

# Happenings

## Donors and Employee Scholars Celebrate "Respect"



Alisha Preston on her first day as a registered nurse

When asked what the word Respect meant to them, attendees at the 2018 Annual Scholarship Luncheon had a lot to say. "Care and consideration of yourself and others," one person said while another suggested we sum it up with "peace and goodwill toward all." Filled to capacity, the Hanson Room at Glacier Hills buzzed with inspiration as donors and staff gathered to honor scholarship donors and 34 employee scholars.

Scholarship recipient Alisha Preston credits her 2017 scholarship award with helping her finish her nursing degree sooner than she could have on her own. Alisha started at Glacier Hills in 2013 as a certified nursing assistant.

*"Respect yourself enough to reach out for help when you need it."*

– Scholarship Committee Chair Mary Ann McDonald,  
inspired by Aretha Franklin

When she decided to become a registered nurse, Glacier Hills changed her job responsibilities by putting her on the reception desk and adjusted her hours to support her curriculum schedule. In a meaningful turn of events, one of Alisha's first patients as a newly-minted R.N., was the wife of the couple whose named scholarship had helped her finish her education.

Gabriel Hassan has received five scholarship awards as he pursues his goal of becoming a registered nurse. Born in Ghana, Gabriel helped his mother nurse his father before he died. He understands the sorrow and challenges that life can bring, and speaking at the Scholarship Luncheon, cites his Glacier Hills supervisor, Yemi, with encouraging him to use education as the means to achieve his goals. She taught him to believe in himself and that the most important step is to start.

The Scholarship Program works in concert with the Trinity Health tuition reimbursement program. These two funding sources invest in our Trinity Health colleagues to support employee education and professional development.

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# The President's Message

From Reed VanderSlik

Dear Friends,

Celebrating Thanksgiving always makes me reflect on how fortunate we are at Glacier Hills. Our colleagues are one of the main reasons we are so successful and I am truly grateful. The relationships that are forged with residents, families, Board Members and peers makes Glacier Hills a very special place to work and live. We honor our Mission by continuing to cultivate these wonderful relationships.

Highlighted in our fall newsletter is an update on our two major campus projects, the Clinic at Glacier Hills and the Child Development Center. Both of these initiatives will enhance our residents and colleagues lives. The Clinic at Glacier Hills and Child Development Center will continue to make Glacier Hills a choice place to call home for current and future resident and choice employer in the Ann Arbor market/area.



The Clinic at Glacier Hills will cut down on office wait times, eliminate driving to appointments for residents and help build community. Our residents are excited to have access to both scheduled and walk-in appointments within a short walk or elevator ride. The Child Development Center at Glacier Hills will offer superior childcare onsite for colleagues' children and create volunteer and life enrichment opportunities for our residents. Both the Clinic and Child Development Center at Glacier Hills will continue to create a better campus culture and legacy for generations to come.

We have many shining stars within our community that are devoted to making a difference in our residents and guests lives. Our Colleagues, are the reason we are so successful and help us continue with our Mission and Vision. We are excited to announce a perfect attendance award for our colleagues. The new perfect attendance award will allow colleagues with perfect attendance to be eligible for several different grand prize vacations or trip options shortly after the end of our fiscal year. We honor our dedicated colleagues, who do continuous work and don't always receive the recognition they deserve.

The Foundation hosted its annual scholarship luncheon, November 9, 2018 which is a special event that honors scholarship supporters and recipients together. As always I am in awe of the stories shared around our luncheon tables and our donor's commitment to continuing education and self-improvement. We have highlighted Alisha Prescott, RN, in this article to show the success of our colleagues who take advantage of the scholarship program.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Happenings and feel inspired in the New Year. On behalf of the Glacier Hills Family, we are honored to have you as part of our community and serve our residents, guests and the surrounding community. Enjoy this special time of year with family and friends!

*Reed*





# Annual Staff Appreciation Event

Everyone's

a Star

Every fall Employee Services hosts a Staff Appreciation event to thank our colleagues for all they do each and every day! This year the Hanson room was transformed into a "Movie Night" themed event. All colleagues received a gift of a bluetooth speaker and 10 raffle tickets to enter into drawings for different prizes including a big screen TV, Michael Kors purse, Fitbit and a GoPro video camera. The Red Carpet was full of smiles and appreciation for another great event!





