

Across the Greenfield

Mardi Gras Celebration!



A Royal Congratulations

All hail our Mardi Gras royalty! Congratulations to Mary Ellen and Edwin for being crowned Greenfield's Mardi Gras Queen and King. When the golden medallion was discovered inside the King Cake, cheers filled the

room and the celebration reached a joyful crescendo. Mary Ellen wore her crown with sparkling grace, and Edwin ruled the afternoon with a smile fit for Bourbon Street. Their good humor and festive spirit made the

moment even sweeter. We are delighted to honor them and grateful for the laughter and camaraderie they bring to our Greenfield family. Long live the King and Queen!



Betty & 3rd grader



Danny & 3rd graders



Bonnie



Marian



Neva



Ken & friend



Aleta & friend



Marian & 3rd graders

Across Lynn's Desk

We are honored to celebrate 115 years of compassionate service and invite our friends, neighbors and community supporters to join us for an evening of timeless elegance at *A Night at Tiffany's* — a signature anniversary fundraiser benefiting our not-for-profit community, proudly owned and operated by the Adeline E. Prouty Trust.

Set against the beautiful backdrop of Chapel Hill Golf Course, this unforgettable evening will shimmer with sophistication, history, and meaning. From the moment guests arrive, they will be immersed in Tiffany-inspired glamour, surrounded by sparkling details and thoughtfully curated experiences that reflect the legacy and excellence that have defined Greenfield for more than a century.

Guests will enjoy both a silent art auction and a live art auction, featuring an

exceptional collection of artwork — including cherished pieces that once graced the walls of Greenfield prior to our recent remodel. These meaningful works offer a rare opportunity to take home a piece of our history while supporting our future.

Adding to the magic of the night, a professional photographer will capture guests in front of our iconic Tiffany-themed backdrop, with beautifully printed and framed photos ready to take home as a keepsake that very evening.

One of the most anticipated moments will be a special historical presentation from a surprise guest — a moving tribute to 115 years of unwavering dedication and excellence in caring for older adults.

General admission tickets

are \$75 per person, and VIP tickets are \$115 per person. Only 40 VIP tickets are available. VIP guests will enjoy a private pre-event cocktail reception with passed hors d'oeuvres and a private preview of the auction artwork before general admission begins.

We will also raffle a stunning Tiffany Heart Toggle Necklace, with the drawing taking place following the live auction — a sparkling finale to an already dazzling evening.

Tickets are limited and expected to sell quickly. To purchase event tickets or secure your raffle tickets for the Tiffany Heart Toggle Necklace, please contact Carol in the office. We would love for you to be part of this extraordinary milestone celebration.

Lynn Olds, Administrator

Enter To Win *Return to Tiffany™*
Heart Toggle Necklace

Valued at \$1,150
All proceeds benefit
Greenfield Retirement Home
(not-for-profit provider)

PLEASE RETURN TO
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NEW YORK
925

Enter To Win
Name _____
Phone _____
You do not have to be
present to win.

\$25 / Each or 5 For \$100
Must be 18+ to enter. Drawing: April 11

Sales Limited to
Just 200 Tickets

Greenfield
RETIREMENT HOME
Celebrating 115 Years of Service
Questions? 815.872.2261

Understanding Dementia

Dementia is an umbrella term used to describe a group of symptoms affecting memory, thinking, reasoning, and daily functioning. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type, though vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia, and other forms also exist. Dementia is not a normal part of aging. It is caused by physical changes in the brain that gradually interfere with cognitive abilities.

Years ago, dementia was often labeled simply as "senility," and little was understood about its causes. Today, research has provided greater insight, earlier diagnosis, and improved care strategies. While there is not yet a cure for most forms of dementia, supportive environments and informed caregiving can greatly enhance quality of life.

Common signs include memory loss that disrupts daily life, difficulty completing familiar tasks, confusion with time or

place, trouble finding words, changes in mood or personality, and withdrawal from activities. Occasional forgetfulness is normal. Ongoing and progressive changes are what raise concern.

Five Helpful Tips for Supporting Someone with Dementia:

1. **Keep communication simple and calm.** Use short sentences, speak clearly, and maintain gentle eye contact.
2. **Avoid arguing or correcting harshly.** If someone is confused, redirect the conversation or validate their feelings instead of insisting they are wrong.
3. **Create consistent routines.** Predictable schedules and familiar surroundings reduce anxiety.
4. **Offer limited choices.** Too many options can overwhelm. Simple either/or choices are easier to manage.
5. **Engage through meaningful activities.** Music, photos, crafts, light exercise, and

reminiscing can spark connection and joy.

Caregivers, whether family or professional staff, provide essential physical and emotional support. Their role can be both rewarding and demanding. Access to respite care, support groups, and community resources helps prevent burnout and ensures continued compassionate care.

Above all, dementia care is about preserving dignity. Each individual carries a lifetime of experiences and worth. With patience, understanding, and practical tools, we can help create moments of comfort, purpose, and connection every day.

Kate Webster, SSD

Mardi Gras Magic

Greenfield shimmered in purple, green, and gold as residents gathered for a Mardi Gras celebration that was equal parts tradition, storytelling, and joyful competition. Laughter bounced off the walls like jazz notes as everyone donned festive masks and strings of beads, transforming our community room into a little corner of Bourbon Street.

