



*Judson*  
FOUNDATION

# Inspire

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*Bringing Community to Life  
Through Philanthropy*

Bill Reynolds Redefining Memory Care

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Judson is a not-for-profit senior living organization serving Northern Ohio since 1906. Judson operates three senior living communities – Judson Park, Judson Manor, and South Franklin Circle – and the innovative membership program Judson at Home.

INSPIRE is produced by Judson Foundation and is distributed to the residents, friends, and benefactors of Judson. Dedicated to philanthropy, this publication shares the many ways charitable giving is advancing Judson's mission of *Bringing Community to Life*.

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### ON THE COVER

Bill Reynolds is redefining memory care with a visionary gift to Judson Foundation. His gift, the largest single gift in Judson's history, will go toward constructing a state-of-the-art facility and program dedicated to dementia care at South Franklin Circle.



Dear Friends,

We are pleased to welcome you to a new issue of INSPIRE magazine. In these pages, we celebrate the inspirational gifts of time, talent, and treasure that are *Bringing Community to Life* at Judson. Your gifts make a powerful difference, and we are tremendously grateful for you and your ongoing commitment to Judson.

The Census Bureau projects that by 2034, older adults will outnumber children for the first time in our history. By 2040, 1 in 5 Americans will be 65 or older. In our aging society, Judson's role as a pioneering leader in senior living and the work that we do are more relevant than ever. Philanthropy allows us to make the most of every opportunity to help older adults live longer, healthier, and happier lives.

Our cover story features Bill Reynolds, whose philanthropic investment is redefining the way aging and memory care are viewed and experienced at Judson. Motivated by his wife's dementia journey, Bill gave the largest single gift Judson has ever received to create a state-of-the-art building and program dedicated to memory care and brain health. The A. William and Joanne Reynolds Memory Care Center at South Franklin Circle symbolizes an important next step in how we care for generations to come.

On the following pages, we are excited to announce a generous matching gift challenge initiated by an anonymous donor that will help turn an open green space into a therapeutic healing garden at Judson

Park. At Judson Manor, residents of the newly renovated assisted living neighborhood are enjoying a gift of beautiful music thanks to the thoughtful generosity of Eugene Brand and the late Ann Roulet. These and other stories in this edition demonstrate that philanthropy is, without a doubt, a catalyst for enhancing the quality of life at Judson.

We extend our deep gratitude to Judson's many dedicated volunteers and celebrate Janet Hall, Nancy Sherwin, and Alice Palda for their volunteer spirit. Research indicates that volunteering is beneficial to both the giver and the receiver. Discover how helping others has helped kindle happiness in the lives of these three remarkable residents.

Despite ongoing workforce challenges from the pandemic, Judson Associates continue to prove that our strength as an organization is greater than the sum of our parts. We are proud to highlight Jim Calhoun as he begins his 35th year as Director of Environmental Services at Judson Park. His many years of exemplary service are a testament to his dedication to our collective vision of creating a better aging experience.

We appreciate the enduring partnership of all our donors, friends, and Associates. On behalf of the entire Judson family, thank you for the many ways you advance our mission of *Bringing Community to Life*.

Sincerely,

Kendra J. Urdzik  
President & CEO

Douglas Y. Wang  
Chair, Board of Directors

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# Redefining Memory Care

Occasionally misplacing your keys, forgetting a date, or having difficulty recalling a name is a part of normal aging for most people. However, when Bill Reynolds noticed his wife's memory lapses and a decline in other cognitive abilities were interfering with her daily life, he knew it was something more serious than age-related memory loss. Jo was exhibiting early warning signs that would point to a life-changing diagnosis of dementia.

Watching his wife battle memory loss was a motivating force behind Bill's visionary gift to Judson Foundation. His gift, the largest individual gift in Judson's history, was announced on September 14, 2022, at Judson Foundation's annual donor recognition event. The history-making gift will go toward constructing a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to dementia care at South Franklin Circle. In recognition of his exceptional generosity and shared vision of developing new and innovative approaches to caring for people affected by memory loss, the A. William and Joanne Reynolds Memory Care Center will be named in the couple's honor.

**"We are immensely grateful to Bill and his family for this remarkable philanthropic investment in memory care,"** said Kendra Urdzik, Judson President and CEO. "The significance of this gift to Judson cannot be understated. For people living with dementia, creating an environment that is both safe and supportive of the person's needs for social interaction and meaningful activity is imperative. This transformational gift will resonate for generations as we elevate the quality of life for people impacted by dementia."

