

# STORYPOINT GROUP

# Gazette

Issue 3

## *Finding Ways to Say "Yes!" to Adventure*

*Senior living residents travel  
Route 66, Dream Big and  
enjoy everyday adventures*

STORYPOINT GROUP



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*Life is a journey. Travel it well.*



*Choosing someone to be a part of your life's journey — that's no small thing.*

*I am deeply humbled to know that seniors and families across the country turn to StoryPoint Group, and I'm honored that they trust us to be a part of their story. StoryPoint Group employees don't take that responsibility lightly.*

*Our team members show up every day, ready to do whatever it takes to provide the absolute best experience with every person, in every interaction, every minute of every day for the 9,000+ seniors they serve. To us, it's an honor.*

*One of the greatest joys of my life is witnessing the beauty of everyday moments shared among our residents and team members. From laughter-filled gatherings in our communal spaces to quiet conversations shared over a cup of tea, each moment of connection makes our communities such special places to be.*

*As you read through this issue of the StoryPoint Group Gazette, I hope you feel a piece of the joy that residents, families and employees feel every day. Traveling Route 66, sharing a conversation and a meal, honoring the first responders of our communities, and more — it's all a part of our journey.*

*The stories in these pages will give you a glimpse into what it truly means to be a member of our StoryPoint Group communities. The moments, residents and employees featured here all have a hand in creating communities that are more than just places to live. We're a family.*

*You belong, and you matter.*



*Tim Bryant*  
*StoryPoint Group, President*



## WELCOME TO THE STORYPOINT GROUP FAMILY!

- Flourish Collection at Rochester, MI
- Flourish Collection at Oakland Charter Township, MI
- Independence Village of Saginaw, MI
- Independence Village of Traverse City, MI
- Independence Village of Waterford, MI
- Independence Village of Columbus, IN
- Independence Village of Evansville, IN
- Independence Village of Des Moines, IA
- StoryPoint Bolingbrook, IL
- StoryPoint Cordova, TN
- StoryPoint Germantown, TN
- StoryPoint Schererville, IN
- StoryPoint Birmingham, MI
- StoryPoint East Lansing, MI
- StoryPoint Grand Rapids East, MI
- StoryPoint Grand Rapids West, MI
- StoryPoint Northville, MI
- StoryPoint Novi, MI
- StoryPoint Wyoming, MI
- StoryPoint Cincinnati, OH
- StoryPoint Shaker Heights, OH
- StoryPoint Strongsville, OH
- StoryPoint Louisville East, KY
- StoryPoint Louisville South, KY



# What is StoryPoint Group?

StoryPoint Group is a collection of senior living communities that provides seniors and families with the support, sense of community and absolute best experiences they deserve.

But, *who* is StoryPoint Group?

StoryPoint Group is Mike from Iowa. He chose to downsize last year, and now, he's proud to call his new community apartment "home." StoryPoint Group is the group of caregivers from Ohio. They got together to throw one resident a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party. StoryPoint Group is Brian from Michigan who dedicates every day to creating meals that are both good for our residents and make our residents feel good.

And that's just to name a few! Keep reading to discover more about the people of our StoryPoint Group family.

### Danbury

- Broadview Heights, OH
- Brunswick, OH
- Columbus, OH
- Cuyahoga Falls, OH
- Tipp City, OH
- Hudson, OH
- Massillon, OH
- Mentor, OH
- Millersburg, OH
- Mount Vernon, OH
- North Canton, OH
- North Ridgeville, OH
- Hudson, OH
- Tallmadge, OH
- Westerville, OH
- Wooster, OH

### StoryPoint

- Libertyville, IL
- Naperville, IL
- Romeoville, IL
- Chesterton, IN
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Granger, IN
- Schererville, IN
- Middletown, KY
- Prospect, KY
- Union, KY
- Chesterfield, MI
- Clinton Township, MI
- Kalamazoo, MI
- Portage, MI
- Rockford, MI
- Saline, MI
- Fairfield Township, OH
- Gahanna, OH
- Grove City, OH
- Medina, OH
- Pickerington, OH
- Powell, OH
- Troy, OH
- Waterville, OH
- Chattanooga, TN
- Collierville, TN
- Knoxville, TN
- Mequon, WI

