



December 2025



# Goddard Times

## GODDARD HOUSE

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Olmsted Family Caregiver Group

*This monthly group is open to all Goddard House resident family members.*

**Tuesday, December 9** at 6:30 P.M. on Zoom. This is a welcoming environment for families to discuss shared experiences and offer mutual support. RSVP to Olmsted Program Director Kristen Cipriano at [kcipriano@goddardhouse.org](mailto:kcipriano@goddardhouse.org).



#### Goddard House Family Holiday Party

*Each resident may invite two guests.*

**Thursday, December 11** from 4:00–6:00 P.M. Light refreshments and music by the Winiker Brothers! RSVP to the Front Desk by December 4.



#### LGBTQ & Friends Conversation Group

*This monthly group is open to all.*

**Thursday, December 18** 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](mailto:rmargolin@goddardhouse.org) for more information.

### RESIDENT PROFILE



Originally from Germany, **Elisabeth Dopazo** has also lived in England, Canada, and settled in the Brookline area with her loving husband years ago (they heard there was a Tea Party in Boston!) Elisabeth learned to speak English while working at the Old House Hotel in Windsor. She also was a cook at Eton College in England, and later worked as a teacher's aide and lecturer for 40 years.

Elisabeth was born on the border of Germany, in Saxony, where her father was a barber. During WWII he hid Jews in his basement, and when a neighbor reported him, he was arrested. After his third arrest, he was executed at the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. Her mother was arrested and imprisoned for five years, and Elisabeth and her brother were taken by police to their grandparents' in North Germany. Elisabeth recalls hating school, due to the Nazi teachers.

As a lecturer for Facing History & Ourselves, a non-profit organization that uses history and personal stories to teach about racism and bigotry, Elisabeth has shared her story many times. She has spoken at hundreds of schools, and has received thank you letters from thousands of students! She gave her talk at Goddard House this fall.

Elisabeth's philosophy is to find something to be grateful for every day. She brings an energetic spirit to Goddard House, and is always happy to engage in conversations with residents, associates, and guests. Elisabeth, we are happy you're here!

*-EnrichedLIFE Director Rebecca Margolin*

# Goddard House Shares Vision at LeadingAge National Conference

by Goddard House President & CEO **Candace Cramer**

Earlier this month, Goddard House was invited to present at the 2025 LeadingAge Annual Meeting, where organizations from across the country gather to explore the future of aging services. More than 70 people attended the session, which featured CEO **Candace Cramer**, DiMella Shaffer architect **Philippe Saad**, AIA, Board Member **DeAnne Dupont**, and resident **Barbara Bauman**, RN (ret.), sharing Goddard House's vision for the years ahead.

Barbara brought a thoughtful, firsthand perspective to the discussion of the upcoming campus renovation, reflecting on what these changes will mean for residents and daily life at Goddard House. The panel also highlighted how Creative Aging Connections, a Goddard House initiative, is expanding opportunities for creativity, connection, and community engagement for older adults both on campus and across Greater Boston.

We were thrilled to have Barbara at the table—and even more delighted to see how many attendees recognized her and spoke with her afterward. Goddard House was truly well represented! 🏔️



*Above, left: Goddard House President & CEO **Candace Cramer** presents at the conference; right: Goddard House Board Member **DeAnne Dupont**; **Candace**; DiMella Shaffer Architect **Philippe Saad**; and resident **Barbara Bauman***

## Honoring our Veterans



*Above, left: Veterans Day Pinning Ceremony with Good Shepherd Community Care; right: **Lanny J.** is recognized for his National Guard service*

On Veterans Day we honored veterans with a flag raising and a pinning ceremony led by Good Shepherd Community Care, followed by a coffee and donut social. To the veterans of Goddard House, and to all veterans, we thank you for your service and for the sacrifices you have made for our nation.

