

Brevillier

View

Housing and Healthcare



PHILOSOPHY

Continuing a quality not-for-profit outreach of the Episcopal Church, we are dedicated staff and volunteer caregivers who serve older adults with dignity and respect.

Adopted by Brevillier Village March 14, 2013

MISSION

Through uncompromising attention to body, mind, and spirit, Brevillier Village meets housing and health care needs in a home-like atmosphere.

Adopted by Brevillier Village March 17, 1993

BALL PAVILION RENOVATION UPDATE

Renovations at Ball Pavilion will be finished at the end of June. We will re-open Cherry Blossom Lane in July 2020.

NEW VAN UPDATE: CONGRATULATIONS!

By: Maureen Rizzo, Director of Development



While on the surface April was a particularly challenging month as we learned to navigate uncharted waters. Despite the difficulties COVID-19 has presented us with, I want to take this time to celebrate the fact that because of your graciousness we have fully fundraised \$80,000 for our new wheelchair accessible van. This is a huge accomplishment, that could not have been done without your help. We are

so excited to announce the van was picked up on June 11th, and sign work was generously donated by Susan Hawley, owner of Signs Now, who previously had family at Brevillier Village. Her kindness and generosity are appreciated along with the many others who have shared their support with us. Fundraising contributions came from our Van Fundraiser Kick-Off/Food Truck Day, our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, gifts in honor of residents and memorial donations, Golf Outing 2019, Purse Bingo events from 2019, The Erie Community Foundation, Helping Today (Cycle 3), and many of your individual pledges. Please recognize the importance of our funding requests as they allow Brevillier



Village to put our Mission into action. This is another incredible example of the united support from our Board, residents, families, staff, and the entire community!

Thank you!



DIGNITY & RESPECT DURING A PANDEMIC

By: Vickie Gilchrist & Tracy Moore,
Co-Leaders Team RAD

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

As I write this article we are amidst a historic event that will serve as a learning tool for the generations to come.

My plan for once this pandemic is over, I will have all the staff answer one question. "What did I learn from this?" I'm sure the answers will be amazing. I know this because the staff of Brevillier Village have been truly amazing thus far. I've seen my staff take on jobs others once completed. I have seen my staff pitch in and operate our Village Store and deliver meals to keep our residents supplied with essential items. Side Note - the entire Village Store operation is run by our dedicated volunteers.

I've been able to lean on my key staff and watch them grow and take charge. I've learned sometimes you have to make a quick decision. Sometimes we had to change or revise our plans. I've learned by the time we went to enact a decision; it may already be obsolete.

I think if you ask yourself what you learned from this, you may end up saying I learned some people's true colors. The pandemic brought out a fear that little of us have felt before. It showed you how quickly our lives can change. Sadly, it ended lives. For those families, the memories of this pandemic will be far worse than those that were only inconvenienced by social distancing and stay at home restrictions.

I also learned the pandemic brought out the best in people. By hitting the "Pause" button in our lives, we returned to values from days long ago. Family, helping your neighbors, watching out for the elderly. I witnessed brilliant minds put together drug therapies for treatment, ingenuity for care options, retired health care workers return to work, and sewing machines turned into mask making machines. People doing anything they could to help one another.

Mostly, I've learned we could not have gotten through this without your generosity and for that I am truly grateful.

Jeffrey F. Wieser, *President/CEO*

We have faced uncharted territory when it comes to dealing with the Covid-19 Pandemic. Over the last couple of months we have seen the best and worst of humanity. The worst came from people hoarding toilet paper, groceries, sanitizer and those people who were not willing to follow the appeal for social distancing. More heartwarming was watching people come up with ideas of how they could help others from sewing much needed masks for the health care industry, offering to purchase meals for the truckers, to landlords waiving rent for a month of two.