### Independence Village

- Ames, IA
- Ankeny, IA
- Pella, IA
- Waukee, IA
- Avon, IN
- Carmel, IN
- Fishers, IN
- Greenwood, IN
- Zionsville, IN
- Brighton, MI
- Grand Ledge, MI
- Midland, MI
- Oxford, MI
- Petoskey, MI
- Plymouth, MI
- White Lake, MI
- Aurora, OH
- Avon Lake, OH

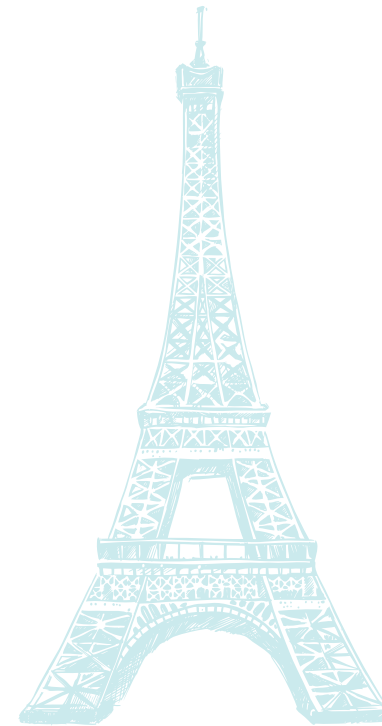
### Leisure Living

- Adrian, MI
- Allegan, MI
- Alma, MI
- Bad Axe, MI
- Bay City, MI
- Canton, MI
- Caro, MI
- Dowagiac, MI
- Grandville, MI
- Greenville, MI
- Grand Rapids, MI
- Hastings, MI
- Lakeview, MI
- Lansing, MI
- Lapeer, MI
- Ludington, MI
- Midland, MI
- Mount Pleasant, MI
- Owosso, MI
- Paw Paw, MI
- Rockford, MI
- Sandusky, MI
- South Haven, MI
- Saint Johns, MI
- Swartz Creek, MI
- Whitehall, MI
- Zeeland, MI

### Southwick Village

- Southwick, MA

# A Taste of France in Illinois



Chef Benoit of StoryPoint Libertyville began his journey in the culinary world at a young age, looking over his mother's shoulder in wonder as she prepared meals for him and his two brothers.

After many years in France working as a journalist, Benoit decided it was time to pursue his deep passion for cooking. This began many years of training with some of the top chefs in France. A desire to share his skills led him to L'Atelier des Sens where he taught French cooking classes to Parisians and tourists alike. After 20 years, Chef Benoit left France in 2012 to start a new life in Chicago with his wife, Christi, where he opened his own bistro.

What led Chef Benoit to become a chef at StoryPoint Group community? It was his experience caring for the woman who inspired his love for cooking, his mother, who was diagnosed with dementia. After seeing the culinary experience she was offered, he vowed that no other senior would settle for less-than under his watch.



Chef Benoit and residents at his Culinary Showcase



“ Having a good meal, it's one of the most important parts of your day. I love being able to offer kindness, generosity and great experiences through food. ”

— Chef Benoit, StoryPoint Libertyville



## CHEF BENOIT'S STEAK AU POIVRE

For a taste of France in your own kitchen, try Chef Benoit's recipe. Here are the ingredients to the Steak au Poivre:

- Beef tenderloin steaks (8oz minimum each)
- 3 tablespoons cracked black pepper
- 1 minced shallot
- 1/3 cup white wine
- 1/3 cup cognac
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup veal demi-glace (optional)
- Butter and olive oil
- Salt



Scan this QR code with your mobile device for the full recipe and to hear more of Chef Benoit's story.

