

# Happenings

OCTOBER 2024

### BENTLEY VILLAGE FOUNDATION

#### 2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### Officers

Wayne Antworth President

Bill Welbourn Vice President

Ken LaMotte Secretary

Chuck Brooke Treasurer

#### **Trustees**

Sherry Bailey Bill Bretz Assistant Treasurer Cynthia Carlson Paul Ciccarelli Joan Frey Bill Grafstrom Diane Halas, President Emeritus Sue Leonard Rich Nortz Wendy Wiltse

#### **Founding Trustees**

Horace "Bud" Bernton Jeannette Boucher Diane Halas Diane McNulty Karen Rosenstein

#### **Past Presidents**

Diane Halas Brian Hitch Tom Lynch

#### **Newsletter Contributors**

Sue Leonard Sherry Bailey Joan Frey Jim & Denise Greer Leslie Simon

# Get Ready for the 2024 Dollars for Scholars Golf Event!



**Date:** November 22, 2024 **Location**: Bentley Village's new 18-hole course! Compete for a chance to win a Mercedes (lease) with a "hole in one" on our new #15 hole!

Join us for an unforgettable day of golf, fun and philanthropy! Choose between our 9 AM or 1 PM shotgun tee times. After a thrilling round, unwind at our Social Hour at 4:30 PM and celebrate at the Awards Banquet at 6 PM, featuring a lively auction with auctioneer.

#### **Exciting Extras!**

- 50/50 Raffle: Now in progress! Need more tickets? Call (239) 238-4208.
- Online Auction: Great events/items available online November 4-10. Watch for email to let you know when it is open and how to bid.

#### Why It Matters

All proceeds support our "Bentley Wings" Competitive Scholarship Program, which has awarded over \$1,000,000 to scholars since 2017. Your participation directly enhances the lives and education of our Bentley Village employees and their dependents and benefits our Southwest Florida community.

### How You Can Get Involved

- Golfers: Play a round and enjoy the dinner and live auction for \$225 per person.
- Non-Golfers: Support us by participating in the raffle or online auction.
- Sponsorships: Sponsor a hole (\$300) or become an event sponsor with a contribution of \$500 or more and receive special recognition.

For details or to get involved, contact Jim & Denise Greer. Jim: 239-641-6848 Denise: 239-641-6849

Mark your calendars, and let's make this event a hole-in-one for our scholars!

# Meet our 2024 Scholar

Bentley Village Foundation is proud to support the educational pursuits of Vi at Bentley Village employees and their dependents through the Bentley Wings Competitive Scholarship program, funded mostly by the Dollars for Scholars Golf Event. This year, eight deserving individuals were awarded these scholarships, which can be applied toward tuition, fees, and books at accredited universities, colleges, vocational, or technical schools.



## Anastasiia King

Anastasiia and her husband, Jeffrey King, who works in our Security Department, came to the United States two years ago from Ukraine, a country in the middle of a devastating war. She explains," We had hoped to stay there, but we had to escape. Thanks to Bentley Village, I was able to find a place of work where I am appreciated and valued." She is employed part-time in the Housekeeping Department.

Anastasiia is in an Advanced Medical Assistance Program at Florida Southwestern State College. Her goal is to earn an Associate and then a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Science. "I had to start my social and professional life all over again," she said.

## Princia Dumorne

Princia attends Florida Southwestern State College, with a major in Nursing. She is the daughter of Leonne Dumorne, a server in our Food and Beverage Department.

Her goals? "I plan to become a pediatric nurse practitioner, with the hope of making a huge impact in my community and setting an example for future generations.

The "Bentley Wings" scholarship has not only given me financial support to attend college, but it has shown me there are people who care for you and want to see you succeed. It has also given me motivation to work hard, achieve my academic goals... and that anything is possible."





# **Britney Jean**

Britney is the daughter of Federlin Jean, a lead server in the Food and Beverage department. Known to all of us as "Fed," he has worked at Bentley Village for over 30 years. She attends Chatham University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she is pursuing a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology. Earlier, Britney was a "Bentley Wings" scholarship award winner for her undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Women's Studies (and a minor in Health Disparities) at the University of Florida.

With a goal of obtaining her PhD in Counseling Psychology, Britney plans to open her own practice." I would like to counsel teenagers and emerging adults within marginalized groups," she says.

# Ludmie Cesar

Ludmie is the daughter of Betty Bernard, a part-time nurse at Bentley. She is attending Florida Gulf Coast University in a Pre-Nursing program. Her goal is to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, qualified to practice both in and outside the United States. She intends to be involved within the community around her wherever she lives.

She says, "My family and I are more than grateful for the financial relief the "Bentley Wings" Scholarship has provided us. It has been, and continues to be, a crucial factor that helps me carry out my dreams. Having academic goals without the means to accomplish them is scary, but with the opportunities this scholarship has provided me, I can stop worrying and apply myself to my studies."



# ship Award Recipients



The Bentley Wings Competitive Scholarship program is open to both full-time and part-time employees of Vi at Bentley Village, as well as their dependents. Scholarships are awarded annually and can be renewed for up to eight years of study. Our scholarship program operates in partnership with the Collier Community Foundation, a well-established 501(c)(3) nonprofit that administers the program with care and integrity.



