

Avila News and Views

A publication of the Resident Council at Avila Retirement Community

Albany, NY

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SPRING . . . SUMMER?

By Rose Ann Schaeffing

We have seen real signs of spring and summer here at Avila. Tom Wahl's beautiful tulips in the Avila courtyard and many lovely tulips and daffodils in cottage beds and all the greening of the trees. Some days it does seem like the weather people really can't keep up! Temperatures are up and down, and the early flowers are battling winds that seem like March is still here.

In any case, the Garden Club will proceed with plans for late spring and summer. Soon there will be plantings in the raised beds in the Avila courtyard and in the raised bed behind the Lodge. Another area in the courtyard is the rock garden around the fountain area. For many years June and Larry Johnston have taken care of this area, and it has always been lovely. Last fall, due to health reasons, they expressed a desire to pass the torch on this lovely area to someone else. They asked me if I would be willing to take on this area. I am doing so with the support of some members of the Garden Club.



Photo by Tom and Ellen Fitzgerald

We hope we will be able to live up to the beautiful tradition June and Larry pass on to us. Thank you June and Larry for your years of work maintaining this area so well.

As the Garden Club plans and chooses plants, we are working with the Avila Environment Group (Laudato Si) to be particularly conscious of using some native plantings and always to be aware of providing good homes and nutrition for butterflies, bees and birds. We are all learning and working together to be the best caretakers of our environment here at Avila.

A reminder to all residents: There are plots (3 by 10 feet) available behind the garages for planting vegetables and flowers for your own personal use. Contact Rose Ann

Schaeffing to secure a plot.

(Pictured above, Ellen Fitzgerald and George Gerardi of Laudato Si. Below, rock garden and raised bed in main building courtyard.)



Photo by Lynn Altonin



Photo by Lynn Altonin

MEET OUR NEW NEIGHBORS . . .

DEBBIE AND LARRY ALPHONSO

By Rose Ann Schaeffing



Photo by Rose Ann Schaeffing

Debbie and Larry are both native New Yorkers. Debbie was born in Amsterdam but lived most of her early years in Dannemora. She was there when two inmates escaped from the maximum-security Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora. I asked if the 23 days between the escape and the end of the manhunt for the escapees were tense and frightening. "Not really," Debbie said, "almost all of the men in Dannemora worked at the prison so everyone thought the escapees would run as far away from there as they could." They were right, the escapees were near the Canadian border when one was apprehended, and one was killed by law enforcement.

Debbie graduated from Troy High School because her mother had taken a job as a cosmetology teacher at Rensselaer County BOCES. Debbie saw her mother's work ethic in action as they traveled back to Dannemora every weekend so she could continue to operate her beauty parlor there. After graduation, Debbie went to Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio, where she graduated with degrees in Elementary Education N-6 and Health and Physical Education K-12. She moved back to the North Country to go to Graduate School at SUNY Plattsburgh. She then taught Junior High Health at Saranac Central School for 30 years before retiring. She enjoyed working with this age group—something new every day!

Larry was born in Plattsburgh. After high school, he worked for GE in Vermont and then decided he wanted to go into the service. When he tried to enlist, he was told he was not eligible because he was missing part of his index finger due to an earlier accident. However, less than a year later he was drafted. This time he was accepted. In Larry's good sense of humor, his response was "How? My finger didn't grow back!" He then joined the Marines and served in Vietnam for two years.

After he was discharged, he returned to the US and went back to work for GE. Very soon GE in Vermont closed, his father died and his girlfriend of four years had moved on to someone else. This was a very hard time for Larry and in his words, "I just knocked around at odd jobs for a while." He eventually opened a sporting goods store in Plattsburgh and then Lake Placid. This went well until things slowed down after the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid. He closed the store and went to work for the US Postal Service. He also played drums in a rock and roll band, and his eyes caught Debbie in the audience one night. End of story, they married in 1984.

After Debbie retired from teaching and Larry retired from the Postal Service, Larry was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. After a few years, as the Parkinson's progressed, they realized they were unable to get the medical services he needed in Plattsburgh. They were continually traveling to Albany to see doctors. They are clients of the Albany Stratton VA Medical Center and are very happy with the excellent service they receive there. They had no family left in Plattsburgh, so they decided to sell their house and move closer to Albany. They were unable to find a good fit for them until their contact from Saratoga Senior Movers suggested they visit Avila. Timing was perfect. When they called and told Ginger what they were looking for, she immediately knew she had just the right apartment for them. One of our big apartments was just becoming available. This was an "easy" sale for Ginger as Debbie and Larry took it right after seeing it.