# Celebrating Life's Adventures

Embracing the beauty of everyday moments, milestones and joys.

Life is full of adventures that take different forms, going beyond geographical exploration to include the diverse range of experiences that make up our daily lives. When woven together, these cherished moments and milestones form the vibrant tapestry of life, making it whole, complete, and forever memorable.

StoryPoint Pickerington



## WELCOMING A NEW ARRIVAL

In a heartwarming celebration, StoryPoint Pickerington hosted Gena and Tyler's baby shower, the granddaughter-in-law and grandson of beloved resident, Linda. The culinary team's delicious treats stole the show, while Linda and her family were overwhelmed by the warmth and hospitality of the occasion.



Independence Village of Brighton Valley

## 30-YEAR MILESTONE

Independence Village of Brighton Valley celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Tammy, Life Enrichment Lead Assistant, and her husband Gregg Lomasney, with a touching vow renewal ceremony in the community's atrium. Colleagues officiated the ceremony and played a beautiful song for the couple's special dance while the culinary team provided a delightful spread.

Southwick Village



## SENIOR PROM MEMORIES

Residents of Southwick Village dressed up and put on their dancing shoes for an enchanting forest-themed senior prom organized by students of the National Honors Society at Southwick High School. Everyone put their best moves on display, and Prom King Jim and Prom Queen Barbara shared a special dance.

StoryPoint Grove City



## SEVEN DECADES OF LOVE

Over 25,000 days. That is how many days Bill and Annie Baker have been husband and wife. The couple celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary at StoryPoint Grove City with friends, family and fellow residents. Bill first met Annie as a teenager when he started working for her father. The rest, they say, is history.

“The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

— Eleanor Roosevelt



## Ready to Cruise Down Route 66!

StoryPoint Group residents took a week-long “trip” down Route 66. The journey was packed with events at communities themed around famous locations along the historic route. Starting from Illinois and ending in California, each day was filled with exciting activities and visits to famous landmarks. Residents got to see some incredible places like the Gateway Arch in Missouri and the Cadillac Ranch in Texas and even went on hot air balloon rides in New Mexico.

*Come along with us to  
relive some of our favorite  
moments from the road trip!*



## ILLINOIS

Our journey along Route 66 began in Chicago, Illinois, at Lou Mitchell's Diner. The diner was made famous for its delicious donut holes, boxes of Milk Duds for children and offering a cup of ice cream with each meal. Stonegate and StoryPoint Medina recreated the diner experience, StoryPoint Group style!



## KANSAS

There's no place like home! Boulder Creek residents stopped in Oz on their way through Kansas.



## TEXAS

In Texas, Grace Haven residents "roped" everyone in on the fun.



## MISSOURI

StoryPoint Saline stopped at Gateway Arch National Park and held an informational session about its history and architecture. They learned the architect who designed the arch, Eero Saarinen, is actually a distant relative of one of the community's team members!



## MISSOURI

In St. Louis, StoryPoint Fairfield and Independence Village of Petoskey employees, residents and families held a classic car show.



## TEXAS

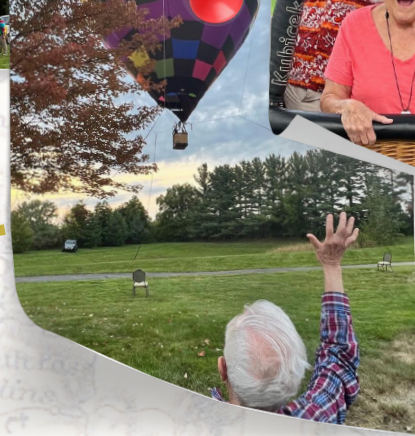
Independence Village of Pella and Independence Village of Waukee showcased residents' rendition of Cadillac Ranch in Amarillo, Texas.





