

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Paying It Forward is a Lesson for Life **Botsford Commons Residents teach about volunteering.**

Farmington Hills, Michigan - On Monday, April 14, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. Botsford Commons visited Botsford Elementary School, in Livonia, with a wonderful surprise for their students.

452 students were gifted Kohl's Care® books, through the generous donation of an anonymous Botsford Commons resident. It is obvious the anonymous donor from Botsford Commons values the education of our local youth; this opportunity with Kohl's Cares® is a way for us to show the children that paying it forward, at every age, is important and that volunteering your time and talents with those in your community is a priceless gift.

"Hello students, we are here from Botsford Commons Senior Community and we have a very special gift for everyone. Last week we celebrated National Volunteer Appreciation Week and we are celebrating National Library Week this week. To honor these special weeks, one of our friends at Botsford Commons wanted each of you to have a special book from Kohl's Cares Foundation®. We hope that you will pay it forward and use these books to help younger students practice their skills of reading." This is what each class heard when our great volunteers made up of residents, staff and Kohl's Associates in Action entered each classroom at Botsford Elementary.

"It is so easy to volunteer and makes you feel good," said Cheyenne, a Kohl's Associate in Action® from the Northville Kohl's Store. One student said, "What?!" in surprise to this wonderful gift. The whole class yelled, "Thank you!" to Stephanie Aday, a Madonna University Student and residents looking on. Kevin Snycerski, Nurse with Senior Helpers, reads "Go Dog Go" as students laugh and giggle throughout to the rhythm of the book. The energy ran through the school as we went from grade to grade, passing out these wonderful books. Students read their new books to Botsford Commons residents, staff and our friends from Kohl's®. "This was such a gift to all of us from a very wonderful resident at Botsford Commons," stated Barb Smith, Fullness of Life and Volunteer Services Coordinator at Botsford Commons. "I was truly honored to help my friend fulfill a wish to give this gift of reading to so many students at one time."

Coincidentally, the book donation and distribution is happening in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 6 – 13 and National Library Week, April 13 – 19. Past activities between Botsford Commons and Botsford Elementary have focused around volunteering. This event is no different. The donated books will supply students with entertainment and a way to practice their reading, but eventually, they will outgrow the books. Our hope is that they pass on their gift and pay it forward to the younger students.

For more information contact Barb Smith at bbsmith@botsford.org or 248-615-2898.

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Botsford Commons Senior Community is a non-profit corporation providing housing and service options for seniors. Located on a 30-acre campus in Farmington Hills, Michigan, the award-winning Community offers a full continuum of care for the area's senior population including short stay rehabilitation services, long-term care, privately owned condominiums, and rental options for senior apartments and assisted living suites. Botsford Commons Senior Living Center was awarded a Level III Quality Seal from the Michigan Center for Assisted Living (MCAL) and the Senior Living Center and Botsford Rehabilitation and Continuing Care have each received a Bronze National Quality Award from the American Health Care Association/ National Center for Assisted Living. For more information visit the website at: www.botsfordcommons.org.