



The Kimball Farms



Observer



Volume 36, No. 1

Election Results — Page 8

January 2026



Photos by Charles Bonenti

Kimball gatepost and front hall display proclaim a winter welcome.

Welcome 2026

Looking Back & Ahead

By Charles Bonenti
Observer Editor

THE OLD YEAR has passed and a new one lies ahead with a future yet to take shape. The Kimball staff and many of our own families are still young enough to be planning for that future with career advancement strategies and the responsibilities of raising children.

We residents, with a median age in the mid-80s, have more years behind us than ahead. But that



doesn't exempt us from supporting and mentoring the younger folks and offering our knowledge of life and our financial resources to those in need.

This is my third New Year at Kimball and I am thankful Stephanie and I decided to settle here. When I visit friends and localities in Williamstown, where we lived for 50 years, I feel like an expatriate. Lenox is our home now and Kimball is where our life is.

Like others here, we made new friends, have company at meal-
Looking, continued on page 2

2025 in Review

From pages of The Observer

January

Pat Steele elected president of the Residents Association.

February

Residents pick *Casablanca* as the top romantic film.

March

Kimball survey identifies residents' fitness routines.

April

Eight KF employees named Profiles in Care winners.

May

Movies make an encore in Kimball auditorium.

June

Andy Pincus previews season at Tanglewood.

No Observer July & August

September

Seamstress Diane Cook creates gown for a bride.

October

Nancy King absorbs the aura of a forest.

November

KF leadership changes for Shepard, Kittler.

December

Exhibition spotlights fashions as artworks.

Make an Eco-Resolution for 2026

By Nancy King

Observer Contributor

WE ALL TRY to follow the recycling guides in our trash rooms and save other stuff for our recycling fairs (the next one is on February 21). We can always do more, though. See if there are one, two, or three things on this list that you could do to lighten your planet footprint in 2026, especially by using less plastic.

1. Buy all your eggs in cardboard cartons, not plastic ones.
2. Use the brown mugs when getting coffee in the Pinnacle Store. Paper cups can now be recycled, but it's better to use none at all.
3. Save the plastic bags in which your clean laundry is returned for the Recycling Fair. Use compostable trash bags in your wastebaskets. Repurposed brand tall-kitchen waste bags and small bin bags can now be found in most grocery stores. Bags must say BPI on them to be compostable.
4. Use aluminum foil wrap instead of plastic. The foil can often be wiped off and reused.
5. Instead of putting food waste through the sink disposal, make compost with it. I freeze mine in small compostable bags and when the icebox is full, I take them to Meadow Farm in South Lee. Or, con-

tact Georgeanne Rousseau about having your garbage picked up by Tommy's Compost. She and Jean do it that way.

6. Use solid shampoo and conditioner. The Hi Bar brand is available at Guido's, the Berkshire Co-op in Great Barrington, and online. It foams up as nicely as the liquid kind. You can also use a moisturizing soap instead of body wash. That's three plastic bottles saved several times a year!

7. Buy environmentally friendly cleaning products: Meyers dishwashing liquid, Earth Breeze laundry sheets, and If You Care dishwasher tabs. Also, use wool balls in the dryer instead of Bounce sheets.

8. Avoid using plastic straws in the dining room and plastic stir sticks in the Pinnacle Store. Bring your own bags to the store or take one of the cloth bags next to the counter to avoid using plastic.

9. For cat owners: Try Okocat litter: it's healthier for the planet, lightweight, and has a fresh woody smell that you and your cat will love. Absolutely no urine odor gets through!

10. Keurig-cup owners can buy a couple of metal pods and fill them with ground coffee to avoid plastic. Get them online at peakflavorcoffee.com. It saves money, too, in the long run.

Looking, continued from page 1

times, and appreciate the many activities (cultural and fitness) to choose from. Our apartment gets cleaned weekly. We have tech help to untangle computer glitches, van drivers to take us where we need to go, and staff to call on for most anything else.