## *October Club Night a Sizzling Success*

Glacier Hills residents enjoyed a festive evening of music and dancing thanks to a Life Enrichment Program grant from the Glacier Hills Foundation. Complete with a bar and bouncers, October Club Night let residents revisit the era of romantic and snazzy night clubs. They sipped frothy cocktails and danced to the jazzy strains of the Paul VornHagen Band. Residents were surprised by the arrival of a beloved former employee and laughed when he displayed his bouncer t-shirt! Not only did the Foundation provide funding for the band, but it generously provided for the purchase of the dance floor and professional colored stage lights, which made their debut on this wonderful night.

## Foundation Announces 2018-2019 Grant Awards

The Grants Award Committee met on October 19 to hear directly from several applicants and ask questions about the potential impact of the program or project for which they were seeking Foundation funding. The committee conducted their final review of all proposals and selected the ones who will receive full or partial funding from the annual distributions from the Foundation's General Endowment for November 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019. A total of \$101,700 in grants was awarded in support of 22 proposals submitted by 12 employees and residents. This new round of funding will support a wide variety of life enrichment programming across the entire campus as well as publications led by Glacier Hills residents, wellness programming from exercise to education, spiritual care, library cataloging and collection development, and beautification of The Meadows with a mural painting on the generator.

We want to thank our hard-working and dedicated committee members for another successful round of grant making! The members are Buck Bennett, Judith Elkin, Martha Krehbiel, Mary Jo Lynch, Larry Petroskey, Donna Snyder, Patrick Tamblyn, Reed VanderSlik, and Burt Voss.



## We're Expanding!

The Glacier Hills Foundation, led by Executive Director Shelley MacMillan, is making some staff changes in order to best serve the Glacier Hills community. This Fall Kristine Bradley was promoted to Annual Campaigns & Projects Manager. We are pleased to welcome John Meneghini as our new Administrative Assistant, the position Kristine held for over two years. Please join us in congratulating Kristine and John!

# New Child Development Center Based on Best Practices

*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.

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**P**lans are well underway for the new Child Development Center so this seemed an ideal time to talk with Lee Anna Pasker-Edens, Regional Child Development Center for the Ann Arbor YMCA. Lee Anna is very excited about the new partnership with Glacier Hills and was happy to spend a few minutes talking with us.

**Happenings:** The Y has several child development partnerships in the area. Why partner with Glacier Hills?

**Lee Anna:** The YMCA loves mutually beneficial partnerships! The Glacier Hills YMCA Child Development Center will serve Glacier Hills' staff by providing on-site quality child care for their children and dependants, an important benefit that will hopefully increase staff retention and job satisfaction. In addition, the inter-generational aspect of the child care program should bring joy and meaningful relationships to Glacier Hill's residents and our young students.

**Happenings:** What makes your program special?

**Lee Anna:** The child development curriculum is play-based. The program uses the "Creative Curriculum" allowing teachers to prioritize children's interests and teach to those subjects. We hire passionate, experienced teachers who work to make sure each child is being treated and taught as an individual. Our goal will be to make sure that the Glacier Hills Center, like the current Ann Arbor YMCA Child Development Center, gains national accreditation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), a designation of quality.

**Happenings:** What benefits have you seen for both the children and the seniors?

**Lee Anna:** Participating in activities with the children can provide a meaningful and positive experience for Glacier Hills residents, allowing them to be active and contributing members of their community. Increasing social interaction across generations can combat loneliness and provide a sense of purpose to seniors who will be able to play and create relationships with the children. For the children, having access to caring, older adults will enrich their daily lives and their experience at the Glacier Hills YMCA Child Development Center.





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## *Need Help Getting Organized? – We've Got the Expert!*

Are you considering a move?

Trying to downsize and not sure how to start?

Feeling overwhelmed by all your stuff?

Join us at Glacier Hills on Jan 17, 2019, at 10 a.m. to learn how to begin the organization process and ensure your success. Sharon McRill, owner and founder of The Betty Brigade, a relocation and organizing company, will discuss her newly released book, *Downsizing The Silver Tsunami: Who to Call and Where does the Stuff Go?* Copies of her book will be available for purchase and Sharon will be happy to sign them.

Sharon has done scores of television and radio interviews and has been featured in many publications and websites, including *The Detroit Free Press*, *The Detroit News*, *Ann Arbor News*, *Women's Day*, *Crain's Business Detroit*, *Forbes.com*, and *MichiganInnovators.com*. The *Ann Arbor Business Review* named The Betty Brigade one of the Ten Growing Companies to Watch in Ann Arbor. Sharon has also won awards from The ATHENA Foundation, The Tuck School of Business, and Women Business Owners of Southeast Michigan.



This event is open to the public and registration is not required. Please contact Emily Abela with any questions, 734-929-6794.