## Life with Dementia

The statistics are staggering. According to the World Health Organization, more than 55 million people worldwide live with dementia. Experts predict that number will reach 78 million by 2030 as the aging population continues to grow. A dementia diagnosis impacts not only the person diagnosed but can have an underappreciated toll on loved ones, caregivers, and friends. "My parents had a very big life before my mom was diagnosed," shared Mary Miller, the youngest of the three Reynolds children. "And, it got pretty small, very quickly."

Originally from Columbus, Ohio, high school sweethearts Bill and Jo married in 1953 after Bill completed his sophomore year at Harvard. After graduation, the young couple enjoyed two years in California, where Bill attended Stanford Graduate School of Business. They returned home to Ohio in 1957, and Bill began his notable career as an executive at Thompson Products, the predecessor to TRW. He served as executive vice president and general manager of TRW's automotive sector before leaving the company in 1984 to become president of Gencorp Inc., formerly the General Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio.



# Philanthropy in Action

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Bill Reynolds (third from left) with his children Tim Reynolds, Mary Miller, and Morgan Brigham



## Finding a Way Forward

For the Reynolds family, understanding and adjusting to a diagnosis of dementia meant preparing for an unpredictable journey. “We were living quite a complicated life before moving to South Franklin Circle,” explained Bill, an avid outdoorsman who liked to hunt and fish. Jo enjoyed horseback riding and was an impressive cook and decorator who delighted in hosting dinner parties for family and friends. They had a home in Gates Mills and spent the winter in Florida and summers in Sun Valley, Idaho. “When Jo began to show signs of what we then thought might be an early stage of Alzheimer’s, I realized we had to stop living that complicated style of life and simplify our life in a major way.”


While searching for options, Bill and Jo found the ease and convenience of the maintenance-free lifestyle offered nearby at South Franklin Circle. With a range of amenities and a continuum of care, the community would allow them to live independently while providing them with the stability they needed if their abilities and health conditions changed. In 2015, the Reynolds moved to a garden home with views of the woodlands and greenspace.

As time passed and Jo’s dementia progressed, caring for her at home became more challenging for Bill. In 2016, Jo moved just minutes away to Crane House, the assisted living neighborhood, where a team of professional caregivers was ready to take the lead. As an accredited Comfort Matters® community, the Crane House care team uses a renowned evidence-based approach to caring for

people with dementia that proactively addresses their physical, social, spiritual, and emotional needs. Having this higher level of care and support close to home meant Bill and Jo could easily spend time together.

## Solving the Mystery of Dementia

Bill was stunned when Jo began exhibiting the signs and symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease and paid great attention as they sought the help of experts in the field. Most people are familiar with Alzheimer’s, but many other forms of dementia exist. All involve a decline in memory or other thinking and reasoning skills. “I was quite distressed,” he professed. “It is kind of an unknown world. If something goes wrong with your heart, they know everything there is to know about that. But if something goes wrong with your mind, nobody knows what’s going on. So I’ve identified that as a field we need to come a long way in our learning.”

The level of Bill’s investment in memory care is unprecedented, not just for Judson. Recognizing the urgent need for new ways to diagnose, treat, and prevent Alzheimer’s and other related dementias, Bill endowed the A. William and Joanne Reynolds Chair in Brain Health at University Hospitals, where he formerly served as Chairman of the Board. The highly regarded position is held by renowned neurologist Charles M. Duffy, MD, PhD, Director of the Brain Health & Memory Center within the University Hospitals Neurological Institute and Professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. 

“This transformational gift will resonate for generations as we elevate the quality of life for people impacted by dementia.”

– Kendra Urdzik, Judson President & CEO

## Building a Brighter Future for Memory Care


Planning is underway for a new center dedicated to brain health and memory care at South Franklin Circle, thanks to a lead gift from South Franklin Circle residents Bill and Joanne Reynolds. Currently in the design phase, the nearly 40,000-square-foot building will help meet the urgent need for specialized care for a growing population of seniors with dementia. Once completed, the building will be named the **A. William and Joanne Reynolds Memory Care Center** in recognition of the couple's \$1.5 million lead gift.



“The generous gift from the Reynolds family is helping Judson tackle one of the most challenging health issues of our time,” explained William Fehrenbach, Vice President of Project Management for Judson. “The setting can significantly impact aging adults with memory and cognitive challenges. With dementia-friendly design features and the latest technology, the Reynolds Memory Care Center will optimize the therapeutic environment and improve the quality of life for the increasing number of people with Alzheimer’s and dementia.”

The thoughtfully planned building will incorporate design elements that support independence and choice and help minimize the need for pharmaceutical interventions to manage behaviors and psychological symptoms. The preliminary design features 32 fully equipped residential suites with the flexibility to combine adjoining rooms for spouses. A great hall with a fireplace, grand piano, television, and comfortable seating will encourage social stimulation and connection. A homelike setting with visually

open spaces and multiple activity areas will give residents a sense of freedom to explore in a safe environment. A key feature is a large landscaped courtyard that provides exposure to natural light and a secure outdoor space to exercise or relax with friends and family.