## NEW MEXICO

Up, up and away in my beautiful balloon! StoryPoint Chesterfield, Independence Village of Avon and Independence Village of Midland residents had a blast floating in the sky and catching the views during their stop in New Mexico for the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta!



## NEVADA

What happens in Vegas ... stays with StoryPoint Middletown residents, who took a slight detour and ended up in the Neon City for a bit of casino fun.



## CALIFORNIA

Meadow Lane residents headed through Hollywood and bumped into a few famous icons. Some of the residents found their Hollywood Walk of Fame Stars, too!



## ARIZONA



StoryPoint Collierville headed to Oatman, Arizona, and met some adorable billy goats while they were there.



## ARIZONA

While exploring Arizona on horseback, one StoryPoint Grove City resident, Nancy, had a tearful tribute ride to her late sister.

"See, I told you I could do it someday!"



## CALIFORNIA

The 2,278-mile journey down Route 66 ended at the Santa Monica Pier. StoryPoint Chesterfield had an adrenaline rush from the show of pro skaters, bladers and BMX bikers. Independence Village of Avon Lake residents were recreated as caricatures. And Meadow Lane lounged by the water, enjoying the salty air.



# Behind the Scenes!

Behind every event — whether it's a Route 66 event or a birthday party, a happy hour a community-wide food fight — our housekeeping and maintenance teams are there to ensure that everything is in tip-top shape.

## WHAT DO OUR HOUSEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE TEAMS DO?

These men and women spend every day ensuring that our communities are a place our residents are proud to call home. They manage all building and lawn upkeep, day-to-day housekeeping around the community and more.



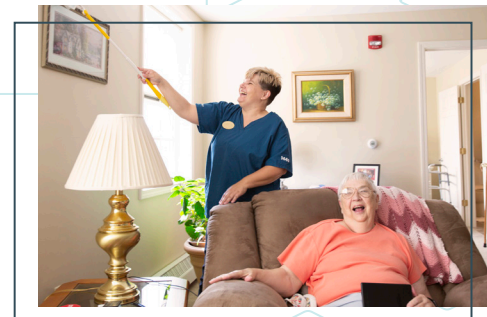
## WHAT IS MAINTENANCE-FREE LIVING?

Maintenance-free living, one benefit of senior living, is life without the stressors of day-to-day home maintenance. Because our housekeeping and maintenance teams are there to manage those responsibilities, residents are free to live each day exactly how they want to.



## DO THEY GET TO KNOW RESIDENTS?

Like any StoryPoint Group employee, our housekeeping and maintenance teams love getting to know the residents they serve. In fact, they even have extra time built into their schedule so they can stop by and stay for a chat. These opportunities for residents and employees to connect is just one of the reasons life at our communities is so special.



## MEET THE TEAMS!

### INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE OF PETOSKEY

Here Independence Village of Petoskey is celebrating "National Maintenance Day" with a party for their team members.



### STONEGATE VILLAGE

At Stonegate Village, Bob, Maintenance Manager, leads residents in building bird houses.



### STORYPOINT ROCKFORD

Wayne, StoryPoint Rockford Maintenance Director, gifts one resident with a sentimental shirt and photo from his time in the U.S. Navy.



## WHAT DO RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES HAVE TO SAY?

The employees that I have had the pleasure to interact with are kind and respectful, not only to my mom but to me as well. The community is clean and comfortable, and the outside grounds are well taken care of. I appreciate that!

— Resident, StoryPoint Libertyville



# The StoryPoint Group Gazette <sup>2¢</sup>

Vol. 1. No. 3

YEAR 1924

30th U.S. President: Calvin Coolidge

U.S. Population: 114.1 million

Average Annual Income: \$2,196

## FIVE DANBURY SANCTUARY GRANDE RESIDENTS ARE NOW 100 YEARS OR OLDER!

The incredible quintet of residents — Philip Alonzo, Helen Blecker, Paul Miller, Lillian Smith, and Juanita Woods — have a combined 500 years of experience and memories. They celebrated their birthdays together at a party attended by friends, family and even the mayor of North Canton. The centenarians received a proclamation from the mayor and a letter honoring their remarkable achievement.

