

Supporting Children & Families Since 1914

# Kemmerer Village Voices

# Summer 2023



## The Slifer Family Orchard at Kemmerer Village

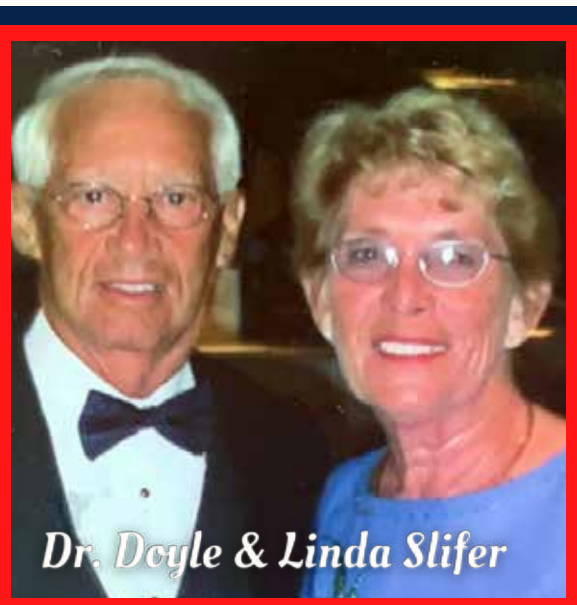
**Join Us For The Orchard Ribbon Cutting October 2024!**

After 109 years, Kemmerer Village continues to grow! The childcare organization has deepened roots and planted an orchard. A groundbreaking ceremony for the Dr. Doyle and Linda Slifer Orchard took place on the 60-acre campus near Assumption, Illinois April 21, 2023. With the help of The Green Works, Kemmerer Village is planting up to 100 fruit trees! The first phase is 32 fruit trees, 11 Fuji Apple, 11 Honey Crisp and 10 Peach trees. These trees have been sponsored in honor of loved ones and churches.

The Slifer family has donated generously to Kemmerer Village over the years and is excited for their legacy to continue to help children and families in our communities. Dr. Doyle Slifer served the Taylorville Community specializing in Pathology for decades and served as the Christian County Coroner. Linda Slifer was a medical terminologist as well as a devoted mother, grandmother, wife and friend before her passing in 2013. The Slifers' gift to Kemmerer Village is going to grow opportunities of learning, nutrition and leisure for generations to come.

In 2022, Kemmerer Village served 1,400 children in their various programs, and an orchard is going to be an incredible addition. The orchard will assist the Village's nature-based therapy programs for residential treatment and foster care children. Kemmerer Village currently has an active gardening program with a greenhouse, and an impressive equine therapy program.

**There are still a few places left to leave a legacy at Kemmerer Village in this first phase.**  
Contact us or learn more at [www.kemmerervillage.org/tree](http://www.kemmerervillage.org/tree)



Dr. Doyle & Linda Slifer



*Kemmerer Village Orchard has taken root!*





# *Kemmerer Village* **Rejoices over our 150th Adoption**

Kemmerer Village celebrates our 150th Adoption! March 6, First Presbyterian Church in Taylorville, Illinois opened its doors to the children, staff, and families who made it all possible. Eight Adoptions were completed that day! The organization celebrated a benchmark of 100 adoptions in 2020. Each adoption represents hours and years of teamwork and people committed to these children.

In 2022, Kemmerer served 1,400 children through our programs including Foster Care, Residential Treatment, Recreational and Equestrian Therapy and Camp Carew. Kemmerer has been supporting children and families since 1914. The original orphanage grew into a first-class treatment facility located on a 65-acre campus outside of Assumption, Illinois. The Village offers an on-ground school, Licensed Therapists, a PATH Certified Equine Therapist, and Registered Nurse to give the best possible care to families experiencing turmoil in their lives. Together we celebrate every child's victory in adoption, foster care and reunification.



## **SCORING SUCCESS WITH KEMMERER VILLAGE FOSTER CARE**

*Supporters like you make it possible for us to help children in so many ways! This young man is honored to have received a scholarship established from the generosity of our supporters. Please pray for this family as they watch their child continue his journey from Foster Care, to adoption and now onto a ...*



# **COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM!!**

# Kemmerer Voices

Autumn Warren

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## Honor the past, Live in the Present and Build for the Future

This quote from Sharon E. Reed took my breath away as it so completely sums up happenings at Kemmerer Village.

Over the past many months, the Kemmerer Village, Inc Board of Directors has considered the important question of the fading former Orphanage building on our campus in Assumption, IL. This building, finished in May, 1914 for a total cost of \$13,353 has served the Kemmerer Village Mission for the last 109 years. Initially and through the 1960's the building provided a home for hundreds of children. As more modern and customized cottages were built on campus, Kemmerer Village children moved out of the original building. Remarkably, the original orphanage first floor dining hall and kitchen served as a central gathering place for both kids and staff through 2001. Other areas of the building have been used as office space until 2023. As the building has aged and repairs have become highly cost-inefficient, the difficult decision has been made to demolish the orphanage in 2023. We have already had several meetings with interested individuals (Former KV residents, KV Board members and community members) to plan the memorial which will be built honoring the Kemmerer Village history. Please visit our website to obtain information on sponsorship for the memorial, and how to purchase Orphanage ornaments and bricks from the building.

