

# The Vision

190 E. Long Lake Rd,  
Bloomfield Hills,  
Michigan 48304

Established 2019

The Village Club Enrichment Fund | [www.thevillageclub.org/enrichment](http://www.thevillageclub.org/enrichment) | [enrichment@thevillageclub.org](mailto:enrichment@thevillageclub.org)

Summer 2025



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## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Village Club Enrichment Fund is a nonprofit organization designed to enrich the lives of The Village Club employees and their immediate family members through educational scholarships; enrich the lives of our members and the community through lifelong learning opportunities; and enrich the community through beautification and preservation projects.*

*The Village Club Enrichment Fund is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization. All donors will be sent an acknowledgement letter which conforms to IRS requirements for tax purposes.*

## from the Board of Directors

True to our mission to “enrich the lives of our members and the community through lifelong learning opportunities,” The Village Club Enrichment Fund hosted our most well-attended event in May. Over 170 TVC members, their guests, and friends were on hand to learn the backstory of Detroit’s bankruptcy and its emergence from that pivotal experience. Retired U.S. District Court Judge Gerald E. Rosen was the chief mediator in the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history and architect of the “Grand Bargain” that saved the DIA’s priceless collection.

Your Enrichment Fund Board was delighted with our guests’ receptivity to such an important enrichment opportunity, which has us planning our next enrichment program!

The Enrichment Fund is focused on higher education as well. Last fall, Nevaeh Whittaker launched her college career with an Enrichment Fund scholarship award to the University of Alabama where she will major in biology. Please read on as Nevaeh shares her first-year experience. We want to send great congratulations to Courtnei Cooks, who was a recipient of Enrichment Fund scholarships in 2021, 2022 and 2023, for graduating from law school! We invite you to read Cortnei’s letter and we hope you realize how critical your donation to the Enrichment Fund can be in a student’s life.

This Board has also set its sights on the two other tenets of our mission: beautification projects for our Club and support for women entrepreneurs looking to grow their business.

We are asking each member to help make a difference in the lives of our employees and our community. Please consider donating to TVC’s Enrichment Fund today. You can find more information about the Enrichment Fund at [www.thevillageclub.org/group/pages/enrichment-fund](http://www.thevillageclub.org/group/pages/enrichment-fund) or by emailing [enrichment@thevillageclub.org](mailto:enrichment@thevillageclub.org). We are most grateful for your continued support.

We wish you a great summer.

## from the General Manager

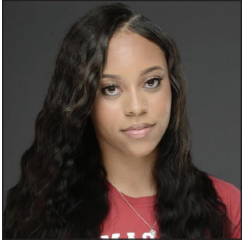
Scholarships have played a deeply personal role in my life. When I first came to the United States, I applied for every scholarship I was aware of. It was the only way I could pursue my education without taking on overwhelming debt. Because of that support, I was able to focus fully on my studies and build a career based on passion—not financial necessity. That freedom changed the course of my life and gave me a deep appreciation for how life-changing a scholarship can be.

Scholarships are more than financial assistance—they are a powerful motivator. They demonstrate that the Club believes in our employees’ potential, which builds dedication and loyalty. And perhaps most importantly, they send a strong message of goodwill—showing that The Village Club is not only a place of elegance, but one of purpose and care.

I thank you all for supporting this important cause.

Stan Pena, TVC General Manager

# Messages from Scholarship Recipients



## **Nevaeh Whittaker**

TVC Employee Scholarship Recipient, Fall 2024  
Freshman Year, University of Alabama, Biology

*The following message is excerpted from a recent note from Nevaeh:*

Thank you all for allowing me to receive this scholarship!

My first semester at the University of Alabama definitely threw me for a loop academically. There were moments when I felt completely overwhelmed, buried under tons of studying and struggling to keep up in lectures. But I refused to let it get the best of me. I started utilizing office hours, different studying methods, really buckled down on time management. By the start of the second semester, I not only caught up but actually felt confident in my abilities. It was a tough adjustment, but overcoming those academic challenges made me realize what I was truly capable of, and it set the tone for a successful college journey. Roll Tide!



## **Cortnei Cooks**

Daughter of John Cooks  
TVC Scholarship Recipient, 2021, 2022, 2023  
North Carolina Central University, School of Law

*The following letter of thanks is extracted from Cortnei's message dated May 23, 2025:*

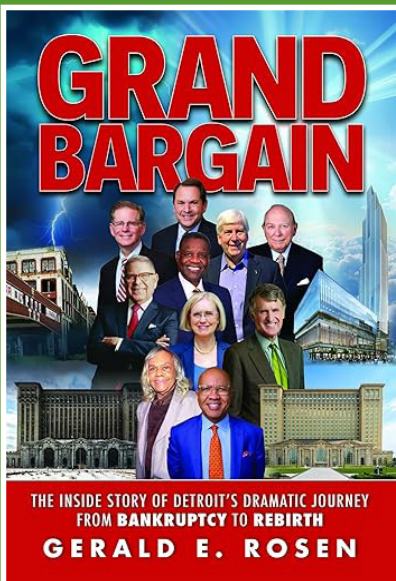
I want to extend my deepest thanks for your unwavering support throughout my law school journey. I have officially graduated this month—I did it!