I resisted taking on the *Observer* at first. It was too much like the newspaper work I did for a living. But it has given me opportunities to meet residents I might not have known otherwise, and to work with a volunteer staff who bring a spectrum of skills and

admirable dedication to each issue.

For January, we have interviews with two new residents, a health column by Stephanie Beling on a letter that arrived by the mail eight years after she wrote it, and an account by new resident Pat Gazouleas about relocating with two cats in tow. Columnist Mary Misch reviews a book on life in the "Borscht Belt," just published by resident Lita Moses, and Residents Association Pat Steele updates us on administrative changes in progress.

Happy New Year and read on!

President's Letter

New Year Wishes: Transition Update

HAPPY NEW YEAR, everyone! The holidays are behind us, and we can pack away our decorations and fancy clothes until next year. Many thanks to all who worked to make this a festive and relaxing holiday season.

The New Year's Eve festivities were wonderful. Dave Vacheron and his merry crew of ushers and bartenders served us well, John Cheney and his talented singers and poets kept us singing, and Wanda Houston was terrific, as always. Mike Paglier and his dining crew fed us extremely well for Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. It may be time to go back to the gym or lose a few pounds as a New Year's resolution.

Sandy Shepard told us at the December 1 Residents Association meeting that it was her last official week as director of Kimball Farms. She will be coming into the building on Wednesdays during the transition, and will be available as needed until Bill Kitzler, administrator of the Kimball nursing care center,

arrives to replace her full time. They are still waiting for Bill's replacement to be available. Bill will be coming over for staff meetings until then, and is available by phone.

Sandy said her new job as Regional Director of Campus Operations for Integritus Healthcare will have her circulating weekly among three other senior-living campuses, as well as Kimball Farms. They are Linda Manor in Leeds, Day Brook Village in Holyoke, and East Longmeadow Memory Care Assisted Living.

*It may be time to go back to the gym
or lose a few pounds.*

December was a busy month for residents of Kimball Farms. There were numerous concerts, speakers, and films, both here and out in the community. January promises to be a little quieter, although the Trips Committee, Speakers Committee, and Sharon Lazerson are already planning numerous activities to keep us entertained.

The first few snow events reminded us of several things about winter. The maintenance crew will shovel snow and clear off your car during significant snow events, if they have your extra key. The sidewalks and driveway are salted and cleared, but can still be slippery. We have far too many falls indoors and outside, especially at this time of year. Melody Black, health services administrator, had a startling statistic for us at the December association meeting. There had been 98 reported falls this year by November 30, and some of them were very serious.

Please use common sense, wear your pendant, and fall-proof your apartment. Make sure you have flashlights or lanterns, in case there is another power outage.

The first Residents Association meeting of the new year will be on January 5. See you then.

— Pat Steele, President,
Kimball Farms Residents Association

*The Kimball Farms Observer is written and published by
and for the residents of Kimball Farms*

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Welcome to a Sports Pro

By **Dorothea Nelson**
Observer Contributor

WHEN I first visited Jeannette Cooper in Apt. 219, she'd been with us only three short weeks. Thanks to the support and swiftness of friends and family, her apartment was totally settled. No boxes were scattered about, no extraneous papers...just order and harmony. She was quick to credit Kimball's maintenance staff, who hung her pictures, secured her TV to the wall, and whisked away a dumpster of debris.

As the daughter of an insurance man who traveled a lot, Jeannette came to us from a variety of states, including Florida and Alabama. As a teenager she headed for Bridgewater State College, where she majored in health and physical education. She then pursued a master's degree in sports administration, one of the few women entering the field at that time.

For many years Jeannette worked at Berkshire School, a 9-to-12 coed boarding and day school in Sheffield, where in addition to her roles as Dean of Students and Director of Athletics, she coached field hockey, tennis, and soccer. Now she's looking to play tennis at Bousquet Sport in Pittsfield, where she is already a member.