The move has been very positive for them. They love their apartment, all the amenities Avila offers and how welcoming and pleasant the residents are. Welcome Debbie and Larry. You are a positive addition to our community. We are glad you found us.

(Author's note: Larry's disease is the direct result of all the Agent Orange he was subjected to in Vietnam. As we are celebrating veterans around Memorial Day, let's be aware of and thankful for the many service members and their families who have given and continue to give so much to us.)

CLAIRE BAKER

Interviewed by Pat Binzer



Photo by Pat Binzer

Avila welcomed Claire last August as she was transitioning from her own home in Albany to a new life in our independent living community. When I asked her to be interviewed for *News and Views*, she flatly refused and declared she wasn't interested. What I learned about her was that she did not come here willingly. She greatly missed her house, her garden, and her friends right down the street.

Now, several months later, Claire has grown to love Avila. She has made many friends. She enjoys the several music offerings as well as the interesting lectures. She has discovered her apartment came with a small perennial garden for her to manage. There is a place for her to sit on her patio and read. She is also interested in joining the Avila gardening group and working outside.

Claire was born and grew up in Troy. She graduated from Russell Sage College with a degree in nursing. She discovered she really enjoyed being out in the community helping people and spent 30 years as a public health nurse in various parts of the city of Albany including many years at the Ida Yarborough apartments, where she even had "a private office." After she retired, Claire volunteered at meal sites and food pantries.

She and her former husband had no children, but Claire is close to her remaining siblings and many nieces and nephews. Her brother Bob is responsible for taking her to visit many other retirement communities and helping her select "the right one" for her. Claire now describes Avila as so friendly and positive and a good place to live.

GERRI AND DENNIS BATTLE

By Ray and Erin Teichman

During a relaxing Sunday brunch we became acquainted with our new Lodge neighbors, Gerri and Dennis Battle. In March they moved to Avila from Chadwick Sq., Glenmont, so they are still getting settled according to Gerri.

Both were born and raised in the Albany area. Dennis' job as an air traffic controller took them to Aurora, IL and Syracuse, NY before returning to Delmar where they raised their three daughters and a son. Gerri worked for the NYS Tax and Finance Department. Upon retirement they became snowbirds, spending winters in Delray Beach and Boynton, FL. Travels with family to Ireland and France have also occurred.

The Battle's son lives in Leesburg, VA while their three daughters live nearby. They are able to visit with eight of their ten grandchildren as a result.

Family encouragement and health issues led them to think of moving to Avila and its range of services which will allow them to remain independent. We welcome them to their new home.

DONNA DEMING

By Erin and Ray Teichman



Photo by Erin and Ray Teichman

Donna moved into Avila on December 2, 2025 during a snowstorm. She knew of Avila from her many visits to Daughters of Sarah to visit her companion of 52 years, Louis Mineau, before he died two years ago.

Growing up in Troy, Donna attended Catholic schools and went to work for NY State Tax and Finance after high school graduation. After 38 years, she retired as head of a processing control unit.

Donna has two brothers, one of whom lives in Mechanicville, and a sister in Boston.

She and Louis spent 26 winters in Weston, FL. They enjoyed travel to Italy and France and made 12 visits to Aruba. Donna also enjoys walking, playing cards, especially cribbage, bocce, tennis and cooking.

Donna stated she loves the ambiance of Avila, is enjoying meeting her new neighbors, and has never felt so safe living alone.

GARY AND PORTIA HUBERT

By Rose Ann Schaeffing

After being on the waiting list for four years, Gary and Portia were finally able to move into cottage 30 three months ago. They were able to wait patiently because they had planned ahead and made the decision to move to a retirement community before it would be necessary. When Michelle called to let them know there was a cottage open for them, they knew their planning and patience had been rewarded.

So why were they willing to stay on a waiting list at Avila? "Because when we visited and toured with Michelle, we saw a facility that was alive and full of spirit." They find this to be true and say they are busier now than they were before they moved here.

