

# The Goddard Times



November 2014 Issue

## Marie Curcio Receives Massachusetts LeadingAGE 2014 Outstanding Mentor Award

By Ginny Mazur

LeadingAge Massachusetts is the only organization representing the full continuum of mission-driven, not-for-profit providers of health care, housing, and services for older persons in Massachusetts. Their recent 2014 Annual Meeting and 60th Awards Dinner was attended by hundreds of eldercare professionals from all over Massachusetts, including a group from Goddard House.

There, LeadingAGE honored Goddard House social worker Marie Curcio, LCSW, with their state-wide 2014 Outstanding Mentor Award. In her acceptance remarks, Marie noted that she was “thrilled and humbled” to receive the award. “I’ve worked in this field for 40 years and it’s the first time I’ve received an award. For me, this is wonderful – just over the top!” Drawing from her nomination submitted by Goddard House staff, here’s what LeadingAge wrote about Marie in their program book for their annual celebration:



Elissa Sherman, Marie Curcio and Beth Vettori at LeadingAGE Massachusetts’ 2014 Annual Meeting and 60th Awards Dinner

“Marie Curcio has been in her role at Goddard House for just a year but the impression she has made has been lasting. Her experience and passion for working with older adults carries through in inspiring and educating the staff at Goddard House. A co-worker stated, “The fact that she is so genuine, compassionate and caring motivates and inspires us so that we’re not intimidated by the high standards she sets. She presents her learning seminars so that putting what she teaches into practice is within reach for us all. It is a wonderful example of all of the culture change that is happening at Goddard House.”

Some of the employees at Goddard House have even copied down her personal philosophies such as “While I’ve had many different titles in

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**Vol. 2 No. 11 – November 2014**

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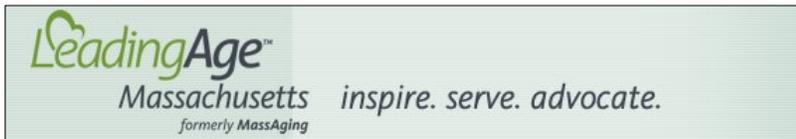
**Jennifer Bourgoin**  
Traditional Program Director



## Celebrating Marie Curcio with LeadinAGE Continued from Page 1

eldercare, I've always been a social worker and my work is always about building connections to make for effective relationships. That's what our field is all about. Everything else follows from that." It is with this caring, dignity and respect she has for the people she works with and serves that LeadingAge Massachusetts honors her with the 2014 Outstanding Mentor Award."

We are all exceptionally proud of Marie Curcio in this achievement and honored to have her as a manager at Goddard House. If you see Marie in the halls, please feel free to congratulate her on this momentous occasion.



Marie giving her acceptance speech

To learn more about LeadingAGE Massachusetts and their role in statewide not-for-profit eldercare, visit: <http://www.leadingagemass.org/>

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## Thanksgiving 2014 at Goddard House

**By Brandon Fisher**

November is notorious for signaling many things; cooler weather, the season changing from summer to fall, the leaves lose their vibrant green hues as chlorophyll escapes them in preparation for winter and of course, Thanksgiving. This holiday is famous for spending time with friends and family, giving thanks to everything we have and also eating way far too many delicious treats! At Goddard House, we always make sure to carry out these traditions. I had the pleasure of speaking with Dining Manager, Gladis Lemus, and also Food Service Director, Ken Yarovitz, to get an insider preview on what to expect for this festive holiday.

Thanksgiving is well-known for being an indulgent, beautifully decorated and very special holiday. This year will not be any different. Thursday, November 27th will kick off with a festive luncheon at 12:30pm with all of the fixings; banana bread, cranberry nut bread, butternut squash soup, roast turkey, stuffing, holiday ham, peas with pearl onions, candied yams, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, and warm spiced apple cider! The dining rooms will be decorated in Thanksgiving yellows, oranges and browns with candle-lit tables. Olmsted and Traditional residents are welcome to dine together in the main dining room. Also, Olmsted families are invited to join the celebration in the Olmsted dining room.

Family, friends and loved ones are welcome to join us but the dining staff must be notified at least two weeks in advance to ensure adequate seating. Boxed dinners will be delivered to apartments by 3:00pm, as the kitchen will be closed the evening of Thanksgiving, so that the kitchen and dining room staff can spend time with family and friends.



## **Introducing Jenna Henning—Our New Traditional Program Assistant**

**By Brandon Fisher**

### **Tell us about your upbringing and family life?**

Well, I was born and raised in Williamsburg VA. I have a younger brother, Alan, he's studying engineering at Virginia Tech and four step siblings. I grew up near the coast and would spend almost everyday in the summer by the beach and miss it dearly.

### **Where did you go to school?**

I went to the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT because after visiting the school I immediately fell in love. I always wanted to study Political Science and English so after I sat in on a couple classes I knew this was the one. Fun fact: UVM is the fifth oldest college in New England! The oldest being Harvard University!

