

## Connecting Staff, Residents, Families, and Friends

### Upcoming Events

#### Annual Tree Lighting

Celebrate the holiday season with us on **Friday, December 6, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** Enjoy an evening of lights and community on the campus of the German Centre.



#### Happy Halloween!

This Halloween morning, we were delighted to welcome over 250 elementary and middle school students from St. Theresa of Avila School in West Roxbury for their annual Halloween Parade at the German Centre. Residents gathered in the hallways, eager to admire the students' imaginative costumes and receive their hand-made cards. The joy on everyone's faces was contagious, and our residents are already looking forward to next year's parade! Visit [WCVB.com](http://WCVB.com) to see the full news coverage of this story and see some of our Senior Place participants speak!



### Organizational Updates

As we approach the holiday season, residents, patients, and participants at the German Centre continue to thrive and stay engaged. Autumn and winter are always exciting times here, filled with events, visits from local students, and much more! Recently, residents had the pleasure of welcoming students from the Commonwealth School Quartet, who gave them a live performance. These visits are always a highlight, our community looks forward to more events and visits like this in the coming months.



For the past several weeks, the German Centre has been hosting the 'Matter of Balance' program in the Holtzer Auditorium, offering valuable resources to seniors in the community. Created by the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative, this program is designed to help older adults in Massachusetts reduce their fear of falling. Participants learn practical strategies to stay active, set achievable goals, and make their environments safer with the overall goal of boosting confidence and reducing fall-related risks. To learn more about the 'Matter of Balance' program and other resources offered by MHAC, visit: [mahealthyagingcollaborative.org](http://mahealthyagingcollaborative.org).

November marks Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. This is a time for our community to come together in support of those affected by memory loss. Recognized by the iconic purple ribbon, this month is especially close to our hearts at the German Centre, where we care for many individuals living with Alzheimer's and other memory loss disorders. At the German Centre Home, Edelweiss Village, and Senior Place, our dedicated staff undergoes specialized training to provide compassionate care to those with memory loss. Join us this month as we raise awareness and show solidarity in the fight against Alzheimer's Disease.

### Employee of the Month



This month, we are very proud to highlight Bernadette "Bernie" Andrisse, a dedicated Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) who has been a cornerstone of the German Centre for over 30 years. Known for her unwavering compassion, Bernie consistently goes above and beyond in her care for her residents.

Bernie's kindness and dedication has earned her the admiration of families, many of whom specifically request her to take care of their loved ones. The positive impact she has made on our residents, their families, and our staff is immeasurable. Bernie's presence and commitment to creating a caring environment has enriched our community, and we are deeply grateful for the lasting legacy she continues to build at the German Centre. Join us in congratulating Bernie this month!

### Welcome to the German Centre!

**Marvensly Demeille**

RCA

**Ngozi Dominic**

Registered Nurse

**Kendy Rodriguez**

CNA



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### Deutsches Altenheim Foundation

#### Thank You to Our Sponsors!

On October 26, the German Centre hosted the second event in our bi-annual speaker series. Thanks to our very generous corporate sponsors, we were able to host a very informative event with our community.

**Deutsches Altenheim  
Board of Trustees**

**Lance Jayne**



#### Impact Through Giving

As we approach the end of another year, we at the German Centre reflect on the incredible support from our community that has enabled us to care for seniors with compassion, respect, and excellence. This season of giving is a time when we look forward to continuing our mission of providing the highest quality care and creating a home-like environment for our residents.

Thanks to our donors, we have been able to expand our programs, enhance our facilities, and introduce new services that uplift both our residents and their families. From music therapy to specialized Alzheimer's care, your contributions empower us to offer programs that truly make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

As you consider your year-end giving, we invite you to remember the German Centre. Your tax deductible gift- no matter the size- has a powerful impact. It could support essential services, fund facility improvements, or provide scholarships for our dedicated nursing assistants. Every dollar you give is a direct investment in the well-being of seniors and the future of senior care.

Thank you for your continued generosity. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of seniors and their families. Let's finish this year strong and ensure 2025 brings even more comfort, care, and community to our cherished residents.

#### Ways to Give

- **Online:** [dafboston.org/donate](http://dafboston.org/donate)
- **Mobile:** Scan the QR Code
- **Phone:** Call us at 617-390-3217



**Thank You for Your Support!**

### Celebrating Veterans at the German Centre

At the German Centre, we are proud to care for over 30 veterans across our three entities. Each day, we are honored to provide specialized care that meets the unique needs of these veterans, who continue to be a cornerstone of our organization.

On Monday, November 11, we gathered in the main lobby for our annual Veterans Day Celebration, a heartfelt event organized by Carol Kelly. This special occasion showcased the deep admiration and respect we have for our veterans and their legacies. This event was attended by a large audience, including several distinguished speakers who offered touching tributes. We were honored to hear from Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, District Attorney Kevin Hayden, Senator Mike Rush, State Representative Bill MacGregor, Lord Mayor Richard Gormley, The West Roxbury Honor Guard VFW 2902, Captain Warren Hoppie of the West Roxbury Police Department, Boston City Counselor Ben Weber, Age Strong Commissioner Emily Shea, Veterans Services Commissioner Robert Santiago, Reverend James Butler, and Commander Sergeant Major Michael Murphy.

In addition to these inspiring speeches, we enjoyed hearing moving performances of *The National Anthem* by the Roxbury Latin Latonics and *God Bless America* by Grant Fisher. Each speaker and performer paid tribute to those who have served and continue to serve. For full event coverage, please visit

[WCVB.com](http://WCVB.com).



#### Supporting Veterans as They Age

We currently hold a partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (the VA) through our Adult Day Health Program at Senior Place. Adult Day Health Care is part of the VHA Standard Medical Benefits Package, so all enrolled veterans are eligible for full or half-day Adult Day Health Care if they meet the clinical need. To learn more about enrolling in Adult Day Health at Senior Place, please contact Beth Caruso at [mcaruso@germancentre.org](mailto:mcaruso@germancentre.org). You may also reach out to your VA social worker for additional information.

#### In Loving Memory

**Constance Leigh, Schrafft Pavilion**  
**Mary Sheehan, Anna Bauer Place**  
**Leo White, TCU- Sally Matthew's Wing**

*The German Centre family extends our deepest condolences to the families and friends of these wonderful residents. They will always hold a special place in our hearts.*