

Community Partnerships

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Tufts University



Brookhaven continues to enjoy a vibrant learning partnership with Tufts University, serving as a satellite campus for the **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Tufts**. There are four semesters each year with study groups meeting on Mondays and Fridays at the Tufts campus and on Wednesdays at Brookhaven. Brookhaven residents serve on the Executive Board, Curriculum Committee and Nominating Committee and several residents regularly lead study groups for the program. Courses are numerous and have included subjects ranging from Medical Ethics, Understanding Grief and Loss, African American Poets, Baseball, World of Wine, and Bach's Mass in B Minor. In June, Brookhaven hosted the Osher LLI Annual Meeting which is open to all Osher LLI members.

Bentley University



Brookhaven became a community partner with **Bentley University's Service-Learning Center** in 2001. During the fall and spring semesters each year, students manage and participate in several academic service projects with Brookhaven residents. Included this year were Cyber Coaches (one-on-one computer tutoring/tech assistance); French Conversation Partners, Memoirs, a Spanish in Cinema series, and a Women in Film series. A group of Bentley University fraternity members also organized a paint night to support their community service mission. The intergenerational component of these projects is a win-win for everyone involved.

More Than Words



More Than Words is an organization with a mission to empower youth who are in foster care, court-involved, homeless or out of school to take charge of their lives by taking charge of a business. More Than Words began as an online bookselling training program for youth in DCF custody in 2004 and opened its vibrant bookstore on Moody St in Waltham in 2005 and added its Starbucks coffee bar in 2008. MTW replicated its model in the South End of Boston in 2011, thereby doubling the number of youth served annually. Brookhaven residents have been donating books for over 10 years. Brookhaven began an Employer Partnership with MTW in 2015 to hire and train young people who have benefitted from working at MTW. This year Brookhaven representatives attended "networking skills" events and provided a tour of Brookhaven and a "successful employment tips" workshop to students.

Brookhaven at Lexington 2016 Social Accountability Report

Community Events



LEXINGTON SCOUT SPECIAL EVENTS

In June Brookhaven was host for the **Lexington town-wide Girl Scout Bridging Ceremony**. There were about 100 participants, including troops from all over Lexington. The scouts, leaders, parents and family members were invited, as were Brookhaven residents. This is an important annual event marking the girls' achievements and their advancement to the next step in their rank in scouting. The girls included a tribute to long-time Brookhaven resident Pat Ross who was the curator of the Cedar Hill Girl Scout Museum in Waltham.



80 girls from several Lexington troops filled the stage in November when they presented a **holiday sing-along** for residents, parents and scout leaders.

Two Lexington Girl Scouts worked on a special project to earn their Silver Award. They assembled a group of talented young musicians from Lexington who participated in a **concert** at Brookhaven in December. The student musicians presented an excellent program of music from classical to jazz to a delighted audience of parents and Brookhaven residents.



A group of Lexington Girl Scouts joined Brookhaven residents in making **"Valentines for the Troops"** in January. In July, a group of Lexington cub scouts, leaders and parents joined residents to write and decorate over 200 **"Notes to the Troops"**. In October, Lexington Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Brookhaven residents decorated 900 **"Holiday Stockings for the Troops"** filled with treats. These valentines, notes and stockings were all included in care packages being sent abroad to U.S. military personnel and sent through the Pease Greeters volunteer organization in Portsmouth, NH. The Pease Greeters have operated out of the Pease International Airport since 2005 and their volunteers continue to be on hand at the airport to greet every military flight that stops there when troops are returning home or deploying.

Boys from Lexington Cub Scout Pack 137 served as the **color guard** at Brookhaven's annual Veteran's Day Observance on November 11th.