Born into a world on the brink of change, they witnessed history unfold before their eyes, from the Roaring Twenties to the digital age. They have weathered life's storms with grace and fortitude.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Philip Alonzo** is a retired engineer, guitarist and the longest-standing member of the Arrowhead Golf Club. During World War II, **Helen Blocker** served as an Army nurse and rose to the rank of lieutenant.

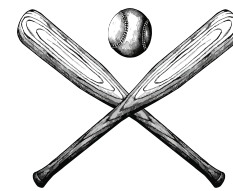
**Paul Miller** is an Army veteran and a retired journalist of 30 years with The Repository newspaper.

**Lillian Smith** taught high school students on subjects like secretarial and shorthand typing.

A church choir director for 35 years, **Juanita Woods** also performed with the Canton Civic Opera and performed in Europe.

### HEY, BATTER BATTER!

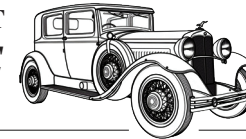
The Bambino was at his best! New York Yankees Babe Ruth topped the league with 46 home runs.



21<sup>st</sup> World Series: The Washington Senators beat the New York Giants in Game 7.

### DRIVE IN STYLE

FORD MODEL T  
FOR SALE  
ONLY \$265



### NEW PRODUCTS FLY OFF THE SHELVES

These new products and innovations made life a little easier, tastier, and cleaner.

Wheaties • Dum Dums  
Notebooks with spiral bindings  
Ready-to-use Band-Aids • Kleenex  
Facial Tissues • Iodized Table Salt

### EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

The year 1924 was a regular humdinger! Ford Motor Company manufactured its ten-millionth Model T. New words like "answering machine," "parking lot," "tossed salad," and "zipper" hit the scene. And who could forget the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the cat's pajamas of parades that had everyone talking for weeks? But hold onto your hat, 'cause there's more! J. Edgar Hoover became the head honcho of the FBI, while George Gershwin struck a chord with his snazzy new tune, "Rhapsody in Blue." And if that wasn't enough to make your head spin, the first crossword puzzle hit the presses, leaving folks scratching their noggins. And let's not overlook some of the toys that captured kids' hearts everywhere: Lincoln Logs, Pogo Sticks, and Erector Sets.



### THESE ATHLETES ARE UN-BRRR-LIVABLE.

Hold onto your hats and gloves; the first Winter Olympics took place in Chamonix, France. The world's finest athletes, all champions of cold-weather sports, competed in nine events — bobsleigh, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, ice hockey, military patrol, Nordic combined, ski jumping, and speed skating. Of the 14 participating countries, Norway took the medal lead with 17 total. The U.S. won four.

### THE BIRTH OF HISTORIC BUSINESSES

Companies established in 1924:

Universal Studios • Adidas  
Ace Hardware • IBM • Duracell  
MGM • Simon & Schuster

### FLASHBACK FINANCES:

#### PRICE TAGS OF 1924



Gas, one gallon.....\$0.11	Clothes Washer ..... \$77.50
Eggs, a dozen.....\$0.32	Paint, one gallon ..... \$2.49
Milk, one gallon.....\$0.28	Men's 4-Piece Suit ..... \$28.50
Jello, one package.....\$0.10	Women's Silk Dress..... \$15.00



Dining at Lou Mitchell's in Chicago



Smiling at the Gateway Arch, St. Louis, Missouri



Matching tattoos at Cadillac Ranch



First Hot Air Balloon Ride



Exploring the Meramec Caverns in Missouri



Pop's 66 Sodas Ranch, Oklahoma



Longhorn Ranch, Texas



Souvenirs from Navajo County, Arizona



Sweet treats at the Santa Monica Pier, California



Dining in Chicago, Illinois



Santa Monica, California



Big Texan Steak Ranch and Brewery

# Planning Your Next Adventure?

## Consider These Seven Travel Tips for Seniors

Whether you're crossing off a spot on your bucket list, visiting family or taking a day trip to the town over, there are some tips to keep in mind that will help your vacation run smoothly.

