

# Happenings

Fall 2019

Glacier Hills  
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ST. JOSEPH MERCY  
SENIOR COMMUNITIES  
[www.glacierhills.org](http://www.glacierhills.org)

## Child Development Center Benefits All Generations

The Ann Arbor YMCA Child Development Center (CDC) at Glacier Hills has been operating for a few months and its unique location in a senior community has already had a positive impact on the lives of residents. Among the many examples she could share, CDC Director Melissa Goings said there were two that she found particularly poignant.



Melissa Goings, right

In the first example, on a rainy day, the children and their teacher walked through the building to see the birds in the sunroom of the Dobson Life Enrichment Center. On their way, they passed a physical therapist working with a resident. After spending some time at the bird enclosure the teacher noticed that the same resident and her physical therapist were standing outside the sunroom. The children waved as they exited the room and the teacher thanked the therapist for her patience as she rounded up the kids. The therapist said, “No, thank you! You guys are the reason that she decided to walk this far. She wanted to see the children. This is the farthest she’s walked since starting therapy, so thank you.”

The second interaction involved a resident couple who asked if they could come in and observe the children for a while. They stayed for half an hour and seemed to enjoy themselves. Later that day the teacher encountered the gentleman in the hallway and they started a conversation. He explained that his wife was a resident in

the memory care unit at Glacier Hills, but prior to her developing dementia, she was an Early Childhood Educator. He related that he spent every day with his wife in the years that she has been living in the memory care unit, and in the time that she had been there, he has never seen her smile and laugh the way that she did during the 30 minutes she spent in the CDC classroom.

Melissa and her team at the Child Development Center are inspired and gratified by the benefits of working within an inter-generational learning center. As the director, Melissa’s background ensures she feels right at home running a Child Development Center within a senior living community.

Melissa began her career as a social worker by working with emotionally and physically impaired children. She then took a position with the Medicaid waiver program and coordinated care for seniors who were aging in place. After finishing her degree in early childhood education at Baker College she became a certified preschool teacher. She spent the last five years with Head Start where in her role as education supervisor she oversaw 11 classrooms in Jackson County. Melissa was hired by the Ann Arbor YMCA in March 2019 to lead their new site at Glacier Hills, where she laughs as she reports she helped put together the furniture in addition to the curriculum.



# From the Chair

Dear Friends,

As the Fall Season draws to an end and the holidays approach, it is a great time of the year to reflect on the reasons we have to give thanks. I marvel at all of the events that take place on our campus and in the community celebrating our colleagues, residents, families, and future residents. These events strengthen the mutual love and regard we have for those we serve, furthering our ability to fulfill our mission at Glacier Hills. The festive season is an ideal time to express our gratitude to the Glacier Hills family and to our friends and supporters in the wider community.

In recent months, we have opened several new areas on our campus:

- Our YMCA Child Development Center opened in July. This is a joint effort by the YMCA and Glacier Hills to offer childcare and development for families of our staff. It also provides an opportunity for our residents to interact with children in a beautiful setting.
- The Glacier Hills Clinic also opened this summer. Our Clinic offers primary care and specialist appointments for our residents, with physicians from both IHA and Michigan Medicine, without leaving the building.
- Finally, our new outside Zen Garden on the third floor of the Manor building allows direct access to a beautiful outdoor setting for all of our residents, but especially our assisted living residents who are nearby. If you haven't seen this beautiful garden setting, please ask for a tour.

Every day, I hear from our residents about their love and respect for the Glacier Hills colleagues who support them. Through donations received by our Glacier Hills Foundation, we are able to support our colleagues as they continue their education and advance in their careers. Thank you to our Glacier Hills Foundation board of directors and our donors.

Each year we embrace the community's annual Alzheimer's Association Walk. This is a special event for us because memory loss eventually affects many of the residents we serve on our campus. Please consider supporting the Alzheimer's Association and joining our team next year for this meaningful event.

During the holiday season, the Board of Directors and I are even more honored to be a part of the Glacier Hills community. Please enjoy this special time with your family and friends. Happy Holidays and I wish you a peaceful New Year!

