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Photos attached

Long Island Museum Showcases Work of Jefferson's Ferry Residents

"Through Our Eyes" exhibit held in recognition of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness and Family Caregivers Month

South Setauket, NY, December 13, 2018. Some 25 pieces of artwork created by residents of Jefferson's Ferry have been exhibited at The Long Island Museum (LIM) in Stony Brook, NY. The sixth annual exhibit of *Through Our Eyes*, held in recognition of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and Family Caregivers month, features the works of seven residents of The Vincent Bove Health Center at Jefferson's Ferry. The exhibited work is curated by the Jefferson's Ferry staff in conjunction with LIM staff. *Through Our Eyes* is an extension of the museum's *In the Moment* program, a gallery program of art engagement for people with memory loss and their care partners.

"Art not only offers people an outlet to express themselves through memory and imagination, it also allows for expression that was not closed off as a result of Alzheimer's Disease and memory loss," said Lorrie Prescott, Director of Recreation at The Vincent Bove Health Center. "Several of our artists have enjoyed art throughout their lives and are able to continue to pursue their passion and share a glimpse of their memories through their work and the story behind the piece. Other among the group are new to artistic expression. Each person's experience is unique and personal, but the effect of creating art is universally felt."

Not all of the artists are battling Alzheimer's Disease, but may be suffering from a decline in vision or other physical challenges of age. The artists each work in the medium of their choice, including acrylic or watercolor paint, colored pencil, jewelry design, and quilling. Photographic portraits and artist statements that accompany each piece provide a richer context and a deeper connection with both the artist and the artwork.

Artist Rachel D has a passion for crafts. She designs greeting cards on the computer and is a self-taught quiller. Quilling is a centuries old art form in which strips of colored paper are rolled, shaped, and glued together to create decorative designs.

Dorothy Trump has discovered a love of painting, and her compositions reflect her life experiences. One of her favorite paintings, of a bear, was inspired by a real life encounter with a mama bear and her cubs when Mrs. Trump was vacationing in Alaska. In addition to being selected for exhibit at LIM, her bear painting has also been selected by the Greater New York Hospital Association's for use in its annual calendar.

Another resident, Ann Pols, had never drawn before and through the art classes she takes at Jefferson's Ferry, found "the art was inside of me somewhere." She started by simply coloring works provided by the instructor, later progressing to shading techniques that ultimately led her to creations that are 100 percent original.

St. Louis native Irene N. has a degree in chemistry, and came late to art. "I enjoy it," she says. "It relaxes me." Joseph S. enjoyed a long career as an engineer at Grumman. Mr. S., too, had never taken up painting before moving to Jefferson's Ferry. His favorite subjects are the ocean and the coastline.

Prescott sums up the many benefits of Jefferson's Ferry's art program simply. "When older adults engage in an activity such as drawing or painting, they experience significant improvements in their mental and emotional health. There is the social interaction involved and the completion of a piece art provides an important sense of accomplishment."

About Jefferson's Ferry (<u>www.jeffersonsferry.org</u>)

Jefferson's Ferry is a nonprofit Life Plan community for active adults age 62 and above, with Independent living cottages, apartments, assisted living, and a quality health care center all on one site. Located in South Setauket, a vibrant community along Long Island's north shore, Jefferson's Ferry is surrounded by various attractions, shopping, beaches, theaters, and a world-renowned university. Jefferson's Ferry offers exceptional living and amenities, including restaurants, fitness center, indoor pool, computer center, library, recreational areas, gardens, and gazebos. A mix of cultural excursions, civic activities, and a community of residents who participate in shaping Jefferson's Ferry's future, ensures a spirited and engaged lifestyle.

The Vincent Bove Health Center at Jefferson's Ferry earned a 5-star rating from The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and was named a "Best Of" nursing home by U.S. News & World Report. Jefferson's Ferry as a whole received the industrywide Community Choice Award for resident satisfaction and engagement and FitchRatings has assigned Jefferson's Ferry a BBB+ bond rating. Locally, Jefferson's Ferry has consistently been voted Best Retirement Community and Best Assisted Living on Long Island by The Long Island Press. Jefferson's Ferry has also regularly been recognized for Excellence by the Hauppauge Industrial Association's Business Achievement Awards program.

About The Long Island Museum (www.longislandmuseum.org)

The Long Island Museum is dedicated to inspiring people of all ages with an understanding and enjoyment of American art, history and carriages as expressed through the heritage of Long Island and its diverse communities. The museum has been accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1973 for excellence in exhibitions, programs and collection care. In 2006 the museum joined a small group of institutions nationwide as a Smithsonian Affiliate.



Jefferson's Ferry resident artwork exhibited at The Long Island Museum (LIM) in Stony Brook, NY included three works by Rachel D., pictured here with her quilling art.



Jefferson's Ferry resident Dorothy Trump had several paintings selected for the Through Our Eyes art exhibit at the Long Island Museum in Stony Brook. Additionally, this painting was selected by the Greater New York Hospital Association's for use in its annual calendar.