

Elenore Parker, Media Relations Director,  
Brookline Community Aging Network  
[eparker@parkerjames.com](mailto:eparker@parkerjames.com)  
617-383-5520  
[www.BrooklineCAN.org](http://www.BrooklineCAN.org)

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#### SONIA WONG, SYLVIA AND RALPH MEMOLO AND MICHAEL OATES HONORED BY BROOKLINE COMMUNITY AGING NETWORK

The Brookline Community Aging Network (BrooklineCAN) recently honored four Brookline residents for their voluntary contributions to the community at its annual reception, July 18.

Sonia Wong received the Member of the Year award for her selfless, behind-the-scenes work in coordinating and maintaining membership lists and overseeing various mailings sent to members over the year.

Sylvia and Ralph Memolo were honored for their roles as co-chairs of the Communications committee, which encompasses producing a monthly newsletter, providing website content, overseeing media relations, and developing brochures, posters, and displays.

Michael Oates, was named BrooklineCAN Innovator of the Year for his technical proficiency in developing the concept and format for the monthly newsletter and other electronic communication approaches.

Nearly 75 current and prospective members braved a raging lightning storm striking Brookline as the reception started. They enjoyed light refreshments, received prizes, and had an opportunity to meet their neighbors and learn more about the organization's accomplishments.

The mission of BrooklineCAN is to help older residents remain in their homes and be fully engaged in the life of the community. Recent accomplishments include the design of two online guides. One guide directs visitors to [one-floor living](#) that identifies condos and apartment buildings with elevators and the other guide points out [public restrooms](#) throughout the town. The organization also worked to obtained property tax relief for low-income elders and supported caregivers in procuring permits to park for more than two hours.

The Brookline Community Aging Network is a town-wide initiative that welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds who wish to support older residents in remaining a vital part of the community. The Network's website, <http://www.brooklinecan.org/>, is the focal point of the organization.

More than 400 people have become members of BrooklineCAN since its launch in April 2010. Annual Membership is \$25 for an individual and \$50 for a household. Membership benefits include a [monthly newsletter](#), [discounts from town businesses](#); information about preferred contractors and [service providers](#); educational forums; and involvement in an intergenerational [volunteer network](#). In addition, members have the opportunity to join [advocacy efforts](#) on issues related to independent living.

For more information, call 617-730-2777, email [info@brooklinecan.org](mailto:info@brooklinecan.org), or visit the website at [www.BrooklineCAN.org](http://www.BrooklineCAN.org).

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