Her ties to the Berkshires made Kimball attractive to Jeannette. She did her research and realized she wanted to be in a continuing care community, plus she wanted to be near her two children and

grandchildren. With daughter Samantha and her family in nearby South Egremont and son Eric on Holmes Road in Pittsfield, she achieved that.

Travel has been a focus in Jeannette's life. When her husband, Bob, was alive, this meant organizing their own trips to much of the U.S. as well as abroad. Italy was a favorite for Jeannette, but they also visited France, Israel, Palestine, Mexico, and Greece. Now that she's on her own, Jeannette is finding her way independently, traveling with friends on organized tours.

This is a woman who is eager to try new things. She's hopeful there'll be a garden plot for her, perhaps one where she can cultivate her beloved roses, and maybe a few veggies as well.

One of the many attractions in her apartment is the beautiful collection of handmade baskets she crafted. She never considered herself a "crafty" person, but after attending a program describing the work, she became "hooked." The baskets have made treasured gifts for family and friends.

Although she was already familiar with the many cultural opportunities at Kimball's doorstep, Jeannette was happy to learn that Tanglewood and The Mount have offerings in the winter. She intends to explore those.

Like many other residents, Jeannette has had knee replacements, but nothing holds her back. She's eager to participate in activities and is determined to use her energy while she has it. She feels supported by both staff and residents and finds them "very welcoming."



Photo by Lily Wayne

Jeannette Cooper

She then pursued a master's degree in sports administration, one of the few women entering the field at that time.

Traveling Is in Her Blood

By **Ellen Kanner**
Observer Contributor

ENID Michelman was born to travel. She was barely five years old when her parents took a transcontinental train trip to California. Once they showed her their 16 mm movies of giant sequoia and redwood trees, she was hooked.

“Travel is in my blood,” she told me. She vividly remembers the shock she experienced as a young girl seeing fully veiled women in the casbah in Algiers. She recalls sleeping on damp sheets in Greece before the advent of clothes dryers and how fascinated she was by the variety of nationalities, languages, and clothing styles she witnessed in hotel dining rooms in Europe.

“I had no idea there were such different cultures in the world,” she said.

With such strong early memories, it’s no wonder her life has revolved around travel—as a traveler herself, as a travel agent, and in planning family trips.

Enid Minton was born Far Rockaway, N.Y., and grew up in Westchester County. In addition to her early adventures in Europe, she went to summer camp in Steamboat Springs, Colo., a two-night train ride from home. She studied international relations at Smith College and chose to spend her junior year abroad in Geneva. She feels “extremely lucky” that her junior year experience included living with families in Paris and Geneva.

Full disclosure: Enid and I met many years ago when she was on the board of The Mount in Lenox and I worked for Shakespeare & Company. We both

grew up in New York City, attended Smith College, and spent our junior years abroad—she in Paris and Geneva and I in Barcelona and Madrid.

Shortly after graduating from Smith, Enid married Jim Michelman, an MIT graduate with an engineering degree. The couple settled in Westchester, where their two sons and daughter were born. For more than 20 years, Enid was a successful travel agent, combining her extensive travel experience with her gift for tailoring her clients’ trips to their tastes and budgets.

In the early 1980s, after years of work and life in New York and several Westchester communities, the couple built their “dream house” in New Marlborough, with stunning hilltop views of three states.

After Jim died in 2007, Enid commemorated his death with three trips—one with each of their children and their families. One was a safari to a location in the Kalahari

Desert so remote that “there was nothing between the sleeping bag and the stars.”



Photo by Lily Wayne

Enid Michelman

“I had no idea there were such different cultures in the world.”

She plans to continue traveling, now that Kimball Farms is her home base. She loved her trip to southern India last year and is already looking forward to her next trip: to Ireland in October with Berkshire OLLI.

She’s a delight to swap travel stories with. Her advice is: “Keep going!”