The Reynolds Memory Care Center’s design goals are to connect the physical environment to Judson’s holistic care philosophy, which embraces personal preferences, empowerment, and flexibility. In 2017, Judson Park became the first senior living community in Ohio to implement an innovative memory care model called Comfort Matters®. The person-centered care philosophy empowers caregivers to provide individualized care and embrace flexible daily routines. By understanding and knowing the individual’s life experiences and stories, caregivers can better help the resident maintain their identity and live their life as they want to for as long as possible. The team of professionals providing care to Crane House residents at South Franklin Circle was credentialed in Comfort Matters® in 2018. 



# The gift of music


When it was announced that The Terrace was slated for an extensive renovation, Dr. Eugene Brand took note. As Chair of the Musical Arts Committee, he suggested it was time to retire the spinet piano that had entertained assisted living residents for years at Judson Manor. He lobbied for space in the redesign to showcase a higher-quality piano that would enhance the listening experience for the culturally curious and appreciative audience living on the second floor.

With help from Judson Manor Artist-in-Residence and Cleveland Institute of Music student Luke Ratcliffe and resident Karen Holtkamp, Dr. Brand searched for a replacement piano worthy of the new space. In January 2022, a Kawai 5'2" polished ebony grand piano was delivered to the stylishly remodeled living room. The small performance quality piano was made possible by a donation from the late Dr. Ann Roulet and a generous gift from Dr. Brand.

Dr. Roulet, a retired literature professor and Dean of Students at the Cleveland Institute of Art, lived at Judson Manor from 2014 until her death in March 2021. In addition to being a world traveler and art collector, she enjoyed classical music, generously supporting Tuesday evening performances in the Manor Ballroom.

Dr. Brand moved to University Circle from Manhattan in 2016. The retired clergyman with a passion for music became intrigued with Judson Manor's engaging lifestyle after reading an article published in The New York Times featuring the Judson Artist-in-Residence program. However, he had placed a deposit on an apartment in a senior residence overlooking the Hudson River, just a subway ride from the robust arts and cultural offerings of New York City.

Nonetheless, he sent an email inquiry and boarded a flight to Cleveland for a tour soon after. **"I was immediately attracted to the architecture of the building, and it was only a ten-minute walk to Severance Hall,"** explained Dr. Brand. "During my visit, I met people who shared my musical interests, including Mrs. Holtkamp and Dr. Gardner, who was instrumental in developing the music program into a highly regarded concert series."

Dr. Brand returned to New York with a lot to consider. Realizing that as time passed, he was less likely to make an effort to travel into the city for performances, Dr. Brand canceled his deposit. Instead, he took possession of a newly renovated eleventh-floor apartment with expansive views at Judson Manor. Today, Dr. Brand's responsibilities as Chair of the Musical Arts Committee include coordinating the same music programs that inspired him to make Judson Manor his home. 



Luke Ratcliffe and Dr. Eugene Brand (above) and the late Dr. Ann Roulet (below)

## About the Judson Artist-in-Residence Program

The Artist-in-Residence program was launched in 2010 in partnership with the Cleveland Institute of Music. In return for periodic recitals, two graduate students receive complimentary living accommodations at Judson Manor for the duration of their studies. The nationally recognized intergenerational program was expanded to Judson Park in 2016. Today, two Ursuline College art therapy students share their talents with residents in the Creative Arts studio in exchange for gratis living arrangements.

## Therapeutic Garden Campaign Launched at Judson Park

Spending time in nature is one of the most effective healing therapies for managing the stresses of everyday life. As little as twenty minutes outdoors has been proven to reduce stress hormone levels. You don't have to take a vigorous hike or even a leisurely walk. Evidence supports that simply relaxing and allowing all your senses to connect with nature's sights, sounds, and smells can result in measurable improvements in sleep, lower blood pressure, boost immunity, and enhance mood.

Thanks to a generous \$50,000 gift from an anonymous donor, Judson Park is launching an ambitious project to help residents tap into the healing benefits of nature by transforming an underutilized greenspace into a healing garden. The idea of a designated outdoor space to improve mental and physical well-being came to life when the Gardenview and Reinberger wings connected to the historic Bicknell Mansion were demolished in 2018. Removal of the outdated two-story structures opened up expansive views of downtown Cleveland. But, more importantly, it provided a unique opportunity to create a garden where residents at every level of independence can safely and comfortably spend time interacting with nature.