Our present at Kemmerer Village is also very full. We re-opened a third Residential Treatment cottage in late February 2023. We are very pleased and proud to expand our excellent residential services to twenty-one kids with this re-opening. Also in February, we moved some of our expanding Foster Care staff and staff from the former Orphanage into newly remodeled office space on campus. Camp Carew Registration for Summer 2023 is open and some camps are filling up! Visit [campcarew.org](http://campcarew.org) to register. Finally, we are looking forward to seeing many of you this Summer. Look for us speaking to your congregations or groups and visiting with your work groups on campus for fun and productive projects. We would also love to see you at the summer and fall events we will attend to spread information on our Mission.

We are also incredibly excited for our future here in Assumption. We are currently in the fundraising and planning stages to open the Assumption Community Child Care Center! This is a cooperative effort between Kemmerer Village, Assumption First United Methodist Church, Assumption Community Pride Association and Memorial Presbyterian Church. We plan to serve about 24 children in this community-based day care which will be housed in the First United Methodist Church. Visit our link for donation opportunities at [www.kemmerervillage.org/daycare](http://www.kemmerervillage.org/daycare).

We are truly honoring our past, living and enjoying our present and building for our future.

*Schäles Nagle*  
Executive Director



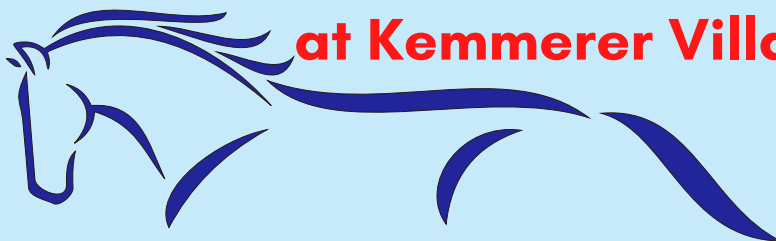
# “Where words fail, music speaks”

~ Hans Christian Andersen

Music plays an important role in KV Recreational Therapy. Recently, Jessica had her first visit to the Music Room. Because she was focused and paid close attention, she was able to learn three chords on the Baritone Ukulele that same day. She was proud enough of her accomplishment that she played those chords for a couple of her staff when they came to pick her up. Music improves confidence and self-esteem, provides an outlet to express feelings, reduces anxiety and physical effects of stress.

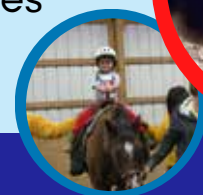
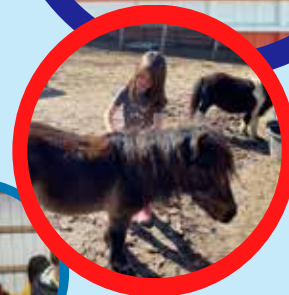


## Horses & Heroes at Kemmerer Village



Our Spring Session of Horses & Heroes included approximately 30 children with various special needs, from area communities. We resumed weekly sessions of three riders per group. While many of the kids were new riders, we continue to serve a number of children who have been with us for several years.

The support we receive from Illinois Elks Children's Care Corp. enables the children to build strength and confidence through horseback riding. The children participating in Horses and Heroes enjoy different exercises at activity stations they visit while riding. These include stretches for physical strength and agility, number games, books about emotional challenges and special needs & sensory games. The next Horses & Heroes session will begin in September.





# KV KIDS BIRTHDAYS

## Girls

Miley M 7/27/07  
Jessica N 10/03/07  
Shyann D 10/22/07  
Jacelynn K 10/31/08

## Boys

Landon C 9/06/07  
Ryan F 9/09/06

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

July - 14 children  
August - 12 children

September - 10 children  
October - 6 children



Assumption Community Child Care Center

*Kemmerer Village, in partnership with the Assumption Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church and the Assumption Community Pride Association are working to provide quality licensed child care to central Illinois. Stay tuned at [www.kemmerervillage.org/daycare](http://www.kemmerervillage.org/daycare) for more information.*

**\*\*NAMING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE\*\***

## 30th Annual Kemmerer Village Charity Golf Classic



**Friday, September 8th - Oak Terrace Golf Course, Pana, IL**

Join us as we host our 30th Annual Charity Golf Classic fundraiser for Kemmerer Village.