*Dale Berry*

Board Chair, Glacier Hills



## A Dream Fulfilled – Zen Garden Grand Opening

It was standing room only when residents, colleagues, and volunteers gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the Zen Garden on the third floor of the Manor at Glacier Hills. Funded through Glacier Hills and the Glacier Hills Foundation, delays and construction challenges brought a host of additional expenses.

Manor residents Bob and Mae Carter had been living at Glacier Hills for several years and were long-time advocates for the project. They often talked about how nice it would be to create a Japanese-style meditation garden, like the one they used to have at their own home. It was thanks to their persistence and generosity that the project was completed.

The grand opening was the ideal opportunity to honor Bob and Mae Carter and they were delighted to cut the red ribbon at the event. In his remarks, Interim President and CEO Dale Berry saluted the many Foundation board members, residents, families, and staff who helped fulfill this dream.

We are saddened to relate that Bob Carter passed away shortly after the Grand Opening celebration. It is an honor to have the Zen Garden as part of his legacy, representing his lifelong dedication to world gardens and cultures.



Dale Berry and Bob Carter



Mae Carter

# Fall Festival



The Glacier Hills Community Fall Festival took place on a glorious autumn day in October. Attended by more than 300 residents, future residents, colleagues, and community members, guests enjoyed seasonal foods, family activities, and festive music.



## Grant Awards Support High-Quality Programs

Autumn is a special time of year, especially at the Glacier Hills Foundation! This is the season when they announce the Annual Endowment Grant Awards for the following year. This round, awards totaled \$114,400, funded through a combination of General Endowment funds and the Double The Impact grant from the Campus Fund.

“I can’t emphasize enough how much we depend on these funds to deliver outstanding Life Enrichment programs,” said Priscilla Johnson, Life Enrichment Coordinator.

Priscilla continues, “This funding has brought so much pleasure to our residents through programs such as the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock event on August 16. Thanks to support from the Foundation and the Marketing Department, we hosted over 100 people on the back patio of the Meadows. The event capped off a week-long retrospective of the 1960s, which included speakers about the art in the ’60s, the Beatles, and vintage films. Another spectacular concert was the Season Opener on Friday, September 6. Aaron Berofsky and Kathryn Votapek, both professors of violin at the University of Michigan, brought six talented young musicians for a classical music performance attended by 113 residents and guests.”

“We could not support these wonderful programs without the tremendous generosity of our donors,” said Becky Pazkowski, Executive Director of the GH Foundation. “We are very grateful for them.”



## Insights Reveals the Fascinating Lives of Residents

*Insights* is an exciting new program offered once a month to employees and every other month to residents. We all have a story to tell, and it is through sharing our stories that we build community, understanding, and compassion. Each offering features a resident speaker who shares insights and anecdotes about their life. Previous speakers include Burt Voss, Tom Collier, John Brueger, and Judith Laikin Elkin; video recordings of these presentations can be found in News & Events on our website.

## New Scholarship Awards Change Lives

We often say that our staff is our most important resource, but it’s even better when we can show them how we truly feel. One of the ways we do that is through our Employee Assistance programs. This year we are delighted to announce that over \$64,000 was donated to our Employee Support appeal, specifically designed to support educational scholarships, emergency support, and Child Development Center tuition subsidies. We could not have done this without the extraordinary generosity of our Foundation donors.

On August 1, we celebrated our employee scholars and donors at the Annual Scholarship Luncheon. Attended by more than 75 people, we awarded 20 scholarships totaling \$51,724, an increase of \$7,000 over last year. Scholarship recipients came from a variety of departments and we salute them all: Emily Abela, Amanda Archer, Cindy Barcelon, Andrew Birchler, Christopher Bryant, Jenieve Butler, Aqilah Campbell, Kasey Corbin, Esperanca De Abreu, Value Ewansubhor, Gabriel Hassan, Delorean Kinney, Wei Luo, Rati Patni, Quanesha Rodgers, Angela Theisen, and Manuela Yost.