### **Where did you work before here?**

Before Goddard House, I worked in DC at a non-profit called the Close Up Foundation and taught civics and public policy to middle school and high school students. I was in charge of coordinating and organizing trips for the students based upon the monuments around town. We'd have anywhere from 3-8 buses of students, so they were definitely large trips. On Wednesdays we would go to Capital Hill, so I had to plan all of those outings.

### **So what brought you up to Boston and to Goddard?**

My dad attended Boston University and lived in Marblehead so I was here often to see the Red Sox and friends, so I've always loved Boston. I wanted to get back to New England after DC, so I made the switch to move up here. I love working for non-profits, I did an internship in college at a non-profit called Peace and Justice Center of Vermont and then in DC at the non-profit the Close Up Foundation I mentioned earlier, so I knew that I want to stay in the non-profit sector, working with activities, events, and community programs.

### **What do you like to do outside of work?**

In my free-time, I love to do things outdoors including; swimming, running, hiking, and kayaking. Indoors I'm an avid reader, a lover of knitting, and going to concerts and shows.

### **Can you give our readers some of Jenna's words-to-live-by?**

It'll all be okay in the end. If it's not okay, it's not the end.

### **What's one thing people don't know about you?**

I want to get my PhD in public policy and positively impact the American political system, specifically in the field of gerontology.

### **What's one thing you're looking forward to working here?**

I'm looking forward to building relationships with the residents and my co-workers and also to provide creative, new programs to Goddard House.

If you have yet to meet Jenna, definitely stop her in the halls and welcome her to the Goddard House clan!



Jenna Henning

## Honoring Angela Becker

**By Judy Zacek, Community Relations Manager,  
The ARC of Massachusetts**



Angela Becker with Attorney Alex Moschella

Goddard House resident Angela Becker was recognized at The Arc of Massachusetts' Gala Dinner, held at the Westin Hotel in Waltham on Thursday, October 23rd. Angela, a longtime supporter of The Arc along with her late husband, Dan Becker, made a significant contribution to The Arc's capital campaign. The campaign is raising funds for a new headquarters building in Waltham to house The Arc's statewide organization.

The Arc of Massachusetts works to enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through advocacy of community based services and supports. They are able to accomplish these goals by helping to establish and maintain significant legislation and funding on both the state and federal levels.

## most this amazing day!\*

**By Ginny Mazur**

Goddard House and ARTZ completed our first season of *Nature Explorations in Your Own Backyard* on a picture perfect October Autumn Day. Our destination was Forest Hills Garden Cemetery in Boston's Jamaica Plain neighborhood. The foliage and walk were spectacular but another part of this trip was poetry – especially having the group recite the poems of e.e. cummings who was born in Cambridge, MA and is buried at Forest Hills. We visited the hidden, outdoor “Tree Library” – a hollow tree carved out with a copper base and roof that houses collections of Cumming's poetry. The group gave a rousing recitation of Poem 95 and Linda offered a moving rendition of I carry your heart with me. Applause to all! *Nature Explorations* returns next April with a whole new season of walks, storytelling and lunch! \*cummings was famous for never capitalizing words, including his name!



### **Poem 95**

**By e.e. cummings**

*i thank You God for most this  
amazing day: for the leaping  
greenly spirits of trees and a blue  
true dream of sky; and for  
everything which is natural which  
is infinite which is yes*

*(i who have died am alive again  
today, and this is the sun's  
birthday; this is the birth day of  
life and of love and wings: and of  
the gay great happening  
illimitably earth)*

*how should tasting touching  
hearing seeing breathing*

*any–lifted from the no  
of all nothing–human merely  
being doubt unimaginable You?*

*(now the ears of my ears awake  
and now the eyes of my eyes are  
opened)*



## From the Silver Palate Cookbook (submitted by Ginny Mazur)

### Curried Butternut Squash Soup

#### Ingredients:

- 4 tablespoons sweet butter
- 2 cups finely chopped yellow onions
- 4 teaspoons curry powder
- 2 medium-sized butternut squashes (about 3 pounds altogether)
- 2 apples, peeled, cored and chopped
- 3 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 cup apple juice
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 shredded unpeeled Granny Smith apple



#### Preparation:

- Melt the butter in a pot. Add chopped onions and curry powder and cook, covered, over low heat until onions are tender, about 25 minutes.
- Meanwhile peel the squash (a regular vegetable peeler works best), scrape out the seeds, and chop the flesh.
- When the onions are tender, pour in the stock, add squash and apples, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, partially covered, until the squash and apples are very tender, about 25 minutes.
- Pour the soup through a strainer, reserving the liquid, and transfer the solids to the bowl of a food processor fitted with a steel blade, or use a food mill fitted with a medium disc. Add 1 cup of the cooking stock and process until smooth.
- Return the pureed soup to the pot and add apple juice and additional cooking liquid, about 2 cups, until the soup is of the desired consistency.
- Season to taste with salt and pepper, simmer briefly to heat through, and serve immediately, garnished with shredded apple.
- This makes **4 to 6 portions**



