



October 2022

Goddard Times

GODDARD HOUSE

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Phyllis Vineyard Awards Luncheon!

The winners of the 2022 Phyllis Vineyard Award will be recognized at this luncheon. There is still time to vote!

Help us recognize the 2022 stars of Goddard House by stopping by the voting station in our reception area, now through October 20th!

GODDARD SUPPORT GROUPS

Transitions Group

For Goddard House family members who are coping with the death of a loved one. Meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday.

Caregiver Education and Support Group

This group welcomes Goddard House family members. Meets monthly on the 4th Wednesday.

The above groups meet with Barbara Moscovitz, MSW virtually via Zoom from 7:00–8:30 P.M. Please contact Director of Social Services Becca Mayfield at 617-731-8500, or rmayfield@goddardhouse.org for more info.

Olmsted Family Caregiver Group

This group welcomes Goddard House family members. Meets monthly on the first Tuesday from 6:30–7:30 P.M. on Zoom. Please contact Olmsted Program Director Kristen Cipriano at kcipriano@goddardhouse.org for more info.

RESIDENT PROFILE



Irene Pejko has been a resident at Goddard House for just over two years now, after living in Naples, Florida, for almost 30 years. Irene grew up in the Massachusetts town of Stoughton, just south of Boston. She has fond memories of time spent in Dartmouth, Massachusetts raising her family, especially the delicious seafood at family gatherings!

Irene attended Tufts University, where she met her husband, Walter, a WWII veteran who had a career as a dentist. At Tufts, Irene studied biology and medicine, though her true dream was always to be an artist. Painting has been a long-time passion of Irene's, along with other art forms including photography and flower arranging. Irene has a BS and MS in biology from Tufts and an BA in art from Swain School of Design, now part of UMass Dartmouth. Her beautiful paintings are often inspired by flowers and her experience as a gardener.



Along with raising her two children, Marty and Pamela, Irene was a substitute teacher and also participated in several clubs, including the Women's Club and Garden Club. She loves to watch Westerns on television, and has a great sense of humor and outlook on life. At Goddard, Irene enjoys painting at the art programs, and listening to our musical entertainers. Last year she celebrated her 100th birthday with us! Irene, we are happy to have you at Goddard!

-EnrichedLIFE Director Rebecca Margolin

Phyllis Vineyard's Exemplary Service to Goddard House

by Director of Community Partnerships **Christine Nagle**

It's that time of year that Goddard House selects two staff members to receive the Phyllis Vineyard award for exemplary service. We sat down with Phyllis recently to learn more about her own exemplary service to Goddard House. Phyllis served on the Goddard House Board of Trustees for 20 years. When she joined the board in 1988, Goddard House was a skilled nursing facility in Jamaica Plain. Phyllis created and chaired an Ethics Committee to provide guidance in

addressing ethical issues that arise in patient care and to help facilitate sound decision making that respects patients' values, concerns and interests.

Over the years, Phyllis championed the well-being of the associates. After she retired from the board in 2011, Goddard House created the annual

Phyllis Vineyard Award for Exemplary Service. The award is granted to two exemplary employees who demonstrate excellence and commitment in service to our residents and the Goddard House Community.

When and why did you join the Goddard House Board?

I was invited to join the Board in 1988 by Barbara Grossman, who was Goddard House board president at that time. Barbara knew about my medical ethics background and my role on the ethics committee of Brigham and Women's Hospital. I had worked in medical research for 10 years, including in a Brigham and Women's research lab.



*Phyllis Vineyard (second from left) is pictured with 2021 winners Dining Associate **Gregory Dana** and Resident Care Associate **Rosemarie McNeish Waite**, along with CEO **Candace Cramer***

What was Goddard House like in the late 1980s?

At the time, all of the residents were women. Many of them had never married. Most of the care staff were women. In 1985, the business name under which Home for Aged Women, Inc. operated became Goddard House. It was during my tenure on the Board that I witnessed the first admissions of men and non-white women residents.

Many of the board members, some of whom were social workers, worked directly with the staff at Goddard House then. One board member, Mouse Rowley, ran a store on the first floor and sold items out of a cart that she would wheel around the building. She was helped by Dorinda Burrows, who was also on the board. They had a wonderful rapport with the residents.

Tell us about your passion for taking care of those who take care of others.

