



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

READING MONTH

Our children celebrated March is Reading Month by designing their own personalized bookmarks. Each youth was given a rectangular space on a page and was encouraged to use their imagination. From depicting their favorite book to their favorite animal, they sketched their designs to be used between the pages of their most cherished books.

One youth chose a fox for their inspiration. *"I love foxes, they are very mystical, and look like they want to tell you a story,"* said this artistic youth. *"I hope that my bookmark will help other children love books as much as I do."*

To the right, you can admire one of the numerous bookmarks created by our students. Simply cut along the dotted line to utilize it as a keepsake in your own favorite book.

PICTURE DAY

At the beginning of March, the Holbrook Cafe was a bustling with laughter as our youth made poses and funny faces in front of a large greenscreen. It was Picture Day, a special occasion for our youth to partake in an experience that most children encounter throughout the school year.

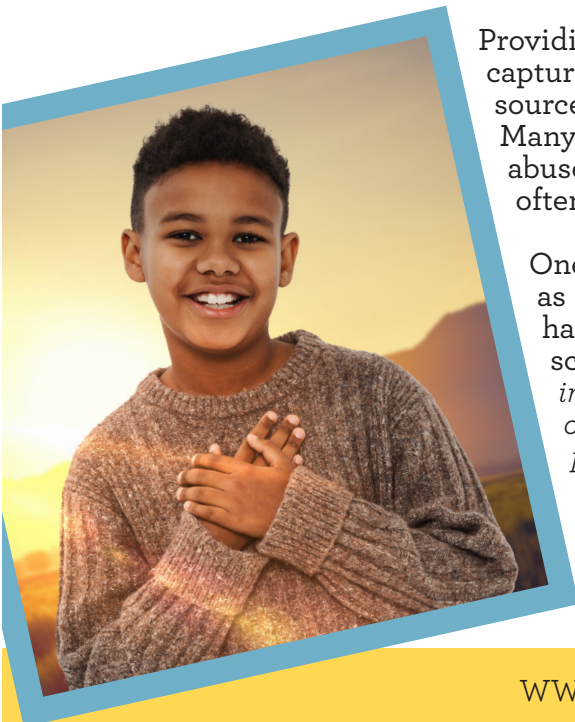
The photographer had an array of backgrounds to choose from, catering to each child's unique request. Among the options, one of our imaginative youth came up with an adventurous idea for their photo shoot. *"I want to be The Flash, but in space!"* he exclaimed. *"I'll pretend to be running, and could you add lightning behind me? That would make this the best photo!"*

Providing our youth with photographs that capture their happiness and excitement is a source of solace during challenging times. Many of these children have experienced abuse and neglect in their backgrounds, often lacking any pictures of themselves.

One of the youth described Picture Day as a truly wonderful experience, as they had never been able to participate in school picture days before. *"It was not important to my family to have a photo of me,"* he said. *"It was cool that I could pick the photos and backgrounds that I wanted for myself. These are for me, these are now my moments that I want to remember!"*



ARTWORK CREATED BY
EAGLE VILLAGE YOUTH





MILE MARKERS

Following his summer experience as a camp staff member at Eagle Village, Ryan Allen was inspired to give back to the youth by completing a project to achieve Eagle Scout status. Drawing from his positive interactions at Eagle Village, Ryan decided to return as a volunteer and create a running/walking trail that would benefit our youth.



Collaborating with fellow members of his Scout troop and other volunteers, Ryan embarked on the trail-building process by clearing a dense pathway behind the Lighthouse Chapel. Throughout the project, he meticulously mapped out a 3-mile long trail that meanders alongside Eagle Village's Starr Pond, combining his passion for cross-country running with the vast acreage available.

To add the finishing touches, Ryan and his team installed mile markers along the trail, each denoting half-mile increments. He emphasized that these markers not only serve as navigational aids for Eagle Village's youth and staff but also serve as motivators to appreciate nature while engaging in physical activity.

We extend an invitation to churches and organizations to see a great opportunity here to organize a mission trip. We have youth ready to learn and grow, 681-acres, and 56 buildings - there is a great deal to accomplish!

Learn more at eaglevillage.org/volunteer



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Several new extracurricular activities are now offered to the children in our community. The Village Vox, a youth-led newsletter, aims to inspire kids to share their stories while residing at Eagle Village. The newsletter features various sections such as video game, movie, and book reviews, fictional short stories, interviews, and a comic section to cater to the diverse communication skills of the children.

"Media arts is a subject that welcomes those with learning disabilities," Sarah Himes, the Communications Coordinator and The Village Vox editor, said. "This afterschool activity will help our youth learn and utilize the forms of communication they feel most comfortable with."

In addition to The Village Vox, bowling and board gaming clubs have been introduced with the help of volunteers and staff members at Eagle Village, providing more opportunities for the children to engage in recreational activities and socialize with their peers.



EAGLE VILLAGE

YOU CAN CHANGE LIVES

When you get involved with Eagle Village, you change the future one life at a time. Your investment will make a difference in the lives of children—there's nothing better than that!

**ADOPT
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