It is during times of difficulty that real growth seems to happen. By everyone pulling together and (tip #28) **lending a hand** we can come out the other side a stronger community. Remember, **we all make mistakes** (tip #25), but it's how we learn from those mistakes is what matters. 🌿

BUSY HANDS MAKE THE TIME FLY BY



Barnabas Court South resident Jean Hunter has kept herself busy while complying with the Stay Home order due to the coronavirus. She has used that time to make blankets for Project Linus. Project Linus takes blanket donations and gives them to children at local hospitals. Jean has made over 20 blankets in the last 7 weeks. Another resident at Barnabas South who has been busy is Pat Kiesel. She has crocheted several beautiful baby blankets for Project Linus. 🌿



WELCOME JULIE SCHEPPNER - NEW BARNABAS COURT SOCIAL WORKER

Hello my name is Julie Scheppner and I want to introduce myself to everyone. I am currently working part time as the social worker at Barnabas Court South. My background began with graduating from Edinboro University with a major in social work and a minor in psychology. My career has spanned 25+ years working with individuals such as young teenagers at Harborcreek Youth Services where I did complete an internship and for individuals at Hamot Geriatric Partial. I also worked at GECAC's Area Agency on Aging. The majority of my career was spent working with severely mentally ill persons at agencies such as Stairways, Case Management Support Services and Lakeshore Community Services.



In my personal time I enjoy the outdoors as much as possible with husband John and my pup Noah. We like to hike, walk, and camp. I love horses and did some volunteer work at TREC with individuals with mental and physical disabilities and received a certificate in Equine Assisted Therapy. I love music, trying to learn guitar and piano and like to sing with some musician friends when I get time.

I am glad to be here presently serving the residents of the Brevillier Village Community. I appreciate their wisdom, candor and overall zest for life. It is a privilege to work with all of them. I hope to get a chance to meet all of you soon. Please feel free to call me with any concerns or questions regarding your family member. Stay safe and stay healthy. 🌿



DEVELOPMENT: YOUR SUPPORT MAKES US STRONGER!

By: Maureen Rizzo, Development Director

We are always told from day one that life is not always what we expect and there will be times when we feel as though we cannot control much. This could not be any truer than it is today. We have been faced with an upheaval of our normal, the control we thought we had, is no longer. But just as evident and important to remember is that there is sun after the rain, and summer after the bitter coldness of winter. During this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic we are reminded of the gentle waves of kindness that warm our souls, like that first warm day in spring. There have been several donations of masks, food and snacks for staff, flowers for the residents and so much more. These generous acts have helped us all to continue to be the light in a time of darkness. We have been awarded a grant from the Erie Community Foundation and have an ongoing Facebook Donation page, which anyone can contribute to. These funds will supplement the increasing expenses we are experiencing due to required PPE (personal protection equipment) and supplies. Words cannot express our sincere gratitude to all of you who have helped us during this time. While you are busy thinking of our residents and staff, perhaps saying a prayer, or have even donated, you truly do help keep us safe and our spirits hopeful. As we continue to embrace the new normal, we know that the Brevillier Village is uplifted by our community. This is a time of connection and a reset for all of society to recognize the importance of human connection and caring for those we love. We look forward to when we can all meet again, share stories of triumph, hug one another, and simply smile knowing we made it through this together. Thank you. Special thanks to those who have shared their good will with our staff and residents at Brevillier Village. 🌿



Barnabas Court South residents sharing a message for their families.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Dear Brevillier Family,

I have recently been selected to serve as the Chaplain at Brevillier Village. My name is Chuck Adamczyk and I am a Permanent Deacon of the Erie Catholic Diocese. My diocesan assignments are at Saint James Parish in Erie on Buffalo Road, Brevillier Village (for the past 16 years), and the VA Medical Center in Erie on East 38th Street.

My home has always been and is here in Erie, PA, where I live with my wife Kathy. We have been blessed with three (3) children; Carl, Rob, and Nicole; their spouses April, Cassie and Justin; and our five (5) grandchildren, Hannah, Carly, Madison, Braxtin, and Iris. We have one (1) grandchild already in heaven, Michael.

