

Kemmerer Village Voices

FALL 2023



Horses & Heroes

The riding arena at Kemmerer opens its giant barn doors to children year round. Horses have been making a difference here for over a century, and we keep finding new ways!

There have been so many heroes who have made equine therapy possible at Kemmerer Village, including the United Way, and our many church partners. The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks have given over \$30,000 in grants helping bring the healing power of our herd to community children with disabilities. This fall, an average of 23 children (who do not live at KV) ride weekly. Together we are able to give children with a broad range of disabilities equestrian therapy building core strength, coordination and confidence.

The popularity and support of this program are helping us reach even more kids. Our surveys consistently show the benefits we are providing and the need for more access to Equine Therapy at Kemmerer Village. In September, our Board of Directors approved the hiring of a part-time riding instructor to increase these services. Supporting Kemmerer Village allows us to offer incredible services like equine therapy.

Thank you for being part of our mission.



Orphanage Memorial

Please consider helping us honor our history and leave a lasting mark on our campus.

Ornament
\$18



Engraved
Brick
\$100



Engraved
Bench
\$3,000



Planter from
orphanage
bricks
\$1,000



KEMMERERVILLAGE.ORG
/MEMORIAL
OR CALL
217-226-2131

Volunteers and church groups are welcome to stay in the Kemmerer Village Lodge or Retreat Center!





The IIAA has been a program of a Kemmerer Village since 2015. Youth across the state of Illinois have gained confidence and learned countless transferable skills through our program. Thousands of children have celebrated sportsmanship and felt our encouragement.



Christmas is coming....

We currently have 171 wish lists to hand out, from the children in our care. If you are interested in purchasing Christmas gifts for one of these children, please contact us email- amie.sparks@kemmerervillage.org or phone- 217-226-2131 or shop our amazon wish list- www.kemmerervillage.org/needs

Kemmerer Village Auxiliary

Would you like to help a child? The Auxiliary is a group of individuals who love to help Kemmerer Village children. We meet 4 times a year at Kemmerer Village. We always have a guest speaker, usually a staff member that has a special job at KV and sometimes we even hear from some of the Kemmerer Kids. They keep us informed of the many life-changing programs and give us an opportunity to learn about some wants and needs of the children. Many churches and ladies' groups donate to the Ladies Auxiliary and make it possible for us to help these children so much. Things that would not happen without our help: handmade quilts, shoes for the barn, musical instruments, having hair done for a special occasion, the list goes on and on. We also raise money for these needs with fundraising projects. Grab a friend and come and join us at our next meeting, on **November 1st at 10 am**. You will be warmly welcomed.



By- Bernice Doty, KV Auxiliary President

Kemmerer Voices

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‘I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.’

This passage from Timothy, which was so recently quoted to mark the passing of David Rozanski, moved me. I did not know Dave long. My contacts with him over the last few years were limited to meetings and phone calls regarding his position on the Camp Carew Advisory Council. Still, his passing has had an impact on me. Dave’s obvious commitment to a life well lived, to a life focused on giving back to his community, in significant and meaningful ways, is a worthy goal.

Having worked with Kemmerer Village for almost thirty years, I have worked with some amazing and gifted individuals. I have witnessed children and families move through significant trauma and emerge stronger and determined to finish the race and keep the faith. The work we do at Kemmerer Village supports these transformations.

When I speak to groups and congregations, I hear repeatedly, ‘I had no idea how much you do’. This gives me pause. This statement motivates me to identify more and more ways to ensure that the Kemmerer Village mission and good work is promoted.

We need you to help us fight the good fight. We need you to volunteer on our campus and mentor our youth. We need you to volunteer at our camp. We need you to send potential staff our way. We need you to donate. We need you to invite us to speak to your group or congregation.

Being able to say, with clear eyes and an upturned face, ‘I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith’.

What a Joy. Join us and experience this joy.





JOIN US

Eclipse Event in the Path of Totality

APRIL 8, 2024.

Join us to observe the total solar eclipse that will be visible from southern Illinois.



visit www.campcarew.org for more details and to register!

Meet The Staff



Nicole started her career with Kemmerer Village in February, 2020 as a Caseworker. Recently, she moved to the Lead Community Services Support Specialist/Lead Licensing Specialist.

On a daily basis, she is pleased to lead a team of support specialists. Her work days are spent organizing schedules for her team, keeping foster parent licenses on track, renewing/closing foster parent licenses, communicating directly with DCFS, conducting home studies when needed, and many other fine details for licensing.

When she's not working or studying for her Master's in Communication and leadership, her favorite way to spend days off is with her family, close friends, or painting. Nicole has always had a passion for adoption and the foster care system. She and her husband, Brad, knew in their hearts they were meant to adopt. They started the adoption process, through a private adoption lawyer, in March 2008. After meeting many birth mothers, Nicole and Brad were picked in January 2009 to adopt a newborn baby girl due in June 2009. Nicole and the birth mother formed an unbreakable connection, and their lives are still very much intertwined to this day. Their bond is so tight that the birth mother allowed Nicole in the delivery room, and allowed Nicole to hold her daughter first. Although an open adoption is not for everyone, Nicole, Brad, their daughter, and the birth mother could not imagine the life journey being any other way.

KV KIDS BIRTHDAYS

Girls

Jessica N 10/03/07
Shyann D 10/22/07
Jacelynn K 10/31/08

Boys

Ryan B 11/16/10
Jeremy M 12/3/09
Robert L 1/30/10
Keith W 1/31/12
Logan M 2/27/07

Along with many children in care, whose names we cannot share:

October - 6 children
November - 11 children
December - 16 children

January - 15 children
February - 11 children



30th Annual Kemmerer Village Charity Golf Classic Sponsors:

Without our sponsors, this event would not be possible.
Thank you!

