



CELEBRATING SENIORS AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

## Shining Moments Newsletter ~ Winter 2024

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**Hello Donna,**

2024 promises to be another exciting year for us as we continue to grow in so many ways! Our wish count is nearing 5,900, thanks to our busy chapters and headquarters staff.

In the past few months, we added four more chapters: Hampton Roads, VA, under the direction of Tracie Stern; New Jersey, under the direction of Patti Goldberg, Mim Senft, Theresa Yarosh and Linda Fau; Worcester County, MD, under the direction of Carolyn Dryzga and Wisconsin, under the direction of Dawn Wensch, Nette Marks and Jenni Puetz. To reach any of our chapters, [visit our website](#).

Our board also continues to grow as we welcome Marc Glickman to our Advisory Board. Marc is CEO and co-founder of BuddyIns, a leading long-term care insurance education, marketing and technology company. We are thrilled to have him on board and welcome his expertise and insight!

We are also excited to announce that our annual Week of Wishes celebration is slated for Thursday, May 2nd and will be held at The Union League Liberty Hill. This year's theme is "where magic meets dreams" and promises to be a fantastic evening. Sponsorships are still available - please contact us or [visit our website for more information](#).

Finally, if you would like to support our programs for seniors in need on an ongoing basis, consider becoming part of our monthly donation program, [the Angels Club](#). It is only because of our donors that we continue to grow as an organization and continue to impact so many seniors in need. Thank you!

Best wishes,

Cass Forkin  
Founder & Chairwoman of the Board

Peter Stinson  
Executive Director



## Celebrating 100 Years

It was an honor for us to help surprise Frances for her 100th birthday with a special ballet performance and party! Frances turned 100 on February 1st and is in hospice care. She loves watching ballet and would enjoy seeing a performance, but it is difficult for her to leave her facility. We arranged for three members of Dance with Joy (pictured above) to visit Frances' facility and dance for her and several of her family members. Afterward, Frances shared stories of her life with the girls, including that she was the first female bank teller in New York City and became friends with Eleanor Roosevelt!



## Back to school at 81

At the young age of 81, Paul decided he wanted to go back to school to study cyber security. In order to do that, he needed a laptop which our Westmoreland County chapter was more than happy to gift him. This Air Force veteran is looking forward to getting back in the classroom and furthering his education. [To watch his wish being granted, click here.](#)

## A very special last wish

Jerelyn had one wish: to see a falcon up close and in person before she passed. She has stage four pancreatic cancer and is in hospice care. Jerelyn is a nature lover and ardent bird watcher. She always wanted to learn falconry and regretted not doing so. Jerelyn was a special education teacher for 41 years and learning is still very important to her. This heartwarming wish was granted by our Connecticut chapter with the assistance of A Place for Hope who brought a falcon and several other birds to Jerelyn's apartment. [To watch coverage of it, click here.](#)



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