

The Bridge Arrives

Thursday, August 27, was a very exciting day on St. Paul's campus as the long-awaited pedestrian bridge arrived on a beautiful summer morning, perfect for spectators to gather. And gather they did, with golf carts, bikes, and camping chairs filling the field adjacent to the intersection of Collins Drive and Killius Way for the best view of the action.

Williamson Road closed to traffic around 7:30 a.m. with the arrival of the boom crane from Precision Crane in Linesville, Pa., which moved into place across the roadway.

The bridge was prefabricated in about a month by Contech Engineered Solutions, headquartered in West Chester, Ohio. Contech has been building infrastructure projects like this for more than a century.

The bridge traveled more than 400 miles from Contech's plant in Abingdon, Va., to Greenville in two sections on oversized trucks.

At 10:30 a.m., the sections arrived on Route 58. The trucks backed up Williamson Road, and the crane carefully offloaded the first section. Crew members from Horizon Construction of Sandy Lake, Pa., used guide ropes from the ground to help control and position the bridge as it was lowered onto temporary

supports on the roadway. Crews immediately began assembling the necessary connections.

The process was then repeated with the second section, which was aligned with the first and securely bolted. Crews then installed the metal decking that would form the bridge floor. In just minutes, the two sections became one bridge, ready for its final lift.

St. Paul's and Horizon Construction team members gathered at the middle of the bridge to raise the American flag. Then came the moment everyone had been waiting for.

The crane slowly lifted the completed span into the air and rotated it into position while crew members on the ground assisted with guide lines.

Within two hours of its arrival, the bridge was in place over Williamson Road, greeted by a hail of cheers and golf cart horns from residents, staff, and family members.

Tim & Anecia Flanagan, who moved into The Colony in 2024, were among the spectators watching in golf carts. The couple were also generous supporters of the fundraising campaign.

"It's nice to see both sides of campus really come together," said Tim. "It makes St. Paul's whole."

Glenn & Arlene Sadler have a special interest in



The second section of the bridge is lifted from the truck.



The two sections are positioned side-by-side for connection.



Crews get to work assembling the bridge.



Spectators watched in anticipation.

Bridge (continued)



The bridge is raised into position.

the bridge and watched the entire installation. The couple, who have lived in The Colony since 2009, have many friends across campus. Glenn also serves on St. Paul's board of directors, and the couple supported the fundraising campaign for the project.

"It was really great to see the structure being set and to realize that soon, access for Ridgewood and other residents to safely visit The Colony would be a reality," said Arlene.

As a St. Paul's board member, Glenn has had firsthand knowledge of the project since its inception. Watching it all come together was a fulfilling moment.

"I was amazed at how smooth that installation process went," he said. "All the workers knew their job and worked together to get the structure in place efficiently."

The new structure is a truss-style bridge, supported by a framework of steel beams that work together to carry the weight. It's made from a special type of steel that naturally develops a protective coating over time and won't need to be painted. The bridge is 14 feet wide and 89 feet long.

St. Paul's Director of Facilities Kurt Bucheit was on site throughout the day and has worked closely with Horizon throughout construction.

"I would say watching the bridge being set gave me a sense of pride knowing that I was participating in a new chapter in the rich legacy of St. Paul's," said Kurt.

Dawn Hartman, Director of Charitable Giving, who spearheaded the fundraising campaign for the project, felt the same.

"This project wouldn't have happened without our many generous donors," she said. "They believed in supporting opportunities for active living and



The bridge in place over Williamson Road.

meaningful connections between residents and staff all across campus. I'm blessed that I got to be a part of that."

Now that the bridge is in place, crews have poured the concrete deck and installed the railings. They are now paving the new walking trails, which, along with the bridge, will connect all four neighborhoods on St. Paul's 600+ acre campus: The Villas, The Heritage, The Ridgewood, and The Colony.

St. Paul's hopes to have construction wrapped up by mid-November.

Naming Opportunities Still Available

There is still time to be part of the project's legacy. Four naming opportunities remain: one of the bridge rest areas for \$150,000 and three walking trails for \$75,000 each. Naming opportunity pledges can be fulfilled over five years. Donors who make a total campaign gift of \$3,000 or more will be recognized on the Bridging the Gap donor recognition plaque.

To learn more, please contact Dawn at 724-589-4611 or dhartman@sp1867.org.

