

Dreams Do Come True

Our Live Your Wish program makes sure of it!

Our halls are filled with stories and wisdom from our residents, their childhoods, careers, aspirations, and advice carefully crafted over the years. At The Village, stories are commonplace and shared freely.

For all the accomplishments our residents have achieved throughout their lives, there are often a few dreams left unfinished. Somewhere they always wanted to go. Something they always wanted to do. An experience they always wanted to have. Dreams that, for one reason or another, remained unfulfilled.

But it's never too late to dream. Live Your Wish makes sure of that!

Live Your Wish was created to give residents the chance to do something they've never done before or something they haven't been able to do in many years.

From riding in a race car to meeting a favorite mascot or hopping aboard a train, our motto is simple:

"If we can make it happen, we will!"

When a dream that has been waiting for so long finally comes true, the result is something truly special: beautiful smiles, unforgettable moments, and wonderful new stories to share.

Here are a couple of examples from the last few months.

Janice's Wish: To See the Sights from a Train

We didn't have to look far to make Janice's wish come true. With the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad practically at our doorstep, the perfect adventure was right in our backyard.

The Scenic Railroad winds through the Cuyahoga Valley and along the Cuyahoga River, providing the perfect opportunity to relax and enjoy the beauty of our region.

What we didn't know was that our trip would also include a "Christmas in July" celebration, complete with elves, Santa hats, Christmas music and, of course, Traks the raccoon!

Janice's wish also inspired other residents at our Green campus. Two more residents will be hopping aboard this October to take in the unmatched beauty of Autumn in Ohio.

Anna's Dream: Fly Through the Trees

Anna told us she always wanted to soar through the trees.

"Like a buzzard," she said.

A zipline seemed like the closest thing to that feeling. So, we partnered with the incredible folks at Akron Rotary Camp to give Anna that experience.

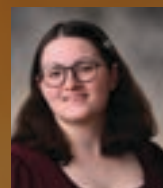
Anna is utterly fearless. She stepped off the platform without hesitation, determined to face whatever challenge was in front of her.

At the end of the day, she may have wanted even more sky to fly through!

These are the moments that make Live Your Wish so special. A wish becomes an experience, an experience becomes a memory and a memory becomes another story to share.

One thing is for sure. There are more stories waiting to be written.

If you or your loved one is a resident of The Village and wants to check off a bucket list wish, please reach out to me. If we can make it happen, we will!



Hattie Ruleman, Volunteer Coordinator,
at hattie.ruleman@vased.org
or 234-466-7132.



Please Scan the QR and help our amazing Live Your Wish program.



From the Foundation Office

Welcome Averil!

Very happy to announce that Averil Kubit has joined The Village Foundation team. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics degree (with a minor in Psychology) from The University of Akron. She graduated from Case Western Reserve University last December with a Master's in Nonprofit Organizations. She has worked in development as a grant writer as well as in print and digital marketing. Her hobbies include dancing (she began at three years old and has worked as a professional dancer) and hiking.

Averil is a resident of Akron. We are thrilled to have her at The Village.

Winner Winner!

Congratulations to ourselves! The Village is a NorthCoast 99 winner for 2026. NorthCoast 99 is an awards program that honors 99 great Northeast Ohio workplaces for top talent and culture. The program culminates with an event Downtown Cleveland recognizing the winners. Pictured is the group that had the honor of representing The Village at the September 16 celebration.

Good Times

It's been quite a summer and fall. The success of VillageFEST and the generosity of residents have provided some wonderful outings and experiences. You read about Janice and Anna on the cover. But there has been so much more. Residents from all three communities took in some RubberDucks baseball and went on a Portage Lakes boat cruise; Fairlawn folks did a three-wheel tandem bike event. Luau, a medieval renaissance fair and so many other amazing events are thanks to the generosity of our supporters and the hard work of our resident life and dining services teams. This is just a sprinkling of all that goes on at The Village.

Every day is a photo op at The Village. Makes coming to work so much fun. Keep reading and you'll see a bunch of pictures.