I have been blessed with a warm welcome many years ago by the residents and staff, and I am delighted and excited to now be here to serve the entire Brevillier Village community. I pray that I may provide all residents, family members and staff with the spiritual care they want, and can be there for them and you when needed.

I have attached below a poem, or a "take-off" of one of my favorite songs by John Denver...Calypso...but in the eyes, warmth, and welcome of this beautiful Village community. I titled this "Brevillier"! Enjoy this rendition as much as I enjoy being here for everyone!



Brevillier

To sail on a dream on pretty Lake Erie
To ride on the crest of a wild raging storm
To work in the service of life and the living
In search of the answers to questions unknown
To be part of this Village and part of this growing
Part of beginning to understand

Oh Brevillier the people you have cared for
The things that you've shown us
The stories you tell
Oh Brevillier, I sing to your spirit
The folks who have served you so long and so well
Like the doctor who guides you, you bring us beside you
To light up the darkness and show us the way
For though we are strangers in this spiritual world
To live on this land we must learn from JC
To be true as the tide and free as a wind swell
Joyful and loving in letting it be

Oh Brevillier the people you have cared for
The things that you've shown us
The stories you tell
Oh Brevillier, I sing to your spirit
The folks who have served you so long and so well

Oh Brevillier the people you have cared for
The things that you've shown us
The stories you tell
Oh Brevillier, I sing to your spirit
The folks who have served you so long and so well

God Bless, Prayers, and Love,
Chuck Adamczyk
Chaplain – Brevillier Village

NOTABLE NOTES

SAVE THE DATE – USED BOOK SALE

Friday, November 6 &
Saturday, November 7, 2020

The Annual BVA Used Book Sale will be open to residents, families, volunteers and staff on Friday, November 6th and open to the public on Saturday, November 7th. Hours for the sale are 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. both days. Books are priced "donation only," whatever you are able to give it greatly appreciated!

We are currently taking donations of gently used books, CD's, and DVD's. Please do not bring in any Reader's Digest condensed books, text books, or encyclopedias. You can drop off your donations at any Village office.

If you are interested in helping with the Book Sale, please contact Jen Kehl, for more information!

SAVE THE DATE – DECK THE HALLS

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Please join us for the 7th Annual Deck the Brevillier Village Halls! This popular event includes an old fashioned tree trimming party, visits with Santa Claus, Caroling, Cookies and Kids Crafts. Look for more information in the November and December issues of the *Brevillier Insider*.

SAVE THE DATE – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY EVENT

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Our Annual Holiday Family and Friends Reception is back after taking off a year due to the renovations at Ball Pavilion. Our Christmas Holiday Event will be held on Sunday, December 13th. Watch for more details in our fall publications.

A HUGE *Thank You*

to everyone who attended our Designer Purse Bingo Events as well as the 2019 Golf Outing. Some names may be missed due to Purse Bingo tickets and the Golf Outing Foursomes being under the purchaser's name.

We are incredibly appreciative of everyone who came out and supported these events. Thank you for supporting Brevillier Village.



NEW FUND-RAISING INITIATIVE WILL BEGIN IN JULY 2020!

By: Vicky Wittuck, Senior Vice President

With the generosity of all the wonderful friends of Brevillier Village we have exceeded our fund-raising goal for the New Village Van in less than a year. The Van was picked up June 11th. We were supposed to have delivery in April of this year but with the recent events this was slightly delayed. But we are so excited to show off this new vehicle to residents, families, staff and friends who donated to this project in one way or another.

In reviewing the needs of the Village, it has been decided that our new fund-raising initiative will be a new nurse call system. The systems we have are between 20 and 40 years old. They are becoming obsolete with all the new technology. The new

systems have many more features that can improve the care delivery system as well as the quality of life for residents. We have formed a team of staff members that is researching the various systems and their functionality. We estimate these could cost anywhere from \$125,000 to \$200,000 dependent on how many buildings we replace with these new systems.

