Greenfield Retirement Home

Across the Greenfield

Volume 44, Issue 1

January 2021

Coming Together



Celebration Party!

We came together (socially distanced and face coverings) in the dining rooms and activity room to enjoy our first group activity, which was of course a celebration! Shelly, Director of Nursing, and Chris, Activity Director, spoke to the residents

about the recent changes and then each room played games followed by refreshments. It was a great day!



Theresa

ACROSS THE GREENFIELD

VOLUME 44, ISSUE I





Happy New Year - Shirley & Glenn



Danny



Jeanne





Across Phil's Desk

Greetings from Greenfield.

Harbinger: a person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another.

Here we are experiencing the bracing cold of winter and longing for the hints of spring. I have reports from both residents and staff of a robin being sighted in the snow. If that isn't a welcome harbinger of spring I don't know what is. We hope it is a better harbinger than the thermometer!

I am thinking of what other harbingers I have been observing. We see the number of local COVID infections declining and the percentage of positive tests declining. These are harbingers of meals in our dining room and resuming group activities.

We look to a vaccine and try to imagine all that might be a harbinger for. What might we be able to do once enough people have

been vaccinated?

There are also little harbingers along the way. Tomorrow is Friday, what will the weekend bring? And there are big harbingers. I hear that candidates for my position have been identified, what will stepping down be like?

Hope: a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

When our boys were young one of the books we read to them was "That's Bad, That's Good". After the young boy in the book is carried away from his parents by an oversized balloon, he makes his way through an ever more bizarre series of events. Just when the reader is sure that the current predicament will end in disaster (Oh, That's BAD!), you turn the page and find that the story has shifted (No, that's good!). But watch out, the next page will bring the response: "Oh That's

GOOD!" Only to be answered with: "NO, that's bad."

Like the twists and turns in the stories of our lives, it is often hard to tell what will turn out good and what will turn out bad until after we turn the page.

It is hope that gives us the courage to turn the page, even when the story seems to have turned the worst corner. It feels like we have turned a lot of pages these past 10 months. Hope has given us the strength. Until next month!

The Kaufna



That Lucky Old Sun (Just Rolls Around Heaven All Day)

Up in the mornin', out on the job

Work like the devil for my pay

But that lucky old sun got nothin' to do but roll around heaven all day

Fuss with my woman, toil for my kids

Sweat till I'm wrinkled and gray

While that lucky old sun got nothin' to do but roll around heaven all day

Show me that river, take me across

And wash all my troubles away

Like that lucky old sun, give me nothin' to do but roll around heaven all day Good Lord above, can't you know I'm pining, Tears all in my eyes Send down that cloud with a silver lining, lift me to Paradise

Show me that river, take me across And wash all my troubles away

Like that lucky old sun, give me nothin' to do but roll around heaven all day

"That Lucky Old Sun (Just Rolls around Heaven All Day)", 1949, Beasley Smith (Music) and Haven Gillespie (Lyrics)

Do you remember this song? What was happening in your life in 1949?

The biggest hit version was recorded by Frankie Laine. It first reached the Billboard magazine Best Seller chart on August 19, 1949 and lasted 22 weeks on the chart, peaking at No. 1. Many other artists have recorded the song. Like "OI' Man River", its lyrics contrast the toil and intense hardship of the singer's life with the obliviousness of the natural world.

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Fam Kaufmann
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Resident Council

Resident Council questionnaires have been distributed. If you still have your questionnaire, please return it to Chris as soon as possible.

If you prefer to have your newsletter emailed each month, let us know at: greenfieldoffice508@gmail.com



Margaret

Welcoming 2021

Since we were unable to have a New Year's Eve party this year, we made our own party in a bag kit for all the residents to enjoy. It included a hat to cut, color and wear, party blowers, blank note card and pen to write down any New Year's resolutions, a bright necklace to help remember all the bright memories, and a few sweet treats to help reflect upon the positive aspects of 2020.

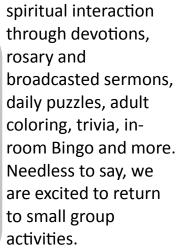


Happy New Year! Father Ed & Carter

Hallway Destinations and Individual Interaction

With all the proper state and federal protocol in place, we tried to think of engaging independent activities for the residents to participate in while walking the halls for exercise. Some of those included a place to select greeting cards, spiritual area with music, devotionals and Bible, an inside windowsill herb garden, nature area with bird feeders

and virtual animals to watch on TV and a weather center with daily weather forecast and inspiring quotes. We also offered monitored daily walking, one to one visits, individualized exercise schedule where activity staff incorporated various stretches, weights, resistance bands, scarves, balls and other ways to try and maintain muscle tone and flexibility, encouraged



Sam & Phyllis

Crafting One by One

During Tier 3 Mitigation, we were limited in ways to express ourselves. One way was through arts and crafts. We were able to take one resident at a time into one of the larger areas and design, cut, glue and create pieces of art. Deb and activity staff assisted residents to draw out this creative expression by making paper cardinals, snowflakes, snowmen and even cutting out paper dolls and vintage trucks.

The paper dolls were reminiscent of the 1940s and the 1970s when they were an inexpensive and fashionable means of playtime. We colored and cut our dolls as well as learned the history surrounding this pastime. It is interesting to note that "The first American paper doll commercially produced as a children's toy was Boston-based J. Belcher's "The History and Adventures of Little Henry" in 1812. That is well over 200 years ago!

With the anticipation of moving into the next phase with communal dining and small group activities, we had the residents decorate his/her table centerpieces.

Fog Freeze

Despite the unpredictable weather in Illinois, one of the beautiful aspects of winter is the occasional fog freeze. What exactly is this elemental phenomenon? According to the National

Weather Service, fog freeze is when "Tiny, super-cooled liquid water droplets in fog can freeze instantly on exposed surfaces when surface temperatures are at or below freezing. Some

surfaces that these droplets may freeze on include tree branches, stairs and rails, sidewalks, roads and vehicles."



Fog Freeze



Marvin

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ACROSS THE GREENFIELD





Gratice



Beth





Theresa



Nancy



Christy



Caregiving During a Pandemic

"The closest thing to being cared for is to care for someone else." - Carson McCullers, The Square Root of Wonderful.

I made the choice to dedicate my life to caring for others. I have never regretted that choice, not even during a pandemic. Has it been challenging? Of course, it has. What has made the difference for me? What I have experienced working at Greenfield during this pandemic is a great sense of being cared for as I have provided care to others.

Thank you to all the residents and their families, my co-workers, the administration, and the board members for all the concern and support and caring for me during this challenging time. It has truly made a difference. I am blessed.

Shelly Davis, DON





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Phone: 815-872-2261 Fax: 815-875-1758 E-mail: greenfieldoffice508@gmail.com Greenfield's mission is to provide a caring environment that maximizes the life enjoyment, integrity and independence of each resident.