

**HEATH VILLAGE**

# VOICE

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# Ukrainian Strong ~ Deep Rooted Traditions

“Slava Ukraini! Heroyam slava”, which means “Glory to Ukraine – Glory to the heroes.” A chant for the Ukrainian people that stems back to the Ukraine war of Independence over a century ago and has become synonymous with Ukraine's pride. It is still used to this day and demonstrates this unique country's well-preserved culture and traditions.



My fellow resident and close friend, Maria Moch, who immigrated to the United States in 1955 from the Ukraine at the age of 5 with her family, carries great pride for her country and continues to hold onto the “old ways” from their homeland. She truly lives Ukraine's core values: honor, loyalty, faith, education and respect for elderly.

It was here in the States, at her mother's side, Maria learned many of her family's Ukrainian traditions which she continues to preserve in her home today. Maria learned not only to sew, cook, bake, paint, crochet, knit, garden but to also create her beautiful Ukrainian Easter Eggs which she shared with our community this past April. These eggs are referred to as Placko in the Ukraine, which is a derivative of Placek meaning cake, hence a metonymic occupational name closely related to pastry chef.

Maria also enjoys expressing herself through her art which ranges from painting portraits of her beloved grandchildren to life-like, colorful landscapes of the grounds at Heath Village. In addition to creating her artwork, Maria speaks several languages, is an outstanding cook and gardener. Her garden is always prolific with vegetables and flowers which she always generously shares with the community at the Heath Village Farmers Market. Maria finds it very rewarding to know that all the proceeds from the market go directly to the Heath Village Friendship Fund.

I have seen how utterly selfless Maria is taking care of her 97-year-old father. She always remains positive and is truly a renaissance woman, a mentor, and my friend. She epitomizes the Ukrainian strength, the same strength, sadly, we are seeing on display every day by the Ukrainian people during this difficult time in Maria's homeland. We are blessed to have her as part of our Heath Village family.

*Article by: Kathy Grundy*

*Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services*



*Vinyl Hand Painted Eggs by Maria Moch*



*“The Mall at Heath Village – A Cherry Blossom” by Maria Moch*



Heath Village Voice  
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# Heath Village Celebrates 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Arbor Day

Our community was excited to bring back our in-person Arbor Day celebration this spring. Arbor Day has been a time-honored tradition at Heath Village since 1974. This was the perfect year to resume that tradition as it marked the 150th Anniversary of Arbor Day.

One idea by one man led to Arbor Day. The idea came from Julius Morton who thought more trees were needed on his farm in Nebraska. More trees would provide needed shade and stabilize the soil. He planted many trees and encouraged other farmers to do the same.

Our Arbor Day ceremony took on greater significance 30 years ago when the students from the Friendship Center became a part of this annual celebration. This year, each child took a shovel or two of soil and placed it at the base of this year's tree, an Okame Cherry Tree.

We, as a community, find it very fulfilling to have our Grounds Department plant and care for these trees as well as spread education about the importance of trees for our environment. It was an honor for me to speak at our ceremony event, during which Rev. Edwin Sumner gave the invocation and Mary Ellen Bove provided the closing remarks.

*Article by: Edgar Pittenger, President of the Residents' Council*

*Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services*



*Mary Ellen Bove, CEO/Executive Director of Heath Village pictured with residents and Friendship Center students*



*Edgar Pittenger providing the opening remarks*

# Senior Hall of Fame Inductees: Octavia Brown & Bob Jones

It is with great pride that Heath Village Retirement Community announces the induction of residents Octavia Brown and Bob Jones into the Hackettstown Area Senior Hall of Fame. "Tavia" and Bob, along with their fellow honorees, were recently recognized during a celebration luncheon and induction ceremony.

The Senior Hall of Fame was established in 1997 to recognize senior citizens in the Northwest New Jersey region who have made a significant impact on the lives of others in the community.

Bob Jones has spent most of his life making his community stronger and helping those around him live happier more fulfilling lives. He was a high school teacher in Chester for 31 years. He and his wife Helen moved to Heath Village in 2014. Upon his arrival, he jumped in headfirst getting involved as a Heath Village Ambassador & Greeter. He has also been a Friendship Center Pen Pal and volunteer. The children love taking their annual summer walk through the Heath Village garden with "Mr. Bob." As the coordinator of our Community Garden for more than six years, he works with the residents to ensure that this wonderful community resource remains beautiful and well maintained. During this past winter, he collaborated with the Director of Grounds to have additional raised garden beds installed so that residents who were finding a traditional bed difficult to maintain could continue to enjoy gardening.