**"Our vision is to create a restorative garden space that encourages a variety of purposeful activities that benefit the mind, body, and soul,"** explained Kendra Urdzik, Judson President and CEO. "Thoughtfully designed with the needs of all our residents in mind, the therapeutic garden represents Judson's commitment to caring for the whole person. Our goal with this new outdoor

wellness space is to promote a sense of well-being and serenity for residents, their families, friends, and caregivers."

Creating a distinctive garden to be enjoyed now and for generations to come is a challenging initiative that requires philanthropy to achieve. The gardens at Judson Park will be created in a multi-phased approach as fast as the funds are raised. The anonymous lead gift will be used to match a portion of the \$450,000 needed to complete the first phase. Key components include infrastructure work such as grading to correct the slope and adding irrigation. Structural elements such as concrete paths for walking and physical therapy sessions, seating areas for rest and relaxation, and patios for gathering and socializing will also be added.

Once these improvements are complete, the great lawn will be seeded. Garden beds will be planted with various native plants to attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees. A significant enhancement will be a designated community garden area. The new space will be optimized with raised beds, easy access to water, and other tools to make it easier, safer, and accessible for more residents to enjoy the rewarding benefits of growing flowers, herbs, and vegetables. 🌱

The possibilities for creating a distinctive outdoor space that amplifies Judson's mission of *Bringing Community to Life* are endless. If you want to join us in our campaign to help Judson residents tap into the restorative power of nature, contact Judson Foundation at 216-791-2013 or [foundation@judsonsmartliving.org](mailto:foundation@judsonsmartliving.org).



## Meet Judson Services Board Chair Doug Wang

Judson has been privileged to benefit from the expertise and experience of Doug Wang since he joined the Board of Directors in 2013. In May 2022, he took a new leadership role as Judson Services Board Chair. An accomplished banking and finance executive, Doug earned his B.A. in Mathematics from Kenyon College and a Master's of Science in Management from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2011, Doug retired from a notable career as senior vice president of Northern Trust and has spent the past decade helping numerous non-profit organizations in Cleveland achieve their missions. Doug and his wife, Holly, live in Shaker Heights, where they raised their four children.

In this interview, Doug shares his vision for the organization and his passion for Judson's mission of *Bringing Community to Life*.

**You have been a board member for nearly a decade and have served on numerous committees that have helped steer and shape Judson as an organization. Thank you for generously sharing your time, talent, and philanthropy with Judson. What drew you to Judson's mission?**

I have a deep and personal connection to Judson. My father, Carter Wang, MD, moved to South Franklin Circle just after it opened in 2009. He also lived at Judson Park before his death in 2019. I've seen firsthand the compassionate care and daily assistance that residents receive. As a board member, I understand the challenges and responsibility of caring for our aging population. As the son of a former resident, I feel obligated to help make the Judson experience for others as good as it was for my family.

**Senior living has experienced unprecedented challenges as a result of COVID-19. Now that we are slowly recovering from the pandemic, what does the future look like at Judson?**

The future is exciting because we are now able to address challenges strategically. Judson has been fortunate to attract knowledgeable and experienced board members. With this board's depth and breadth of expertise, we are well-equipped to make informed decisions about how our business model needs to adapt and grow. The pandemic forced us to respond with quick fixes and limit a number of things to keep everyone safe. In this post-pandemic landscape, we need to rebuild the people and the places – our infrastructure – so that we can provide the high level of services that residents

expect and deserve. Our immediate priority is to enhance staffing in all of our communities.

**Judson is the grateful recipient of a generous gift that has been the catalyst for its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. How important is this initiative, and how do you envision integrating DEI into daily operational practice?**

DEI is a complex and important initiative to understand. First, we must recognize that everyone has not had the same opportunities in life. Helping people become the best version of themselves is not only the right thing to do, but it is also in self-interest of Judson residents. Every organization I am affiliated with is engaged in increasing DEI in the workplace. Judson is just beginning and we need more Associates and residents to join in the process.

I see DEI as three interlinked parts. Diversity is the easiest to understand and measure because it is based on easily defined attributes. Inclusion or the feeling of belonging is more difficult to gauge because people are careful about expressing their feelings. It takes time to build trust and community. Equity embraces aspects of inclusion and might be the hardest to measure. It involves determining the resources each person needs based on their unique circumstances to succeed in their role and then designing our systems to meet individual needs without giving unfair advantages to others. Our ultimate objective is to create a space where everyone thrives because of who they are. I think this is something we all want.