Gary was born in Glens Falls and lived in the Capital Region most of his life. He graduated from Windham College in Putney, Vermont with a degree in psychology. Portia was born in Saranac Lake and grew up in Guilderland. She graduated from Mt Holyoke College with a degree in psychology. With these degrees they both took jobs working with adults with handicapped conditions. They met while working at Schenectady ARC and after they married, they settled in Voorheesville where they lived for 47 years before moving to Avila. They have a son who lives in Queens and a daughter who lives in Albany.



Photo by Rose Ann Schaeffing

Portia started volunteering as a parent at the Voorheesville High School drama program and eventually led the program. In this role, she produced several high school musicals and other shows. Her favorite productions were *Flowers for Algernon* and *Project Laramie*. She has also worked with Park Playhouse and Albany Civic Theater.

Gary served on the Voorheesville School Board for nine years. He has always enjoyed boating, having spent much time at Lake George. He has several radio-controlled sailboats and regularly competes at Six Mile Waterworks Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from one to three. (Field trip anyone?)

Among the trips and vacations Portia and Gary have taken, two seem particularly interesting. One was a canal boat trip on the Erie Canal. When they arrived at their starting point, Seneca Falls, they were given a half hour lesson on operating the boat and navigating the locks on the canal. Then off they went (just the two of them) in a 42-foot boat for a week of adventure. Guiding the boat through locks meant lowering and raising the boat with ropes ("slimy"). Portia was the rope lady while Gary steered the boat. Every night they docked the boat to sleep, rest and prepare for the next day. They had to chart their trip carefully because after one week they had to be back at their starting point.

The second trip of particular interest was a Canadian Railway Tour from Toronto to Jasper, Alberta. For rail travel they highly recommend booking a private compartment for more comfortable travel. In Jasper, they ended the tour with an interesting bus tour. See Gary and Portia for details!

Welcome to Avila, Gary and Portia. We are glad you waited all that time to get a cottage. We look forward to your adding to our alive and spirited atmosphere.

... LEARN ABOUT SOME OF OUR STAFF MEMBERS ...

ANNE COYLE

Interviewed by Pat Binzer



Photo by Pat Binzer

Anne Coyle has been at Avila for nearly 16 years. To many Avila residents, she is that gentle voice that answers the phone when you need immediate help with an unexpected "med run." Her official titles include office manager and transportation supervisor. For some, 16 years working in one place is a career. But not for Anne.

Avila is only one of three major working careers for Anne. She retired from SUNY Central after 39 years. (that is not a typo). By the time she retired, she had advanced to the position of Assistant Director of Media Relations that covered all the 64 state university campuses. After retiring, she found she missed the day-to-day work life. So she took on a position as a legal assistant for a few years, saying she was only hired because she knew shorthand.

Her family has always been of paramount importance to her. She has four children, one son and three daughters, which includes a set of twins, and nine grandchildren. Three of the children live locally, The grandchildren can expect her to attend most of their sporting events, drive them places when necessary, and babysit on occasion. She even arranged Tuesdays as her day off because that's the day she's needed most by the grandkids.

Major holiday events are still hosted by Anne as the large family gathers around.

For vacations, Anne often goes to Minnesota to visit one of her daughters. She will be going there in June and on a trip to Disney World in August with her son and his family. In her free time, she enjoys walking for exercise and tending to her vegetable and flower gardens.

Anne leads a very full life.

ARMANDO DELUCA

By Rose Ann Schaeffing

Since May 9th residents have been missing an efficient, very friendly server. Armando began serving us in many ways almost seven years ago. He came here after a co-worker at his previous employment told him Mazzone was hiring at Avila. He was a valuable member of the dining staff. We became accustomed to seeing him at lunch, dinner and also sometimes working the early morning shift.

Armando left the Unidine staff here to follow in his father's footsteps as a policeman. He had considered this change in career for some time and worked hard to qualify for admission to the Police Academy. He said the hardest part was making diet changes while working around food all the time. Congratulations to him for his perseverance.

Outside of work Armando enjoys fishing but mostly enjoys spending time with his girlfriend and his brother and especially with his young nephews. He said he is the "cool" uncle: spoiling, teasing, playing.

His first weeks of training will be low key while getting accustomed to procedures and the environment of police work until he is sworn into the Police Academy May 28. He mentioned with dread that this will include being tazed and maced. (Ouch!)