In addition to his busy life at Heath Village, Bob has been an active member of the 50+ Club of Chester for 28 years, where he served as President and held a variety of other leadership roles. He is a former Deacon & Elder of the local Community Presbyterian Church.

Originally from Gladstone, Tavia has only been a village resident for one year, but during this brief time, she has already made an impact on our community by sharing her amazing history and experiences with our residents. It is for her leadership, however, in founding and developing the equine therapeutic industry for which she was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Beginning, more than 50 years ago, Tavia founded Mane Stream, formerly Somerset Hills Handicapped Riding Center located in Oldwick, NJ. Simultaneously, she also founded the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH). Tavia was also a Professor of Equine Studies at Centenary University for more than 23 years and this year was the recipient of the Gold Dome Award from Centenary University. The EQUUS Foundation also honored her with their prestigious Humanitarian Award this past January. Both awards recognized Tavia's unprecedented role in the growth of therapeutic equine studies.

On behalf of everyone at Heath Village, I would like to congratulate Bob and Tavia for their induction into the Senior Area Hall of Fame and thank them for their contributions to our community.



Article by: Melissa Nichols, Director of Housing & Marketing Services  
Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services

# In Memory of Many, In Honor of All Heath Village's Memorial Day Ceremony

I am a member of Rolling Thunder Chapter 3NJ. It is a non-profit organization who advocates for Prisoners of War and the Missing in Action (POW/MIA). They also coordinate many programs and events to benefit veterans. When I started working at Heath Village, I was eager to plan new Activities. Once I realized that there wasn't a formal program established for Memorial Day, I decided to make it my mission to honor our veterans and POW/MIAs by educating our residents about the history of Memorial Day.

After months of planning, I decided to organize a yearly Memorial Day Ceremony. My agenda was to include guest speakers and historical facts on various subject matters centered around Memorial Day. Last year the focus was animals in wartime. This year's topic was Arlington Cemetery. It included the history of how and when the cemetery came to be, the many memorials located within it and information on who is buried there.

I wanted to get the residents involved in the event and decided to coordinate a group of residents to handmade poppy flowers to represent each man, women or animal who gave their life in war. By doing this, we would be able to bring a visual awareness to the cost of our freedom, which is something I believe needs to be acknowledged and never forgotten. Last year, our Poppy Volunteers created 450 poppies which we secured to a fabric banner that is used as a backdrop in our main display. This banner is meant to represent a field of poppies which we refer to as *The Wall of Remembrance*. This year, I am very proud to share that the Poppy Volunteers added fifteen dozen additional poppies to our *Wall of Remembrance*.

Some of the poppies were attached to pins and are available for purchase. All the monies raised will be donated to the Friendship Fund. At this time, we are pleased to share that we raised \$150.00. We still have some available. We encourage you to stop by Activities to purchase one.

Our Mayflower residents also contributed this year by creating miniature poppy flowers out of crepe paper which were used for a table display in our Heath House lobby.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all my resident volunteers. There is a lot that happens behind the scenes to make this event and ceremony possible. I would never be able to accomplish it without their support and assistance each year.



Article by: Genevieve Bucher - Activities Department

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services

# All The World's A Stage...Out on the Town at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

The Hunterdon Hills Playhouse has working with seniors down to a science. They created a wonderful experience for all the Heath Village residents that attended the latest road trip to the theater to enjoy a delicious lunch and a fabulous stage performance of *"I Left My Dignity in My Other Purse."* About 20 residents enjoyed this premier comedy written by Shelley Chester. The show stars Joyce DeWitt from the TV series *Three's Company*. Her supporting cast was creative and adapted well to playing her friends and lover. Special kudos to Greg Schweers who played multiple roles. We all enjoyed chuckles over the misadventures that happened to "Ruth" after overindulging at her retirement party. After numerous problems and frustrations, all issues seemed to be resolved, or were they? It's left up to you to decide. The lunch menu offered a variety of choices for every taste. Even better, their fabulous dessert buffet is back to full capacity. It offered a varied spread to satisfy any type of sweet tooth. It was a lovely day for a road trip through beautiful Hunterdon County and an extremely enjoyable time was had by all.