# Cynthia Ochoa Navarro

Cynthia is a full-time employee in our Bentley Village Accounting Department as an Accounting Assistant. She is beginning her junior year at Rasmussen State University in Ft. Myers, online, three classes per semester. Her short-term goals are to finish her undergrad degree and enroll in a Master's Degree program in Accounting.

She says "although her husband does more than his share," juggling her job responsibilities with her role as mother of two active boys aged six and nine is a challenge. "The "Bentley Wings" scholarship is a great help. It makes it possible for me to go back to school and finish my degrees faster." Why accounting? "I always knew this would be my career. I love interacting with the residents here at Bentley Village."

# Samuel Isenberg

Samuel 's father, Joshua Isenberg, is a First Responder at Bentley Village. Beginning his first year at Florida State University (FSU). Samuel plans to continue his studies in a grad program there, majoring in Psychology. "My goal is to pursue upper-level education and contribute to research in various aspects within psychology," he says.

"The scholarship from the "Bentley Wings" program means that I can pursue my goals. Before this scholarship I had to think about whether I could even attend college. Now I'm confident that I could get through college without having to rely on the financial support of my father. I will be eternally grateful to the "Bentley Wings" program and those who donate to its fund.





# Darla Menapole

The daughter of Niorlyne Fadael, a Certified Nursing Assistant in Bentley's Assisted Living facility, Darla earned a BA in Business Management at FGCU. She is currently pursuing an MBA at the University of Central Florida, with a completion date of 2026. Her goal is to become a senior leader in the healthcare sector.

She says, "I am very grateful and honored to have been chosen for the "Bentley Wings" scholarship. It is a huge help." Now I am in new chapter of my life ...and it's only beginning."

# Alexsandra St. Fleur

Alexsandra is the daughter of Mimose St. Fleur, a Licensed Practical Nurse at Bentley's Care Center. A student at FGCU, majoring in Nursing, Alexsandra's goal is to become a nurse in a cardiac intensive care unit.

"The "Bentley Wings" scholarship will allow me to finish my last semester without putting any more pressure on my mother to help me financially," she says. "We had a semester where she had to pay half of my tuition out of pocket, and it caused serious financial hardships on my family. That's because my mother is also putting two of my siblings through school." She adds, "This is why I work as hard as I do to achieve my goals."



# Welcome Ken LaMotte as Bentley Village Foundation's New Corporate Secretary

We are pleased to announce the election of Ken LaMotte as our new Corporate Secretary. Ken brings a wealth of experience in corporate law, having practiced for over 45 years in Southwest Michigan after graduating from the University of Michigan's Law School in 1966.

Throughout his distinguished career, Ken has represented a diverse array of privately owned businesses and trade associations in the Detroit area. He also took a mid-career break to become an owner and manager of several successful businesses. Notably, Ken served as the non-executive Chairman of a managed healthcare company with 450,000 members, where he skillfully navigated complex conflicts between healthcare executives and medical professionals.

While Ken has formed several 501(c)(3) entities, he acknowledges that he does not have recent experience with IRS regulations and emphasizes that he will not act as the legal counsel for the Foundation. Instead, he is committed to collaborating with our existing outside legal counsel.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Ken was actively involved in his previous community on Sanibel Island for over 20 years, serving on various boards, including those of the Golf Club, HOA, and Condo Association. We are excited to have Ken on board and look forward to his contributions to the Foundation's mission.

# Upcoming Music Events

#### These musical events are sponsored by the Bentley Village Foundation Program Fund.

**Tuesday, November 5, 4:30 – 6 pm** Doug Williams Entertains, Seaside Lounge **Thursday November 7, 7:00 pm** The Del Prados, Palmetto Room ...a group of "doo-wop" men singers performing music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. Come join us for some great music and dancing. Also, dancing with guest professional dancers!

Tuesday, November 19, 4:30 - 6 pm Doug Williams Entertains, Seaside Lounge
Tuesday, December 3, 4:30 - 6 pm Doug Williams Entertains, Seaside Lounge
Friday, December 6, 7 - 9:00 pm: Brass Music Elements. Palmetto Room
a 20-piece professional music group performs throughout the SWFL area. Be prepared for a night of Holiday Fun

**Tuesday, December 17, 4:30 – 6 pm** Doug Williams Entertains, Seaside Lounge **Thursday, December 19; 7 pm** Belles & Beaus Holiday Concert, Palmetto Room Since 2005, Belles and Beaus, Bentley Village's own choral group, has enchanted Bentley Village residents with their holiday concerts. Join the beloved Belles and Beaus in celebrating this joyous season

#### Coming in 2025 . . . watch for dates/times

**January:** Whitney Grace on Stage and Streaming the Met Opera Lucia di Lammermoor **February:** Jodie DeSalvo (tentative)

Tuesday, March 4: Mardi Gras: Naples Jazzmasters Dixieland Band March: Paradise Coastmen

THE BENTLEY VILLAGE FOUNDATION, INC. IS AN IRS APPROVED 501(c)(3) PUBLIC CHARITY AND A FLORIDA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Contact 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352); www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com. REFER TO CH47269.