We have been amazed at the support for our last two fund-raisers, St. Paul's Chapel and the Van. Please watch for information which will be distributed this summer.

With grateful appreciation! 



CAR PARADE

Saturday, May 16th the residents, staff and family members of Brevillier Village joyfully welcomed over 100 vehicles, including the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department. Residents at our Share Care homes, Ball Pavilion (nursing home), Conrad House (independent living), and Barnabas Court (personal care home) celebrated with staff as we all watched family members and visitors drive past. There were many decorated cars, signs and even some sunshine to help make the day extra special. For many this was the first time seeing their loved ones in over two months. The event was truly emotional and moving to see the genuine love and support from our little, yet courageously strong community! We look forward to planning another parade to celebrate residents and staff on July 5th, please check our website, emails, and future mailings for more information regarding this event. 🌿



CALLING ALL GOLFERS - 13TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Save the Date - August 17th, 2020

In August 2019, **YOU** helped us raise just over \$19,000 at our Annual Golf Outing with proceeds benefiting our **Van Fund**. The 2019 Outing helped to provide nearly 25% of the total funds raised toward our goal. We recently hit our goal and have purchased a new van for our residents to enjoy and utilize. We are truly blessed with an incredible and supportive **Brevillier Village family**, whether you were a sponsor, golfer, volunteer, or employee, you helped make the event a success!

This year, our Annual Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 17, 2020 at Venango Valley Golf Course and we hope to make it our best one yet! We hope to have 36 foursomes (144 golfers) out on the course enjoying the day. This includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, beverages, golfer gift, steak dinner, and prizes/awards! The event will begin with 11 AM Registration followed by a Noon Shotgun Start.

The 2020 Annual Golf Outing will benefit the **Nurse Call System Fund** at Ball Pavilion. This necessary project will enhance our **person-centered care Mission** and we hope to meet our goal over the next two years with your continued friendship and support!

If you have any questions about the event or would like to inquire about registering or sponsoring please contact: Maureen Rizzo, Director of Development at (814)899-8600 or mrizzo@brevillier.org. 🌿



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ESSENTIAL WORKER?

By: Maureen Rizzo, Director of Development

We have all been experiencing extremely challenging times over these past few months as we are adjusting to the COVID-19 pandemic. Everyone is learning how to adjust to a new normal. In fact, the word normal seems like something we used to know and is far from reality today. Despite these trying times our incredible staff have stepped up to the plate and are performing their essential jobs every day, many picked up shifts, filling in other areas, and lifting each other in spirit. Caring for our residents during this time has presented some unique challenges but has also provided us with an opportunity to celebrate the work that is done by our staff. In early stages of the pandemic people who were allowed and more-so required to work were coined as "Essential Workers". This term reflects the necessity of each employee and their job. As a senior housing and health care community the services we provide are essential to the well-being of our residents. Each department supports the Village in various ways, and each are dependent upon the other. Working during these times has certainly been difficult for everyone; creating a healthy work environment and striving for life-work-balance are exceptionally important. Sharing positivity, encouragement, and appreciation are just some of the ways we are trying to keep everyone in good spirits. To all the essential workers out there, in all the various services and industries, please know you too are appreciated! We celebrate our team of caregivers each day and hope you will too! 🌿



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HOW ERIE GIVES WORKS

Erie Gives 2020 is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, August 11th from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. New beginning last year, donors can write a check for their Erie Gives donation. Checks must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation.






All check donations must be accompanied by a Check Donation Form. The check Donation Form will be available for download beginning June 15th.

Checks must be delivered to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) no later than Monday, August 10, 2020.

We will make sure to have Donation Forms available in all Brevillier Village offices. All donations made to Erie Gives will benefit the purchase of a new nurse call system. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Maureen Rizzo, Director of Development at 814-899-8600 or at mrizzo@brevillier.org. 

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