



the
**Goddard
Times**



GODDARD HOUSE

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

Bob Linscott will present a screening of the groundbreaking documentary, *The Connection: Mind Your Body* from 3:30-5:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

Reception for Gallery M artist Ginny Zanger at 3:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

“Grab Your Passport! Destination: Greece” will feature entertainment with Greek music by Jackie & Michelle at 3:00 P.M.

Public is welcome at all events!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Art of the Recital

with violinist *Joshua Peckins* and pianist *Elika Akahori*

Saturday, February 2, 2019

3:00 P.M. reception • 3:30-4:30 P.M. concert at Goddard House

For questions and more information, contact Patti Barrows at pbarrows@goddardhouse.org or 617-731-8500

RESIDENT PROFILE



Joan Cohen is known for her caring and energetic nature. Even though she has only been living at Goddard House for a short time, she has already made a huge impact on the associates and other residents of Olmsted. Joan

is always willing to help her friends and offers assistance to the staff as well. While she likes to participate in all the programs offered, she mentions that her favorite are music and art groups. Joan’s artistic abilities shine through, especially in her work with the Opening Minds Through Art (OMA) group.

A native of Massachusetts, Joan lived in both Newton and Brookline before eventually retiring to Arizona. A big fan of the warm weather, Joan said one of her favorite parts of Arizona was being able to be outside year-round. When I was talking with Joan, she said that one of her fondest memories was working as a Kindergarten teacher. She recalled loving working with the children and said that she wishes she could do it all over again. She is also often heard talking about her three sons who are all very important to her. We are so lucky to have such a bright and caring person with us here at Goddard House!

-Olmsted Program Assistant Kristen Cipriano

Holiday Ruminations

by Assistant Executive Director **Lance Chapman**

I spent an afternoon walking around Goddard House and asked a few people to share some of their reflections on this question:

Q: What is your favorite holiday memory or tradition?

Goddard House Resident **John K.** shared that his best memory is walking with his father each year to the Liberty Ave in Brooklyn. John recalls, "I would love to listen to him negotiate for the best price on a Christmas tree... in Yiddish no less." John's favorite holiday tradition was standing out on Hollywood boulevard each year, when he lived in Hollywood, to see the Hollywood Christmas Parade. During his West Coast years he began associating palm trees with Christmas.

Our new Executive Assistant **Heather Waldrip** remembers going with her whole family out to the Christmas tree farm each year to chop down their tree and haul it home to decorate. There was no snow for her family to trudge through, however, as she grew up in Alabama. She has photos of her sister and her down on the ground at the base of the tree with their father cutting the tree. "On the way home, we would stop for hot chocolate and candy canes," she recalls. Another tradition she enjoys is making sure the baby Jesus does not get added to the family manger scene until Christmas morning.

Our new Olmsted Wellness Nurse Manager **Alla Rumyantsev** remembers when she grew up in The Soviet Union where religious holidays were discouraged. She says, "In the Soviet Republic, we called our version of Santa Claus 'Father Frost' and his granddaughter the 'Snow Maiden.' We celebrated the New Year by the Greek Orthodox calendar on January 7th. Children were given gifts but we had to perform for the adults a song, a poem or a reading before receiving our gift. The stores only sold about five different types of gifts for children back in Russia. Dolls were treasured.

Resident **Felicia S.** remembers festive New Year's Eve parties as a teenager. "We were always trying

to be grown up back then." Felicia also recalls, "I remember all the Jewish people in the neighborhood going to the movies and then out for Chinese food on Christmas Day. We had the whole town to ourselves for one day." ❄️



*Clockwise, from top left: **Joy R.** lights the Hanukkah candles; **Sylvia P.** with Santa Claus; **Marlo S.** and her daughter at the Olmsted Holiday Party; **Doris G.** with her daughter and Santa; a group celebrates Hanukkah at the S&S Restaurant; **Clementine B.** shows off her newly made wreath; **Ethel G.** and Resident Care Director **Barbara Flynn** decorate the Goddard tree.*





More holiday fun, left to right: **Shirley B.** and **Peg S.** at the Festival of Trees; Our Dining team during the Olmsted Holiday Party: **Yves Evantus, Kenny Rivera, Jorge Najaer, Eucledes Cardoso, Ann-Marie Boswell, Gemi Gicama, Eugene Mbukanma, Andrew Sanatalucia, and Sandra Appiah;** **Mimi H.** with her daughter and son-in-law at the Olmsted Party

Benefits of Eversound

by *EnrichedLIFE* Director **Erica Curcio**

If you've walked through our community in the past few weeks and noticed residents wearing headphones, it is because in November we rolled out Eversound! This is a new and innovative hearing technology that allows residents to fully engage in life, even with hearing impairments. The headphones are connected by bluetooth to the person facilitating the program. They can also be connected to laptops, speakers and the television, making it possible to hear almost everything.

Since the introduction of this new technology we've noticed a lot of great things happen in our community. Residents living on Olmsted ask for

the headphones before a program even starts. More residents are attending programs on our traditional neighborhood. Families on Olmsted have tried this out with residents later in the disease process and have been able to reconnect with their loved ones, in a way that never seemed possible. The block of hearing impairments feels like a thing of the past with this new technology.

If you're interested in trying out the system, stop by and we will give you a listen. If you feel you or your family member could benefit from Eversound, please let us know! Contact *EnrichedLIFE* Director **Erica Curcio** at ecurcio@goddardhouse.org or Olmsted Program Assistant **Kristen Cipriano** at kcipriano@goddardhouse.org. 



Using Eversound in various settings: (left to right) **Bridgina B.** in French class; **Marilyn R.** with her daughters at the Olmsted Holiday Party; **Diane L.** and **Linda B.** during a Skype visit to the International Museum of World War II.

ASSOCIATE PROFILE



Dining Room Supervisor **Eugene Mbukanma** (pictured at left with Dining Associates Ann-Marie Boswell and Erica Maestre at Olmsted's Holiday Party) has been at Goddard House since September of

2018. Eugene loves the residents of Goddard House. He comes to work always with a smile, and is happy when the smile is returned. He finds joy in making someone's day better in whatever way possible, which is apparent in his caring approach to each person.

Originally from Nigeria, Eugene has been living in the United States for several years now. He loves the winter season here in New England and prefers the cold air in contrast to the hot weather of Nigeria. He often surprises people by being comfortable outside in cold weather without even a coat! While his favorite season is winter, he also appreciates the beauty of the fall foliage.

In answer to a question from a resident, Eugene says that his commute to work is an hour or longer, depending on traffic. When he has free time, one of the things he enjoys is watching soccer.

Eugene strongly believes that if people could try to understand one another, the world would be a better place. He feels that this is essential for peace, and dedicates himself to living his life in this way. Those who know him will agree that he truly does exactly that!

-EnrichedLIFE Assistant Rebecca Margolin

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NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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Goddard House Happenings



Above: **Agnes R., Bridgina B. and Anne Marie D.** making pumpkin mousse cups at Garden to Gourmet



Above: **Evie P.** showing off her photos of France in the 9 A.M. French class she runs on Tuesdays



Above: **EnrichedLIFE Assistant Rebecca Margolin** with **Carol A., Evie P. and Arlene W.** at the Coolidge Theater to see A Star Is Born



Above: Resident Care Associates **Elisemene Firmin and Lissa Jacques,** and Olmsted Program Assistant **Natalia van Bildereek** with **Ellie T., Karen W., Bernice Z., and Arlane L.;** left: **Harvey L.** with our PetPal Duncan

