

The Brookmeade Community  
46 Brookmeade Drive | Rhinebeck, NY  
Ph: (845) 876-2071 | [www.communityatbrookmeade.org](http://www.communityatbrookmeade.org)

**PRESS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Baptist Home: Celebration of 100+ Years**  
**Resident of The Baptist Home Is The Eldest Person in New York**

**Rhinebeck, NY** – On May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Vera Van Wagner, resident of The Baptist Home in Rhinebeck, NY, celebrated her 113<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her Birth. Vera Van Wagner, who at 113 years old is the oldest resident of both Dutchess County and New York State, is among the 5 centenarians and honorees for the celebration of centenarians at The Baptist Home. Vera, who turned 113 during the week of the celebration, is currently the 27<sup>th</sup> oldest person in the world, the third-oldest in the United States and according to the Gerontology Research Group, ranks among the 250 oldest people who have ever lived!

The Brookmeade Community held their Celebration of 100+ Year event for all of their centenarians and super centenarians. Celebration of 100+ Years event took place during Vera Van Wagner's 113<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her Birth on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:30 pm at The Baptist Home. The Baptist Home hosted the celebration along with resident centenarians Anna Mae Swenson, who turned 108 last November, Dorothy Peters, who turned 102 last February, Helen Regan, who turned 101 last February and Nunzio Morelli, who turned 101 years old last March. Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro reprised his role as the Master of Ceremony and we had guest New York Senator Sue Serino and Director of Dutchess County Office for the Aging Todd Tancredi attend.

Mrs. Van Wagner is a long time resident of Dutchess County, having attended Poughkeepsie High School and been in charge of the Information Bureau and Message Center at Vassar College. Her family's business Schrauth's Ice Cream was located at 149-151 Main Street Poughkeepsie, N. Y, and was mentioned in The Ice Cream Trade Journal Vol. XV New York in October of 1919.

The Community at Brookmeade ([www.communityatbrookmeade.org](http://www.communityatbrookmeade.org)), located on 75 country acres just outside the Village of Rhinebeck, is a senior living retirement community serving the Hudson Valley and surrounding areas. The Community is comprised of three entities: Arbor Ridge, offering independent living, The Terraces, offering assisted living, and The Baptist Home which provides long term care, sub-acute rehabilitation, palliative care and Out-Patient Rehabilitation Services.

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