

January 2021

Volume 4, Issue 1

# OUR ISLAND HOME

Monthly Newsletter

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**9 East Creek Rd.  
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1 (508) 228-0462**

## WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH RESIDENTS DURING COVID-19

We continue to receive letters, photos, and words of hope to our resident email account: [ourislandhome@yahoo.com](mailto:ourislandhome@yahoo.com). You can visit our Facebook page ([Oih Nantucket MA](#)) for daily OIH COVID updates, and resident family members and loved ones receive a comprehensive update weekly via email. All visitation at OIH, including in-person visits, window visits, and virtual visits, should continue to be scheduled in advance through the Activities Director, Ally Rowell, who can be reached via email at [arowell@nantucket-ma.gov](mailto:arowell@nantucket-ma.gov) or via phone at 1 (508) 228-0462 x 7406. We can't wait to see you soon!

## DECEMBER DONATIONS

A major 'Thank You' to *Elise Norton, Janet Decosta, Scott and Darcy Creech, The Lowell Family, Kathy and Bill Grieder, Alan Atwood, Lora and Paul Stewart, Julie Kever, The Gutsey Givers, and many anonymous donors* for your donations to OIH and to the Friends of Our Island Home this past month. Your generosity contributes directly to our resident's daily life, activities, and well-being. We are so grateful. Thank you!!!

## OIH'S HOLIDAY ZOOM PARTY

We had such an amazing time at our Holiday Zoom Party this month, as you can see below! Thank you so much to all of the residents, staff, family members, and loved ones who attended this event and made it so special.

## THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT OIH



## OUR ISLAND

### HOME

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### We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

[www.nantucket-ma.gov](http://www.nantucket-ma.gov)

**INSTAGRAM:**

ourislandhomenantucket

**FACEBOOK:**

Oih Nantucket MA



### MODIFIED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We continue to make modifications to our activities calendar in efforts to follow best-care practices as recommended state and federal agencies that reflect evolving standards and regulations surrounding COVID-19.

**Daily, we continue to offer the following activities options:** Coloring pages; Puzzles; Word search and trivia worksheets; Video chatting and phone calls with family and other loved ones; Window visits (scheduled in advance) Exploring old Nantucket picture books; Independent crafting such as knitting, crocheting, and other art forms; Reading letters sent to us from our Nantucket community members; Independent or distance bible study; Spending one-on-one time with staff members for support and comfort; and listening to music on headphones.

In addition to the above activities, our residents have been busy with holiday crafting and decorating, writing to their 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Pen Pals at the Lighthouse School, and spending abundant 1:1 time with staff. We have also re-opened our living room for movies and bingo to be enjoyed at a distance, and have been loving virtual visits from some of our favorite volunteers and performers.

### FAMILY COUNCIL:

The next Family Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th at 10 AM, via Zoom.

### RESOURCES & INFORMATION

If you have questions or concerns regarding evolving COVID-19 regulations and standards, please be aware of the Nursing Home Family Resource Line established by the Baker-Polito Administration. This is a dedicated telephone line that will connect family members of nursing home residents with information and resources they need.

The line is staffed from 9am – 5pm, Monday through Friday, and the number is:  
**1 (617) 660-5399.**

### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

For December, our residents elected staff member **Nancy Koyl, LPN** as our employee of the month, because of her thoroughness and effectiveness, quick responsiveness, and efforts to stay “on the ball”. Thank you, Nancy, for all that you do!!!



### THE FUTURE OF OUR ISLAND HOME

*While OIH continues efforts to keep our residents safe during the concerns of COVID, discussions continue on the status of the renovation or construction of a potential new Our Island Home facility. Through facilitated discussions, several staff of the Town of Nantucket have spent time over the last month brainstorming what they think are the Core Values of Nantucket leading this project, some Facts and Assumptions of OIH, COVID impacts and potential new requirements on physical plant and operations COVID will bring, as well as what are the possible project options along with their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of each. This information was gathered and presented as a framework for the Nantucket Community to contribute to and evaluate how we proceed with a new OIH from here. Throughout September, meetings were held with key stakeholders and the general public to determine the best direction that the Town should proceed in for the future of a nursing home facility on the island.*