**You serve on many non-profit boards. Based on your experience, how do you see Judson achieving success as a premier 21st century senior living organization?**

Judson is facing many of the same challenges as other organizations. There is more competition than ever for personnel, especially for physically and emotionally demanding roles, such as personal care assistants, nursing assistants, and food service professionals. I believe paying competitive wages and advancing our DEI initiatives will help drive progress and differentiate Judson as the workplace of choice in senior living. When we build a more inclusive environment, Associates will feel valued and be more invested in their roles rather than having a transactional relationship with their job. Less turnover should occur, which means more continuity in care and services, leading to higher resident satisfaction and favorable financial returns. These are aspirational goals that everyone can get behind.

“As a board member, I understand the challenges and responsibility of caring for our aging population. As the son of a former resident, I feel obligated to help make the Judson experience for others as good as it was for my family.”

— Doug Wang, Chair, Board of Directors



Judson is grateful for the wise counsel and expertise of all our board members. Thank you for your sharing your time, insight, and philanthropy to advance our mission of *Bringing Community to Life*.

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# Benefactors Honored for *Bringing Community to Life*


Loyal benefactors and friends of Judson were honored for their philanthropic spirit on September 14, 2022, at Judson Foundation’s annual Celebration of Generosity. John G. Johnson Construction was presenting sponsor for the special event, which attracted more than 120 guests to the historic Shoreby Club. Breathtaking views of Lake Erie provided the perfect backdrop as members of Judson’s Benefactor Society, Legacy Society, and President’s Circle were recognized for their generosity and commitment to advancing Judson’s mission of *Bringing Community to Life*.

“It is truly a privilege to set aside one evening to gather together and celebrate you and your giving spirit,” said Kendra Urdzik, Judson President and CEO, as she welcomed Judson’s closest friends and advisors to the annual donor recognition event. “Many of you dedicate your time, energy, and resources year after year to help make Judson a more vibrant and engaging place to live.”

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Judson Award for Philanthropic Leadership to Bill and Joanne Reynolds. Motivated by his wife’s experiences living with memory loss, Bill made a visionary \$1.5 million gift to

Judson Foundation in 2020. His gift, the largest single gift in Judson’s history, will go toward constructing a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to dementia care. A poignant video shared the philanthropist’s motivation behind the extraordinary gift and the transformative impact it will have on the future of memory care in Northeast Ohio.

“Bill, your philanthropic investment in memory care is one of the most significant gifts in Judson’s history,” said Kevin Shaw, Judson Foundation Board Chair. “Our entire community will benefit as Judson takes steps toward leading best practice in caring for those with memory impairment and addressing brain health, prevention of memory loss, and aging well. It is a privilege to recognize your legacy with the naming of the A. William and Joanne Reynolds Memory Care Center at South Franklin Circle.”

Judson Foundation’s annual Celebration of Generosity is made possible through the philanthropic investment of corporate partners. Judson extends its deepest gratitude to the companies listed below for their generous support and unwavering commitment to *Bringing Community to Life* at Judson. 

“Many of you dedicate your time, energy, and resources year after year to help make Judson a more vibrant and engaging place to live.”



James Smith, Molly Downing, Hope Hungerford, Gann Roberts



Penny and Andy Dalzell



Lloyd and Peggy Culp



Don and Carol Poe

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Judson Foundation Board Chair Kevin Shaw



Don and Dottie Kuhn



Bob Oldenburg, Sally and Henry Chisholm

## Celebration of Generosity



Mary Reynolds, Honoree Bill Reynolds, Tim Reynolds,  
Morgan and Bill Bringham, Mary and Rob Miller



Thomas and Theresa Pretlow

# Leaving a Legacy

**Judson Foundation** remembers and celebrates the lives of Judson Manor, Judson Park, South Franklin Circle residents, and Judson at Home members who passed away in 2022.

Elizabeth Adams  
Barbara Bak  
Malvin Bank  
Richard Barrett  
Barbara Baum  
Fred Bemberg  
Joanne Bielek  
Nancy Brazinski  
Henry Bruner  
George Bustamante  
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John Petrenchik  
Joyce Lou Anne Rayburn

Susie Reichert  
Welcome Retz  
Josephine Ridgway  
George Rose  
Melvin Rosenthal  
Delores Saada  
Nora Skillern  
Valerie Slattery  
Janet Smith  
Melda Smith  
Anne Towson  
Randall Travis  
Eugenia Vainberg  
Kathryn Watterson  
Roy Williams

## Bequests Create Lasting Legacies

We spend our years working hard, building meaningful relationships, and aspiring to leave a legacy worthy of the life we lived. For many of us, there is no better way to leave a legacy than by helping others through an estate gift to a beloved organization. Over the years, Judson has been the fortunate recipient of numerous charitable bequests. For example, an extraordinary \$1 million estate gift from Mrs. Grace Jordan Gardner in 1974 helped build Judson Park's 10-story Jordan Gardner Tower, featuring 150 independent living apartments, a community center, and a nursing care center. Mrs. Gardner's bequest, like every legacy gift to Judson, has significantly impacted our organization.

