

# Across the Greenfield

## Four Seasons Style Show



### Celebrating Gorgeous Grandma Day with Style

The president of Four Seasons Clothing Store in Princeton shared the history of the store along with a mini fashion show and tell for the

gorgeous grandmas of Greenfield. After the show, each lady browsed the store for just the right piece of clothing, accessory and

even shoes! Thanks to Katie and her awesome crew for sharing their wealth of fashion knowledge with our ladies!





**Pat P. & Eunice**



**Nancy**



**Joyce**



**Glenn**



**Patsy & Joyce T.**



**Doris**



**Betty M.**



**Joanne**

## Across Lynn's Desk

I hope you enjoyed our special edition last month featuring only pictures from our 2nd Summer Soiree at Greenfield!

We are thrilled with the resounding success of our special event! This year, it was another truly magical evening, filled with delightful moments and cherished memories. From the elegant decorations to the warm conversations, every detail contributed to making the soiree an unforgettable experience. A special highlight of the

evening was the elegant meal prepared by our talented dining services team. Their culinary expertise and creativity shone through in every dish, adding a touch of sophistication and delight to the evening.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us and made the evening so special. Your presence and support mean the world to us. A special thank you to our dedicated employees, whose hard work and dedication made

this event possible.

We hope our guests and seniors enjoyed their time together, creating beautiful memories and forging stronger connections. Here's to many more wonderful gatherings and shared moments. We look forward to seeing you at our future events!

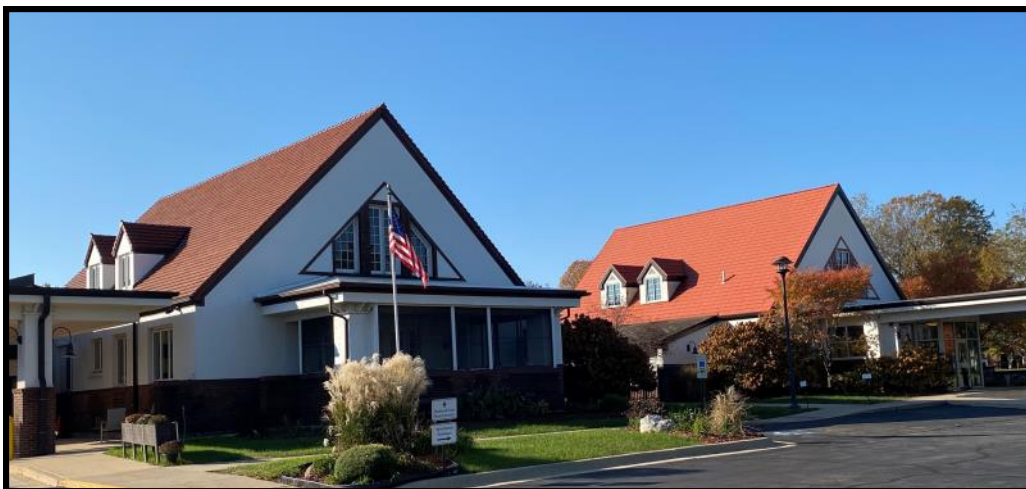
*Lynn Olds*

## Meditation Services

We greatly appreciate the dedication and services of our community pastoral members who so graciously come to Greenfield to spread

the Word of God with our seniors: Pastor Cal Zehr from Willow Springs Mennonite Church, Pastor Colleen Laurence from the 1st

Presbyterian Church, Pastor Bill Shields from 1st Lutheran Church and our friends at St. Louis Catholic Church.





## New Resident - Bertie Gerdes



Bertie Gerdes nee Pfoutz was born to Clair and Grace (Hoover) Pfoutz in the Amboy Hospital in 1933. She was named after her grandmother on her mother's side. Bertie was the 2nd oldest child of 4 and enjoyed helping out the family in the home or babysitting her youngest sister in their hometown of Franklin Grove. She learned to play the piano and organ at a young age and enjoyed playing for church. She has started playing again now that she is at Greenfield and typically tries to play after meals.

Bertie graduated from Franklin Grove High School

in 1949 and after graduating worked as a secretary for 4 years at electrical company that later became ComEd.

She married her husband Herbert C. Gerdes on January 24, 1954, and they were married 53 years before he passed in 2007. Herbert turned Bertie from a town girl to a country girl, but she enjoyed the farm work. They had both cattle and crops. Herbert had taken over his family farm after his dad passed early in life at age 55 while he was still in high school with 5 younger siblings. They were also able to purchase the farm next door. Bertie enjoyed helping on the farm and cooking for all the help. Although she does feel it is nice to be at Greenfield and not have to worry about cooking now. Bertie and her husband were involved in numerous community organizations and were long time member of the Red Oak Methodist Church. She and Herbert had two children Steve and Julie and two grandsons Reid and

Jake. Bertie enjoyed working with her children on their 4H projects.

Bertie enjoys bragging about her family and is proud of their resilience. Her daughter Julie continues to work on their family farm and Bertie is happy to spend more time with her daughter now that she is back in the area. Bertie had moved to Texas to be with her son Steve who overcame a paralyzing football injury in his senior year of high school. He went on to get his law degree and was very successful. Steve passed in July 2023. Bertie is very social and enjoys getting outdoors, caring for her flowers, and playing Rummikub in the Community Room. You are welcome to join her. She will attend most activities and is enjoying her time at Greenfield.