Open Mic
*Cats Complicate
 a Move*

By Patricia Gazouleas
Observer Contributor

I HAVE TWO CATS. They are boys about five years old and good buddies because they were fostered together. They often act together to make my life interesting. Their names are Harpo, for Harpo Marx because he is very light orange and full of mischief, and Harry, for my cousin who escaped from a POW camp in WWII. Harry is not a very good escape artist. He is very quick to go into an open cupboard, but then he does not know how to get out.

I have moved with cats before, but these two presented challenges. I was moving out of an open-plan apartment with few places to shut them in for the movers to work. This was not a problem on packing day. They were too intimidated by the big guys with big feet to get into the boxes. However, they had a field day with the suitcases.

I planned to pack winter clothes in my large suitcase; no reason to carry an empty suitcase, right? As soon as I opened it on the bed, Harry jumped in. I lifted him out and Harpo took his place. I shoed them both away and started putting sweaters in the bag when Harry was back in the suitcase looking defiantly at me. As I lifted him out, he snagged a sweater with four sets of claws, adding several pounds to his already considerable weight and, of course, a lot of loose threads to my sweater.

The next day was the in-and-out of movers and furniture. I shut the cats in the bedroom, but the movers had to get in there eventually. Harry hid on the top shelf of the closet, where he likes to go during thunderstorms, but I could not find Harpo. I checked all his favorite hiding places and ran around outside calling him. These were indoor cats. Harpo had never been outside except to go to the



*Harpo,
 in front,
 and
 Harry
 pose on
 the bed.*

Courtesy photo

vet. There was no sign of him.

The furniture was mostly gone and the rugs rolled and loaded. (A mouse mummy was found under one rug.) Harry was in his case meowing and ready to go, but no Harpo. I was about to panic when my son found him wedged behind the washing machine. It took three of us to move the machine, pull him out, and catch him before he made it to the door.

Moving into Kimball went pretty smoothly. As soon as my bed was in place, I shut the bedroom door and put everything else in its place—except all the boxes. Anyone who has cats knows about boxes, especially boxes with paper. Harpo and Harry helped me enthusiastically with the kitchen stuff and my endless knickknacks.

It took most of the day, and I thought the worst was over. But as I was going out the door with an empty box for the dumpster so kindly provided by KF maintenance, Harpo slipped out between my feet. Never had a door to the outside presented him with so much glorious inside hallway space to explore. He headed down that wonderful long hallway but slowed when he realized it was not home, and I caught him easily.

However, they both need watching as I come and go. They are interested in this amazing outside inside.

Residents' Survey
Opinions Count

By Pat Flinn
Observer Contributor

AT THE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION meeting on December 1, Jody Manzolini, director of marketing, reported on the results of the recent Resident Experience Survey. The response rate was 90 percent, which Jody commented was the best response ever.

Here is a recap of the survey results:

How residents responded to questions:

Strongly Agree – Top 3: Respect shown, Staff friendly, and Trained hospitality.

Strongly Disagree – Top 3: Transportation, Religious/Spiritual, and Interest in my story.

Descriptive words – Top 3: Friendly, Safe, and Comfortable.

Respondents' demographics

Age – half were 80–89, a little over a third 90 or older, the rest 60 to 79.

Gender – two-thirds female, one-third male.

Length of Stay – almost half had lived here 3 or more years, one third 1 to 3 years, the rest less than a year.

Choice of Kimball

The top three reasons were: Recommendation from family/friends, Reputation, and Location.

Awareness of Kimball

The number one source was word-of-mouth, from family or friends, which accounted for almost two thirds of the responses.

Recommend to others

Jody made a special note of the response to this question: 85 percent answered "Strongly Agree" and 15 percent "Agree." That's 100!

In conclusion, she commented: "We appreciate your feedback as it helps us understand what we are doing well and where we have opportunities for continued improvement. The willingness to recommend us to others stands as a testament to the outstanding reputation we have in and around our community. We are proud to lead such a tremendous community."

