

## Connecting Staff, Residents, Families, and Friends

### Organizational Updates

#### Xaverian Brothers Students Make a Difference at German Centre



On February 28, German Centre welcomed 29 eighth-grade students from Xaverian Brothers High School for their 8th Grade Day of Service. Spreading out across our community, from Edelweiss Village to German Centre Home and Senior Place, the students brought energy, enthusiasm, and a spirit of giving.

Throughout the day, students engaged with residents in meaningful ways, whether by assisting with activities, sharing conversations, or simply offering a warm presence. Their visit brightened the day for many, creating connections across generations and reinforcing the importance of compassion and service.

For the students, the experience provided a valuable lesson in empathy and community engagement. Witnessing firsthand the joy that small acts of kindness can bring, they left with a deeper appreciation for senior care and the power of human connection.

Thank you to Xaverian Brothers High School for making a difference! We look forward to welcoming the students back in the future and continuing to create opportunities for young people.



#### The Power of Music: Celebrating Music Therapy Month

March is Music Therapy Month, a time to celebrate the profound impact of music on healing, comfort, and connection. At German Centre, our Music Therapy Program continues to bring moments of joy and relief to our residents.



At the heart of this program is Lauren Kaufman, MT-BC, our dedicated board-certified music therapist. With extensive experience in memory care, rehabilitation, and neurologic music therapy, Lauren uses personalized music interventions to support residents in ways that go beyond words. Whether it's through rhythm-guided breathing, lyric recall, or interactive instrument play, Lauren's sessions provide a source of emotional expression, relaxation, and even physical healing.



As we celebrate Music Therapy Month, we extend our gratitude to everyone who has supported this program. Thank you!

### Staff Member Highlight



This month, we are thrilled to recognize **Juleissy Marciano**, Schrafft Pavilion's Activities Director, for her outstanding dedication to our residents, families, and staff.

Juleissy's warmth, creativity, and compassion bring joy and connection to every resident. Whether through organizing themed activities, or creating personalized moments of engagement, she enriches lives with kindness and care.

Her colleagues and families praise her for going above and beyond to foster dignity, purpose, and a true sense of belonging for those with memory loss.

**Congratulations, Juleissy!**

#### Welcome to German Centre!

**Deshawna Green**

Receptionist

**Serge Theodore**

LPN

**Jennifer Anne Sophie Leneus**

CNA

**Samara Saty Charles**

LPN

**Joan Sullivan**

RN



*Connecting Staff, Residents, Families, and Friends***Deutsches Altenheim Foundation****Support German Centre:  
Our March Appeal Is Underway!**

This month, we are sending out our annual March appeal, and we invite you to be part of something truly meaningful. Your generosity helps sustain the compassionate, high-quality care that defines German Centre, a place where seniors find comfort, dignity, and unwavering support every day.

Dr. W. Cristo, Jr., whose story is featured in this appeal, experienced this care firsthand. As a physician, he had spent years treating patients in nursing facilities across Boston, but when he became a patient at German Centre, his perspective changed.

"I thought I understood compassionate care," he shared. "But the kindness, attention, and personal support I received here were beyond anything I expected. It made all the difference in my recovery."

Dr. Cristo's gratitude moved him to give back, ensuring others receive the same level of exceptional care. Now, we ask you to join him.

Your support directly funds vital programs, enhances facilities, and ensures every resident and patient receives the individualized care they deserve.

Will you help us continue this important work? Making a gift is easy. Visit [dafboston.org/donate](http://dafboston.org/donate) to give online. Whether a one-time donation, a recurring gift, or an employer-matched contribution, every dollar makes an impact.

Give today and help provide the compassionate care that transforms lives. Thank you for your generosity!

**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!**

**Resident Highlight****A Love That Endures: Joe & Nancy's Story**

For more than 60 years, Joe and Nancy Martin built a life full of love, laughter, and adventure. They first met as classmates at Jamaica Plain High School, graduating together in 1957. Together, they raised three wonderful children and created countless cherished memories traveling, camping, and celebrating life's many milestones.

Nancy had a gift for bringing warmth and joy around her. She was a talented crafter, known for organizing church and school craft fairs and making beautiful Christmas wreaths. But perhaps her most beloved creations were the delicious dishes she prepared. She had a passion for sharing recipes, always eager to spread her love through food.

For over a decade, Joe lovingly cared for Nancy at home as she navigated the challenges of dementia. As her condition progressed and she became unable to walk or care for herself, Joe made the difficult but necessary decision to move her to German Centre. In June 2021, she was admitted to the Transitional Care Unit before moving into Schrafft Pavilion.

Joe, ever the devoted husband, visits her every single day. He finds comfort in the friendships he's built here. He speaks with deep appreciation for the entire staff—the Activities team, CNAs, and nurses—who care for Nancy with kindness, patience, and skill. "The staff here is terrific," Joe says. "I see the love and dedication they bring to their work every day."

Music remains a special part of Joe and Nancy's connection—her face lights up when Joe sings to her, serenading her with classics from Judy Garland, Nat King Cole, and Frank Sinatra.

Joe's advice to other families facing similar journeys? "No one ever wants to make this decision, but when you can no longer provide the care your loved one needs, a place like German Centre becomes the best choice."

Joe and Nancy's story is one of love, devotion, and resilience—a reminder that even in life's hardest moments, love shines through.

**In Loving Memory**

**Barbara Guariano**, Edelweiss Village  
**Kevin Hamrock**, TCU  
**Donna Manion**, TCU  
**Lorraine Troilo**, Schrafft Pavilion  
**Maureen Twohig**, Anna Bauer Place



*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.*