Treasured South Franklin Circle residents Alexander "Sandy" McAfee and Kazuko Maine and Judson Manor resident Kathleen Shamp made a powerful difference when they named Judson in their estate plans. Generous bequests recently realized from these far-sighted philanthropists are being put to work today, enhancing programs and services and making an enduring difference in the quality of life experienced at Judson. Judson Foundation is grateful for each of these gifts and the inspirational example these benefactors set when they invested in the future of Judson. 



A bequest from the estate of Kathleen Shamp will help enhance the Lincoln Dining room at Judson Manor. Kathleen moved to Judson Manor in 2000 after retiring from a remarkable 50-year career as a librarian with the Cleveland Public Library. She passed away on June 10, 2021, leaving a legacy reflective of her caring and generous nature.

**There are many ways you can leave your legacy, no matter the size of your estate. Best of all, Judson Foundation can help you create or update your plan. Give us a call at 216.791.2013. If your plan includes a bequest to Judson, we can help to ensure the gift you leave to the next generation makes an enduring impact.**

## Volunteers Celebrated for *Bringing Community to Life*

Volunteers are an extraordinary group of people who play a critical role in the non-profit sector. Often, dedicated volunteers are essential team members filling in the gaps where there is a shortage in talent and resources to accomplish important tasks. Each year the Judson Volunteer Department recognizes and celebrates resident volunteers for their dedication and commitment to giving back at Judson.

In early summer, appreciation events were held at Judson Manor and Judson Park. In addition to saying thank you to all the selfless volunteers for their significant contributions, special recognition was given to three residents who stand out above the rest in sharing their time, talents, and energy in service to others.



## JANET HALL

*Honored with*

### Lifetime Achievement Award


On May 19, 2022, Judson Manor resident Janet Hall was honored with a special Volunteer Services **Lifetime Achievement Award**. Janet, who has enthusiastically given more than 1,500 hours to Judson, was recognized for her volunteerism and the long-term positive impact of her entire career. In 1975, Janet founded the Judson Volunteer Services Department and served as Director until her retirement in 2001.

"Long before it was Judson's mission, Janet was *Bringing Community to Life*," announced Laura Templar, Director of Volunteer Services, when presenting the first-of-its-kind award. "She developed partnerships with organizations across Cleveland, including the first intergenerational program uniting Judson residents with Ruffing Montessori students. Janet set the standard, creating a professional volunteer program that mirrored a human resources department with volunteer position descriptions and a handbook well before this was the norm."

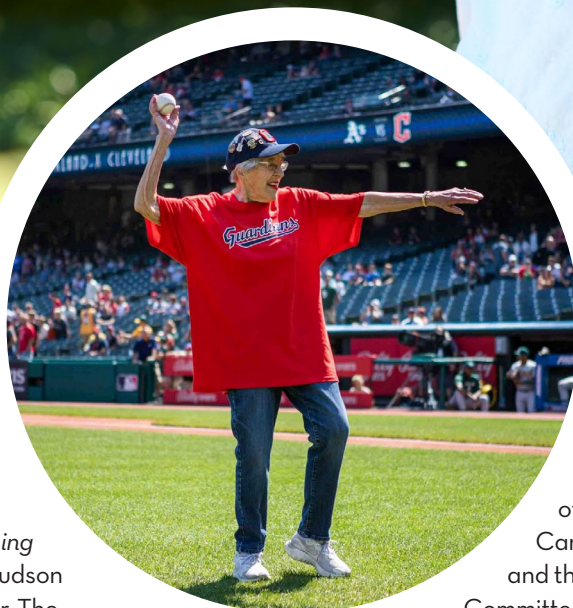
For Janet, working with volunteers or as a volunteer has always been a part of her everyday life. "I get great pleasure watching people staying active and having a good time," professed Janet, whose favorite part of her job was matching residents with volunteer opportunities at Judson Park and Judson Manor. So it was no surprise

when Janet returned to Judson immediately after retiring to give back to the program she created, assisting with special events and escorting residents to programs and on trips in the community.

In 2014, after sharing nearly forty years of time and talent with Judson, Janet decided to make Judson Manor her home. "It was a natural progression," describes Janet. "Often people wait too long and miss out on opportunities to enjoy all the activities and events."

Today, Janet continues to focus her free time on volunteer work. Since moving to Judson Manor, she has helped on various committees and volunteers weekly at the Manor Mart. For more than 40 years, Janet has played with the Cleveland Women's Orchestra, which rehearses weekly in the Manor Ballroom during its annual season. For the past 20 years, Janet has served as president of the esteemed semi-professional orchestra. You might even hear the accomplished violinist serenading a neighbor with a birthday song at Judson Manor. 