Making a Huge Brimpression

Thank you to our Brimfield Community Advisory Committee that has been meeting quarterly. They have been incredibly engaged and helpful as we get closer to the Spring 2027 opening. Thank you to Shirley Mars, Marilyn Sessions, Kim Polatas, Brad Ehrhart, Robert Radoslovich, Dave Myers, Father William Waino and Mike Kostensky. Special thanks to Shirley and Bill Mars for hosting the past two meetings at their beautiful home. Everyone at The Village is so excited to be part of Brimfield and its surrounding communities.

More Fun Stuff

A couple cool additions to our Memory Care units in Wadsworth and Green. Thanks to gifts from The Giving Place in Medina and The Venner Family Foundation, the staff in Wadsworth has created a 50s-style diner room to be enjoyed by residents and families. The diner includes a retro fridge, furniture, an ice cream freezer, black and white tile floor and of course, a turntable for some 50s tunes.

Meanwhile in Green, support from the Rizzo and Stimler families as well as The Italian American Professional Business Club will result in a mock Kitchen Station, complete with a vintage Betty Crocker cookbook, stove, oven, pots, pans, oven mitts, utensils and more. There is a similar unit in Fairlawn that we highlighted in the Spring. Residents love it!

Cognitive decline changes the way a person experiences the world — but it does not diminish dignity, worth, or capacity for connection. These are great examples of the generosity that is in motion every day at The Village.

Almost Christmastime!

This year's Christmas ornament appeal will be the best ever. Love's Embroidery in Wadsworth is making beautiful and colorful wooden ornaments for us. Each ornament will have a custom ribbon with the name of the person (in honor or memory). They will be more costly than in previous years but thanks to some generous donors, we have the production costs almost covered. That means your donation will go directly to programming!

Love's owner is Nancy Love, a family member of some late Village residents. We are so grateful for her work to make this year's Christmas Ornament Appeal incredibly special.

Check out the back cover for a picture of this year's ornament, QR Code and link to the Ornament Appeal webpage. Or you can always give me a call for more information.

Carl Bako

VP of Development
330-524-4196, carl.bako@vased.org

A Word from The Chair

As another year comes to a close, I keep coming back to one word: Gratitude.

Gratitude for the people who call The Village home. Gratitude for the incredible staff and volunteers who give so much of themselves every day. And gratitude for each of you who continues to believe in this very special community.

Since becoming Foundation Board Chair, I have had the opportunity to see The Village from an even more meaningful perspective. The more I see, the more I realize that what makes The Village extraordinary isn't a building or a program. It's the people.

It's the friendships formed here. It's the laughter around a table, a familiar face in the hallway, a favorite activity, a special outing, a hand held when someone needs reassurance, and the comfort of knowing you belong somewhere. Those moments may seem small, but they are everything. So much of what makes those moments possible begins with generosity.

As you think about your year-end giving, I hope you will consider The Village. Not simply because there are needs to meet, but because there are lives to enrich, memories still to be made. The Village is worth the investment.

I also hope you might think about the word legacy, which can sound like something far off in the future, but it is really very simple. Our legacy is the good we choose to put into the world and the things we help make possible for people we may never even meet. A planned gift to The Village is one beautiful way to do that. It is a way of saying, "This mattered to me, and I want to make sure it continues to matter for someone else." What an incredible gift that is.

As we look to 2027, there is so much ahead of us. We are looking forward to the possibilities at Brimfield, thoughtfully assessing the future of our Nursing Care building, and considering how The Village can continue to grow while protecting the warmth, dignity, and sense of home that make this community so special.

I can't talk about the year ahead without mentioning VillageFEST. Seeing so many people come together in support of our residents and the mission is something special. I am already excited for VillageFEST 2027 and hopeful that, together, we can make it another record-breaking year. It's more than the money we raise. It's what those dollars allow us to do for the people who call The Village home.

So, as this year ends, thank you for caring. Thank you for believing in this mission. Thank you for showing up, giving generously, sharing our story and helping us dream bigger. Most of all, thank you for being part of The Village family.

From my family to yours, I wish you a beautiful holiday season filled with the people you love and a New Year filled with hope.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Brianne Alaburda
Foundation Board Chair

VillageFEST 2026

A wonderful evening thanks to you.