Article by: Jo Yuresko  
Photos by: Activities Department

## Newcomers

Mary Barrow, from Blairstown, NJ to Apt. AB 11/12

Richard Barrow, from Blairstown, NJ to Apt. AB 11/12

Bill Blaskopf, from Budd Lake, NJ to Apt. 104

Fran Blaskopf, from Budd Lake, NJ to Apt. 104

Carl Bruger, from Dumont, NJ to Apt. 45

Pat Bruger, from Dumont, NJ to Apt. 45

David "Allen" Crosssett, from Far Hills, NJ to Apt. 76

Dorothy "Dottie" Crosssett, from Far Hills, NJ to Apt. 76

Marcia Lawrence, from Port Murray, NJ to Mayflower House

Gertrude Novi, from Blairstown, NJ to Apt. 12

John Novi, from Blairstown, NJ to Apt. 12

# Heath Village *Bricks of Love*

There are several areas on the Heath Village campus that are known to be quite meaningful to many residents. One in particular that has become special to our community, is the *Bricks of Love* walkway. For those of you who have recently moved to Heath Village, this walkway is located above the great lawn adjacent to the community garden. The walkway provides an opportunity and a place on campus for residents to honor their loved one(s).

The Walkway includes three years of bricks. It is a lovely visual that serves as an enduring tribute and provides a peaceful place for residents to sit and reflect.

The money earned from each brick goes directly to The Reverend Clarence W. Sickles Friendship Fund. This fund is to assist those residents who through no fault of their own have depleted their assets and need financial assistance to be able to continue to live at Heath Village.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Connie Halliwell for spearheading the installation of each brick and her dedication to building something meaningful for us all.

Please visit this area of campus and consider purchasing a brick. The next campaign will begin later this year. There will be plenty of reminders shared with our community before it begins and throughout the sale. For more information, please call Paula Benson at 908-684-6045.



Article by: Paula Benson

Photos by: Housing & Marketing Services



## *In Memoriam*

<b>Barbara Froetscher</b>	<b>4/19/2022</b>
<b>Millie Crater</b>	<b>5/14/2022</b>
<b>Wilma Brenn</b>	<b>5/19/2022</b>
<b>Nancy Fleming</b>	<b>6/16/2022</b>

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Celebrate Summer at Heath Village! Call 908-684-5009 today to schedule a tour of our beautiful campus or register for a Village Luncheon. Like & follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all the activities at Heath Village.

## The Friendship Fund Charitable Gift Annuity

**Making an annuity gift:** You irrevocably transfer money or securities to our Friendship Fund. In exchange, we pay you (and another, or a survivor, if you like) a fixed amount annually for life. In effect, your transfer is doing two things -making a charitable gift and purchasing a fixed income for life.

**Income tax benefit:** You get an income tax charitable deduction in the year you make your gift. If you let us know your date of birth and the amount of your contemplated gift, we can calculate your deduction.

**How annual payments are taxed:** A large portion of each annuity payment received is tax-free. The tax-free amount is fixed at the outset and remains constant for the period of your life expectancy.\*\*

The rate of return is attractive and guaranteed for life - without investment worries or responsibility.

Rate Examples:  
One-Life Annuity Rates  
7/1/2022

Age**	Rate
75	6.0 %
76	6.1 %
77	6.3 %
78	6.5 %
79	6.8 %
80	7.0 %
81	7.2 %
82	7.5 %
83	7.7 %
84	7.9 %
85	8.1 %
86	8.3 %
87	8.5 %
88	8.7 %
89	8.9 %
90+	9.1 %

The Friendship Fund Charitable Gift Annuity is a wonderful opportunity for giving, as it benefits the donor as well as residents of Heath Village. We hope that you will discuss this opportunity with your legal or financial counsel.

## Enjoy campus life at HEATH VILLAGE A UNIQUE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

**Independent living** in one of the garden-type units ranging in size from studio apartments to two-bedroom cottages. Dining and meal plans are optional.

Hotel-style living in **Heath House** where meals, housekeeping and linen services are included.

**Mayflower House** is a residential health care facility with 24 hour staff, meals, housekeeping, laundry, medication monitoring all included in the monthly cost.

**The Meadows Nursing & Rehabilitation** offers long-term care, sub-acute, rehabilitation and respite care services in a new state-of-the-art facility.

All monthly rates include 24-hour emergency call service and annual carpet cleaning; use of lounges, chapel, library, swimming pool, computer equipment, craft rooms, fitness center and other community facilities; bus service to Hackettstown, club cart service within the Community and on-site parking.

*Affordable monthly rates.  
Optional community fees.  
Come and see for yourself.  
Call 908-852-4801 for an appointment.*