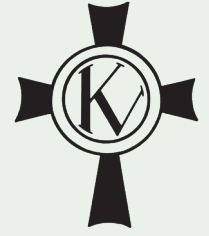




# Kemmerer Voices



Published by Kemmerer Village  
103rd Year of Ministry — A Presbyterian Child Care Agency

941 N. 2500 East Road • Assumption, IL 62510  
Phone: 217-226-4451  
KemmererVillage.org

July 2017

## New Solar Greenhouse Has Arrived

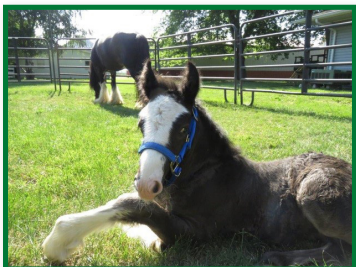
The children of Kemmerer Village are growing in a whole new way. We are proud to announce the arrival of the Solar Gem Greenhouse! We are so grateful to all the donors who made the greenhouse possible! The greenhouse is such a great asset to Kemmerer Village. Teaching the children how to grow food is a life long skill. This greenhouse is safe and sturdy and will be enriching the lives of kids at Kemmerer Village for years to come!

*A special thanks to donors who felt compelled to help specifically with this project.*



**“For I know the PLANS  
I have for you”  
declares the LORD  
“plans to PROSPER you  
and not to harm you,  
plans to give you  
HOPE and a  
FUTURE.”**

Join us in congratulating all the graduates of 2017! All graduations are proof of hard work and learning, but the children of Kemmerer Village have had a steeper mountain to climb than most. This spring Kemmerer Village residential and foster care programs celebrate one high school graduate and nine 8th grade graduates. Please remember these children in your prayers. We wish them all the best and brightest future.



## Our Foal Has Arrived

It has been an immensely exciting time at the Franchios Riding Arena! On May 20th, the barn doors were open for a fun filled day celebrating our expectant momma horse. Many friends of Kemmerer Village, families from Horses & Heroes, staff and residents attended the Foal Shower. Our hearts and stomachs were overflowing with all the support and food that showed up! But as usual at the barn, the four-legged friends were the star of the show. Among the games, people placed blue and pink handprints on a horse to guess if

Kemmerer was going to be blessed with a colt or a filly. Just three short days later, every blue handprint was validated. Our new colt, Lexlins “Philip of Kemmerer” was born May 23, 2017.

If you are interested in seeing Philips entrance to the world, please check out Kemmerer Village Facebook page to view the birth. Unfortunately soon after his arrival, Philip required medical treatment at the University of Illinois. The monetary gifts from the shower were used to help pay for the treatment that saved his life. Philip and his mother Mop Legs are doing well now and back home. Like all of Kemmerer Village, the Equine Therapy program is possible because of the compassion and generosity of our donors. We are forever grateful to all of the Kemmerer Village supporters who help us to fulfill our mission.

# Kemmerer Voices

Michael A. Havera . . . . .Editor  
Publication No 292-240

Kemmerer Village is a Mission Agency of the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Presbyterian Church (USA)

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# From the Director's Desk

## Kemmerer Voices July 2017



Ron Little  
Executive Director

July marks the start of a new Fiscal Year at Kemmerer Village and the start of a third year that the State of Illinois does not have a budget. Like many Social Services programs, the burden of this situation for Kemmerer Village has become heavier, with each passing year. Within the past six months, four more agencies with Residential Treatment programs have closed due to the State's inability to pay its bills. Those four agencies join several others that have closed over the past 18 months. As I write this, we're awaiting over \$900,000 from the State of Illinois for the services we've provided to the youth placed here over the past year, with no certainty of when or if that will be paid to us.

The lack of a State Budget over the past 24 months only compounds a more significant issue: the State of Illinois sets the rate at which it will pay for Residential Treatment services and that rate has increased only 2% over the past twelve years. During that same twelve year span, the costs to provide quality service for youth in our care have, on average, increased 3% every year. As a result, the amount of donations and other private funds needed to support yearly operating costs has grown from 15% twelve years ago to nearly 30% this year.