Since my last update, I have had deeply rewarding experiences. Winning first place in the American Bar Association's Client Counseling Competition led me to the International Competition, where my partner and I placed fourth overall. I was fortunate to have hands-on experience helping clients through the Juvenile Clinic and the Trademark Clinic.

Currently, I am preparing for the bar exam in July and plan to move back to Michigan to begin practicing law.

I'd like to give a special shoutout to my parents, John Cooks and Linda Parker-Cooks, for pouring into me since childhood. I couldn't have done this without you.

## THE ENRICHMENT FUND PRESENTED:



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**The Honorable  
Gerald E. Rosen**  
May 6, 2025

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*photos from the event  
on next page*

## **GRAND BARGAIN**

The Inside Story of Detroit's Dramatic Journey from Bankruptcy to Rebirth  
*by The Honorable Gerald E. Rosen*



Delmarie LaGrasso, Judge Jerry Rosen



Laurie Rosen, Stathy Madias



Karen Roth, Helene Predhomme, Cathleen Clancy



Karen & Peter Pridmore



Guy Gordon, Judge Jerry Rosen



Jane Bowman, Claudia Malone



Cathy LaMont, Karen Roth



Sue and Tom Sweeney



Jan and Jon Bird



Kay White Meyer, Cindy Turchetti



Judge Rosen signing Judy Kramer's book



Pam Bingham, Deborah Gollnitz



Marilynn and John Rusche



Carol Litka Cole, Joan Primo, Debbie Kitson

# The Village Club Enrichment Fund

Balance Sheet (as of April 30, 2025)

## Assets

### Current Assets:

Schwab Checking - 0082 .....	19,730.50
Total Checking/Savings .....	19,730.50

### Other Assets

Investments - Schwab .....	277,002.18
Total Investments .....	277,002.18
Total Assets .....	296,732.68

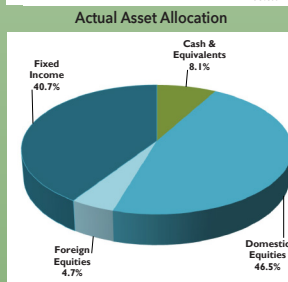
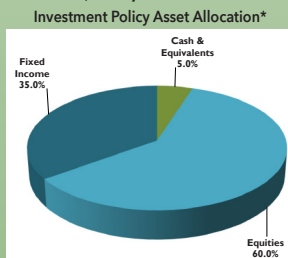
## Liabilities & Equity:

Liabilities .....	0.00
Total Liabilities .....	0.00

## Equity

Unrestricted Net Assets .....	296,732.68
Net Income .....	0.00
Total Equity .....	296,732.68
Total Liabilities & Equity .....	296,732.68

Total Assets As of April 30, 2025  
\$296,732.68



## Do you shop at Kroger?

Pick up a rewards card at the customer service desk at any Kroger. Visit [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com) and create an account to register your card. Under Community Rewards, search for The Village Club Enrichment Fund by name or IA050 and then click Enroll. Swipe your registered Kroger rewards card or use your phone number that's related to your card to have purchases go towards TVC Enrichment Fund.

Please spread the word and help TVC Enrichment Fund flourish through Kroger Rewards.

# TVC Enrichment Fund Contributors

The Enrichment Fund Board of Directors are grateful to the following donors for donations received from May 1, 2024 to April 30, 2025.

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Ellis, Annie	Knollenberg, Sandie		

## IN MEMORY OF

In the list below, the donors are in italics, the persons for whom the memorials were given are in bold.

<b>Peg Dasovic</b> <i>Joseph Dasovic</i>	<b>Joe Knollenberg</b> <i>Sandie Knollenberg</i>	<b>Rita Lindstrom</b> <i>Marian Costello</i>
<b>Dean Ellis</b> <i>Annie Ellis</i>	<b>Jerry Lewis</b> <i>Elizabeth DuMouchelle</i>	<b>Peter Nichols</b> <i>Marian Costello</i>
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<b>Diane Kendall</b> <i>Kay Duncan</i>		

## IN HONOR OF

When someone makes a donation to the Enrichment Fund honoring a person, the person being honored receives a mailing from the Enrichment Fund indicating a gift has been made in their honor. The donors in the following list are in italic type. The recipients are in bold type.

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