To register your team, please go to [www.kemmerervillage.org/golf](http://www.kemmerervillage.org/golf)



# 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.*

February 2, 2022 thru May 31, 2023

## **Mrs. Dorothy M. Andersen**

Ms. Janet R. Andersen

## **Ms. Mary Patricia Bradbury**

Friends at Kemmerer Village

## **Mr. Charles & Mrs. Ruth Dow**

Mr. Robert McNabb

## **First Presbyterian Church-Monticello, IL**

First Presbyterian Church-Monticello, IL

## **God's Many Gifts**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Van Iten

## **Golden Members**

United Presbyterian Church-Mason City, IL



## **Dennis, Kathy & Amy Jackson**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Jones

## **Mr. Robert & Mrs. Marie McNabb**

Mr. John McNabb

Ms. Kathryn McNabb

Mr. William McNabb

## **Dr. Doyle and Linda Slifer**

The Slifer Family

## **Ms. Becky Thompson**

Mrs. Cheryl Crays



## **Bernie L. & Nellie R. McNabb**

Mr. Robert McNabb

Mrs. Ruth Dow

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Mrs. Gail Bower

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Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bardwell

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## **Miss Melva F. Gage**

Mr. W. Gene Looft

## **Mrs. Denise Gleason**

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gleason

## **Mrs. Jody L. Harmon**

Anonymous

## **Mr. Chellis & Mrs. Maryon Hurdle**

Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Hurdle

## **Ms. Marilyn Kennedy**

Mr. & Mrs. Randy Germeraad

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Germeraad

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Higgins

Mr. & Mrs. Jon R. Hockenyos

Kerber, Eck & Braeckel LLP

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kintz

Mrs. Doris J. Prather

Mr. & Mrs. Harvey B. Stephens

Mrs. Sharon Zook

## **Mrs. Kathleen M. Kunzman**

Mr. David F. Kunzman

## **Mr. Cliff Lang**

Mrs. Sharon Lang

## **Mrs. Barbara McGaughan**

Rev. Michael D. McGaughan

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## **Mr. Kim Tanner**

Mr. & Mrs. George Tanner

## **Marilyn Tolliver**

Mr. Jerry Tolliver

## **Tommy**

Ms. Martha Dunnam

## **Mr. Gerald O. Wine**

Mrs. Luan B. Wine

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







# Meet the Village

In October 1975, I started work at Kemmerer Village and found my mission. (I was 12) LOL. I have worked in Financial Development from day one, starting out as Secretary, then as Office Manager, and today I serve as Associate Director. I remember Rev. Chuck Banning, Kemmerer Village Executive Director at the time, telling me how important this job is to our mission. I have seen through the years that sharing our message and inviting others to join with us as often as possible, has helped Kemmerer Village change the course of young lives. During my early time at Kemmerer, my husband and myself along with our young daughter worked as house parents in the two Taylorville Group Homes as relief staff. On campus, I worked as substitute childcare staff in all our five cottages. Here I saw first-hand the challenges of the youth we serve. I have witnessed the progress made through treatment and education. Kemmerer helps young people find their way to a healthy, positive future. It has been a learning experience for me, working with people, who I know are giving of themselves and helping make a difference. I have met with so many wonderful people who make this mission possible.

Thank you all for your support!

**Alice Christenberry**

## Camp Carew Rental & Off-Season Use



**Lots of kids have been enjoying Camp Carew  
... and so can you!**

Did you know you can rent Camp Carew? Well it's true! Camp Carew serves as a perfect setting for church, family, team or work gatherings. We have hosted weddings, retreats, potlucks, birthday parties, showers, meetings, cross country practice, team bonding experiences, reunions, and much more. For more information, check out [www.campcarew.org](http://www.campcarew.org)





Kemmerer Village  
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 Assumption, IL 62510

Proudly a mission Agency of the Synod of Lincoln Trails, Presbyterian Church (USA) since 1914. Please send mailing updates to [amie.sparks@kv.christian.k12.il.us](mailto:amie.sparks@kv.christian.k12.il.us)  
 217-226-2130

Find us online!

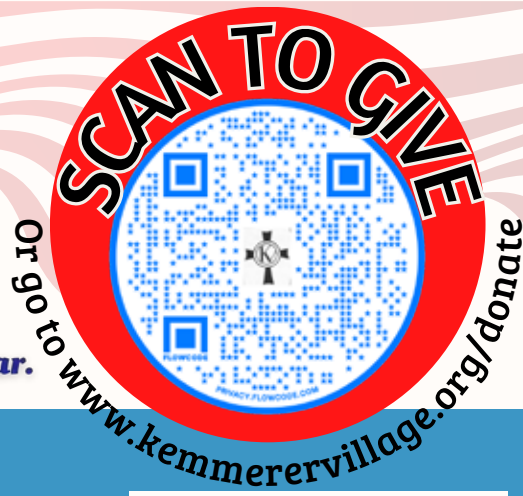
[WWW.KEMMERERVILLAGE.ORG](http://WWW.KEMMERERVILLAGE.ORG)



*Kemmerer Village  
 July Voice*

## *KV Quick Facts-*

- *2022 Kemmerer Served 1,400 Children.*
- *153 children in the care of Kemmerer Village Foster Care.*
- *16 KV high school & middle school kids graduated this year.*



## *Built in 1954, Recently renovated Wheeler Cottage is full of boys again!*

**There are currently 19 youth living at Kemmerer Village in 3 cottages.**

