

Music Therapist



# Special Gift Supports Music Therapy Program

Gift in memory of Muriel Posey touches lives – and hearts!

Music has long been part of one's life and often brings back happy memories and boosts the overall quality of life. As we age, gerontologists say, the benefits of music may be even greater.

The Village residents participate in weekly music-related activities designed to reduce isolation, provide creative expression and build community. Both passive and active music therapy can provide benefits and aid in socialization.

Dementia is a neurocognitive disorder that impacts a person's mood and memory. Many feel anxious and frustrated. Music can alleviate that frustration. "Mom has difficulty communicating," said a resident's daughter, "but she remembers songs. Today, she smiled and sang every word of the Andrews Sisters' 'Apple Blossom Time' with the music therapist."

Residents, caregivers know, may be able to sing, clap, or whistle long after they are unable to communicate with words. "Music helps unlock memories to reach parts of the brain in ways other communication cannot," said Stephanie Wilkerson, Director of Memory Care. "Our auditory system and receptivity to music develops at sixteen weeks, long before other functions. Music helps residents with dementia feel a sense of joy and can help calm restlessness."

A recent gift from Ray and Terry Posey, honoring the life of his mother, has resulted in increased frequency of visits from a certified music therapist. "Music was an important part of my mother's life, and she loved living at The Village," said Posey. "We're happy to honor her life and support The Village."

**Muriel Posey** was born in Bryn Mawr, Pa. where she lived until graduating from college. She was a talented musician and earned a degree in Music Education from Temple University in 1943. Upon graduation, she joined the faculty at Columbia College where she taught general music classes and violin. She returned to Bryn Mawr to help care for an invalid sister and was married in 1951. She stayed in the Philadelphia area until moving to Fairlawn in 2000. In 2012, Muriel became a resident of The Village of St. Edward until her death, at the age of 96, in 2017.

Muriel was a true gentlewoman who never spoke unkindly of anyone. She is remembered for her caring and kind manner by all who knew and loved her. She never wanted to be a bother or to interfere with anyone else's plans. She always put the needs of others above her own. The Muriel Posey Music Therapy Fund provides permanent support for a portion of The Village's Music Therapy program. To learn more about how you can also support The Village's Music Therapy Program, please feel welcome to contact Vondea Sheaffer, VP of Development at (234) 466-0556.



Muriel Posey



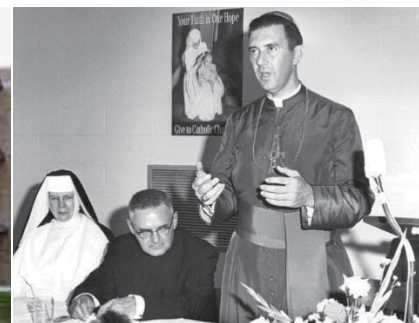
1960



1962



1964



1964

# A Legacy of Faith, A Future of Caring

**1957** Friends Germaine Karg (Mother of Rev. William Karg) and Anne Doran Walsh (wife of William Walsh) approach the Sisters of St. Dominic in Akron about a potential home for the aged. With persistence, Mother General M. Rosalia receives approval for the project from Archbishop Edward Hoban.

**1962** Joseph and Sophie Jacobs, siblings of Sr. Cornelia Jacobs, a Dominican Sister, donate their 26 acre family farm on Smith Road as the site for the new home for the aged. (Honoring their thoughtful gift, individuals who choose to include The Village in their estate plans are recognized members of the Sophie and Joseph Jacobs Legacy Society)\*

**1962** Construction of St. Edward Home begins on the Bath Township property.

**1964** With the Dominicans primarily providing the care, the 100 bed St. Edward Home opens as solely a Nursing Care facility. Sophie and Joseph Jacobs are among the first residents. The caring Sisters receive a monthly stipend of \$100, plus an additional \$100 a year for clothing, food and lodging.