**William E.** (US Army)

**Herbert K.** (US Army)

**Roger G.** (US Army)

**Lanny J.** (National Guard)

**David L.** (US Army)

Director of Dining Experience

**David Orendorf** (US Army)

**Richard M.** (US Army)

**Gerald P.** (US Army)

**Patrick S.** (US Navy)

**John Z.** (US Navy)





# Attitude of Gratitude Tour

For Thanksgiving, we delivered pies to several local organizations to show our appreciation for the years-long relationships

we've grown with them! Pictured are Goddard House team members Robert Holden, Rebecca Margolin, Meredith Griffiths, Katrina June, Kristen Cipriano, Lance Chapman, and Marie Jeanty making the deliveries!



*Counter-clockwise, from left: deliveries to Brookline Police Department, Alder (formerly LifeCare Advocates), Brookline Senior Center, and Brookline Fire Department*



## POETRY READING

We recently gathered in our Library and attentively listened to a collection of poetry written and read by resident **Herbert Krohn**. The reading was followed by a lively reception with refreshments, dancing, and great conversations. Herbert's poems have been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *Partisan Review* (5 Poem "Discovery") and many other magazines and anthologies, including "Empowering Physicians of Harlem Hospital" and "War Poems of Vietnam Veterans."



## It's Called the Blues

*by Herbert Krohn*

The poetry of horns and drums  
will be played again this evening  
in the little box of night around the corner  
from where I live.

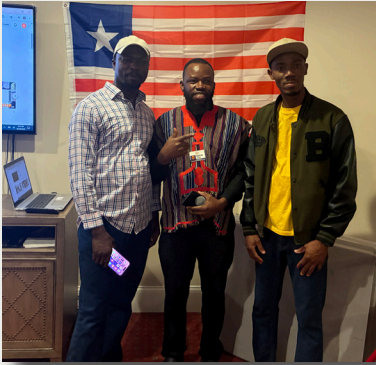
I can hear the dream quartet begin to play –  
you and me and a broken drummer  
and one whose heartstrings are a bass.

Rubadub, rubadub,  
four of us playing the blues.  
The rose is in it and the thorn,  
the girl you met once only  
and the early morning hour when you were born.  
It's called the blues  
and it can wrap your pain in rhythm,  
can sanctify your leaking boat of life,  
strange as it seems.

The poetry of horns and drums  
will be played again this evening  
in the little box of night around the corner  
from where I live.  
I'll meet you smiling there,  
there on the other side of grief  
and we will jam all night without relief.  
The voyage is difficult and long.  
The ship is sound.



## Around Goddard



*Above: A highlight of our “Grab Your Passport! Destination: Liberia” program was learning about the home country of some of our associates! Left: Housekeeping Associate **Roger Melewon**, Dining Associate **Marcus Gonyon**, and Housekeeping Associate **Edmond Gaye**; right: **Marcus** shares a slideshow about Liberia’s history and culture*



*Above: making centerpieces for Olmsted tables are (left to right): **Cecelia E.**, **Diana K.**, and **Kris R.***

## ASSOCIATE PROFILE



This September we welcomed Programming Assistant **Charlotte Cahill** as part of our Olmsted programming team. Born in Brookline, Charlotte attended Brookline High School and it’s there where she first started working with the senior population. She was a member of the school’s SHOP (Seniors Helping Older People) program which was a collaboration between Brookline High School and the Senior Center where students would run errands and grocery shop for older members of the community. After graduating from Holy Cross, she started a brief career in human resources before deciding she wanted the opportunity to work with people in a more positive setting. During her search she spent a week staying with her grandmother and that’s when she realized how much she enjoyed working with the senior population. Here at Goddard House she said that her favorite aspect of the job is being able to form connections with the residents and the creative freedom to engage the residents through topics that interest them.

Outside of work, Charlotte enjoys exploring and learning about new forms of art, with pottery being her newest focus. Charlotte, we are so happy to have you here at Goddard House!

*-Olmsted Program Director  
Kristen Cipriano*

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### NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

**Rebecca Margolin**  
EnrichedLIFE Director

**Kristen Cipriano**  
Olmsted Program Director

**Candace Cramer**  
President & CEO



ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY SUPPORT

165 Chestnut Street  
Brookline,  
Massachusetts 02445  
617-731-8500

[WWW.GODDARDHOUSE.ORG](http://WWW.GODDARDHOUSE.ORG)