# Nancy Sherwin Named Judson Park Resident Volunteer of the Year




An avid supporter of Judson and a champion for helping others, Nancy Sherwin was recognized for the many ways she advances Judson's mission of *Bringing Community to Life* with the 2022 Judson Park Resident Volunteer of the Year. The award showcases individuals who go above and beyond to provide exceptional and noteworthy enrichment to life at Judson Park. Nancy's dedication and love for Judson Park have not gone unnoticed. Nominated by her neighbors, Nancy is undoubtedly making a positive impact.

"She runs the Bingo games on the 10th floor every Saturday with a sweet and friendly spirit," said Laura Templar, Director of Volunteer Services, reading from the nomination forms at the June 14 recognition program. "She's our Judson cheerleader!" wrote another supporter. "I love living at Judson Park because she brightens my day with her kindness, enthusiasm, and ever-present smile. She has a never-ending supply of energy."

In addition to being a force of positivity, Nancy is currently involved on three Judson Park committees – Garden and Grounds, Dining, and Programming – and serves as a floor representative. Her tireless efforts are appreciated not just by her neighbors but also by the Judson leadership team.

In addition to being a donor, Nancy shares her input and experience as a resident member of the Judson Services, Judson Home Care, and Judson Foundation Boards, and the Judson Health Care Quality Committee.

"I like to stay busy," says Nancy. "And, I want to help others by volunteering." Busy might be an understatement. Having moved just two miles from her Cleveland Heights home in 2017, Nancy easily stays connected with her former neighbors and friends and enjoys all the same activities in the community. These undertakings include volunteering at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, where she is a member, and helping out with the weekly "grab and go meal" and mobile pantry twice a month at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the near west side. A former librarian, Nancy puts her expertise and literary passion to work as secretary of Third World Books. You can also find her restocking the four Little Free Libraries she stewards from the boxes of children's books she carries in the trunk of her car.

Just days after Judson's award presentation, Nancy received another honor. With the crowd cheering her on, Nancy epically threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Progressive Field. It was the perfect belated 90th birthday present for the devoted Cleveland baseball fan. 

## Alice Palda Recognized as Judson Manor Resident Volunteer of the Year

People often volunteer with the intention of making a difference in the lives of others. For Alice Palda, the opportunity to make new friends inspired her to take a volunteer position working in the Judson Manor Mart. The year was 2015, and the retired children's librarian had just moved from Cleveland Heights to a customized apartment with city views on the eighth floor of the historic Judson Manor. The volunteer job required her to record resident names and purchases in a ledger. It was a perfect fit for someone looking to meet people and connect with her new community.

In May, Alice was recognized for her significant contributions and ongoing volunteer service as the 2022 Judson Manor Resident Volunteer of the Year. Although she no longer works in the Manor Mart, Alice continues to share her time and talents by coordinating the Saturday feature film and entertaining audiences with her annual storytelling program. Alice recently fulfilled a two-year term as Program Committee Chair, tapping into her ingenuity and her neighbors' vast experiences and expertise to keep residents connected during the pandemic.



"We actually engaged more residents with programs during that time of isolation," Alice explained. "For example, we had a month-long series on Antarctica when it was discovered that four residents had been to the region through their work or travels. We even met virtually with a resident's daughter living there."

To someone interested in volunteering, Alice advises, "Keep an open mind and try different things until you find something you like." Alice's first volunteer experience was at a summer stock theater near her hometown of Trotwood, Ohio. There she discovered a passion for acting, which led her to pursue a theatre arts and voice degree at Lake Erie College. After graduation, she worked at Cleveland Public Library and then Cleveland Heights Public Library, using her talent for storytelling to bring joy and connection to young people.

For Alice, the rewards of volunteering have been life-changing. While volunteering at Karamu House in 1965, Alice met her late husband Leo, an engineer volunteering backstage. The couple married in 1967 and welcomed their son Christopher a few years later. "It is surprising what you get from volunteering," declared Alice. "It is always more than you expect." 🌱

### Thank You Judson Volunteers

Volunteers play an essential role in enriching the quality of life at Judson. Judson is grateful for the 214 individuals and 10 community groups who shared their time and talents with the residents of Judson in 2021. Thank you for your 16,512 hours of enthusiastic support for our mission. According to the Independent Sector, your incredible contributions provided a value of \$494,534.

