



# Happenings

## BENTLEY VILLAGE FOUNDATION

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## LETTER FROM THE DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS 2024 CO-CHAIRS



We gratefully thank all participants, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters of the 8th annual 2024 Dollars for Scholars event.

The generosity exhibited by Bentley Village residents was truly heartwarming. Your extraordinary giving spirit helped us raise more than ever before. Since its inception in 2016, the Bentley Village Foundation has awarded 107 "Bentley

Wings" competitive scholarships with total awards of over \$1,000,000. Some award recipients are the first in their families to attend college, and some were enabled to pursue advanced education that otherwise would not have been possible.

Dollars for Scholars, one of the annual Bentley Village Foundation's fundraising events, featured a golf tournament, raffle, online auction, a cocktail hour, and an awards banquet with a live auction! An entire day of fun activities! Watch for the event next year and be a part of it all.

Thanks to dedicated volunteers and trustees who have worked tirelessly over the years, the Foundation continues to thrive. It provides scholarships to Bentley Village employees and their dependents, giving them the boost needed to better their lives.

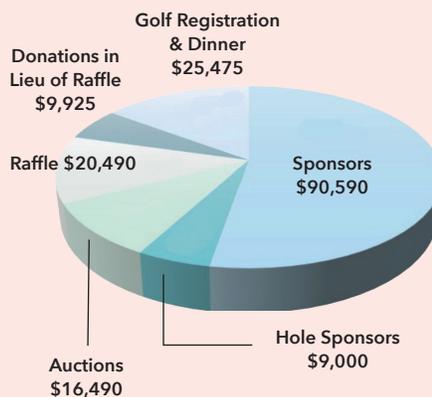
On behalf of the Scholars and Bentley Village Foundation, we thank you.

Jim and Denise Greer



*With our volunteers' support and our trustees' dedication, the Foundation has received Charity Navigator's top rating of Four Stars every year since its formation. You can be certain your donation is being used productively.*

## DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS 2024 REVENUES - \$171,970



### Dollars for Scholars Sets a New Record!

Thanks to our residents and sponsoring organizations for their wonderful support of the Dollars for Scholars Fundraising Event. We raised over \$170,000 – A new Record!. The tournament was played on the 18-hole course with three new hole and featured morning and afternoon golf scrambles, plus putting and chipping contests. Thanks to our generous residents, sponsorships increased by almost 43%. Over 2,000 raffle tickets were sold, and many residents decided to donate in lieu of buying raffle tickets.

## Thank You from the “Bentley Wings” Competitive Scholarship Program

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Dollars for Scholars event. Whether you engaged in golf, sponsored the event, supported a hole, participated in the raffle or silent auctions, or donated to the scholarship fund, your continued contributions have been crucial in shaping a brighter future for our scholars.

This year, the Foundation awarded eight scholarships to deserving students. These scholarships open doors that many awardees never thought possible. Your support helps turn their dreams into reality. Many of our scholars come from families who have immigrated to the US for a better life. Some did not speak English when they reached our shores. Some came from among the poorest communities in the world.

Your support is instrumental in continuing our “Bentley Wings” Competitive Scholarship program. You have helped to fund this year’s eight new scholars plus the money to meet our obligations to 22 previous scholarship awardees who are still actively pursuing their education. This year’s obligation for the 30 active scholarships is \$180,000. Since the scholarships are renewable for eight years, our estimated total future obligation for these scholars is approximately \$888,000.

Bentley Village Foundation awarded its first “Bentley Wings” scholarships in 2016, the year the Foundation started. We’ve awarded 107 scholarships to date. Forty-three of our “Bentley Wings” scholars have graduated! Scholarships are available to any Bentley Village employees or their dependents and may be used for any accredited institution offering advanced education or vocational training.

### “Bentley Wings” Competitive Scholarships - Touching Young Lives

“I want you to know that your kindness and trust in me have touched me deeply. Your selfless gesture of offering this scholarship illustrates not just your dedication to education, but also your genuine care for the hopes and dreams of so many young people like me. You will have an impact on my life for years to come.”



### Highlighting **Ludmie Caesar** 2024 Scholarship Awardee

Ludmie Caesar, the daughter of Betty Bernard, a part-time nurse at Bentley, is the oldest of three children. She immigrated with her parents from Haiti to the US. Her family sought safety and opportunities, particularly the chance for their children to receive a quality education. Ludmie is deeply passionate about nursing, mathematics, and chemistry and is working tirelessly toward earning a Doctorate as a Certified Nurse Anesthetist.

Ludmie could only attend school two to three times a week in Haiti due to limited transportation and resources. Despite these challenges, she always prioritized education. Adjusting to life in America came with its own difficulties, but Ludmie firmly believes that with a willing heart, a sharp mind, divine blessings, and the right resources, she can achieve what she once felt was impossible.

After being turned down for several scholarships, Ludmie began to lose hope. Then came the life-changing news: she was awarded a “Bentley Wings” Competitive Scholarship. Reflecting on this moment, Ludmie shared, “I can’t put into words the happiness and gratitude I feel. Knowing the struggles that have shaped me, I deeply appreciate the person I’m becoming—thanks to your incredible generosity.”

Your support is empowering students like Ludmie to turn aspirations into achievements. Together, we are transforming lives and creating futures filled with possibility.

Visit our website to see the stories of all our 2024 Scholarship Awardees.



# Thank you

## 2024 Dollars for Scholars Committee

Thanks to the people who helped make the 2024 Dollars for Scholars Golf Event a success.



### **Dollars for Scholars Committee**

Front row: Judy Halpin, Natalie Knecht, Jim Greer (Chair), Denise Greer (Chair), Bill Bretz  
Back row: Stan Geer (Golf Pro), Kathy Smith, Rich Nortz, Nancy Nortz, Judy Lynch

Missing from the picture: Dolly Howard, (Hole Sponsor Chair)

## SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

### **Hole Sponsors**

Dolly Howard (Chair), Linda Clemons, Dian Holdeman

### **Hole Sponsor Signs**

Jim & Denise Greer, Dee Justus, Mary Beth Huttenlocher,  
Ken & Mary Jane Knipschild, Tom Ouellette

### **Live and Online Auction**

Judy Halpin (Chair), Leilani Brenner, Barb Herstig,  
Nancy Jaycox, Barbara Phillips, Helen Roth, Kathy Smith

### **Online Auction Website**

Sue Leonard, Kathy Smith

### **Registration**

Judy Lynch (Chair), Stan Geer, Mary Jane Knipschild

### **Program & Slides:**

Sue Leonard

### **Putting and Chipping Contest**

Natalie Knecht (Chair), Mary Beth Hottenlocher

### **Photography**

Michael Johnson, Rich Nortz

**Raffle:** Sandy Lyons plus various committee  
and subcommittee members

### **Auctioneer:**

Tim McAuliff



A special thanks to VI at Bentley Village for co-sponsoring this event and providing staff and facilities to help make it successful



**AUCTION DONORS – RESIDENTS**

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– Maine Cabin  
Maureen Genel  
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Dolly Howard\*  
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\* Donated in honor of Dolly Howard's unwavering commitment as Hole Sponsor chair despite being incapacitated by her fall.  
Margie Fiocchi, Denise Greer, Judy Halpin  
Dian Holdeman, Nancy Jaycox, Dee Justus

**HOLE SPONSORS - BUSINESS**

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