



## Forever Bath Circle of Caring

In 2026, the advisory board of Bath Community Fund introduced a new opportunity to support the fund through an annual sustaining gift. **The Forever Bath Circle of Caring** ensures the fund's grantmaking will increase in perpetuity, while reflecting the significant and historic legacy of Bath.

The Forever Bath Circle of Caring annual funding tiers can be traced to significant geographic locations in the township and include:

Wheatfield Village – \$500

Farley's Corners – \$1,000

Ghent Hamlet – \$1,818

Hammond's Corners – \$2,500

Stony Hill – \$5,000

Pleasant Valley – \$10,000

**Wheatfield Village** was the first recorded "name" for Bath Township and is the name used by Hale Farm & Village for its collection of historic buildings depicting life in the 1800s. Surveyors of today's Bath Township supposedly dubbed the area Wheatfield, given the open spaces and fields prevalent at the time in this area of the Connecticut Western Reserve, thus the preponderance of community names still in place today, such as Richfield, Northfield and Springfield, and even Greenfield, the original name of Copley Township.

**Farley's Corners** is one of those small, rural place names common across Northeast Ohio. It was never a formal town but a crossroads settlement about 2-1/2 miles west of Bath Center and near the Summit/Medina County line. This settlement included a one-room schoolhouse and the Worden General Store, with a post office. Various stories surround the naming of this section of Bath: one traces back to Jennie Farley, who married Milton Low, and lived on the property; another claims Moses McFarlin had a grocery store in the area and Farley's Corners took its name from McFarlin.

**Ghent Hamlet**, originally platted as a village in 1836, was built around the water power of Yellow Creek where at least 14 different mills – sawmills, cider mills, gristmills, and woolen mills – operated. Still standing are the Historic Ghent Woolen Mill and Alderfer's Gristmill, historic sites and private residences today. Many small businesses

were located in Ghent, including the Triangle Restaurant and the general store, named Pardee's, Hershey's, and Staat's, depending on who owned it, until a fire in 1958 destroyed it. The hamlet also included Ghent School and Ghent Church, now the Spa at Yellow Creek, and residences such as the Thomas Pierson House, now The Bake Shop in Ghent.

**Hammond's Corners**, located at North Cleveland-Massillon and Ira Road, was once a hub of activity as several Hammond families settled in the hamlet, which became known as "Downtown Bath" with a general store, buggy shop, post office, hotel, and school. Royal and Ward Hammond established a general store in the hamlet in the 1820s. The store was bought in 1877 by Joseph Whitcraft. His son Sigel took over the business in 1888, but in January 1912, an overheated stove caused a catastrophic fire. Sigel rebuilt and reopened the store continuing in business until his death in 1934. In 1954, Sigel's great grandson, Jeff Andrew, opened the Garth Andrew Co. at the location. Although Andrew has since retired, the building remains an iconic historic site in the community.

**Stony Hill** was a settlement in Bath Township that began in the early 1800s. Once home to Native American groups, the name comes mainly from the rocky/glacial terrain, still visible on the south side of Medina Road near the Hametown Road intersection. By the mid-1800s, the land was cleared for farming, and the small community included a one-room schoolhouse in use from 1892 to 1923. The Stony Hill Schoolhouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, belongs to the Bath Township Historical Society and is open in the summer months as a museum.

**Pleasant Valley** was the site of the Cranz properties along Ira Road and was a small community located in the Cuyahoga River Valley. Picture the area from Howe Meadow to Hale Farm & Village and up the hill toward Hammond's Corners. It was, by all accounts, a pleasant place to live.

**Learn how you can join the Forever Bath Circle of Caring and see a list of current donors at [akroncf.org/CircleofCaring](https://akroncf.org/CircleofCaring).**