**1989** A 26-unit Assisted Living service is added to the Fairlawn facility.

**1990** As the Fairlawn area grows, so does The Village. A new expansion provides 77 Independent Living apartments, 73 of which were converted to Assisted Living in the early 2000s.

**1997** While remaining Catholic, The Village of St. Edward no longer was owned and controlled by the Diocese of Cleveland nor was it any longer supported by Catholic Charities. The Village became an independent organization, expected to sustain its own existence.

**2017** The Memory Care unit on the Fairlawn Campus opens to serve 28 residents.

**2019** Growing beyond Fairlawn, The Village of St. Edward opens a 106 unit Independent Living, Assisted Living and Memory Care Community in Medina County.



1989



1990



2017



2019





Helen Antonucci, Jean Karg and Margaret Vaughan

# Friends for life

Friends Helen Antonucci, Jean Karg and Margaret Vaughan could never have predicted the ways their lives would stay connected.

The three women, now residents of The Village, met in the sixties as members of St. Hilary Parish in Akron where their children attended the parish school. Without buses, the mothers would drop off their children at school and meet for coffee at Isaly's. "Sometimes

we would have coffee, then go home. Other days we'd go shopping together at O'Neils," said Margaret. "And there were many days we'd laugh and talk until it was time to pick up the children!"

One day, a mutual friend mentioned that the Dominican Sisters, operating St. Edward Home where she volunteered, could use more help. "I think it was Helen's idea," said Jean. "She got us involved too." Once a week, the ladies

would don their official uniforms, pink jumpers, and assist the nuns. They would change sheets, deliver meals, transport residents to Mass and spend time visiting residents. "We were busy taking care of our families and our parents," said Helen, "but were happy to serve."

The women and their families remained friends. Their children still socialize together. "We spent a lot of time together," said Margaret, "and we never would have guessed we'd eventually be living here. Fifty years later, we're all very happy to be at The Village!"



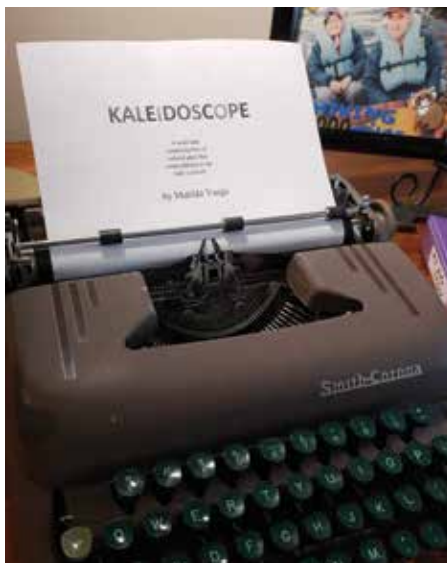
# Telling Her Story



Matilda Varga and Patsy Biddinger

When volunteer, Patsy Biddinger, offered to teach a writing class, Independent Living resident Matilda Varga pulled out her 1950 Smith Corona typewriter and began the retrospective task of documenting her life.

"Everyone has a story. Every story is important," said Patsy. Years ago she conducted a biography class for older adults while serving as a volunteer at a social club in Bedfordshire, England. She saw how impactful the process could be. "I can still see their faces as they spoke about being transported to rural areas from London to avoid the bombardment."



Over the course of The Village's six-week activity, Patsy provided prompts from *Writing Your Life: A Guide to Writing Autobiographies* by Mary Borg. In crafting their missives, each week's questions encouraged residents to consider their lifetime of people and experiences.

"What do you remember most about your mother from childhood?" "How did you and your spouse meet?" Other prompts helped articulate school years, family vacations and work experiences.