Here is some travel advice for seniors to consider before your trip:

### 1. RESEARCH BEFORE YOU GO

What activities are you planning? Where will you eat? What will the weather be like? Be sure to research before your trip so there are no surprises.

### 2. STRETCH YOUR LEGS

Flights, road trips and train rides all have one thing in common: long periods of sitting. Lack of movement can pose health concerns for anyone, including seniors. The next time you travel, consider securing an aisle seat so you can stand up and stretch often.

### 3. STAY HYDRATED

Have you ever been so busy that you forget to drink water? On long travel days, it's easy to overlook staying hydrated, so be sure to bring a water bottle with you and drink often.

### 4. PACK LIGHT

No one wants to lug around a heavy suitcase all day. For seniors with limited mobility, the extra weight can be taxing. Pack only what you need in a rolling suitcase to avoid heavy bags that can contribute to injury or fall.

### 5. GET THERE EARLY

There's nothing worse than rushing out the door in a panic for your vacation. We recommend packing everything the night before your trip and adding extra time for unexpected delays.

### 6. FIND SENIOR DISCOUNTS

Many airlines, museums, cruise lines and other travel companies offer senior discounts — they just might not promote them. Before you book your trip, call and ask about senior discounts.

### 7. MANAGE MEDICATION

Whenever you travel, it's important to keep several days of medications close at hand. If you're going to be separated from your luggage, keep your medication in a safe place with you, like your carry-on, purse or another small bag.

# A Tribute to Those Who Serve and Protect

Acts of service are some of life's most meaningful adventures.

In our communities, the act of honoring veterans and first responders is not merely a duty, but a profound privilege. From Memorial Day to Veteran's Day and every day in between, we have the honor of recognizing the selflessness and sacrifice of those who have served. The dedication to improving our communities and aiding others is one of the most significant adventures we can embark upon. For veterans and first responders, their life journey is shaped by their unwavering commitment to service and the experiences they encounter along the way.

## A SALUTE TO SERVICE

At StoryPoint Middletown, first responders are honored with a special breakfast each month, acknowledging their tireless dedication to keeping the community safe. The community's First Responder Dedication Wall stands as a heartfelt tribute to the valiant individuals who serve and safeguard their beloved community, a testament of gratitude and respect.



## CELEBRATING MILESTONES

Danbury Massillon and World War II veteran Joe Romeo celebrated his 100th birthday in a grand fashion, surrounded by family, friends, and the community. The festivities included entertainment by Joe's favorite performer, Eric Brooke, and a parade in Joe's honor. The presence of many veterans' organizations, first responders, and the mayor of Massillon added to the joy of the occasion. Joe is a reminder of the enduring spirit and resilience of our veterans.



