

FALL 2025

The
RIDGEWOOD
AT Shenango Valley





Family Picnic



On Saturday, September 20, we hosted our annual Family Picnic, a cherished tradition that brings together residents, team members, and their families for an afternoon of fellowship and celebration.

Held under the pavilion, the event took place against the backdrop of crisp autumn air and the beauty of the changing leaves.



Guests enjoyed a delicious menu that included seasonal favorites such as apple cider and pumpkin pie, along with a variety of picnic fare. Live entertainment was provided by Humble Music, whose performance added a lively and joyful atmosphere to the day.

The picnic also featured a festive mum raffle, which added an extra element of fun and excitement to the gathering. More importantly, the event provided a meaningful opportunity for residents and their loved ones to spend time together, strengthening the bonds that are at the heart of our community.

We extend our gratitude to all who attended and contributed to making this year's Family Picnic a success. Moments like these remind us of the value of community, connection, and the joy of shared traditions.





A Beautiful New Courtyard

Peaceful, Welcoming, and Renewed

We are excited to share that The Ridgewood courtyard has been revitalized into a beautiful new space for residents, families, and friends to enjoy thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors. The project got a big boost from PA OH Gives Giving Week in June, which raised a total of \$7,054—including \$6,294 in donations and an additional \$760 in matching funds. A very special thank you to the T.J. Kavanagh Foundation, Goodrick Family Foundation, Rose/Harnett Family Foundation, SVF Betterment of the Valley Fund and the Community Foundation of Western PA and Eastern OH for their support.

These gifts made it possible to completely refresh the courtyard. The updates include a peaceful water feature, brand-new Amish-crafted furniture, and fresh landscaping to create a welcoming and serene outdoor setting. This renewed space is already becoming a favorite gathering spot, whether for quiet reflection, enjoying the sunshine, or visiting with loved ones.

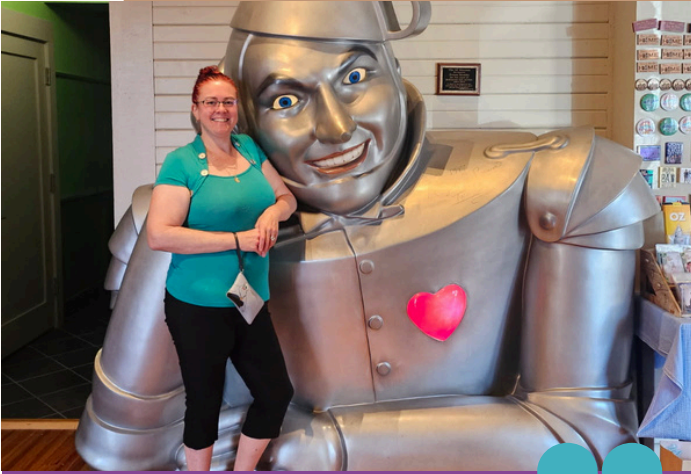
We are so grateful to everyone who contributed to this project. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of our residents, providing them with a beautiful place to relax and connect.



A look at the revitalized Ridgewood courtyard featuring new Amish furniture, fresh rock bedding, and a tranquil water feature made possible by our generous donors. It now offers residents a beautiful space to relax and gather.



A Calling To Care



I come from a family of nurses”

We are pleased to introduce Joann Holzer as our new Director of Resident Care, a role created to provide added support for residents, families, and staff.

When you ask Joann Holzer where her journey in nursing began, she doesn't point to a classroom or her first official job. Instead, she goes back to a summer when she was just 13 years old. Her grandmother had surgery, and Joann spent those warm months by her side, helping with recovery. Looking back, it seems fitting—after all, her mother often reminded her that she had been saying she wanted to be a nurse since the age of five.

“I come from a family of nurses,” Joann explains. Her great aunt Dorthia worked as a supervisor at the state hospital before moving into leadership in a nursing home. Her aunt Evie also made her mark as the head cardiac surgical nurse at Hamot (Erie, PA) when their cardiac program first opened. With role models like these, Joann's path into healthcare felt less like a decision and more like a calling.

Her career has been shaped by a variety of experiences across the country. Before becoming a nurse, Joann worked in North

Carolina and New York caring for adults with physical and mental disabilities. In 2014, she earned her LPN license and spent six years traveling across the country, taking on assignments as far west as Oregon. Those years gave her the opportunity to work in diverse settings and take on various supervisory roles—experiences she believes will serve her well in this new position.

Now, Joann is most excited about building a stronger foundation for staff retention, creating an environment where team members feel supported, valued, and motivated to grow in their roles. She hopes that, over time, staff members will be eager not only to stay but also to recommend The Ridgewood to others.

Her philosophy of resident care is rooted in compassion, patience, and empathy. “They (the resident) do need someone who's willing to understand or try to understand where they're coming from.” She adds, “I hope that my care and compassion come through and that families feel that I truly have their loved ones best interest at heart.”

Outside of work, Joann leads an active and creative life. She and her husband, whom she married on September 12 this year, enjoy riding Harleys and traveling together. At home, they share their lives with two cats—whom they affectionately consider their children. Joann also finds joy in quilting for veterans through the Quilts of Valor program, baking, crocheting, and playing games on her phone.