We all miss Armando and his easy smile and pleasantness. He expressed repeatedly that he will miss the residents and our appreciation of his work with us. He promised to come back to visit, and we look forward to those visits and wish him well in his new career



Photo by Rose Ann Schaeffing

ELLEN ROGERS

By Erin and Ray Teichman



Ellen Rogers has been with Avila's transportation department for 12 years. She is now receptionist at the Lodge front desk three days a week and also assists in administration processing resident invoices and medical transport requests.

A native Albanian, Ellen is the middle of five siblings with three sisters and a brother. She attended Albany Catholic schools and Maria College. Prior to joining Avila's staff Ellen worked for 30 years for AT&T in Human Resources followed by 12 years at the NYS Department of Labor in the unemployment division. After taking a year off, she felt she was too young for full-time retirement so welcomed learning of a job at Avila from her sister, Anne Coyle, a member of Avila's administrative staff.

Ellen is a widow with a daughter and two granddaughters who live in Wilton, NY. She enjoys traveling and music, especially jazz and blues. One memorable trip to Italy was with a group staying at a rented villa on the Amalfi coast for three weeks.

As we began our interview, a Lodge resident told us Ellen "always makes us feel welcome." An important attribute with which we heartily agree.

... AND THOSE WHO ENTERTAIN AND INFORM US

MADELINE OLESKY, Assistant Program Director Schenectady County Historical Society

Interviewed by Pat Binzer



Photo by Pat Binzer

Madeline provided Avila residents with a glimpse of rural life in the early 1700s for a rural working family on a site known as the Maybee Farm located in Rotterdam Junction. Owned by the Schenectady County Historical Society, the property's primary use is for educational tours, lectures, exhibits and celebrations.

During the school months, most weekday visitors include 4th grade classes and teachers studying New York State history. The school groups get to see a small working farm with animals and gardens as well as the small living space where a growing family lived. Weekend hours are shown on the website when it is open to the general public for tours, lectures and events. The large open land areas also accommodate any number of festivals and celebrations. A complete listing of the schedule of activities and hours of operation can be found on the Historical Society's website: (schenectadyhistorical.org/events). Check it out. It would be an

interesting place to explore and not far from here. (Maybee Farm Historical Site, 110 Main Street, Rotterdam Junction.)

Madeline graduated from college in Gainesville, Florida with a degree in psychology and neural science. She was drawn to local museums at an early age and volunteered extensively, which led her to complete an additional degree in museum management.

The Avila residents had been expecting to learn about the famous Stockade Massacre of 1690. That presentation is promised to be presented sometime in May.

FOCUS FEATURE

"Knowing that I was at home sick-Matt (Assistant Director at Dining Services) added a hot container of chicken soup to my delivery order! It was just what I needed! Thanks, Matt, for your kindness. I so appreciate your thoughtfulness."

*Margie Faverman
Cottage #16*

"We'd like to give a big THANK YOU to Jeff(in maintenance) for the great job of assembling and reinforcing the rack that will hold all the quilting material for our project Linus. He didn't stop until he was satisfied that all the shelves were aligned and secured. We(quilters) really appreciated it!!"

The Project Linus group

ROOF ROOF

By Art Johnson

Before we bought our house in Syracuse, the builder rented it to us while we waited for the closing. It was November and there had been snow. (Imagine that—snow in Syracuse!) I went out one day and, on the way back, I noticed that there was snow on the roofs of all the houses, fifty or so, except one! It was, of course, the one we were set to close on.

I called the builder, explained the situation, and he decided that maybe he should do something about it! They cut a hole in a bedroom closet ceiling and blew in some insulation. We did close soon after.

There were a couple of other problems that we wanted fixed. I called the builder several times, but he never answered. It was always a woman, and George wasn't there or he was busy or sleeping—but he would get back to me. He never did and we finally gave up. I understand that this was the last house that this guy built—he was just really REALLY ready to retire.

The other roof situation was much later when it was time for a new roof which included roof venting. They cut a narrow slice in the roof ridge, put a lid above the hole with screening on the sides to let the attic 'breathe.' I guess ridge vents weren't a thing in the 70s. One day after they finished, I had occasion to get something out of the attic above the garage. I noticed that there was no light showing through that 'vent'—they hadn't cut the hole!