STAFF APPRECIATION— *PineHill resident assistants sample refreshments at the annual Staff Appreciation Party in the Kimball Farms auditorium on December 4. From left are Maribel Barahona, Juana Valqui, Lupe Amaya, and Rosa Valasquez. In lieu of tips, staff received a total of \$255,000 in checks calculated for each on the numbers of hours worked. That total was based on \$238,000 donated by residents in 2025, late 2024 donations of \$12,000, and \$5,000 drawn from the Cox Fund.*



Photo by Lily Wayne

2026 Officers & Counselors Elected

By Susan Dana

Nominating Committee Chair

THE PURPOSE of the Residents Association of Kimball Farms, according to the by-laws, is

1. "To further the harmonious and satisfactory well-being of all residents at Kimball Farms.
2. To offer advice and assistance to the management and Board of Trustees...in the planning, development, implementation and review of policies and programs that affect the quality of their lives.
3. To assist residents in developing interests, activities, and responsibilities within both Kimball Farms and the surrounding communities."

That's a large order, but achievable with competent officers and counselors at the helm of the Residents Association.

We have been fortunate in the quality and dedication of our officers and counselors, who are elected at the annual meeting of the Association. Their terms are for one year, but they may serve for a second year if they wish. The majority of the officers and counselors eligible for a second term have agreed to serve again. Thank you!

We also thank Vice-President Mary O'Brien and Counselors Eileen Henle and Marilé Lynch for their good work on our behalf this year. And we are grateful to the three people who have agreed to follow in their roles.

At the Association meeting on December 1, the Nominating Committee presented the following slate (all are serving second terms except where noted):

Officers

President: Pat Steele

First Vice President: Terry Shea (1st term)

Second Vice President: David Vacheron

Secretary: Mary Misch

Treasurer: Pat Flinn

Counselors

Lenox:

Stephanie Johnson (apts. 142-157)

Cynthia Segal (apts. 158-175)

Rose Pocock (apts. 242-257)

Leslie Curtis (apts. 258-275) (1st term)

Stockbridge:

Carol Lasher (apts. 101-109, 201-209)

Maddy Heinz (apts. 110-127)

Diane Cook (apts. 128-141) (1st term)

Susan Dana (apts. 210-227)

Judy Matthews (apts. 228-241)

A motion to authorize the secretary to cast one vote in favor of the slate was seconded and passed unanimously. Many thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee for their good work:

Lenox: Marilé Lynch, Cynthia Segal

Stockbridge: John Cheney, Doug Cannon

Guarding Against Falls

NEARLY 100 falls were reported at Kimball Farms Independent Living last year, according to Director of Health Services Melody Black and the Health and Safety Committee.

Although common in older adults, falls can have disastrous consequences such as fractures and bleeding in the brain for those who are on blood thinners or have osteoporosis.

A Falls Education/Facts list to alert Independent

Living residents to safe habits was distributed to all with copies available at the administration office. Among the precautions is to wear your medical alert button at all times, even in the shower, which should have grab bars installed inside and out.

Residents are also urged to call PTA Lynn Lak at 7186 for balance testing and details on her strength and balance classes. Apartment safety checks for trip hazards like scatter rugs, poor lighting, electrical cords can also be booked through Lynn or Community Care Nurse Chris Furey, LPN, at 7035.

A Letter to Myself

By **Stephanie Beling, M.D.**
Observer Columnist

THIS LETTER I wrote to myself, in the autumn of 2018 at the close of a week-long silent retreat, was meant to be read at a future date. I had forgotten about it until it arrived in my mail eight years later, on the day after Thanksgiving 2025. It was post-marked November 24, 2025, with no explanation for the delay. Perhaps it was forgotten in a file and just resurfaced during a cleanout.