## EMBRACING ADVENTURE

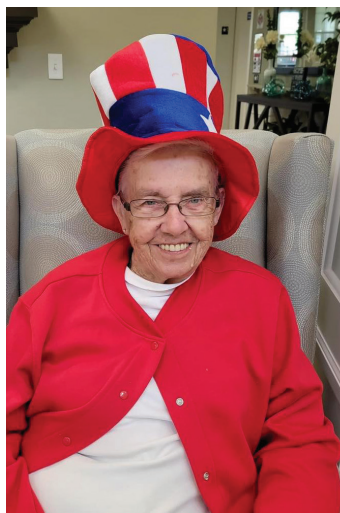
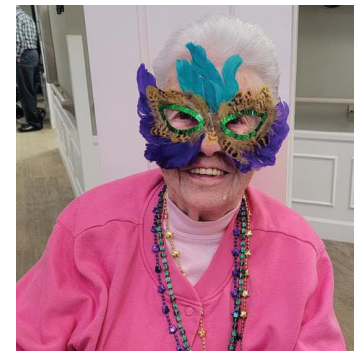
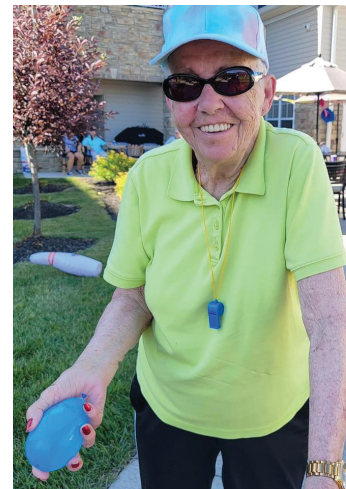
Heritage Hill resident Chuck rekindled his lifelong passion for flying as he returned to the skies. As a former commercial pilot who has flown to all 50 US states and seven continents, Chuck's dream of soaring through the clouds never faded. After 35 years, he found himself back in the cockpit with co-pilot Andy. Together, they flew over Caro, Caseville, and Port Austin in Michigan, reliving the exhilaration and freedom that flight always brought him.



# Shining Every Day

## BETTY COUCH DAY!

Betty Couch was a vibrant, friendly soul who was a big part of the StoryPoint Troy community. She attended every event, holiday and craft, and was always dressed for the occasion! Betty was funny, charismatic and adventurous. In celebration of her fantastic life and legacy in the community, the mayor of Troy, Ohio, with residents and Betty's loved ones in attendance, proclaimed October 5 as Betty Couch Day.



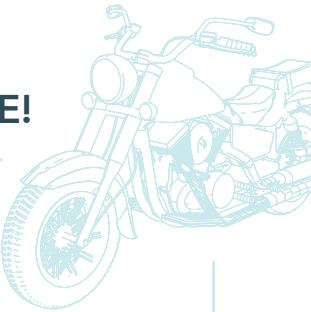
## A SYMBOL OF RESILIENCE

Marie, a resident of StoryPoint Union, got a dragonfly tattoo as a symbol of resilience after undergoing challenging brain surgery. The design was created for Marie by a server at StoryPoint Union, who is also an aspiring tattoo artist. Now, at 75, she proudly carries her tattoo as a testament to her strength and a reminder to embrace life.



## A DREAM BIG COME TRUE!

Elsie, a long-time motorcycle enthusiast, had her dream come true when the Independence Village of Ankeny team surprised her with a motorcycle ride. Elsie used to ride with her husband on their Indian motorcycle, and she dreamed of going on a ride one more time. The joy on her face when she saw her ride was priceless, reminding us of the adventurous spirit that continues to thrive in our residents!



