



September 2026

Goddard Times

GODDARD HOUSE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Olmsted Family Caregiver Group

*This group welcomes Goddard House family members. Meets on **Tuesday, September 15** 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 on **Thursday, September 17** at 3:45 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.*

Alzheimer's Mini Walk and Family Event

Friday, September 25
from 2:00-4:00 P.M.

RESIDENT PROFILE



Meira Zedek is known for her warm personality and sense of humor. Born in Germany, her family left during WWII for Israel, where she grew up. There she attended Hebrew University, and came to the United States as part of an international student program.

She enjoyed meeting students from all over the world! She earned her PhD at Boston University, and eventually settled in Washington, DC, where she practiced psychology for many years. Meira values being able to help others through her work as a psychologist, as well as her relationships with family and friends. She loves travel, art and reading, ice cream of course, and to be around people. Meira appreciates the friendly environment at Goddard House, and that her son and daughter live nearby. She recently turned 100 and was a recipient of our Lifetime Achievement Award (*see below*). Meira, we are glad to have you at Goddard House!

-EnrichedLIFE Director Rebecca Margolin



*Programming
Assistant **Charlotte
Cahill** presents the
award to **Meira***

The Lifetime Achievement Award serves as an opportunity to highlight the life story of a resident, building connections by getting to know one another's history. We "celebrated 100 remarkable years of resilience, curiosity, dedication, and love. From Cologne to Brookline, Meira's journey has been one of courage, accomplishment, lifelong learning, and devotion to family, friends, and community. With admiration and gratitude, we honor a life truly well lived and a legacy that continues to inspire."

Our Goddard Chickens!

After several weeks indoors with constant socializing, the chickens have moved to their coop in the back garden of Olmsted. Here they receive plenty of visits and are always ready to be held and petted! Many of us were pleasantly surprised, having never held a chicken before, about how fun and soothing it is to feel their warmth, touch their soft feathers, and watch them grow. It's never too late to try something new!



Top row, left to right: **Fred G.** and **Bich N.** Bottom row: **Ruth B., Margaret K.,** Housekeeping Lead **Sheereen Hossen-Montrose,** and **Sandra K.**

Creative Connections Across Communities

by Director of Community Partnerships **Christine Nagle**

Creativity and connection came together at Goddard House last month when Jamaica Plain's Mount Pleasant Home residents visited Goddard House to experience *The Places We Carry* exhibition, currently on display. The visit brought together participants from Goddard House's Creative Aging Connections storytelling program and Masterpiece Makers art program at Mount Pleasant with Goddard House residents for an exhibition tour and a lively storytelling session led by program facilitator Marge David. Masterpiece Makers participants had a special opportunity to see their own artwork featured in the exhibition, and everyone was able to share stories inspired by its theme—memories of the places we carry with us. 



**Creative Aging
Connections**
A GODDARD HOUSE INITIATIVE



2026 GODDARD HOUSE STAR AWARDS NOMINEES

Resident Spirit: **Elisabeth D.**

Integrity:
Dining Room Supervisor
Elie Marckenley

Resident Quality of Life:
Lead Resident Care
Associate
Ruth Porter

Servant Leadership:
Director of Building
& Grounds
Cody Johnson

Rising Star:
Lead Community
Relations Associate
Ella Yarbrough

Valuing Associates:
Maintenance Lead
Marvin Gomez

STAR AWARDS!

The Star Awards offer an opportunity to highlight a few of our many exceptional associates! Recipients are nominated by residents, associates and family members. Many of our associates were nominated for these awards, and we celebrated them all at a special luncheon. It was difficult to select just one for each category! Official Goddard House nominees are listed at left.



Clockwise, from bottom left: Programming Assistant **Charlotte Cahill**, Director of Resident Support Services **Duana Ramos**, Community Relations Associate **Heaven Aguirre**, and Lead Resident Care Associate **Ileida Reis**;

Maintenance Lead **Marvin Gomez** with Executive Director **Catherine Haycock**; Dining Associates **Mohamed Koroma** and **Linda Collymore** and Resident Care Associates **Rosemarie Mcneish Waite** and **Adeline Michel**; Dining Room Supervisors **Maria Depeiza** and **Elie Marckenley**; Lead Community Relations Associate **Ella Yarbrough**





Around Goddard



Top row, left to right:
Josephine U. and Nancy E. at the ICA; **Louise H.** at the MFA. Second row: **Kris R.** reading on our deck; Resident Care Associates **Vinette Victor and Dania Rene**



enjoying our garden with **Preston M.**



Bottom row:
Nancy K. and Elisabeth D. at our annual Summer Jazz Fest

concert series; Summer Jazz with the Winiker Brothers Orchestra featuring Goddard House Assistant Executive Director **Lance Chapman** on drums!

ASSOCIATE PROFILE



Lead Resident

Care Associate

Ileida Reis brings compassion and enthusiasm for life

to each day, always

seeking ways to expand her

horizons. Born in Cape Verde, she worked in government and public service as road safety director. She spent 10 years living in Portugal, earning her undergraduate degree in management and her master's in human resources management. Wanting to get outside of her comfort zone, in January 2026 Ileida came to the US with her family to experience a new environment and culture.

At Goddard House, she enjoys making a difference in people's lives, providing care and dignity. Ileida is always ready to help, with a friendly smile! She appreciates the residents and her fellow associates, and that she has been able to improve and gain confidence in her English.

Outside of work, she likes to exercise, explore Boston's parks and museums with family, and take online courses. She believes in loving from the heart, dreaming and feeling alive; she says if you want something to happen, don't sit and wait—work hard and go find it! Ileida, thank you for sharing your kindness and positivity with all of us at Goddard House!

-EnrichedLIFE Director

Rebecca Margolin

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