"I've always liked to write," shared Matilda. "I thought this would be good exercise for my mind, and I wanted to get it written before my 80th birthday in December! It was hard work," she said. "I wrote 9-10 drafts by hand, then typed it. I chose my words carefully. So, if my family reads it, there wouldn't be any hurt feelings." The daughter of hard working, Hungarian parents, and granddaughter of first generation immigrants, Matilda shared fond memories of the farm on which she and her family lived. She grew up learning how to preserve the bounty of their large garden and cook traditional Hungarian foods. She raised chickens and ducks and helped make countless crocks of sauerkraut.

Matilda and her husband, Lou, loved being outdoors. They were avid campers and hikers. As a longtime member of the Cleveland Hiking Club, Matilda logged more than 30,000 miles. Not surprisingly, each chapter of Matilda's life story, *Kaleidoscope*, has a nature-themed title.

Once complete, Patsy recruited the help of her granddaughter, Gabriella Thompson, to edit and to print the final version. The computer-generated edition provided volunteer hours for Gabi and a more easily editable document for Matilda. After some weeks of revision, the story was complete. "The process was hard. I didn't always enjoy the time it took. But I'm glad I did it," said Matilda. "My life isn't over; neither is my story!" Matilda said with a laugh. "I'll continue to add pages each year."

The final writing prompts asked for words of wisdom. Matilda offered: "While love is central to marriage, forgiveness is what makes a marriage last. Wisdom is learning that new and thrilling can't hold a candle to old and familiar."

"The best time for sleeping under the trees is early afternoon when the sun is still high. This is because, at that time, a warm shade comes straight down around the trunks of the trees. The idea is to wake up wrinkled on the outside but straightened out on the inside."

# Village FEST

The Village of St. Edward

Special Event  
will Support  
Wellness Garden



Almost every resident enjoys some level of outdoor activity. Whether it's participating in light gardening, walking for exercise or sitting in the shade near a water feature, most residents find outdoor activities satisfying. Families, visitors and residents take pleasure in watching and chatting as grandchildren and great-grandchildren play during intergenerational family visits. Residents participate in activities designed to build community and to alleviate isolation.

Residents and families currently walk or push wheelchairs around the perimeter of the Fairlawn campus. Portions of the route are public sidewalks; others are actively

traveled driveways. Outdoor activities for residents are restricted to a few, small patios with limited capacity for recreation and little opportunity for gardening.

## How can you help?

Your support of VillageFEST 2019 will provide resources to construct a beautiful Wellness Garden and support related programs. With your help, an undeveloped 1/3 acre of the Fairlawn campus will be transformed to create a beautiful, safe space accessible to residents and families. The garden is to feature a 1/20 mile walking path, contemplation space, putting green, children's play area, pavilion,

shuffleboard court, and raised container gardens. A faux stream will beautifully direct rain water and natural runoff.

VillageFEST 2019 is a mini-music festival, hosted on The Village's Fairlawn campus, Friday, June 28, 2019. Your \$100 ticket will give you access to a one-of-a-kind evening of delicious food and live music from both the Gene Fiocca Band and Just Jazz. Participate in a wine pull and special raffles. Make plans now to join friends, families, and residents for this special event to beautify the Fairlawn campus.

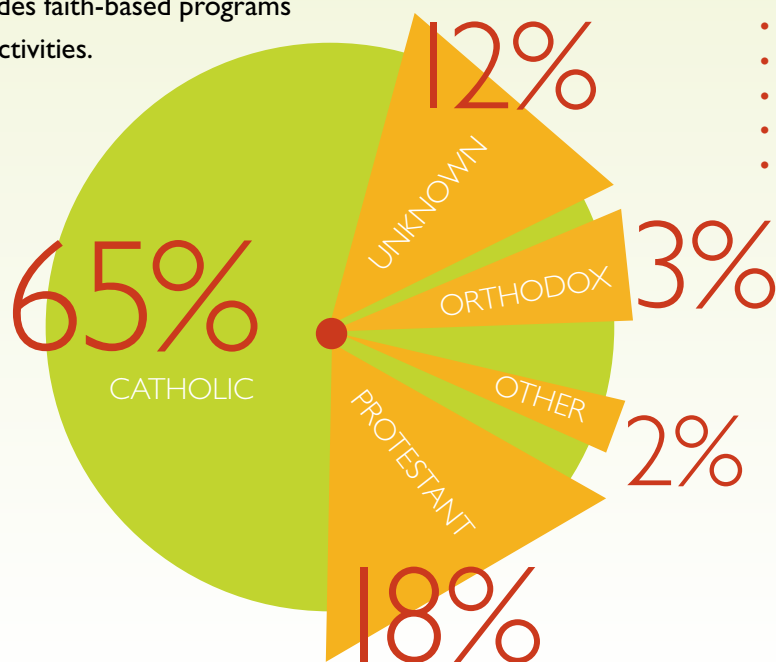
**Buy tickets now: [www.vsecommunities.org/FEST](http://www.vsecommunities.org/FEST)**