As she steps into her new role, Joann is eager to work alongside staff, residents, and families. She shared, “I am excited about this role and seeing how it develops and grows, and I am looking forward to working with everybody. My true ultimate goal is that I want all of my staff to be successful in the position that they are in.”



*I will honor Christmas in my heart,
and try to keep it all the year."*

-- Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

GIVING TUESDAY

December 2

Donate to the
Resident Christmas
Appeal and share
the love and spirit
of the season with
our residents!

Resident Christmas Appeal Is Underway

The holiday spirit is already filling The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley, and your generosity helps make it truly special. Thanks to donors like you, every resident will receive a meaningful gift to open on Christmas morning, along with year-round items that brighten life in our community — from games and activities to beautiful flowers and outdoor enhancements. If you haven't yet made your gift to this year's Resident

Christmas Appeal, there's still time to spread joy and remind our residents how loved and cherished they are.

To contribute, simply scan the QR code, or drop off or mail your check to The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley, 1 Elston Way, Hermitage, PA 16148. Thank you for helping make the season brighter for every resident!



HALLOWEEN FUN

Team members (from left) Shawnee Reiter, Kristen Knapp, Racheal Johnson, Sam Solyan, and Joann Holzer joined in the Halloween fun by dressing up to celebrate with residents at The Ridgewood. Their festive looks included Mickey Mouse, a witch, a steampunk outfit, and a pair of Halloween-themed shirts—bringing plenty of smiles and seasonal spirit to the day!

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT



PAT SHAFFER

Pat Shaffer (McClelland) grew up as one of eight children of Edgar and Elvenia McClelland. Family has always been at the heart of her life. She was married to her husband, Paul, for 70 years, and together they raised four sons, all of whom are living today. Pat and Paul spent most of their married life in the Greenville and Reynolds area, building a home filled with love and faith.

Pat's favorite hymn, "How Great Thou Art," reflects her deep belief in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

She credits her faith for taking care of her and her family through the years. That strong foundation has guided her life, alongside her greatest talents—being a devoted mom, grandma, great-grandma, and a cherished friend.

When it comes to favorite foods, Pat enjoys a hearty steak, fresh tomatoes, potatoes, salad, and fruit, with pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream as a special treat. If she could travel anywhere, Hawaii would be her dream destination, and if given a superpower, she would choose the ability to stop war. She's also thought about what it might be like to switch places with someone else and says she would trade spots with Mrs. Bill Gates.

Here at Ridgewood, Pat says what she appreciates most are the caring staff, the friendships she's made, and the cleanliness of her home. We're grateful to have Pat as part of our Ridgewood family and to celebrate her life story in this spotlight.

TEAM SPOTLIGHT

BRANDY PATRICK

When you meet Brandy Patrick, it's easy to see how much she loves what she does. Brandy has been part of our team for 2½ years, serving as a Lead PCA. With her ability to step into many roles as needed, she's often thought of as a universal worker. But no matter where she's helping, her favorite part of the job never changes—the residents, many of whom she considers dear friends.

Brandy's passion for senior care began in high school. She once dreamed of becoming a dean of nursing, but when she started as a CNA, she discovered her heart truly belonged to resident care. That passion has carried her through more than 20 years in long-term care and geriatrics.

Outside of work, family is everything to Brandy. She and her husband, Matthew, are proud parents of six children—five boys and one girl—and recently celebrated becoming grandparents to a baby grandson. Her ideal weekend is filled with family traditions: a Friday night concert under the lights with her husband, cheering at her daughter's Saturday competition, and Sunday mornings spent together in church.



Brandy brings a fun-loving spirit wherever she goes, reflected perfectly in her chosen theme song, “Girls Just Want to Have Fun” by Cyndi Lauper. She loves dancing, all kinds of music, and even imagines having a superpower: becoming a genius who could cure cancer, mental health struggles, and Alzheimer's disease.

When asked about advice that has stuck with her, Brandy shares: “If I’m too much, go find less.” She knows she’s bold, caring, and full of love—and she wouldn’t have it any other way. If she could share a meal with any historical figure, it would be Marilyn Monroe, who, like Brandy, hid insecurities behind a bright personality. She also dreams of traveling back in time to meet the people who made a lasting impact on the world.

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One Elston Way
Hermitage, Pa. 16148
www.rwsv.org



We hope this finds you well! In 2025, The Ridgewood at Shenango Valley is looking for new ways to keep you connected and informed about the happenings in our community. To make it easier for you to stay up-to-date with our latest news, publications, and upcoming events, we'd love to start sharing more information via email.

If you would like to receive updates directly in your inbox, please provide us with your email address. Simply give us a call at **724-589-4646** or email us at **marketing@sp1867.org** to share your contact details. You can also scan the QR code on the left to visit our website and complete the online form.

This initiative is also a more eco-friendly choice and will reduce costs. Thank you for being a part of our extended family. We look forward to keeping you informed and engaged!

DOGS ON A MISSION: RC'S LITTLE CANINE CRUISERS DAZZLE RESIDENTS

Residents were delighted by a special visit from RC's Little Canine Cruisers Tricks & Agility Team.

The dogs wowed everyone with their high jumps, agility runs, and playful tricks, even weaving through obstacles and performing on cue.

