

Across the Greenfield

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Paws on Park Ave. Winners



Paws on Park Ave.

Saturday, May 31st, Park Avenue turned into a paradise for pets and their families! Local vendors set up colorful booths, offering unique pet products and

treats that delighted both people and pups. The parking lot was alive with the happy sounds of dogs making new friends and owners discovering new pet

resources. Thank you to everyone who joined us and made it such a wonderful day celebrating our beloved four-legged friends and our vibrant community!



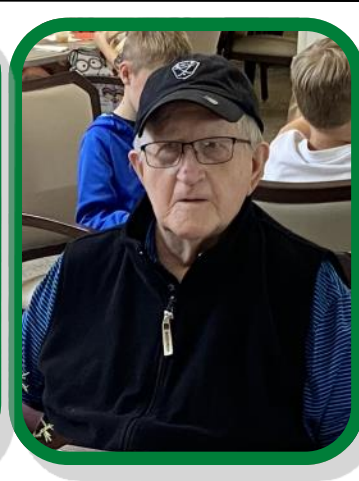
Glenn



Betty C.



Julie



Edwin



Danny



Pat Q. & Molly



Nobbie



Tammy & Carol



Pat P. & Granddaughter



Bonnie B.

Across Lynn's Desk

Savor the Summer Soirée: Tips for Making Meaningful Memories

Our annual Summer Soirée is just around the corner, and we're looking forward to an unforgettable evening spent under the open sky. This elegant outdoor event is designed to give residents and their loved ones a chance to unwind, connect, and celebrate the season in style. With music floating through the air, delicious hors d'oeuvres, a beautifully prepared dinner, and a charming photo booth to capture the moment, it's sure to be a night to remember.

To help you truly enjoy the experience and create lasting memories, here are a few tips to make the most of the evening:

Be fully present. It's easy to

get caught up in conversation or the little details, but take time to pause and soak it all in—the gentle breeze, the golden light of early evening, and the joy of being together. These are the moments that matter.

Capture the joy. Visit our outdoor photo booth to preserve the night with a fun snapshot. Whether you strike a silly pose or smile with family and friends, it's a great way to commemorate a special evening.

Raise a toast. Take a moment to lift your glass—whatever it may be—and celebrate the beauty of togetherness, good health, and shared stories.

Let the music guide the mood. Enjoy the soft

background melodies that set the tone for the evening. Whether you're reminiscing with old friends or simply soaking in the ambiance, let the music bring an extra layer of warmth to the night.

Savor every bite. Our dining services team has prepared a thoughtful menu for the occasion. Eat slowly, enjoy the flavors, and appreciate the care that went into making the evening special.

We're so pleased to host this cherished event once again. Dress for the occasion, bring your favorite stories, and prepare to make a new memory. We'll see you at the Summer Soirée.

Lynn Olds, Administrator

Thank You to Our Community Pastors

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful pastors who have shared their time, faith, and encouragement with us during our Meditation Services at Greenfield.

Special thanks to Pastor Emily Fredrickson (First Christian), Pastor Colleen Lawrence (First Presbyterian), Retired Pastor Cal Zehr (Willow Springs Mennonite), Pastor Mike

Hickok (First Methodist), and Monsignor and Friends (St. Louis Catholic Church). We are truly grateful for your commitment and warmth you bring to our Greenfield community!

IL Valley Center for Independent Living

I talked about serving on the Illinois Valley Center for Independent Living in one of my past newsletter articles, and some residents expressed interest in learning more.

The five core services provided by Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are: information and referral, individual and systems advocacy, peer counseling, independent living skills training, and transition services for those in nursing homes. These services are federally funded through a nationwide program designed to empower individuals with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in their communities.

In Illinois, every county is served by a CIL. Our CIL covers a five-county area, so we offer satellite offices in Henry, Streator, and Stark County, in addition to our main office in Spring Valley. We are currently ranked number one in the state for remodeling the most homes

for accessibility and for providing the most accessible phones. This is very exciting for a small, rural office.

Recently, my Executive Director and I, in my role as board chair, had the opportunity to present to the National Center for Independent Living—a wonderful recognition for our rural area. As a national program serving people with disabilities, it was inspiring to see how much work goes on behind the scenes to provide closed captioning and sign language interpretation in both English and Spanish to ensure accessibility for all.

I was able to speak about the importance of recruiting board members or employees with disabilities—since that is a requirement for CILs—as well as advocacy, peer support, and making paperwork and language more accessible for people with disabilities. You never know when your life experience might help someone else.

I was honored to share my lived experience to help others on a national level and am grateful that Greenfield gives us the opportunity to serve our communities in ways that excite us.

Our Greenfield Greeters serve a similar role. You never know when your smile, greeting, or a bag of popcorn might just make someone's day. We should always be open to new opportunities to serve our community—no matter our age or ability.