Kemmerer Village's Residential Treatment program is not at risk of closing anytime soon, despite these bleak circumstances. Thanks to the longstanding generosity of our supporters and good stewardship by the Board of Directors over these years we've been able to maintain the excellence of care that our youth need and deserve. We have been blessed to have reserves to bridge the gaps created by the above circumstances, thus far. But the rate at which we've had to draw from these reserves the past two years is becoming unsustainable, especially if this budget impasse continues for a third and even fourth year.

Kemmerer Village provides care to the most vulnerable of Illinois' citizens, children and youth. They do not have the voice to advocate for themselves, so I ask that you help us do that for them. Please contact your state representatives and/or Governor's office to advocate for them and an end to this budget impasse. Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,  
Ron Little  
Executive Director





Mike Havera  
Director of Financial  
Development & Fundraising

## Through The Years!

During your visit to Kemmerer Village you will see many landmark buildings throughout our rural seventy acres. Several of the cottages have been named for our generous donors dating back to the early years and up through the decades. These buildings have served generations of children and young people starting with the Kemmerer Orphanage, opening its doors in May, 1914. Philip and Sarah Kemmerer witnessed the needs of children and families in distress and took the opportunity to "help make a difference." Per their final wishes they left their 400 acre farm and assets to the Presbyterian Churches of Central Illinois to create a home "for the orphans and friendless poor of all denominations." This 103 year old building is still called home to more than one generation as they continue to revisit the Kemmerer Village campus.

In the fifties, cottages were built to reflect a more family like environment. During this time a gymnasium was constructed for indoor activities. Later in the eighty's a large new addition was added to the gymnasium. This building was to be known as the Fergusson Educational and Recreational Center. Today our on-grounds school continues to be a major asset to the programs on our campus enabling children who may not have previously been successful in the educational process to achieve new heights. The Recreational building is also providing children the opportunity and encouragement to reach their potential in areas of: sports, art, music, health and physical fitness.

The Margaret J. Dick Campus Center was completed in 2002. This building would become the center piece for activities around the campus. This construction project would create the first Chapel on our campus for church services, as well as a large new modern kitchen, dining area and offices for administrative personnel.

In 2010 the Franchois Arena was constructed to fill the need for a new Equine Facilitated Therapy Program. Horses have been a part of the Kemmerer history for many years. The benefits of this program are immeasurable; many children will engage in this type of therapy rather than the traditional therapy setting. This program has proven to be very beneficial to the children at Kemmerer Village.

All of our years of progress and success have been made possible through generations of committed congregations and individuals. It is because of your ongoing support that Kemmerer Village is recognized today as one of the most respected child care facilities. We wish to thank all of you who are helping continue this ministry.

May God bless you and yours as together we work toward enhancing the future of Kemmerer Village.  
With Best Regards,

Mike



**Thank you to all who helped us add OREO to our Equine Program.  
Your vote counted!**

**Thank you** everyone for your support in the Gypsy Gift contest. Through your efforts we received 15,422 votes on Facebook to end in seventh place out of over 80 centers. Lexlin Gypsy Ranch in Tennessee will be giving us Oreo in late July. Oreo is an eight year old mare, 13.2 hands and will be a fantastic addition to our Equine Program. We owe all of this to the many individuals, congregations and Presbytery Offices who passed the word on to vote for Kemmerer Village.

## 3v3 Basketball Tournament

Lots of sunshine, high temperatures, teenagers packing the courts, pop up tents, and the consumption of water and Gatorade were some major happenings on Sunday June 4, 2017. On this date Kemmerer Village participated in the 1st Annual Moweaqua Pow-Wow 3v3 Basketball Tournament. Kemmerer had six players attend. The sportsmanship instilled in these young men was certainly present.. Although Kemmerer didn't place they made many great memories and will look forward to competing in the next 3v3 tournament. Kemmerer Village would like to give a special thank you to Forston's Barbershop in Moweaqua for sponsoring our team.



## Bowling State Championship written by Kemmerer Village Youth

Step, step, step, reach back, propel forward and release! The ball thunders down the lane, and smash! Hits the pins. It's a strike! This is much like what Saturday was like at the bowling state championships. Four girls and four boys went. It was a fun filled day. Bowling, soda, pizza and some freedom with our favorite Therapeutic Recreation staff! The end result was great: Tess won first place for highest game and highest series. Girls team won first overall combined scores. We left happy that day! But remember it's not about winning or losing, it's about the effort put into it and the amount that you enjoyed yourself. On those terms, everyone who went, staff included, had a 100% great day!