# Campus Medical Clinic Provides Personalized Care

*Happenings* newsletter is published four times a year by the marketing and communications department of Glacier Hills Senior Living Community and the Glacier Hills Foundation.

Dale Berry  
*Interim President &  
Board Chair of Glacier Hills*

AnnMarie Satterlee  
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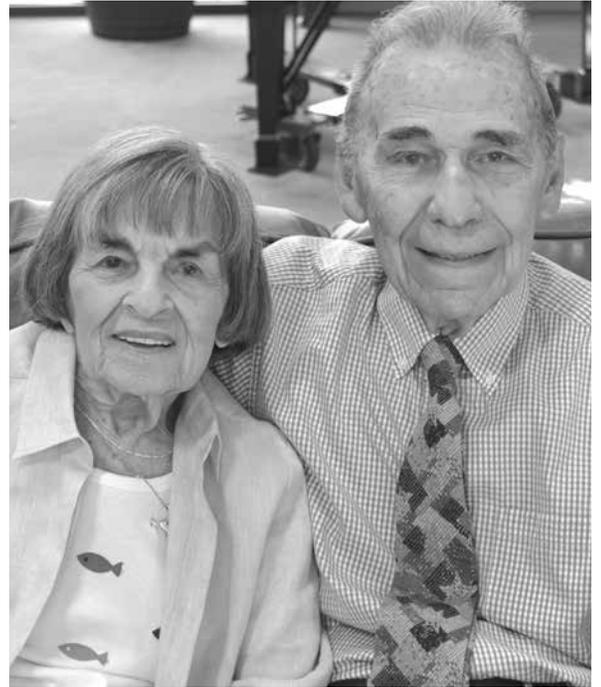
Jamie LaLonde  
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Becky Pazkowski  
*Executive Director, Glacier  
Hills Foundation*

Jennifer Bartscht  
*Regional Sales Director for  
Trinity Health  
Senior Communities*

Emily Abela  
*Sales Manager*

It's not unusual for the physicians at the Glacier Hills medical clinic to field questions from patients and their family members, especially after a health event or procedure. "We offer the convenience of not needing to travel off campus for primary health care. In addition, we are familiar with the resources available within the Glacier Hills community, such as therapies and nursing services," commented Cheryl Huckins, MD, one of the two part-time internists working at the clinic. She continued, "If there is a reaction to a medication or a patient needs to be evaluated for new care needs, we can take care of that quickly and efficiently with in-house resources. That means our patients, and their families, spend much less time and energy securing follow-up care."



Ruth and Joe Dresner

Since opening in its specially-constructed location in May, the demand for services has been steadily growing. In order to receive care from the clinic, residents need to name one of the clinic's physicians as their primary care provider (PCP).

Dr. Shen Dewar can coordinate the patient's care throughout the University of Michigan or Dr. Huckins through the Trinity Health Systems.

The community paramedic program through Huron Valley Ambulance can provide some treatment options, such as intravenous fluids for urgent situations and hopefully avoid a trip to the emergency room.

Villa residents Joe and Ruth Dresner were excited to choose Dr. Huckins as their PCP when their internist retired. They've been very pleased with the personalized care they receive as well as the convenience of not having to drive to the doctor's office for lab tests and follow-up appointments. "Cheryl likes to see us every 12 weeks so it's easy to get our care," explained Joe. "We get our test results right away and Dr. Huckins can always be paged if needed. She keeps good track of us!" added Ruth.

Having a state-of-the-art clinic has significantly enhanced the outpatient medical services that are provided on campus. Specialty medical providers have regular hours and the appropriate equipment to deliver care, including services for optometry, dentistry, podiatry, and audiology. The facility is tailored to the specific needs of geriatric patients, providing top-notch care in a personalized and accessible setting.

# Glacier Hills

A member of  
ST. JOSEPH MERCY  
SENIOR COMMUNITIES

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## Alzheimer's Association Walk

The Glacier Hills Team at the 2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's – Washtenaw County was held at the Michigan Stadium. The Walk raised more than \$200,000 for the local chapter and Trinity Health was a proud corporate sponsor.