



April 2025



Goddard Times

GODDARD HOUSE

UPCOMING EVENTS

GROUPS AT GODDARD HOUSE

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 information.*

LGBTQ & Friends Conversation Group

*This monthly group is open to all. Meets monthly on the **third Thursday** at 3:30 P.M. For those who are not Goddard House residents, families, or associates, please contact EnrichedLIFE Director Rebecca Margolin at 617-731-8500 or rmargolin@goddardhouse.org for more information.*

RESIDENT PROFILE



Susan Freireich's drive to improve the lives of others led her to expansive work in education and public health. She obtained her master's at Harvard University, taught Spanish and French at an alternative high school, and English in Guatemala City and Cuba. Susan later earned her Master of Public Health, worked for the health departments of Cambridge and Somerville, and headed the Immunization Action Project, significantly raising the rates of childhood immunization.

Susan is a founder of the Cambridge-El Salvador Sister City Project. She spent extended time in El Salvador training and supporting village health workers in the war zone. This experience impacted her deeply.

Susan continued to advocate for access to health care regardless of immigration status. She was the coordinator of volunteers for the International Institute of New England, providing resources for refugees and immigrants, and wrote the Handbook for Volunteer Coordinators used by the US Department of Education. She served on the boards of several organizations including Cambridge Human Rights Commission, and was presented the City of Cambridge Peace and Justice Award.

Susan is a long-distance cyclist, and has raised funds for community health organizations. She was a hiker and contra dancer; plays the guitar, dulcimer, and banjo; and has been writing about her experiences in El Salvador and its people. Susan has two grandchildren, and is often walking outdoors. Susan, we're glad you're part of the Goddard House community!

Outreach Concert

WITH THE BROOKLINE MUSIC
SCHOOL



The Brookline Music School has generously organized an annual series of outreach concerts, performed at Goddard House by a variety of faculty members (featured above is Tomoko Iwamoto's Jazz Tapestry Trio with Billy Novick and Greg Toro). Concerts have ranged from classical piano to bluegrass, jazz and more. In addition to providing access to high-quality performances, these visits allow the Goddard House community to build connections with our musical neighbors.

Congratulations to our February Lifetime Achievement Award

Recipient Frank DiPietrantonio!

Frank DiPietrantonio had a successful career as an educator in the schools of Boston and surrounding towns, teaching English, French, and later, on Driver's Education. At Goddard House, Frank continues to be an active member of the community. He is dedicated to facilitating the weekly Rosary group and participating in Communion, helping to build a consistent group. Thank you, Frank!



Above: **Frank DiPietrantonio** is pictured with Transportation Associate **Marie Jeanty**, EnrichedLIFE Director **Rebecca Margolin**, Assistant Executive Director **Lance Chapman**, Art Therapist **Meredith Griffiths**, Olmsted Program Director **Kristen Cipriano**, Resident Care Director **Lou Auger**, and Executive Director **News-Johanne Marcellus**

The Lifetime Achievement Award Program was created in 2010 to highlight the achievements and experiences of residents in a public ceremony. Each resident is deserving of this award. The program provides an opportunity to highlight individual residents, sharing elements of their life story with fellow residents and associates to foster respect and compassion in our communities.



Congrats, Gerry!



Above: **Gerry L.** poses with his recently published book, *Marjorie to Sophia—Thirty Years of Stories*, following a reading, Q&A, and reception at Goddard House.

OPEN STUDIO

Open Studio is designed to bring out the artist within each participant, regardless of artistic background or ability. Residents create not for an audience, but as a form of self-expression, connecting with others along the way.



Above: **Phyllis B.** (left) and **Ivy L.** (right) enjoy a session of Open Studio

Every other Friday, residents can partake in *Enjoying Poetry*, a program led by fellow resident Ruth Kramer Baden. A published poet, Ruth taught poetry courses for 14 years as a volunteer at Brandeis University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (BOLLI) and at Lifelong Learners: An Independent Collaborative (LLAIC). She loves being able to bring this program to residents of Goddard House. Below is one of Ruth's poems!



Wild with Words

by Resident **Ruth Kramer Baden**

wiry witchy
wet words
spinning sinuous
tensiled taut silken
webs of words
spaded sifted
buoyant breaching
gleaming silver herring
leaping
shark fins
surfing the pacific
bells balalaikas
shtetl wails and croons
east river jazz ribbonsmooth
brooklynhometownblues
dredged plumbed
true
oh



Around Goddard



*At a recent Pizza Party! Left: **Grace M.** and Business Office Associate **Robert Holden**; above: **Linda S.**, **Carol S.**, and **Elaine S.***



*Left: **Kris R.** and **Barbie B.** participate in an Herbal Tea workshop with Green City Growers; right: **Wendy R.** and **Anne L.** are twinning!*

ASSOCIATE PROFILE



Resident Care

Associate **Mildred Connor** was born in Honduras and moved to the United States 17 years ago, around the time she had

her son. Her favorite part of living in Honduras was the close-knit community and vibrant city life; the beautiful weather didn't hurt either! Mildred's passion for caregiving began when she took care of her mother and father when they were ill, which inspired her to pursue a career in helping others. She says she really enjoys being able to help others when they need it. Now as a CNA at Goddard House, Mildred loves the friendly associates, wonderful residents, and supportive families.

In her free time, Mildred enjoys spending time with her loved ones, listening to music, and dancing. She brings warmth and positivity to everyone around her, always with a big smile on her face. We are so happy to have Mildred here with us at Goddard House!

-Olmsted Program Director Kristen Cipriano

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NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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MARDI
GRAS

Right:
Lynn L.
celebrates
Mardi
Gras!

