

# Rosemary Tracey Newman: A Legacy of Art

Rosemary Tracey Newman was an artist formerly of Harrisville, NH and Hammonton, N.J. She was born in Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1924, the daughter of Thomas and Mary Tracey. She grew up in Philadelphia and her love of art began at an early age. After graduating from high school, she wanted to go to art school, but with World War II raging halfway around the globe, she decided to join the Navy instead, serving as a WAVE from 1944 to 1945. She was stationed in Washington, D.C., and drew maps for the war effort. Working with a small team of cartographers, she added the finishing touches to maps drawn from aerial photographs of the Pacific islands, which she later found out were used in the invasion of Japan. After the war, and with the benefit of the GI Bill, she attended the Philadelphia Museum School, now known as the University of the Arts. She studied illustration and painting. In 1951, she married Richard G. Newman, an engineer and the roommate of one of her friends from art school. She exhibited paper mâché figures in Bergdorf Goodman window displays in New York and her paintings in galleries in Philadelphia including the Arnold Finkel Gallery in the 1960s. Her paintings were exhibited in many local galleries in southern New Jersey and in the Monadnock Region. Her paintings are also included in many private collections. Rosemary touched the lives of many of her friends, neighbors and caregivers with her good humor, sparkling laugh and generous spirit. After her death in 2014, her daughter Catherine Newman of New York City inherited her mother's art and simply ran out of space to hang it all. Her mother was a frequent exhibitor at the Jaffrey Civic Center so she contacted Regina Vorce, the Executive Director, to ask if they would be interested in a fundraiser and exhibit of her artwork. Regina and the Jaffrey Civic Center Board of Trustees agreed to accept the generous offer. They loved Ms. Newman's work and figured they could use any proceeds from sales toward the Jaffrey Civic Center Elevator Fund, which the Board has been trying to raise money for in order to provide handicapped accessible access to the second floor of the Jaffrey Civic Center for years. The Jaffrey Civic Center is grateful for the opportunity to showcase Ms. Newman's beautiful work.

(Excerpts above taken from the obituary of Rosemary Tracey Newman from the Keene Sentinel, 2014).