Welcome to Greenfield,  
Bertie!

*Kate Webster, SSD*

## Walmart Shopping

Starting in August, we will be offering a different twist on our bi-monthly shopping for our residents. We are now including Walmart shopping for our tenants in the apartments.

Kate (Social Service Director and Apartment Liaison) is in charge of the independent living tenants, while Chris & Deb (Activities) are in charge of the sheltered care residents.

Here's how it works:

- Sheltered Care shopping is 1st & 3rd Wed. of every month.
- Independent Living shopping is 2nd & 4th Wed. of every month.
- Shopping lists need to be turned in no later than Tuesdays before 1pm, to Kate for the apartment tenants and to Chris or Deb for the Sheltered Care residents. We will

not be able to accept any orders or additions after the 1 pm Tuesday cut off time.

- Orders will be delivered to you on the Wed. after you have ordered.
- Residents/Tenants will be billed for their orders on their monthly invoice.

If you have any questions, please see Kate, Chris or Deb.

## Independence Day Celebrations

When one thinks of the 4th of July, the number one event celebrated are the fireworks. The sounds, colors and anticipation were felt as we gathered outside near the pollinator garden and

enjoyed watching the excellent display of American patriotism. The Tuesday before the fireworks, we made our own sparklers made from scrap fabric. They may not have been as bright

as the fireworks in the sky, but they were fun to twirl around. We served snacks and lemonade and enjoyed an evening of entertainment and good friends.

## Gorgeous Grandma Day

On Gorgeous Grandma Day, we treated our senior ladies to an unforgettable outing at Four Seasons Clothing Store in Princeton, IL. This event, aimed at celebrating the beauty, wisdom, and vibrancy of our senior women, featured a delightful mini fashion show

and tell, immersing our guests in the world of fashion and fabrics. Four Seasons Clothing Store, known for its elegant and diverse collections, provided the perfect backdrop for this special day. Our senior ladies had the opportunity to explore various fabrics,

patterns, and styles, each piece telling its own unique story. The staff at Four Seasons enthusiastically shared insights into the latest trends and the timeless classics, making the experience both educational and enjoyable.

## The Importance and Benefits of Volunteering

Volunteering at Greenfield Retirement Home's sheltered care and independent living facility offers a profound impact on both the residents and the volunteers themselves. This mutually enriching experience plays a crucial role in enhancing the quality of life for our seniors while fostering a sense of community and personal fulfillment for those who give their time.

For the residents, the presence of volunteers brings a breath of fresh air into their daily lives. Volunteers offer companionship, emotional support, and a variety of engaging activities that break the monotony and combat feelings of isolation.

Whether it's through sharing a conversation, leading a craft session, or walking with a friend, volunteers provide meaningful social interaction that is vital for mental and emotional well-being.

On the flip side, volunteers also reap significant benefits from their contributions. Engaging with seniors at Greenfield cultivates empathy, patience, and a deeper understanding of the aging process. It provides a unique opportunity to learn from the life experiences and wisdom of our elders, fostering a greater appreciation for their stories and perspectives.

Volunteering is a win-win for everyone involved. Residents gain invaluable social connections and improved mental health, while volunteers enjoy a sense of purpose, better physical health, and enriched lives through meaningful interactions. By giving their time and compassion, volunteers not only transform the lives of our residents but also experience profound personal growth and satisfaction.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at 815-872-2261 or [activities@greenfieldhome.org](mailto:activities@greenfieldhome.org). We would love to have you!

*Chris Thompson,  
Activity Director*

### Sunflower Painting Craft



Pat P.



Rosie



Joanne





**Eunice**



**Bertie**



**Gratice**

**Four  
Seasons  
Fashion  
Show**



**Park  
Tavern for  
Lunch**

## The Meaning of Kindness

According to the dictionary kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Some ways you can show kindness are through empathy, acceptance, kind gestures and thoughtfulness. Being kind is doing intentional, voluntary acts of kindness, not only when it's easy but also when it's hard.

Kindness is a movement which often causes a chain reaction. All it takes is one person to start it. One small kind act can cause a ripple effect that impacts an entire community.

Kindness is grace. We are humans, and we all make mistakes. When those mistakes occur we can still be kind by thinking before

we speak, forgiving before seeking revenge, and putting short-term pride aside. Remember that none of us are perfect so offer grace, be kind.

Tips on being Kind:

- Be kind to yourself. It's in our nature to learn by watching others, which is why it is so important to be kind to yourself. One of the best ways to teach kindness to others is to show it yourself.
- Say thank you. When you see someone being kind make sure to tell them you appreciate what they did. A simple thank you goes a long way in encouraging kindness.

Some synonyms for kindness are:

*Helpfulness*  
*Care*

*Compassion*  
*Concern*  
*Courtesy*  
*Friendliness*  
*Gentleness*  
*Goodness*  
*Grace*  
*Loving*  
*Neighborly*  
*Patience*  
*Sympathy*  
*Tenderness*  
*Thoughtfulness*  
*Tolerance*  
*Understanding*  
*Unselfishness*

Being kind may not always be easy but if we can all be kind and show grace to one another we can create a loving community for all to enjoy!

Now, be kind and change the world!

*Shelly Davis, DCN*

### GREENFIELD RETIREMENT HOME QUALITY SENIOR CARE SINCE 1911

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

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Greenfield is a not-for-profit provider.