A Clearer Way to Connect

Anderson Fellowship Hall in The Heritage is a gathering place where residents come together to worship, make crafts, take exercise classes, and enjoy many other programs that help enrich their lives and enhance their well-being. Now it's even easier for residents to engage in the activities held there with the addition of a new audiovisual system!

Thanks to a generous \$5,000 grant from the



Residents and volunteers during a painting activity in Anderson Fellowship Hall.

Pitcairn-Crabbe Foundation, we replaced our nearly 30-year-old system with new equipment that will benefit residents for years to come.

Established in 1940, the foundation has awarded more than \$19 million to support Christian work and human betterment in Pennsylvania in memory of Susan

Pitcairn-Crabbe and her parents, Robert & Elizabeth Pitcairn. Robert was a prominent railroad executive and entrepreneur.

The grant helped us address several challenges with the aging audiovisual system. Before the upgrade, the sound system was too quiet for many residents to hear clearly, and the screen was incompatible with widescreen HD media, making visuals smaller and more difficult to see.

It was discouraging for residents who could not hear or see well enough to fully participate in activities, contributing to decreased attendance.

St. Paul's IT Department was integral in the selection and



Paul Jewell & Erica Gulentz of our IT Department worked together to install the new ceiling speakers.



Residents and Thiel College basketball players recently filled Anderson Fellowship Hall to enjoy a visit from the Tree Family Party Piggies.

installation of the new equipment. Careful planning went into choosing equipment that would meet the varying needs of our residents.

The upgraded equipment includes a new wider screen for easier viewing, new ceiling speakers placed throughout the room, wireless microphones, and an updated soundboard.

The new system also includes a feature called AudioFetch, which allows residents with Bluetooth-compatible hearing aids or headphones to stream sound directly to their ears. Residents can then adjust the volume individually on their own device. This new feature enhances residents' ability to fully engage and participate in the many activities held in Anderson Fellowship Hall.

"Our new audiovisual equipment has opened up so many possibilities for life enrichment. Residents are able to see and hear activities more clearly, participate more comfortably, and enjoy a greater variety of programs," said Julie Young, Life Enrichment Specialist at The Heritage. "We have seen increased participation and excitement from our residents, making our programs more meaningful and enhancing their overall quality of life!"

Chaplain Pat Spears, Director of Spiritual Services, has also seen the impact during worship services and other religious activities. A sermon or worship experience is certainly more meaningful when a resident is fully able to hear, see, and engage with the content.

This important upgrade would not have been possible without the support of the Pitcairn-Crabbe Foundation. We are grateful for their investment in our residents and in creating opportunities for them to practice their faith, and remain connected, engaged, and involved in life at The Heritage.

Aiming for a Cause

On September 19, St. Paul's hosted our 6th annual Sporting Clay Shoot at Sandycreek Conservancy in Polk, Pa.

We once again sold out early with 112 shooters coming out for a great day filled with sportsmanship and friendly competition, good food, and plenty of fun prizes.

With the help of every sponsor, shooter, and supporter, you once again helped us raise more than \$65,000 for the Good Samaritan Fund, which supports benevolent care at St. Paul's. This fund ensures that none of our residents will ever need to leave or adjust their care if they outlive their financial resources.

It was a close battle for the top shooter awards. Jay Heckethorn secured first place in the adult division with an outstanding score of 97 out of 100. Joe Gaydos took second place, trailing only slightly behind



Wagner's Wheel Alinement team waits for their turn to test out their shooting skills.

with a score of 91.

For the under-18 division, it was a family victory with Jay's son, Josh Heckethorn, taking first place with 71 points. Jack Burkett secured second place with 67 points, and Jon Mohr Jr. came in third with 57 points. Congratulations to our winners and all of our shooters for coming out for a good cause!

The fun didn't stop there. Michelle Sheriff of Meadville, Pa., was the lucky winner of the Gun Raffle, taking home a Benelli Montefeltro Silver 12 Gauge Shotgun or \$1,500 cash.

Participants also had the chance to win cash through the reverse and 50/50 raffles, as well as a variety of other prizes through an auction raffle, Luck of the Draw, and door prizes. Prizes included camping



First-time team Sonntag Excavating from Volant, Pa. takes aim for a round of clays.

and hunting gear, a Blackstone griddle, a signed Penguins jersey, gift cards, St. Paul's apparel, and more.

Thank you to our 75 sponsors whose generous support helps make this event such a success. A special thank you to Forefront for being our presenting lead sponsor. R Builders, our food sponsor, helped provide a light breakfast before the shoot and a delicious lunch afterward. This year's gun raffle prize was once again provided by McCullough Grain.