## Kemmerer Village Mentoring Program

Kemmerer Village's mentor program is something that is making a huge difference and a lasting impression on our youth. Recently, one of our mentors really made a connection with her resident. Together they spent months designing and customizing a prom dress for a very excited girl. This project was not only a great bonding experience, but it was also a positive creative outlet. It is a project that kept the youth focused on earning the privilege of going to Prom and really gave her something to look forward to. The end result is as unique and funky as she is! Thanks to Sally Bursveen and all of those positive influences on the kids of Kemmerer Village! If you could spare the time to have a positive effect on a child through our mentorship program please contact Vince Rodriguez at 217-226-2153 or vince.rodriguez@kv.christian.k12.il.us.



## School Incentive A Students Perspective

Eight kids at Kemmerer Village participated in the school incentive program. We traveled to Springfield and had an amazing time. First, we went to Steak n' Shake. We all got something to eat and a drink. By the time we sunk our teeth into the juicy, savory burgers, we were pretty hungry. A couple people even ate hot peppers. Then, one of the workers started a conversation with me, and asked how many were in our group. I told him eleven. He gave me 11 paper hats for everyone to wear. We all trooped out of the restaurant happy and full. Yum! Next, we headed over to glow in the dark mini golfing. We were early, so we split into groups and walked around the mall for awhile. We had fun on the escalators and elevator (as some of us had never been on an escalator before). Some enjoyed it. Some were still a little afraid, but that's okay, because they still had fun. After awhile we headed back to the mini golf place. We entered and played and got all set up with our putters and balls. The lights were off and they had on those backlights that make white glow. Some balls glowed in the dark. We all got glow in the dark bracelets to wear too. We all had an absolutely fantastic time. At the end, you put your ball in a peg maze and if it goes in the hole you win something. A few girls won light up sunglasses, and others won LED lei's. We overall had a wonderful outing and were very thankful to everyone who made it possible for us to go.

## Mr. Robert McNabb Donates Vehicle

Bob has turned over the keys to his 2005 Lexus Sports Utility Vehicle to Kemmerer Village to assist the agency in regard to their transportation needs.

Kemmerer Village provides services to 40 residential youth as well as 85 foster care children. Transportation is an on-going need in the lives of those children entrusted to our care.

On a daily basis our vehicles are on the road transporting children to numerous home visits, doctor and dentist appointments, school and sporting events as well as other special activities.

Thank you Bob for helping to make our transportation schedule a little less hectic.

With all of the Services that we provide at Kemmerer Village donations of all kinds can be utilized in some way, shape or form.

Please Contact our Financial Development office if you believe you have something that could benefit the children of Kemmerer Village.



*Pictured above Mike Havera, Director of Financial Development and Fundraising along with Mr. Robert McNabb Vice President of the Kemmerer Village Board of Directors.*

## **24th Annual Kemmerer Village Charity Golf Classic Friday, September 8th, 2017 Oak Terrace Golf Course—8:00 a.m. Rt. 51 South—Pana, IL Call (217) 226-2130 for more details and entry Early Bird Registration by Aug. 12, 2017**

18 holes and use of cart at Oak Terrace will be awarded to a lucky foursome whose name will be drawn from our Early Bird entries. Top Teams –Will be awarded trophies and prize money.

**Championship Flight 1st. \$500 2nd. \$400 3rd. \$300**

**“A” Flight 1st. \$400 2nd. \$300 3rd. \$200**

**Longest Put—Longest Drive—Closest to pin and many more.**

*“The Shotmaker’s Mile”* is a stretch of holes on the back nine through the woods with water, dog-legs and risk reward holes. You’ll love to hate it, and hate to love it!

***Join us for a day of fun and help support the much needed programs for today’s youth.***

***If you would like to participate as a sponsor, please contact Mike Havera (217)226-2120***

***Follow us on our Facebook page—Kemmerer Village***

***Kemmerervillage.org.***



## Remembering a Very Good Friend

Betty Springs always had a smile and a good word for everyone. She was very committed to helping the young people at Kemmerer Village.