So, I went upstairs, looked into that attic and there was no light showing there either! I called the roofing company, and someone was there rather quickly. I watched the guy doing the upstairs 'repair,' and he didn't look like a happy camper. I suspect that he was the owner of the company and somebody probably got a very stern talking to—at the very least.

ART FREES THE CREATIVE SOUL OF AVILA

By Tom and Ellen Fitzgerald



Photo by Tom and Ellen Fitzgerald

Retirement usually brings the gift of more free time to pursue your interests and life's purpose. Avila residents are living proof of this image for the "fourth quarter" of our lives. Many residents have dabbled in acrylic painting, basket weaving, pottery, and water coloring in the past. You may have been surprised by the wide range of art by residents in the display case this April.

Many others expressed an interest in art instruction at levels ranging from beginner to expert, challenging our creative spirits. Fran enlisted Noreen Powell's cooperation to organize classes that would appeal to residents' varying skill levels. Sitting comfortably around tables in the craft room, we are

provided with all the supplies: canvases, paint, brushes, and instructions, taking us from blank canvases to completed pictures in 60 minutes of quiet determination. Noreen displays a painting she completed as our target finished project (we hope). We then follow her demonstration of background painting and then divide the canvas into 1/3 or 1/4 sections to envision the trees, clouds, water, etc. We begin talking excitedly as our work takes shape. There is a sense of pride in what we create (even though our individual paintings fall short of Noreen's).

Before we know it, it is time to finish our canvases, clean up the room, and then consider displaying our humble creations in the reception area or the Craft room for other Avila residents to admire.

Those who now participate in the monthly Art classes encourage each of you to ask the question, "Would I enjoy the chance to exercise my creative spirit by joining the class?" You could share the joy we have during and after the session, showing each other our work and encouraging each other to continue improving with Noreen's assistance.

We know that other residents have pursued art in the past few years. I encourage you to ask residents to discuss their artwork. I am sure that other Avila residents have engaged in the creative arts but have not made their creative spirit known to others. In June, Fran and other staff members will host an Art Festival in the Great Room to showcase the many talents of our residents

The creative spirit of retirees continues to thrive here at our monthly painting instruction and in the display of artworks of all skill levels, which feeds our collective creative souls, another indication of the positive culture of our Avila community. Do you think you might like to try your creative hand at these monthly sessions? Come and enjoy the camaraderie!



Photo by Tom and Ellen Fitzgerald

TRIPLE TROUBLE

By Don Stauffer

Two of my three children will be 67 this year. Twins? Obviously. They run in my wife Morag's family. She had twin uncles, one of whom had twin girls, and her brother also had twin girls.

Our own story began when I was in graduate school. On the morning of June 22nd, 1959, which happened to be Morag's birthday, she said birth pangs were starting and it was probably time for her to go to the hospital. Still, she didn't want to get into the car until she'd opened all her presents.

When we finally got there, I settled down in the waiting room to study for my German language exam and wait for baby. As I pored over *mein deutsche Buch* I learned that it was going to be a long wait. Turned out it was a difficult delivery, and that afternoon they had to call in the obstetrician from his golf game for help. As he delivered the baby he said, "Hey Bill, I think there's another one in here." There was.

When the nurses' shift changed they all gathered around to see what my reaction would be when I was told I was the father of twins. My answer was, "We were only expecting one," which broke them up. I was then taken in to see Morag. She asked, "What is it?" I said, "Boys." She said, "What do you mean 'boys'?" I said, "Well we have two." And she was delighted.

They were healthy but small: one weighed four pounds three ounces, the other weighed five pounds. Both were placed in incubators and we went home. We were not able to hold either one for almost two weeks, but we could watch them sleeping and being fed in their little glass boxes.

The good news spread quickly, and family and friends pitched in with a lot of help. First we had to exchange our new stroller for a twin version. Then we were overwhelmed by an avalanche of doubles or more of pajamas, cloth diapers, pacifiers, suits, shoes, hats, jackets, blankets, stuffed animals, and all the other paraphernalia new babies need.

Both of our mothers came out to Indiana from the East Coast to supply cuddles and much-needed help. Morag's father brought out a family crib that had been stored in their basement-- and our new life began.

A good thing was that we were able to move from our small apartment into two bedrooms in graduate student housing. We had been placed on the top of the list because now we were an instant family of four.