*If you would like to help Bring Community to Life by volunteering at Judson, please visit [judsonsmartliving.org/careers/to](https://judsonsmartliving.org/careers/to) complete an application.*



# Judson Strong

**JIM CALHOUN**, Director of Environmental Services, has worked at Judson Park for 34 years, making him one of Judson's longest-tenured employees. Jim leads the dedicated teams in Housekeeping and Linen Services and is responsible for maintaining the facility's overall cleanliness. Born and raised in Cleveland, Jim attended the Hospitality Management Program at the University of Akron. Certified as a Registered Executive Housekeeper by the International Executive Housekeepers Association, Jim is recognized in the industry for his knowledge, experience, and accomplishments. Learn more about how Jim's remarkable career serving Judson residents and Associates is driven by his faith and military mindset.

**INSPIRE:** Tell us about your family.

**JIM:** I've been married to Holly, my high school sweetheart, for 44 years. I have a son and a daughter. My daughter lives in Texas with our two grandchildren – Julian, 13, and Audri, 8.

**INSPIRE:** Nationally, employee tenure averages around 4 years. What has kept you working at Judson for 34 years?

**JIM:** Judson never stops. We don't rest on our merits and constantly look toward the next big thing. Management has always supported my efforts to develop and implement new strategies to increase efficiency and improve outcomes. We are continually trying to improve for the future. The senior living industry is growing, and communities like Judson will be needed more than ever in the coming years.

**INSPIRE:** What is the most satisfying part of working for Judson?

**JIM:** I have a genuine passion for what I do. I enjoy helping people. I like to meet people from all walks of life. Judson attracts unique people with a wealth of knowledge to share. I've met an astronaut, inventors, scientists, teachers, and a host of fascinating people over the years. It's a melting pot of knowledge, diversity, and interactions, and I thrive on that.

**INSPIRE:** What is most important to you in life?

**JIM:** Family is most important to me. I come from a spiritual background, and I believe there is a purpose in everything we do. I don't take for granted that I woke up this morning. I see each day as an opportunity to find out my purpose today and what I can do to make a difference in my or someone else's life. It is gratifying to know that I can make a difference each day. Small acts of service and kindness add up over time.

**INSPIRE:** You have contributed for 27 consecutive years to the Resident Assistance Fund. Thank you for your generous support! What inspires you to give to Judson Foundation?

**JIM:** As a veteran, I learned during my time in the service that a soldier believes in the oath he or she has taken. We know that camaraderie and teamwork get the job done. We also believe that no soldier should be left behind. At Judson, we've promised never to leave a resident behind if they outlive their financial means. I've been giving for so long because I believe in that mission.

**INSPIRE:** What does *Bringing Community to Life* mean to you?

**JIM:** The golden years are meant for socializing and enjoying life. Judson is sincere about creating an environment that helps residents do just that. People who come to Judson enjoy the amenities and activities to help keep their minds and bodies active. In my opinion, living at Judson can not only extend your life but also enhance your quality of life.



## Dear Friends and Benefactors,

At Judson Foundation, our aim is simple – to nurture a strong and inclusive culture of philanthropy that positively impacts Judson residents and the fields of aging and senior living.

We aspire to achieve this by building trusted and enduring relationships with you, our incredible friends and benefactors. You inspire us as we work to enrich the quality of life for older adults.

Through your philanthropic spirit, we are *Bringing Community to Life* at Judson. Art and music remain a consistent presence for all to enjoy because of your generosity. Your gifts empower Associates

to accomplish their career goals by providing ongoing educational and professional development opportunities. Community enhancements, new programs, and innovations in health care are all made possible by you. Your unwavering compassion and support ensure all Judson residents have a community for life. For all of this, we thank you.

As we plan for our future, your continued engagement and support are crucial. Together, we can achieve amazing things at Judson. On behalf of everyone at Judson, thank you, once again, for the many ways you make a difference in the lives of our residents and Associates. We appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Beth Embrescia Kevin Shaw

Beth Embrescia  
Vice President  
Judson Foundation

Kevin Shaw  
Board Chair  
Judson Foundation

Judson Foundation gratefully acknowledges all of our benefactors.

Visit [judsonsmartliving.org/foundation/honoring-our-donors/](https://judsonsmartliving.org/foundation/honoring-our-donors/) to view our Honor Roll of Donors.

Judson  
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**Inspire**

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Winter 2023

*Bringing Community to Life  
Through Philanthropy*

Judson Foundation  
2181 Ambleside Drive  
Cleveland, OH 44106



# Planned Giving

is a powerful way to *Bring Community to Life*

Interested in making a lasting impact on the people and places most important to you? Planned giving is a simple way to provide meaningful support to Judson while helping you achieve your personal and financial goals. Many tax-wise strategic gift options allow you to be resourceful in making a more significant impact than you thought possible.

To learn more about the personal, charitable, and tax benefits of a planned gift to Judson, give us a call at 216-791-2013 or visit [judsonsmartliving.org/foundation](https://judsonsmartliving.org/foundation)