Betty first came to Kemmerer Village as a member of the Kemmerer Village Auxiliary. During her twenty years on the Auxiliary she served several times as President. She always took special interest in each Kemmerer Village youth when they would share their activities and successes with the ladies during Auxiliary meetings. As with the rest of the group she would always give words of encouragement to each child as they spoke.

Betty later joined the Kemmerer Village Board of Directors and was a member for fourteen years.

Betty's time spent with Kemmerer Village will leave a lasting impact on all the lives she so generously and caringly touched. We extend our sympathies to Betty's family and friends.

## Kemmerer Kids Gather To Remember A Friend

Former Kemmerer Village residents (Kemmerer Kids as they call themselves) gathered recently to remember a special member of their group Georgia Plunkett Pettit. Many members of this group spent several of their growing years at Kemmerer Village, living in the old "Big House". This was the original orphanage, three story building, 103 years old in May of this year. Most of the group left in the early 70's and have stayed in touch with each other and Kemmerer Village. At each family gathering "yes they call this a family" they share memories of early years and catch up on current times. Members of the group and everyone at Kemmerer Village would like to send our sympathies to Georgia's family and friends.



*Starting from left: Annette and Rick Reichart. Pat "Hill" McLaughlin, Patty "Duffy" Christianson, Chris Allen, Holly Wiefeldt (House Parent), Diane "Jared" Caldwell, Sandy "Green" Tebrugge and David Reichart.*

## In Memory & Honor of Those We Love

There are occasions of joy and sorrow in the lives of our family and friends that call for a response from us. A Memorial Gift or an Honor Gift to Kemmerer Village is a way to express love and respect at appropriate times.

Your gift, large or small, is an investment in the lives of troubled children. These gifts help to provide for their day to day care: food, clothing, medical care, educational needs, and Christian ministry.

The name of the deceased or honored is in bold type; the donor names are listed below in regular type. Please notify us of any errors.

### Honors

January 1, 2017 to June 1, 2017

**Mrs. Dorothy M. Andersen**

Ms. Janet R. Andersen

**Ms. Erika Frelander**

Mrs. Cheryl Crays

**Mrs. Laurel McKahan**

Mrs. Betsy A. Hauser

**Children of Kemmerer Village**

Mr. and Mrs. David Shelton

**Grandchildren**

Mrs. Mary Hartzler

**Pat Nohl's 8 grandchildren**

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Troyer

**Mr. and Mrs. John Curtin**

60th Anniversary  
Mr. John C. Curtin

**Mrs. Betsy A. Hauser**

Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Buenger  
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Costlow  
Ms. Sue Ellen Fergusson  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Havera  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald McKahan  
Mrs. Marilee Shore  
Mr. and Mrs. David Shelton  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Van Bokkelen

**Ms. Becky Thompson**

Mrs. Cheryl Crays

**Ms. Sue Ellen Fergusson**

Mrs. Betsy A. Hauser

**Your 2017 Grads**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCracken

# Memorials

January 1, 2017 to June 1, 2017

**Mr. Ray Allen**

**Rev Wayne Allen**

Mrs. Janet E. Howrey

**Mrs. Nancy Bury**

Ms. Mary "Lynne" Cleverdon  
Mr. Robert McNabb

**Mr. James Cross**

Dr. and Mrs. William M. Cross

**Mr. & Mrs. George Damsich**

Mr. Donald G. Damisch

**Mr. Kenneth Detig**

Mrs. Nancy Detig

**Mr. Michael Elam**

Mr. Robert McNabb  
Mrs. Alice Christenberry

**Mr. Larry Enzor**

Ms. Mary "Lynne" Cleverdon  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Meece  
Mrs. Bonnie Elam  
Mrs. Arlene Harbarger  
Mrs. Dee Althoff  
Mrs. Lynn Battles  
Ms. Arielle McCormick

**Mr. Robert "Bob" N. Fischer**

Ms. Sara Bailey  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beeler  
Ms. Sarah H. Butler  
Mrs. Alice Christenberry  
Dr. and Mrs. David Eaton  
Ms. Nancy Froelich  
Mr. and Mrs. George M. Gasick  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Gehrt  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Groves  
Mrs. Susie Jefferson  
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Mrs. Joan Legge  
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Lindsay  
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Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moore  
Ms. Gina Muzzy  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Philpott  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven N. Poznic  
Ms. Muriel Riddle  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry N. Ringer  
Ms. Mary Selk  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Snyder  
Mrs. Ann R. Sullivan  
Mr. Paul J. Vertin  
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Wilson  
Mrs. Carolyn Winterroth