**Special Recognition and Sponsorship Opportunities available: Contact Vondea Sheaffer, VP of Development (234) 466-0556 or [vondea.sheaffer@vsecommunities.org](mailto:vondea.sheaffer@vsecommunities.org)**

**When you give to The Village,** you directly impact the lives of residents. Your gifts provide valuable resources that help The Village provide a wide range of programs and services, far beyond what other providers offer. Each event and activity is specifically designed to enrich lives, improve socialization and build community.

## Spiritual Care

Spiritual care of Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox tenets is a core function of The Village. We're dedicated to providing rich, meaningful opportunities for spiritual engagement and onsite spiritual care for residents and their families. From casual, daily interactions with spiritual care staff to consistent availability for personal matters, spiritual care is central to life at The Village. **Your support provides faith-based programs and activities.**



More than **600** spiritual care

**programs & activities** each year

- Non-denominational Bible studies
- Small group studies and discussion groups
- Protestant worship services
- Orthodox worship services
- Rosary services
- Prayer groups

Priest



2 Nuns



3 Chapels



**587** Masses per year

Residents served:

2017

**565**



2018

**525**



2019

**655**

(anticipated since the January opening of the Wadsworth Community)



# Faithfully caring for residents and their families since

# 1964

## Benevolent Care

Sometimes life isn't fair. Families carefully plan and save. Circumstances deplete savings more quickly than anticipated. The Village's Benevolent Care program supports individuals who are unable to pay or have exhausted their resources. It also supports individuals enrolled in the Medicaid program which pays the providers of care less than it costs to provide the care.

In 2019, more than 60% of the Village's Nursing Care residents will have no ability to pay privately. Their care will be partially-paid by Medicaid. The Village of St. Edward continues to be a sustainable nonprofit, closing the Medicaid funding shortfall with funds generated from non-nursing programs and with generous financial support from people like you.

In keeping with our mission and adhering to our values, The Village promises each resident they will never be asked to leave if they outlive their resources. **Your gift keeps that promise alive.**

## Resident Life Enrichment

Choosing a senior living community is a big decision. Residents and their families seek optimum opportunities for health, wellness and a fulfilling life focused on their individual needs and preferences.

Operating at more than 90% capacity every day, The Village consistently provides Resident Life enrichment above and beyond what is commonly offered in similar settings. Because of your support, we continually improve our activities and therapies to meet residents' highest expectations.

**Your gifts and endowments ensure provision of the best in faith-based care – now and into the future.**



More than

# 600

activities  
each month

- Personalized one-on-one visits
- 48 birthday parties
- Resident/family Christmas party
- Mother's Day luncheon
- Father's day Block Party
- Summer steak-fry
- Veteran's Day recognition
- Concerts
- Sensory therapies
- Exercise classes
- Yoga
- Pet therapy visits
- Book clubs
- Music therapy visits
- Current events discussions
- Games and crafts
- Innovative activities created specifically for individuals with memory loss
- Country drives
- Ice cream runs
- Museum, theater and cultural outings
- Luncheon outings

More than  
**90%**



of families and residents  
indicated they are satisfied with life at The Village.