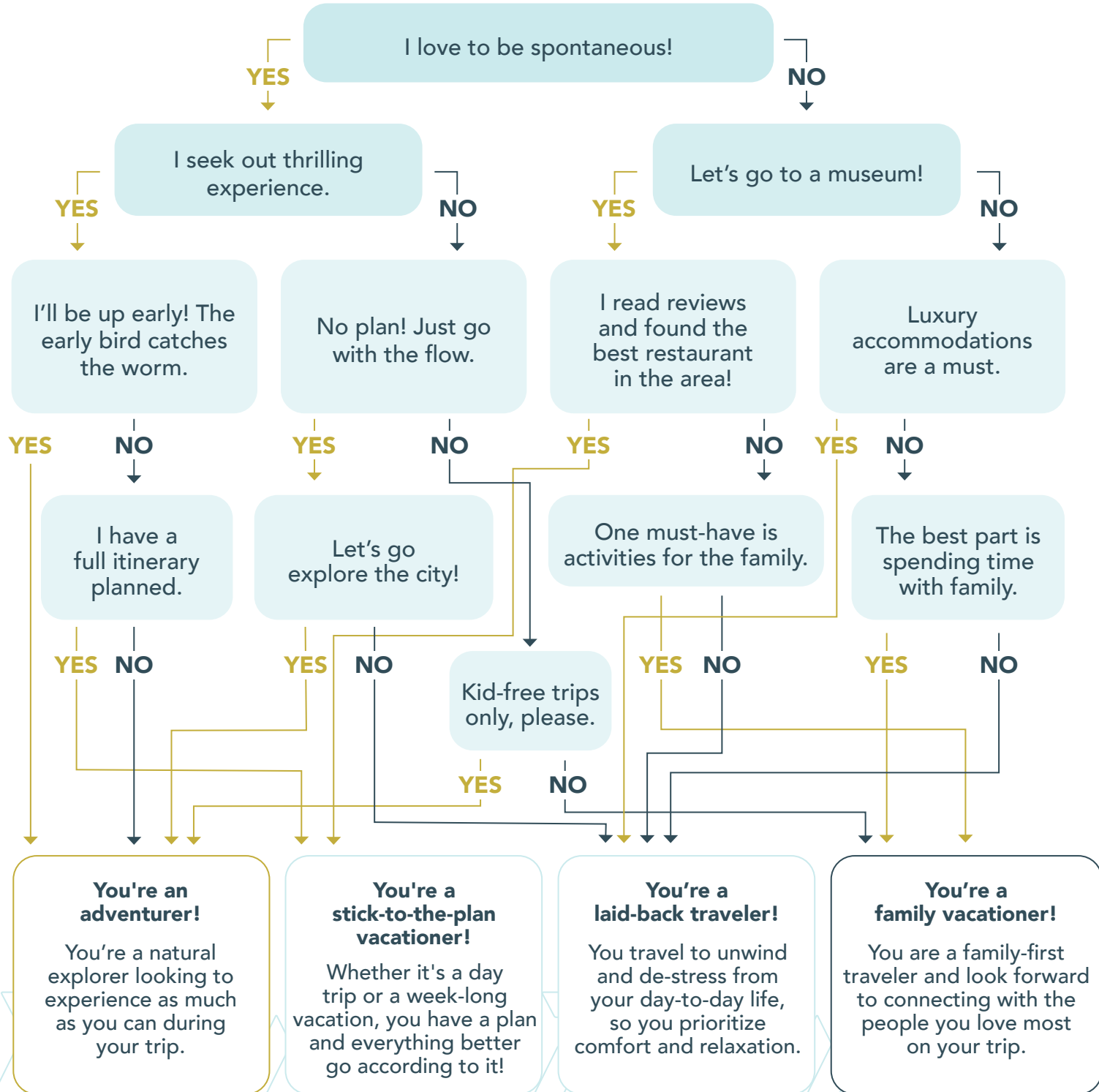
## LIBRARY SURPRISE BRIGHTENS RESIDENT'S DAY

Independence Village of Avon Lake surprised memory care resident Marguerite with a tour of the renovated West Park Branch Library in Cleveland, Ohio, where she had worked for 40 years. The library found her old employment cards and invited her former colleagues to meet with her. Marguerite shared a few memories during her tour and was presented with a certificate of service.



# What Type of Vacationer Are You?

Think back on the best trip you've ever taken. Where did you go? What did you do? Consider the statements below to determine what type of vacationer you are.



Scan this QR code for traveling tips for every type of vacationer!



**FACEBOOK**

- @DanburySeniorLivingHomeOffice
- @IndependenceVillagesSeniorLiving
- @LeisureLivingSeniorCommunities
- @SouthwickVillageResidentialLiving
- @StoryPointSeniorLiving



**INSTAGRAM**

- @danburyseniorliving
- @independence\_village
- @leisurelivingseniorcommunities
- @southwickvillage
- @storypointseniorliving



**TIKTOK**

- @ivseniorliving
- @leisurelivingcommunities
- @storypointseniorliving



# STORYPOINT GROUP

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