The Naikan retreat I was on — a profound journey in gratitude and introspection — followed a 10-day certification course in Japanese psychology that I completed in 2017 at the ToDo Institute in Monkton, Vt. Reading it now, its words arrive as a gentle echo from a reflective past, inviting renewed appreciation and self-awareness during this season of thanks. Born from intentional silence and contemplation, these insights were meant as a guiding touchstone for continued growth. I hope you will greet these reflections with the same openness and warmth that inspired their creation.

“Dear Stephanie,

You have learned some important things this past week, which I hope you will always remember. While you and I are one, this letter bridges a gentle conversation between the part that sees and the part that grows, united as a whole person.

The Power of Soft-Heartedness

One of the things that I will always remember is the concept of soft-heartedness. The heart can soften—it wants to soften—yet in many people it hardens with age, both actually and metaphorically. Guard against this hardening, for it is incompatible with health and with the nurturing of relationships, which only grow in importance with age. Carry soft-heartedness in your mind and heart always, allowing

empathy and warmth to guide your interactions and decisions.

Recognizing the Impact of Actions

This week also brought a sobering realization of the trouble and problems I have caused others over the course of my lifetime, exceeding 30,000 days. There have been too many occasions where I placed myself first, sometimes at the expense of others who merely crossed my path. With this realization, I intend to see myself from others’ points of view, and avoid trouble and problems due to ego, selfishness, and insensitivity. Let this understanding shape my future choices—lead with humility and consideration for those around me.

Balancing Giving and Receiving

Another learning made very graphic by making lists is the disparity between that which I have received and that which I have given—the “received” list is far longer. This imbalance can be addressed, not by creating contrived opportunities to give, but by responding generously when genuine opportunities present themselves. Consciously choose to give when needed, embracing acts of kindness as an authentic part of who you are.

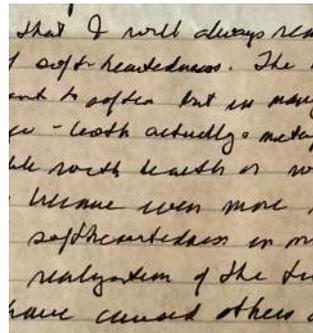
Living with Awareness and Compassion

So, my dear Stephanie, be aware of your intrinsic value, be kind, compassionate—and most of all, always carry the three questions of Naikan in your heart:

- What have I received from others?
- What have I given to others?
- What troubles and difficulties have I caused others?

Let these questions shape your self-awareness, and inspire continued growth toward a more soft-hearted and generous life.

With love from Stephanie, your friend.”



Coming of Age in a Left-Leaning World

By Mary Misch
Observer Columnist

THE RESIDENT known here as Lita Moses has just published a book, *The Red Hotel: Tribute to a Lost World*, under her full name, Lita Slutsky Newman Moses. It presents the detailed story of a Russian Jewish immigrant family, the Slutskys, and the Arrowhead Lodge, their “left-wing, non-kosher hotel” in the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. Interspersed are thought streams, set in italics, from the child Lita, “*such a wild one,*” from the young woman, “*in the orbit of my mother and the hotel,*” and from the Lita of recent years, “*ready to explore and allow myself the anxiety of not knowing what’s to come.*”

Lita’s younger years are spent in New York City and suburbs, but always with summers, and every holiday, at the Arrowhead. Around the age of nine, she is hoisted on the shoulders of Paul Robeson, the Black singer made famous by his performance in *Showboat*, then blacklisted for his political views. His concert near Peekskill has been followed by a riot; at the Arrowhead there is a successful and peaceful musical event.

Fannie, Lita’s mother, has full charge of hotel business and cultural affairs. She hires staff and en-

tertainers by instinct; she is the first to give Joseph Papp the chance to establish a summer theater group. Fannie persuades Pete Seeger’s wealthy aunt to underwrite the project. David, Lita’s father, is a dentist in the city and a jewelry-making instructor in the country. Young Lita, at age 11, is a waitress for the children’s tables. At age 15, she joins the waiters in the main dining room. After an awkward adolescence, her first serious romance includes target shooting with one of three rifles she kept under her bed.