**Mrs. Dorothy Gniffke**

Mr. Wayne L. Nelson

**Mrs. Zella Gottschalk**

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Wilson

**Mrs. Marjorie Hamilton**

Mr. Glen Hamilton

**Ms. Jody L. Harmon**

Mr. Elmer L. Harmon

**Mr. Robert Herrmann**

Ms. Sharon K. Maddox

**Mr. Gil Hesemann**

Mrs. Pauline Heseman

**Mrs. Norma Hubbart**

Mrs. Carol Hubbart  
Hubbart Family

**Mrs. Margaret Hunter**

Mr. Wayne L. Nelson

**Mr. Larry Janes**

Mrs. Barbara H. Janes

**Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kent**

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Twardock

**Mr. Don Koppelman**

Mr. Leonard J. Carlson  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael N. Quinn

**Mrs. Kathleen M. Kunzman**

Mr. David F. Kunzman

**Mr. Raymond Lamkin**

Mrs. Irene Lamkin

**Mr. Robert McAninch**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pistrui

**Mrs. Barbara McGaughan**

Rev. Michael D. McGaughan

**Mrs. Marie McNabb**

Mr. William McNabb

**Mr. Fred Morefield**

Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Workman

**Mrs. Margaret "Peg" Noake**

Mrs. Alice Christenberry  
Ms. Patricia Bahnks  
Mr. and Mrs. John Catour  
Ms. Vickie Catour  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carroll, Sr.  
Ms. Karen Dietrich  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Koehn  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Larkins  
Noakes Family  
Mrs. Marlene Negus  
Ms. Ann Phelps  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Phelps  
Mr. Rick Schoon

**Mrs. Pat Nohl**

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Troyer

**Our Parents**

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Coen

**Mrs. Chris Reed**

Mrs. Marion Lamb

**Mr. Brian Reidelberger**

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grammer

**Mr. David Rendleman**

Mrs. Mary Rendleman

**Mr. Henry M. Richardson**

Ms. Margaret A. Richardson

**Mr. and Mrs. Jack Scott**

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Scott

**Mrs. Harriet Sloma**

Mrs. Harriet C. Kweton

**Mrs. Betty Springs**

Mrs. Alice Christenberry  
Kemmerer Village Auxiliary  
Ms. Glenice B. Gibson  
Mrs. Lois McKelvey  
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Short  
Ms. Sandra Szatkowski  
Toledo Order of Eastern Star

**Mr. and Mrs. Alva Stephens**

Mrs. Mary Sue Devine

**Mrs. Shirley Stevens**

Ms. Sandra L. Stevens

**Hillis and Frances H. Swanson**

Ms. Priscilla Swanson

**Mr. Jim Taapken**

Mrs. Joanne Stone

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Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Kramer

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**www.kemmerervillage.org**

*You can view & print the  
Kemmerer Voices from our website.*

**103 Years of Making a Difference  
in the Lives of Children & Families!**

**A mission of the Presbyterian Church USA**

## Happy Birthday!

Our young people truly appreciate receiving cards from all of you on their birthday. Thank you for thinking of them. Please put the name of the church and/or organization in the return address area of the envelope. All mail to students is monitored. Thank you.

### Girls

Savanna P.	7/2/00
Lydia G.	7/8/01
Anaya C.	7/20/02
Kala C.	8/9/00
Alexis W.	8/10/04
Naomi M.	8/28/00
Angela C.	10/1/00
Gabrielle M.	10/25/02

### Boys

Brandon G.	8/7/00
Payton M.	8/12/01
Tanner M.	8/19/02
Jacob H.	8/11/99
Chase W.	9/12/99
David P.	10/29/01



Thank You From KV Resident

KV Prom 2017: Diamonds and Snowflakes

Prom was a total gem. There is snow way it would get any better. It's a good thing no one flaked out. We all had a great time. Dancing, snacks, pizza, and fun! The residents who attended worked super hard to meet the criteria to attend. Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who helped.

By Kala a 16 year old at Kemmerer Village