\*Per NRC Health, a provider of independent healthcare assessments

# Our Mission Vision Values

The Village of St. Edward Community supports and enriches lives with compassionate, Christ-centered care.

Putting God's love into action, The Village of St. Edward supports each person as a valued member of this community. We foster a compassionate environment by promoting excellence in service and a community of belonging.

The Village of St. Edward is guided by five core values in our interactions with residents, families and each other.

**KINDNESS** Following Christ's example, we treat each person with kindness, humility and empathy through our every word and deed.

**"For this is my message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another."**  
1 John 3:11

**COMMITMENT** We are called to serve others, not as a job but as a vocation. We are wholly committed to quality, and consider it a privilege to minister others.

**"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."** Peter 4:10

**RESPECT** Because we are equal in God's eyes, we treat patients, residents, family members, co-workers and all others with respect and courtesy, empowering each to be his/her best self while celebrating what makes each person unique.

**"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."**  
John 13:34-35

**INTEGRITY** We adhere to the highest standards of honesty, ethical practices and transparency. We strive to continuously improve, to follow through on our commitments, and to let Christ's teachings guide us in all we do.

**"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them, not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve..."**  
Peter 5:2 4:10

**BENEVOLENCE** As a non-profit, faith-based organization, we place people above the financial interests. Our decisions are based on what is best for our residents and community. As such, we will never ask a resident to leave if they outlive their funds.

**"So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone..."** Galatians 6:10



# YOUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE

One of The Village's greatest sources of hope is the Joseph and Sophie Jacobs Legacy Society. The Society is named for the Jacobs siblings, who graciously gifted their family home, and recognizes the caring friends who have shared their intention to include The Village in their will, trust or other estate plans.

Members of our Legacy Society come from all walks of life — some from modest means and some from wealth. Their common ground — their concern for the welfare of seniors and their alignment with the mission of The Village.

Here are some commonly used approaches to include The Village in your plans, not all requiring an attorney.

## Gifts by Will or Living Trust

Your will or Revocable Living Trust allows you to provide for the people and causes you love most. A charitable bequest to The Village can easily be written into your plans or added to an existing will or trust using language such as this: "I give and bequeath to THE VILLAGE OF ST. EDWARD FOUNDATION, Tax Identification Number 34- 1969623, 3131 Smith Rd., Akron, OH 44333 (Insert specific amount, asset or percentage of your estate)." If needed, your attorney will assist you with what you want done.

## Payable on Death (POD) or Transfer on Death (TOD)

You can easily include one or more beneficiaries on your bank account, certificate of deposit or brokerage account. Simply speak with your financial institution

to have a Payable on Death (POD) or Transfer on Death (TOD) designation added to your account. While the notation does not change your ownership, it causes the funds in your account to pass directly to your named beneficiaries upon your death. You may designate more than one POD or TOD beneficiary. For example, your beneficiary designation might give 25% to charity and provide for the balance to be equally divided among your children.

## Insurance Beneficiary Designation

You may name one or more charities as the beneficiaries of part/all of the death benefit from an insurance policy. As with POD/TOD options, your beneficiary designation might give a portion to charity and provide for the balance to be divided as you designate. You can make a beneficiary change on your own or with the assistance of your insurance agent.

## IRA or Qualified Retirement Plan Beneficiaries

Generally, assets held in an IRA or retirement plan are subject to both income tax and estate taxes. You may choose to name one or more charities

as beneficiary of all or a portion of your qualified plan or IRA. Upon your death, funds would transfer, free of income or estate tax. You should consult with your financial institution or investment advisor to update your designations.

## Donation of Appreciated Securities

To avoid paying capital gains tax, consider a gift of your appreciated stocks. You can support the program of your choice and deduct the full value of the security. Your bank or investment advisor can conveniently administer the transaction.