Another special thank you goes to all of our volunteers who came together not only on the day of the event, but for months beforehand to organize and plan so the day would run smoothly for all of our participants.

The success of this event means more than a great day on the course. It means helping ensure our residents have the care they need, even when their financial resources run out. You make that possible with your support!



Our Presenting Lead Sponsor, ForeFront, and their clay shoot team members pose next to their sponsor sign.

1867 SOCIETY ST. PAUL'S

On a pleasant August evening, members of St. Paul's 1867 Society gathered on the Bistro

Patio for their annual summer reception.

Overlooking the beautiful fountain courtyard, 24 society members joined St. Paul's board members and leaders for an evening of conversation, wine, and appetizers.

This year's garden party theme gave members the opportunity to enjoy one of St. Paul's beautiful outdoor spaces together.

Guests enjoyed a variety of appetizers, including shrimp cocktail, chicken kabobs with garden vegetables, and stuffed sweet peppers, while mingling on the patio.



1867 Society members Ed & Dr. Betty Jean Bardella

cumulative giving has reached \$10,000 or more.

She drew a comparison between the beautiful outdoor spaces at St. Paul's and the philanthropy of 1867 Society members.

"These spaces didn't just happen overnight. They grew and changed over time through care, attention, planning, and countless small acts. All of those efforts, when combined, created something beautiful," said Dawn. "The same is true of your philanthropy at St.



New members Tim & Anecia Flanagan

welcomed the nine new members of the 2026 class

Dawn Hartman, Director of Charitable Giving, welcomed attendees and shared a brief history of the 1867 Society, which recognizes donors whose

Paul's. Your generosity, combined with many others, and given over months, years, even decades, helps our mission bloom in every corner of this campus and beyond."

Dawn then



New member Sally Roth (center) is welcomed by Grace Fette (left) and Dawn Hartman from the Charitable Giving Office.

of the 1867 Society. They include Mary N. Barnhart of Columbus, Ohio, who gives in memory of her parents and former residents, Curtis F. & Orwen E. Neubauer; four residents of The Colony, Helene Dreisbach, Timothy & Anecia Flanagan, Jane A. Loutzenhiser, and Sarah "Sally" Fox Roth; Brian & Roxanne Spaid of Franklin, Pa.; and Dr. Robert Stein of Farrell, Pa.

Roxanne's father, Joseph Basista, was a resident at The Ridgewood, while area ophthalmologist Dr. Stein has cared for many St. Paul's residents over the years.

Following updates from the Charitable Giving Office, Dawn introduced President & CEO Chris Wright, who provided his semiannual update for 1867 Society members. Chris shared an inside look at what's been happening at St. Paul's, what's ahead, and the



From left: members Mary Ellen Bayuk, Margie Hays, Gail Maycher, & Jim Weyman enjoy catching up during the event.

changes and challenges facing the senior living and healthcare industries.

Attendees also had an opportunity to ask questions and share their comments and feedback.

Thank you to all of our 1867 Society members for helping St. Paul's mission continue to grow and flourish!

To learn how you can become a member of the 1867 Society, please contact Dawn Hartman at 724-589-4611 or dhartman@sp1867.org.

A Lifetime of Giving

Jim and Ann Marie Kwaizer have spent most of their lives giving back to their community. Ann Marie was a registered nurse and Jim owned a consulting firm, Kwaizer Consulting, specializing in helping small and family-owned businesses.

Ann Marie loved being a nurse, but her favorite part was teaching and helping the families, something she didn't get to do as much as a critical care nurse. They decided to combine their talents and for the last 25 years ran their consulting business together, helping many small businesses persevere through hardships.

"What we do with our families in business is healing in another way. We helped them come together and heal," Ann Marie explained. "Not only did I get to work with my best friend, but we were able to travel, do exciting things, and several of our clients have turned out to be some of our best friends."

In October, Jim and Ann Marie celebrated 58 years of marriage. They have two daughters and seven grandchildren, many of whom are in college now. Both daughters still live close with one in Canfield, Ohio and the other in Zelienople, Pa.

Over the course of their lives, Jim and Ann Marie have lived in many places, first in Michigan then Utah and West Virginia followed by Pennsylvania, where they lived in Pittsburgh and then Mercer.