Kate Webster, SSD

May's Theme: Garden of Joy Blooms at Greenfield

May was bursting with color, connection, and cheer as residents embraced the uplifting theme *Garden of Joy*. The Green Thumbers Garden Group took the lead, organizing a month filled with activities that brought nature and neighbors together.

Residents repotted houseplants, shared stories about their favorite flowers, and visited the Seatonville Greenhouse to hand-select

vibrant blooms to brighten our spaces.

One of the month's highlights was tilling and planting the pollinator garden with zinnias and hardy perennials—creating a welcoming haven for butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. Indoors and out, greenery was revived, and the joy of gardening

rekindled.

The Garden Nook became a favorite gathering spot for fresh air, laughter, and reflection.

Whether digging in the dirt or enjoying the view, residents found peace and purpose in every moment. May's *Garden of Joy* truly lived up to its name—growing not only flowers, but also smiles, friendships, and warm memories.



Judy



Ken



Genevieve

Creative Fun in Crafter's Cove

This month in *Crafter's Cove*, creativity bloomed as residents rolled up their sleeves for some hands-on fun! Using corks, buttons, and paint, we crafted colorful cork flower paintings - each one unique and full of personality.

The tables were covered in cheerful palettes and the room teemed with joyful chatter as participants stamped, glued, and designed floral masterpieces.

We also brought turtles to life by turning the bottoms of

clay pots and wooden beads into adorable garden critters. The atmosphere was lighthearted and inspiring, filled with laughter and shared stories. Crafter's Cove continues to be a joyful space for artistic expression and connection.

Greenfield Greeters Share Smiles Around Town

The Greenfield Greeters have been out spreading cheer and community spirit! In May, we attended Business After Hours at the Princeton Police Station, lending a hand with Chamber materials and

offering warm, friendly smiles. We visited Midland Bank to greet patrons and hand out popcorn and goodies, then made a stop at The Closet to welcome shoppers—and enjoy a little shopping ourselves!

Looking ahead, we're excited to visit Midland Bank, The Closet, and attend Business After Hours at Second Story on June 19 from 4pm – 5pm. Want to join the fun? See Chris for details on becoming a Greeter!



**Greenfield Greeters -
Nobbie, Joyce,
Betty M.**



**Greenfield Greeters -
Max, Neva,
Julie**

Paws on Park Avenue a Success!

The last Saturday of May, Park Avenue was the place to be for our **dog parade**—a prom-style event where our furry friends strutted their stuff with style! Dogs of all shapes and sizes pranced along the parade route, showing off their

best looks. Prizes, generously donated by our sponsors—**Bureau Valley Veterinarian, Mardog's Grooming Room, TSC, Pet Smart, Tiskilwa Farms Alpacas, LLC and Greenfield**—were awarded for Top Dog and more tail-wagging cool categories!

Through our bake sale and food stall, we raised an amazing **\$625.00**, benefiting local animal shelters: **2nd Hand Ranch & Rehab, Bekah's Bandits Rehab, Friends of Strays Animal Shelter, and Tri-County Humane Society**. Thank you to everyone who made this event a huge success!



Bonnie S., 3rd Grader, Emily



Betty M. & Friend



Kathy & Max



Eunice & Rita



Marie



Kay



Deb

Congratulations Baylea Weston on Becoming an RN!

We are thrilled to celebrate an incredible milestone with Baylea! Help us congratulate her on her successful transition from LPN to RN. Baylea's hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment to her calling in healthcare has paid off in a big way.

From LPN to RN: A Journey of Growth

Becoming a Registered Nurse is no small feat. As an LPN, Baylea already provided compassionate, hands-on care that make a difference in the lives of our residents. Now, as an RN, Baylea has expanded her scope, deepened her clinical knowledge, and

stepped into a role of greater leadership and autonomy. This achievement represents more than just new credentials—it's a reflection of Baylea's perseverance, her love for learning, and her determination to grow both professionally and personally.

She Did It—And We're So Proud!

Balancing work, study, and life is never easy, but Baylea did it with grace, grit, and purpose. Her journey from LPN to RN is an inspiring example of what's possible with vision and dedication. She not only elevated her career, she empowered

herself and everyone around her and she has earned this degree. Every clinical hour, every exam, every late night, was all worth it.

Here's to Baylea's Future

As Baylea officially steps into the role as Assistant Director of Nursing here at Greenfield, her compassion, skill, and strength are what make her an outstanding nurse. The residents, staff, and community are lucky to have Baylea at Greenfield.

Congratulations again to Baylea! The best is yet to come.

Shelly Davis, DCN



Greenfield Retirement Home
508 Park Ave. E.
Princeton, IL 61356

Phone: 815-872-2261

Fax: 815-875-1758

E-mail: office@greenfieldhome.org



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.