Community Groups Meet at Brookhaven

American Revolution Roundtable
Citizens for Lexington Conservation Board Meetings
F.I.S.H. Annual Meeting
Friends Quaker Meetings
Lexington Historical Society Panel Discussion
New Tricks Improv Group
South Lexington Civic Association Annual Meeting

THE OLD GUARD AT BROOKHAVEN

An outdoor performance by the **Army's 3rd United States Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)** was part of the Patriot's Day celebration in Lexington. Members of the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps and Commander-in-Chief's guard demonstrated the precision and discipline embodied in Army Soldiers for over 239 years on the Battle Green. The guard members enjoyed lunch at Brookhaven following the demos and they returned on Patriot's Day to present a special concert for Brookhaven residents.

GEAR TICKS

In November Brookhaven once again hosted the **Gear Ticks** from Lincoln, MA for a "Bristlebot" workshop to make tiny robots which are fun to make and play with. Residents enjoyed the opportunity to interact with these creative young people and take away a kit to share with a grandchild! The Gear Ticks are a Lincoln High School robotics team that competes in the FIRST Tech Challenge competition designing and constructing a robot each year.



COMFORT QUILTERS

Brookhaven provided our Auditorium for the **Comfort Quilters** group in April and December. The Comfort Quilters is dedicated to providing comfort by making and giving quilts and teddy bears to children and adults in need. Recipients include children in NICU's, foster care, and hospitals and families in homeless shelters, work preparation programs and veteran's hospitals. Over 80 volunteers attended the workshops, including many Brookhaven residents.



TEMPLE EMUNAH

Rabbi David Lerner and Rabbi Michael Fel from **Temple Emunah** held a series of lively discussion groups in November and December in Brookhaven's Auditorium. **Minyan Katan's Rosh Hashanah services** was held at Brookhaven in October with 75 members attending service and enjoy lunch. Minyan Katan is a lay-led egalitarian Jewish prayer group affiliated with Temple Emunah in Lexington. Students from Temple Emunah's religious school, along with their teachers, presented a **Hanukkah celebration** for residents in December.

MASSACHUSETTS LIFE CARE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Brookhaven hosted the 2016 Massachusetts Life Care Residents Association (MLCRA) meeting in May. MLCRA is a state wide volunteer organization of residents living in Life Care/Continuing Care communities. The keynote speaker was the Massachusetts Secretary of Elder Affairs, Alice Bonner.

Brookhaven Reaches Out to the Community

LEXINGTON COMMUNITY SENIOR WELLNESS FAIR

Brookhaven once again organized a **Lexington Community Senior Wellness Fair** which was held in October at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum. This event was sponsored through a generous grant from the Dana Home Foundation and was an opportunity for Lexington seniors to talk to and interact with a variety of not-for-profit providers offering resources and support to encourage healthy, active aging. Over 150 seniors attended and enjoyed the opportunity to get their flu shot and attend a luncheon featuring Senator Mike Barrett and Robin Lipson, Chief Strategy Officer for the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, who engaged in a question and answer session regarding State resources for seniors.



PROJECT STEP (String Training and Education Program)

The Brookhaven Friends of Music sponsored a performance by **Project STEP musicians**. Project STEP was founded by members of the Boston Symphony and offers musically talented young musicians of color the opportunity to develop skills through expert teaching, parental support, and personal dedication.

CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

In February, a group of **Clark Middle School** students visited Brookhaven Assisted Care residents and taught the residents how to make beautiful paper flowers to celebrate Valentine's Day. The students brought decorated vases to put the flowers in and it was a wonderful intergenerational event.

THE LEXINGTON CHORALE

The Lexington Chorale enjoys membership of about 50 singers and rehearses in Brookhaven's Auditorium every Tuesday afternoon. The Lexington Chorale includes members from Lexington and the surrounding communities, including many Brookhaven residents. The Chorale performed concerts at Brookhaven, the Lexington Community Center, and the Bedford Council on Aging. The Chorale also hosted Lexington's **SNAP Choruses** for a heart-warming joint musical program in early November. The **SNAP (Special Needs Arts Program) Choruses** are part of a multidisciplinary arts organization based in Lexington for people with special needs.

LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB

Brookhaven has hosted Lexington Rotary Club meetings, donated food for the annual **Lexington Senior Cookouts** sponsored by the Rotary Club, and helped to deliver "**Sand for Seniors**".