However, in February of 2025, after some health issues, the Kwaizers decided it was time to move again. Jim said when they saw The Colony, they immediately fell in love. His only complaint is that he wishes they had discovered St. Paul's sooner.

"We lived at Lake Latonka for 25 years, we've been here a year and a half and we have more friends here than we ever did at Lake Latonka...the people here are just fantastic," he said.

They are still busy people who enjoy supporting their community. Jim said that's easy to do at St. Paul's, "Here, you get offered so many opportunities to be with people. We've also got our neighbors, and

we play cards with them on a regular basis."

Ann Marie shared that they still have a few clients they consult with and Jim has become a mentor to some as well. He has written three business books and is now also writing mystery novels. His debut mystery is at the publisher, and he has already begun working on the second.

"I enjoyed the business books he wrote, but this one I really like," Ann Marie explained. "I asked him if he could write a little faster because I want to read the next chapter while I'm helping him edit!"

This year, during St. Paul's first-ever Good Samaritan Month in June, Jim and Ann Marie joined The Orchard Monthly Giving Club by committing to

make a monthly donation to the Good Samaritan Fund. This fund supports benevolent care at St. Paul's, ensuring that no resident will ever have to leave or adjust their level of care if they outlive their savings.

There is no minimum amount to give to become a member of The Orchard Monthly Giving Club. Donations can be made by check, credit card or electronic fund transfer from a bank account.

The Kwaizers saw joining the club as the only logical

choice after being here and seeing the community firsthand.

"We believe in supporting here, knowing that we're going to be here. It's like supporting ourselves plus the people that we've met. We have the opportunity to be able to give a little. God asks us to do those things, so we try to do it," Jim explained.

He likes knowing that no matter what they will be cared for and wanted to do his part to help those who may not have financial stability. The Kwaizers have spent a lifetime of helping their community in any way they can and they show no signs of stopping anytime soon.

If you're interested in becoming a member of The Orchard Monthly Giving Club like the Kwaizers, reach out to Dawn Hartman or Grace Fette for more information, or scan the QR code.



Jim and Ann Marie Kwaizer (right) enjoy the Cinco de Mayo celebration in The Colony with their neighbor Karen Ondo.



Give from Your IRA

If you are over the age of 70 1/2, donating to St. Paul's through your IRA is a great way to save on taxes while supporting our charitable mission.

It's called an **IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution**, or QCD, and it's very easy to do. You simply complete a form from your IRA custodian. Then they will send your donation directly to St. Paul's.

Time is running out to make QCDs for this year. Your donation must be made by December 31 to qualify for the 2026 tax year.

If you are 73 or older, you can use QCDs to meet some or all of your **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)** that you have to withdraw from your IRA each year. If you don't need your RMD or don't want it to increase your taxable income, you can donate it instead!

The money in your IRA has never been taxed, so when you give it directly to a charity through a QCD, you can give it away tax-free!

Instead of taking her RMD as income in 2026, Bonnie Barr used it to donate to the Good Samaritan Fund for benevolent care at St. Paul's.

Bonnie moved to The Colony in 2022 and is actively engaged as a donor, Auxiliary member and volunteer. She coordinates a resident speaker series for The Colony, serves as a librarian in the Keifer Library, and this year participated in the Pen Pal program, where residents at St. Paul's exchanged letters with seniors at Greenville High School over several months.

"Giving compassionate care to our fellow St. Paul's residents is a joy for me," said Bonnie. "Giving from my RMD is an easy way to do that."

To make an IRA gift like Bonnie, request a **Qualified Charitable Distribution Form** from your IRA custodian or download it from their website. You might need this information:

Legal Name: St. Paul Homes

Tax ID#: 25-0773080

Contact: Dawn Hartman

Address: 339 E. Jamestown Rd., Greenville, PA 16125

It's always a good idea to let St. Paul's know that a gift is coming from your IRA. Your IRA custodian may not always share your name or how you would like your donation designated when they send the gift to St. Paul's. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hartman, Director of Charitable Giving, at 724-589-4611 or dhartman@sp1867.org.

St. Paul's encourages you to consult your tax or financial advisor for advice about your individual situation and whether a Qualified Charitable Distribution is right for you.



Bonnie Barr with her Greenville High School pen pal Addi.



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Thank You for Your Support!

Contact Us



Have a question about giving or memorial opportunities? We'd love to chat. Our office is in The Keifer Building at St. Paul's—the historic red brick building with the pillars at the top of Keifer Drive.

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