## Charitable Gift Annuity

If receiving an income stream is important to you, you may choose to establish a charitable gift annuity. Once the annuity is established, you would receive a fixed sum for the rest of your life. The remainder would pass at your death to your favorite charity. The Village of St. Edward partners with the Akron Community Foundation and can assist in establishing such a charitable gift annuity. **Your gift helps individuals live their best life, for the rest of their life.**



For a confidential conversation about the ways your gift can be used to support The Village, feel welcome to contact Vondea Sheaffer, VP of Development at (234) 466-0556 or [vondea.sheaffer@vsecomunites.org](mailto:vondea.sheaffer@vsecomunites.org).

# Why we support the Village

Ann Bezpiaty was 96 years old when she chose to live at The Village, first in Assisted Living, then in Nursing Care. Devout in her faith and active in her parish, Ann appreciated the option to attend daily Mass, say her daily rosary and regularly participate in The Village's many spiritual programs. She was very social, often found greeting guests and visiting near the front door. Ann made new friends and felt comfortable at The Village. "It was a good move for her," said daughter, Patricia. She made the Village her home until her death at age 100.

Patricia and Byron are active community leaders and serve in various volunteer roles across Summit County. Patricia is part of The Village's Community Leadership Circle, the group of volunteers actively planning the 2019 VillageFEST. "We're happy to give back," said Patricia. "The Village is a great place!"

“The Village was so good to my mom,” shared Patricia Olson. “Byron and I are happy to support the good work of The Village.”



Byron and Patricia Olson

## Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors!

**The Village of St. Edward extends a special thanks to these corporations who generously support the residents and activities of The Village!**





# Seven Reasons Why We Support The Village of St. Edward

**1** As Christians, we realize we truly own nothing. All we possess, now or ever, belongs to God. We're entrusted with it for a while and make choices with God's resources. We choose to support The Village of St. Edward.

**2** Every gift makes a difference. No matter the size, to God it's about the condition of the heart. When we give freely, God uses our gifts to impact lives. Large or small, every gift has immeasurable value. Join us in supporting The Village.

**3** At some point in our lives, each of us received generously from others. Giving provided for us and we have the opportunity to bless The Village as we have been blessed.

**4** It feels really good to share! We've each enjoyed the pure joy of surprising someone with a special gift. It feels good! Give to The Village and you'll be glad you did!

**5** It sets a good example for our children. When we teach the joy of giving, our children also learn the benefits. They pick up on lots of things without us knowing – this lesson of generosity is usually taught more intentionally.

**6** It's (generally) tax deductible. Awesome! That's a great benefit, but check with your accountant or financial planner to make the best choice for you.

**7** We are investing in something lasting. The Village is a unique treasure in our community. Join us in supporting The Village and it will be here for generations.

Thank you for supporting  
The Village of St. Edward Foundation!

Sincerely,

*Karen Manna*

Karen Manna  
The Village of St. Edward Foundation



Tony Alexander



Caesar Carrino



Thomas Hudock



Dr. Yoleetah Ilodi



Dan Johnson



Philip Kaufmann

The role of The Village of St. Edward Foundation Board is to advise, govern and lead fundraising efforts which build permanent resources for the long term growth of The Village. These community leaders graciously volunteer their time and talent for the benefit of The Village.



Karen Manna \*



John Stoner



Mike VanDevere

\* Interim Chairperson



## The Village of St. Edward – It's about living

“Thank you for making an atmosphere where our mother could flourish and find contentment. Your facilities are beautiful, but it is the kindness and concern and respect that all of you show to everyone that makes it a special place to live.”

### SAVE THE DATE



The Village of St. Edward

Join us for a special  
resident, family and community event  
to support The Village

**June 28, 2019**

**The fun begins at 6pm!**

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

The Village of St. Edward Foundation  
3131 Smith Road, Fairlawn, OH 44333  
(234) 466-0556

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