Lita’s late teens and early twenties show her attracting a succession of men who tend to find jobs at the Arrowhead and later become friends for life. She embarks on a long marriage to Stanley Moses, later a professor at Hunter College, and they raise two sons, Daniel and Josh. After graduate studies, Lita starts her 45-year career as a psychotherapist. An amiable divorce eventually occurs, and both find new

spouses. Lita and her second husband, Bruce Bernstein, settle in the Berkshires. They continue to engage in liberal activities.

Her elder son, Daniel Noah Moses, contributed much to the final form of this book. Two Photo Gallery sections show the people and the place in fascinating detail. Our library has a copy of the book; others are available from Lita.



Photo by Lily Wayne

Lita Moses and her son, Daniel Noah Moses, at the December 6 book signing.

After an awkward adolescence, her first serious romance includes target shooting with one of three rifles she kept under her bed.



January Events

Wednesday, January 7	7 pm	Adelene Quigley film on historic Lenox Auditorium
Thursday, January 15	7 pm	Doug Schmolze Island Music Auditorium
Wednesday, January 21	3:30 - 5 pm	Jonathan Selkowitz Photography Exhibit Reception PH Art Room
Thursday, January 22	4:15 pm	Intergenerational Book Group <i>Shatter Me</i> by Tahereh Mafi Private Dining Room
Thursday, January 22	7 pm	Jonathan Selkowitz Artist Talk Auditorium
Monday, January 26	7 pm	Musicians of Ma'alwyck concert
Wednesday, January 28	11 am - 1 pm	Sewing Workshop with Deborah Carter PH Art Room

January Trips

Tuesday, January 6	Bus 11:15 am	Ventfort Hall
Sunday, January 11	Bus at 12:15 pm	Met Opera at Mahaiwe Bellini's <i>I Puritani</i>
Sunday, January 18	Bus at 10:30 am	"Let's Eat Out" Sunday Brunch at Proprietors Lodge
Tuesday, January 20	Bus at 10:00 am	Shopping Colonie Center & Trader Joe's
Friday, January 23	Bus at 5:15 pm	Hevreh in Great Barrington
Saturday, January 24	Bus at 12:15 pm	Met Opera at Mahaiwe <i>The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay</i>

Birthday Wishes

Twenty-one residents have January birthdays.

There is a 17-year spread between the youngest and oldest celebrants.

January birthdays belong to: George Raymond, Helene Eicholz, Nancy Jones, Marlene Bergendahl, Charles Bonenti, Diana Feld, Ann Morgan, Sandra Seimon, Linda Conway, Katherine Stell, Diane Cook, Ned Dana, Blake McClenachan, Pat Carlson, Margaret Rubinow, Sue Colker, Lee Behnke, Albert Anderson, Vivian Wise, Carol Lasher, and Julane Reed.

In Memoriam

Rita Kaplan

February 21, 1938 to November 29, 2025

Betty Jones

October 19, 1926 to December 9, 2025

Walter Shenko

April 2, 1924 to December 19, 2025



Photo by Charles Bonenti
*Kimball Farms Singers prepare for holiday concert
 December 21 under direction of John Cheney at right.*



Photos by Lily Wayne



*Instructors from EdanSe
 Company & Ballroom
 Dance Studio in Enfield,
 Conn., demonstrate their
 style, above, during a
 December 8 visit, then
 coach residents Stephanie
 Beling and Charles
 Bonenti at left.*

Observer Spotlight



Photo by Lily Wayne



Photos above and below by Charles Bonenti

*Clockwise from above: dining room staffer
 Donna Lucido regularly creates Kimball
 entrance foyer displays; art instructor Mike
 Cohen is developing a series of portraits of
 staff and residents for an exhibition; and
 dining services director Mike Paglier
 hands a meal plate to a Lenox High School
 student to serve at the holiday festival
 dinner on December 17 that Kimball
 Farms provided for seniors at the Lenox
 Community Center.*