# The Park School

## Intergenerational Service Projects

By Jennifer Bourgoin

In mid-October, Goddard House reestablished our partnership with The Park School, a private coeducational day school in Brookline for PreK- grade 9. Every Monday afternoon for a period of five weeks, seven students from the Park School travel on a yellow school bus to Goddard House, where they join a group of residents to work on community service projects. The program, titled “Intergenerational Service Projects,” focuses on a different type of service project each week.

In our first week, residents paired up with students to get to know each other better. Residents and students asked each other fun questions, such as “If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, who would it be?” and “Where is your favorite spot to vacation?” then reported their findings about their partners back to the group. We learned about a resident who went to the White House lawn to hunt for Easter eggs as a child and about a student who vacations in Switzerland every summer.

Following the Getting-to-Know-You session, all of our programs are dedicated to serving our community. We will bake bread to donate to the Brookline Emergency Food Bank, make jewelry to donate to a family shelter, and make holiday cards for our veterans serving overseas. Although residents and students enjoy volunteering their time and energy, the true joy comes from each other’s company. It’s rewarding to watch a resident teach a student how to bake muffins, or to watch a student high-five a resident for winning Bingo. Every Monday the students walk in and look for their “partner” from the first week and greet them with a hug or a smile. We look forward to continuing to build these relationships while serving our community simultaneously.

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## Team Goddard House Raises Over \$5,000 to Fight Alzheimer’s Disease

By Lance Chapman

For the second consecutive year Goddard House has participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. This year our team grew from 15 participants in 2013 to 32 participants this year. We are so excited to see the support for the Walk growing so quickly within our organization and we are now looking forward to getting an early start on organizing for next year. From many different sources such as Staff, Residents, Families and other generous donors we came together to raise a grand total of just over \$5,000 this year towards this worthy cause. The disease of Alzheimer’s is unfortunately on the rise and currently more than 5 million Americans suffer from this disease with a new person being diagnosed every 69 seconds.

We invite anyone reading this newsletter to get involved in raising funds for Alzheimer’s research. Do this with us so that we can work together to find better treatments or more hopefully, a cure in our lifetime. Just about anyone you meet knows someone affected by Alzheimer’s Disease. It is an affliction that knows no boundaries of race, religion or social class. It is with that understanding that we hope you will consider joining Team Goddard next year as we embark on the Walk to End Alzheimer’s 2015. Let’s set the bar higher and reach for \$7,500 next year!

**(Photos from The Walk are on Page 7)**





# Featured November Events!

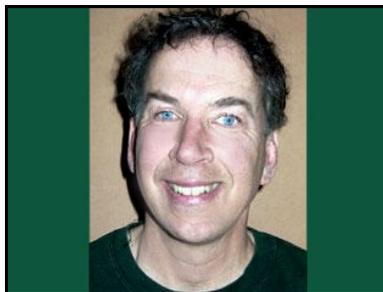
# Please Join Us!

We ask that Residents' families, friends and community guests RSVP  
by calling Jennifer Bourgoin at 617-731-8500 ext. 152



### Concert with Tom Madden Sunday, November 2nd at 3:30pm

Tom Madden has been performing on voice, keyboards, guitar, and trombone for over thirty years. When he visits us, he will be playing music from Frank Sinatra, Harry Belafonte, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin, The Temptations, and also current soft rock artists, to provide the audience a pleasant respite from the day.



### This Wonderful Place Called Massachusetts Thursday, November 13th at 11:00am

Join *Dreams Unlimited's* Michael Perry on a slide show journey through the Bay State. We'll be visiting from the Berkshires to the Cape with a wide variety of historic homes and landmarks, well known colleges, and natural beauty. Join us as we learn all about Massachusetts.



### Ari and Mia, Boston's Americana Sister Duo

Sunday, November 16th at 3:30pm

Ari & Mia, Boston's Americana sister act, reference the traditions of Southern and Northeastern fiddle music and the early American songbook to create a realm where their own compositions cross paths with older traditions. Be sure not to miss this dynamic folk duo!

## Goddard House Updates

Coming up in December will be the **Annual Holiday Party**  
The party is scheduled for **December 11th, 2014** from **5:30-8:00pm**  
At the party we will have the Figgie Pudding Carolers & Santa  
Stay tuned for more Holiday Party Updates from Goddard!

Also! Please see Brandon Fisher for **free passes to the MFA** just in time for the holidays. These passes are for entry to the exhibits, while supplies last!

For more information visit: [www.goddardhouse.org](http://www.goddardhouse.org)



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