Tournament Underwriters:

Obermeyer Wood Investment Counsel & Kemmerer Village Foundation

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Lilly Signs
Angelo's Pizza
Hurford Architects

Prizes & Goodie Bags:

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**SAVE
THE DATE**

*Fall Festival &
Open house
October 19, 2024*

**Special Brunch
specifically for
anyone who
would like to
secure the
future of our
Village with
your estate
plans.**

**Reserve your
seat by calling
217-226-2130**

In Honor *and* Memory of Those We Love

A Memorial or Honor Gift to Kemmerer Village is an expression love & respect.
Your gift, large or small, is an investment in the lives of the children we serve.
The name of the one being honored or remembered is in bold type; the donor is in regular type.

June 1, 2023 thru September 30, 2023

Honors

Ms. Janet R. Andersen

Mrs. Dorothy M. Andersen

Mrs. Mary Patricia Cloe Bradbury

Mrs. Alice Christenberry

Mrs. Cheryl Crays

Mrs. Rebecca Thompson

Mr. Dick Marshall & Mrs. Gloria Marshall

Mrs. Barbara H. Janes

RL McNabb Family

Mr. Robert McNabb

Memorials

Miss Raymee Bohn

Mr. & Mrs. Sean & Lela Denny

Mr. Danny Bryan

Mr. & Mrs. Allen Bryan

Mr. Leo Dijk

Ms. Melena Warren

Mr. Robert N. Fischer

Mr. and Mrs. John Fischer

Ms. Vonda Forseth

Ms. Melanie Johnston

Mr. Herman Grimm

Mr. Norman Grimm

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart A. Nader

Ms. Marilyn Kennedy

Mrs. Louise Cragoe

Miss Clare Key

Mrs. Carol Ryman

Dr. Carroll Loomis

Anonymous

Ms. Susan B. Askew

Dr. and Mrs. Ken Chilman

Mr. and Mrs. David Cox

Mrs. Julie K. Cox

Ms. Frances Holly

Dr. Rebecca Loomis

Mr. Robert McNabb

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Russell

Mr. and Mrs. William Weesner

Mr. Bradley Stephen Martin

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Mr. Robert H. Metsker

Mrs. Doris E. Seal

Mrs. Barbara F. Pellman

Mr. and Mrs. Jerrold Wagner

Ms. JoAnn Rowley

Mr. Larry Manning

Mr. David Rozanski

Mr. Robert McNabb

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Turner

Mr. Richard "Dick" Ryman

Mrs. Carol Ryman

Mr. Gerald Schaudt

Rev. Wade and Rev. Sonda Kirsteatter

Dr. Edward Doyle Slifer

Ms. Linda Burris

Dr. Donald R. Graham

Mr. & Mrs. Dave & Sally Roach

Mr. and Mrs. Terry L. Wright

Mr. Alva and Mrs. Mary E. Stephens

Mrs. Mary Sue Divine

Ms. Shirley Stevens

Ms. Sandra L. Stevens

Mr. David Stiegemeier

Mr. Melvin and Mrs. Clara Stiegemeier

Ms. Sharon L. Stiegemeier

Mrs. Wilma Stocker

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Mr. and Mrs. Gary Blum

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Mr. and Mrs. John Klemm

Ms. Cheryl Lowney

Ms. Kay McClelland

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Wolf

Mr. Richard Thering

Ms. Melinda Snyder

Mrs. Wanda Tiffany

Mr. David R. Tiffany

Marilyn Tolliver

Mr. Jerry Tolliver

Mr. Earnest "Ernie" C. Weber

Newton First Presbyterian Church

Mr. David White

Hillsboro First Presbyterian Church

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Anonymous

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Ms. Christine Ignoffo

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Mr. Daniel Lock

Ms. Robyn S. Lock

Ms. Pat Marble

Mr. and Mrs. D. Jack May

Mr. David McDermott

Mr. Roger E. Mixer

Moline Coal Valley School

-Special Services Staff

Ms. Marilyn Peters

Ms. Sandra Plechaty

Ms. Rachel Savage

Mr. and Mrs. James Standaert

Ms. Marlena Urbain

*Thank you for honoring your
loved ones by supporting our children!*



Kemmerer kids played BLIND volleyball during Therapeutic Recreation. This may sound odd, but a tarp was placed over the net. The teams could not see who was serving, or where the ball was coming from. The unusual experience was challenging and kept everyone on their toes. Once the game was over, the children discussed how in the game and in life we can't always see what is going to happen next, or what curve ball life might throw at us. These discussions of expectations, attitudes, and efforts will stick with these young people.



KV School



Did you know, Kemmerer Village on-campus schooling officially began in 1983?

Kemmerer Village Campus School Facts:

- The average class sizes are 4-6 students.
- Staffing consists of a Principal, 3 teachers, each with a classroom aide, 2 crisis intervention specialists, and 1 administrative secretary.
- Students are highly motivated through positive reinforcements such as special movie outings and the school store which is filled with soft blankets, snacks, books, art kits, and games.
- Staff promote good study habits by providing structure, caring, and consistency. These supports have often been missing in our students' educational experiences.



**TEACHING IS A
WORK OF HEART**





Kemmerer Village
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Assumption, IL 62510

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amie.sparks@kemmerervillage.org
217-226-2130

Find us online!

WWW.KEMMERERVILLAGE.ORG



Together we are making futures brighter!

**“I’m officially a CNA Thank
you so much! Couldn’t have
done it without you guys,
thanks for all the support! “**

***Supporting Kemmerer kids does not just stop at 18.
Generous donors have made it possible for
scholarships like this! Please continue praying for
her as she starts her nursing career.***