We had already picked out names for a boy or a girl. The boy's name would be Andrew. When I called my mother to tell her the good news, she said, "Why don't you name the other after your grandfather? His name was Amos." After a good chuckle about naming them Amos and Andy, we named him Douglas Barlow Stauffer, and his brother Andrew Kennedy Stauffer. We were going to give Andy the middle name of Stuart but decided the initials A.S.S. would make for awkward social situations.

So that was our first three-person birthday.

At our next visit with the doctor we asked him why he had not known about Doug. These were the days before ultrasound, so his excuse was that the air conditioning fans in his office were too loud for him to hear the heartbeats on his stethoscope.

2025 WORLD HAPPINESS STUDY

By Tom Fitzgerald

When we joined this retirement community, we hoped to experience happiness and joy during the remainder of our lives. The Wellbeing Research Center at Oxford University compiled data from 25,000 participants using the Gallup World Poll's predictors of wellbeing. Researchers identified six key findings from this study on factors that contribute to happiness. Can you guess the six key factors? How many do you practice in your search for happiness?

The study found that the following six activities can lead to a greater sense of happiness and joy in our lives:

1. Kindness is contagious and underestimated.
2. Benevolence benefits everyone.
3. Acts of kindness increase happiness when done freely.
4. Meal-sharing multiplies happiness.
5. Generosity can save your life and protect you.
6. Donating time and resources to high-impact causes yields the most happiness.

How did you do in guessing the findings reached by this extensive study?

The Spirituality Group held a session in September that explored how to attain joy and happiness at any age. One of the handouts from this session provided practical steps for seniors to become happier and more joyful. These are steps that can help each of us to feel a sense of happiness and joy by practicing them daily:

1. Stay socially connected
2. Engage in physical activities
3. Practice gratitude
4. Pursue hobbies and interests
5. Spend time in and around nature
6. Practice mindfulness and meditation
7. Limit negative thoughts and thinking
8. Stay mentally active
9. Celebrate small achievements

You and I can achieve a level of happiness by joining with other residents to follow these suggestions. By thinking about these suggestions, we have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE . . .

Photos and comments by Tom and Ellen Fitzgerald.



In early March, many Avila residents attended Fred Seltzer's detailed description of his recent trip to Jordon, Saudi Arabia, and Israel. As he presented numerous pictures of biblical sites, he added a personal note about the difficulty of walking over uneven ground and over long distances to reach many of them. He thanked his travel companions for helping him celebrate his 92nd birthday during the trip. The residents posed numerous questions as they experienced, second hand, his adventure of a lifetime.

On May 1st, an overflow crowd packed the Great Room to hear Aaron Nobe, Senior Historian from the NYS Museum, outline the role and importance of NYS in the American Revolution. Residents were fascinated to learn that most battles during the Revolution were fought in the territory then known as New York. Extra seats were needed as residents expressed an interest in our 250th celebration of Independence.



Avila residents enjoy the 2026 running of the Kentucky Derby by betting on their favorite horse, donning festive hats for the occasion, and anticipating winning one of the three prizes. Those in attendance enjoyed the extensive array of desserts prepared by Jack and his staff. History was made that day because the winning horse was the first one trained by a woman. Way to Go!!

DID YOU GET WORDLE TODAY?

By Pat Binzer

*It's morning - you wake up
What's first on your mind?
Open the computer
to see what you can find.*

*Oh no. Look out the windows
to measure the day,
Sunshine, raindrops,
even snow on the way.*

*How are you feeling?
Ready to go?
Maybe it's shopping,
later off to a show.*

*For some early risers
all that planning can wait.
Just get some breakfast ready
to go on the plate.*

*Or down to the Bistro
to see what's new.
Fresh coffee and oatmeal,
friendship, too.*

*But there's one burning question
nagging at you -
will you get Wordle?
You've missed just a few.*

*Things now in order.
The day has begun.
Time to get ready
to have some fun.*

*For many that means
you're up for today's word,
be it common or strange
or simply absurd.*

*You enter your very first
word of the day.
Was there a green or a gold
letter at play?*

*Did you come closer
to the one that you needed?
From so many word choices
here's hoping you succeeded.*

*If not, carry on.
Try another word or two.
Tomorrow's another day.
There'll be a winner for you.*

*How strange so many people
try hard with all their might.
And feel so proud
when they get it right.*



*HAVE A HAPPY
SUMMER*