, and **Toula Wouralis** brought a new dimension to this festive activity. Pictured below (left) are carolers **Mackenzie Lockett**, **Kelsie Minghella**, **Bev Conroy**, and **Mike Sheridan**, and (right) **Pat Lavelle** with Santa.







We were so pleased to host visits f r o m Cub Scouts Pack 502 (pictured below right), led by Cub Master Craig Breigle, and Girl Scout Troop 84204 (pictured below left), led by Rachel Kuberry (pictured left). Both groups of well-mannered children charmed us with their caroling and interactions with our residents.





Below are a few residents who were captured on camera enjoying time with their visiting guests:



Centenarian Ethel Murphy (pictured left) meeting her great-great-grandson Dean for the first time. Also pictured are her son Jim, her granddaughter (on speaker phone), and her great-grandson Zachary.

Louise Sorabella (pictured right) was delighted to welcome her friends and former neighbors from Stoneham, Tony, Jim and Ellen.



Peggy Pellegrino (pictured below) with sister **Kitty** donning their Christmas glasses.

Betty Hardy (pictured below) with friends **Kathleen Donahue** and **Nancy McCarthy**.





Dates to Remember

New Year's Eve - Dublin, Ireland time zone:

Tuesday, December 31 - Join your fellow residents in the living room at 7:00 PM for a New Year's champagne toast and live music by **Tony Malionek**.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 20 - The third Monday in January commemorates the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr., who led the fight for civil rights through nonviolent activism, protesting racial discrimination in federal and state law. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 at the age of 35, making him the youngest person to receive the honor at that time. The national holiday became law in 1983 and is observed in all 50 states, often in conjunction with a statewide Civil Rights Day.



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