Social justice has always been an interest of mine. When I first came on the Board, I saw right away the strong bonds between the staff and the residents. As a result, the staff was strongly affected when residents passed away – particularly those residents without any family. So, I focused immediately on the staff because if they are happy and supported, the residents get better care. I brought in a Unitarian Minister, the Reverend Joseph Bassett, as a board member. Together we wrote a memorial service for the staff that included the opportunity to share memories and deliver readings to enable them to celebrate the residents who passed away.

What stands out to you in your 30+ year affiliation with Goddard House?

I believe that nonprofits are much more professionally run today and Goddard House is no exception. Collaboration between the board and management is the key to success. What has been consistent, however, are the priorities of making sure the residents and staff are well-treated and happy. I feel today as I did then that the staff members at Goddard House are all gifted.

Phyllis, thank you for your exemplary service to Goddard House!

Art & Culture!


Congratulations to Cecily Merrell—Now a Published Poet!

by Director of Community Partnerships **Christine Nagle**

Goddard House resident **Cecily Merrell** was chosen to read her poem, “A Spring Beginning”, at an event at the Jamaica Plain Public Library to celebrate the winners of the Creative Aging Project’s City-Wide Poetry Prompt, offered in the spring, where older adults were invited to submit original poetry based on a variety of prompts.

Cecily’s submission, and those of the other two winners, will be featured in *Boston Seniority* magazine and in a published chapbook (a collection of poetry in small book or pamphlet format) that will be distributed to the Boston Public Libraries.

Goddard House collaborates with the City of Boston’s Age Strong

Commission, and the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture to bring Creative Aging Programs (CAP)—including the Creative Aging Project’s City-Wide Poetry Prompt—to older adults throughout the City of Boston. Through CAP, Goddard House supports diverse, vibrant participatory arts programming aimed at empowering older adults to age well and remain socially connected. 



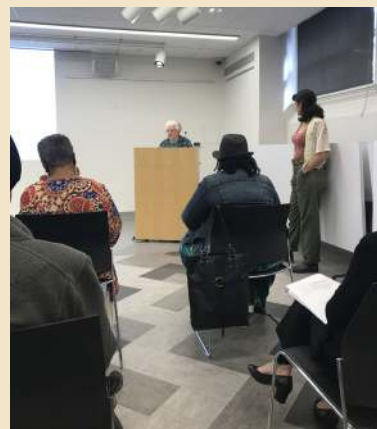
Our “Grab Your Passport! Destination: England” tea party is enjoyed by (clockwise, from bottom)

Grace M. and Mimi B.; Anne Marie D.; and Dolores N.



Clockwise, from top left: Ivy L., Kit W., Marie S., and Veronica D. view The Obama Portraits at the Museum of Fine Arts; the exhibit featured submissions from the public that featured “Portraits of Leadership”.

Margaret F. and Art Therapist Meredith Griffiths shared theirs!



Cecily Merrell at the poetry reading for the Creative Aging Project





Alzheimer's Mini-Walk!



Participating in this annual fundraising event for the Alzheimer's Association are (clockwise, from top left): **Grace M., Peggy M.,** and Olmsted Program Director **Kristen Cipriano**; **Susan F.** and her friend **Marge**; **Frances M.,** Assistant Executive Director **Lance Chapman,** Business Office Associate **Christopher Isaacs,** and **Barbara B.;** **Jewel B.;** **Arlene W. and Marie S.;** **Theresa C.** and Lead Community Relations Associate **Patti Barrows**

ASSOCIATE PROFILE



Resident Care Director **Carrie Freeman** started at Goddard House just a few months ago, and is already fitting right into the

team! Carrie is a licensed practical nurse with over 30 years of geriatric experience, with the last 15 years being in assisted living. She loves working with older adults and is excited to learn about Goddard House and its wonderful residents.

Outside of work, Carrie enjoys hiking in central Maine and going to see her friends play in their bands. She has done community theater, and she enjoys reading non-fiction, painting, and charcoal drawing. We are so excited to have someone so passionate about their position working with us! Stop by the Wellness Center and say hello!

-Olmsted Program Director
Kristen Cipriano

Volume 10 No. 10—October 2022

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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VISITORS TO GODDARD HOUSE

All visitors must first **check in** at the front desk for contact tracing purposes and **wear a mask** for your entire visit.

Thank you!