One of the afternoon's most beloved highlights was our traditional pancake toss, inspired by the famous Pancake Race in Olney, England. Armed with spatulas and real pancakes, residents took careful aim, flipping their golden discs toward waiting bowls. The room erupted with cheers each time a pancake landed squarely inside. It was a delightful blend of skill and suspense, and a few pancakes took daring detours before meeting their destiny. In the end, bragging rights went to those who managed to land

the most pancakes in the bowl, though everyone agreed the true prize was the laughter we shared.

We also gathered to hear the story of the King Cake, a Mardi Gras symbol rich with meaning. Our version was crafted from warm cinnamon rolls, topped with vibrant colored sugars. Each color carried significance: purple for justice, green for faith, and gold for power. Hidden inside was a golden medallion. Tradition holds that whoever finds the treasure is crowned royalty for the day. This year, Mary Ellen was crowned Queen and Edwin was named King, greeted with applause and plenty of playful bowing from their fellow partygoers.

Our culinary team prepared a feast worthy of New Orleans itself. Residents enjoyed gumbo soup, cornbread, red beans and rice, jambalaya, creamy Cajun stuffed shells, and a dazzling lineup of desserts

including banana foster cheesecake, pecan pie tartlets, and strawberry daiquiris prepared by our talented kitchen staff.

From the first flip of a pancake to the crowning of our King and Queen, Mardi Gras at Greenfield was a celebration of culture, community, and the simple magic of gathering together.

Chris Thompson
Activity Director



Hearts Across Greenfield

Valentine's Day at Greenfield was less of a single date on the calendar and more of a slow blooming of kindness that unfolded all week long. In the days leading up to February 14, our hallways turned into delivery routes for joy.

Senator Arellano stopped by with bundles of Valentine cards lovingly created by area children. Each envelope carried bright crayon colors, glittery hearts, and messages that felt like tiny sunbeams. Staff and clients from Gateway Services followed with handmade cards of their own, adding even more warmth to the growing display. We were also

delighted by a visit from Sadie, a thoughtful homeschool student who personally delivered Valentines to residents. Every knock on the door brought another smile, another connection, another reminder that love travels well.

On Valentine's Day itself, the celebration continued with a spirited round of Valentine Bingo. Hearts replaced numbers in our imaginations as residents competed for prizes and bragging rights. Sweet treats followed, adding a sprinkle of sugar to an already joy filled afternoon.

Mrs. Thompson's third graders joined us to make

the day even brighter. Together, students and residents played games, shared stories, and crafted Valentine gnomes to hang on residents' doors. Small hands and wise hands worked side by side, proving that creativity has no age limit.

Meanwhile, in Crafter's Cove, residents designed heart shaped sun catchers that now glow in sunny windows and created bracelets to wear or gift to loved ones. Beads clicked, laughter drifted, and the room hummed with cheerful focus.

From handmade cards to shared crafts, Valentine's Day at Greenfield was stitched together with kindness, community, and a whole lot of heart.

With Grateful Hearts

At Greenfield, we are deeply thankful for the pastors and musicians who faithfully share their time and gifts with our residents.

Pastor Michael Freeman from Hampshire Colony, Retired Pastor Cal Zehr from Willow Springs Mennonite Church, and

Pastor Bill Shields from 1st Lutheran Church each bring their own voice and spirit as they deliver the Word of God. Their messages provide a steady reminder of faith's enduring presence in every season of life.

We are also grateful to Meg and Deb who both add

piano music that gently fills the room and lifts every service. Their playing turns gatherings into moments of peace and praise.

This shared ministry is a true blessing to our Greenfield family, and we thank them all for walking alongside our residents with such care.



Eunice, Beth & Pat P.



Glenn



Pat Q.



Anita



Marcia



Wendell



Muzzy



Edwin

A Message from Our Director of Nursing

Dear Residents and Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to officially reintroduce myself as the Director of Nursing. Many of you already know me from working closely with you and caring for your loved ones over the past couple years. Stepping into this role truly means the world to me. I am deeply committed to continuing the high level of care you expect while always looking for ways to improve.

During my first month in this position, I have seen firsthand how demanding — yet incredibly rewarding — this role can be. Healthcare is constantly evolving, and my goal is to blend the knowledge and experience I've gained with ongoing learning to ensure we continue providing safe, compassionate, and person-

centered care.

One of my top priorities is infection prevention and control. Recently, we have seen an increase in respiratory illnesses in our community. You may notice some staff members wearing masks as a precaution. Masking is one of several tools we use to help protect our residents, who are more vulnerable to complications from respiratory infections.

We ask for your partnership in helping us keep everyone safe by:

- Avoiding visits if you are feeling unwell
- Performing hand hygiene when entering and leaving the facility
- Following any posted infection prevention guidance during

outbreaks

- Considering masking if you have had a recent exposure or mild symptoms

Infection prevention is a team effort, and together we can reduce the spread of illness and protect those in our care.

As I continue this transition, I remain focused on communication, safety, and person-centered care. I am grateful for our dedicated team, whose compassion and commitment make our community so special.

Thank you for trusting me with the care of your loved ones. Your feedback and open communication are always welcome — please do not hesitate to reach out.

Baylea Weston, DCN

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Greenfield's mission is to provide a caring environment that maximizes the life enjoyment, integrity and independence of each resident.

www.greenfieldhome.org

Greenfield is a not-for-profit provider