VillageFEST 2026 was an unprecedented success, raising \$165,000 for our Resident Life/VillageLIFE/Live Your Wish programs. We cannot thank enough the sponsors, residents, families, staff (Dining, Green, Foundation and Resident Life), board members and volunteers who make this wonderful evening possible each year.

Since the inception of VillageFEST,
\$798,000
has been generated to make life at The Village extraordinary.

It was so much fun.
Save The Date for
another great evening –
June 25, 2027

The food, music and
conversations make
VillageFEST the best
event of the summer.





Baseball Game



Biking in the Park



Ziplining



Renaissance Faire



Summer Luau



Train Rides



Birthday Parties



Thank You Donors!

We gratefully acknowledge those friends, families, corporations, and foundations who contribute to the support of The Village of St. Edward Foundation. These gifts were made between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.

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Autumn
is God's way
of showing us
how beautiful
change can be.

Village Wins 'Locate' Award

The Village and our partners at DeHoff Development were proud to receive the Portage Development Board's Locate Award this summer. The recognition came in anticipation of the opening of the newest Village community in Brimfield in the Spring of 2027, serving assisted living and memory care residents. Plans are underway for independent living villas, to be managed by The Village, as well.

The Portage Development Board partners with businesses and individuals who choose Portage County to begin, build and grow their enterprises.



The Gift That Lives On

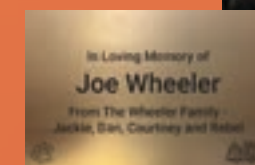
Your generosity can make a difference today—and for generations to come.

Planned giving is a meaningful way to leave a lasting legacy at the Village of St. Edward. By including The Village in your estate plans, you can help ensure that future generations of residents continue to experience the exceptional care, programs, and opportunities that make The Village feel like home.

A planned gift can take many forms, including a bequest in your will, a beneficiary designation on a retirement account or life insurance policy, or other charitable arrangements. These gifts can often be made without affecting your current finances.

Your legacy can reflect what matters most to you and help make life better for residents for years to come. Consider making The Village Foundation part of your legacy.

You can reach The Village Foundation at 330-524-4196 or carl.bako@vased.org. Check out vsecommunities.org/st-edward-foundation for more information and your planned giving options.



What's in a Name?

Become a part of The Village of St. Edward by adding your, or your company's name, to a designated space at one of our four communities, Fairlawn, Wadsworth, Green (OR BRIMFIELD OPENING SPRING 2027!)

The Village Foundation will work with you to identify the right placement and customized signage/marker. Our wish is to create a public and enduring record of our generous supporters. Payments may be made at once or over a time agreed on by the Donor and The Village. We hope that you will consider this opportunity.

Naming opportunities may be designated to support a new or existing program. They allow you to honor or remember someone you love while supporting the program or initiative that best reflects your personal values and philanthropic goals. When you choose to name a space at any of The Village locations, you forever link your name, or that of a loved one, to The Village mission.

Call 330-524-4196 or email carl.bako@vased.org for more information.

Changing with the *Seasons*



Give the Gift of Joy this

Christmas

Christmas is the time for remembering what matters most: faith, family and friendship. It is the season of giving and receiving Joy!

With a gift of \$25 or more, a personalized ornament bearing the name of someone you wish to honor or remember will be placed on a special Tree of Memories in The Village community of your choice.



Love's Embroidery in Wadsworth is making wooden ornaments for us with The Village of St. Edward printed on them and custom ribbons with the names of those being honored or memorialized.

We hope you will keep the ornaments to hang on your own tree for years to come.

To give securely online, simply scan the QR code below. We will be sending out a mailing as well very soon!

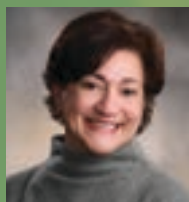


The Village of St. Edward Foundation is a non-profit Sec. 501 (c)(3) organization which exists for the sole purpose of supporting The Village of St. Edward Communities in Fairlawn, Wadsworth and Green. Annual financial contributions from generous individuals, corporations and foundations provide for the spiritual care, charitable care, special programs, activities and unique needs of The Village's patients and residents. The Village receives no financial support from Catholic Charities.

If you would like to be removed from future mailings, please contact The Village of St. Edward Foundation.



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