



# GreenFields Of Geneva GAZETTE

April/May 2011

A bi-monthly Newsletter for the Future Residents of GreenFields of Geneva

## "You say Good-bye...I say Hello"

This sentiment, taken from the words of an old Beatles song, seems to fit right in as both staff and future residents bid farewell to a familiar face, while welcoming several other new people to the GreenFields team.

First, we were sad to "say good-bye" to **Julie McGuire**, Marketing Assistant, who had been part of the GreenFields team since it began in January 2008. Julie came to know so many of our future residents during her time with us. She definitely was sad to leave the staff and her many friends in the Greenfields community. We believe that only one thing could take Julie away from GreenFields, and that was her life-long passion for Walt Disney and his world. In February, Julie was fortunate to have an opportunity to go to work for the Disney Vacation Club. For all of you who knew Julie, you can understand that this was her "Dream Job." We wish her well, and we know she will always be a friend to Greenfields.



The Welcome Mat was soon rolled out, however, as the team welcomed our new Marketing Assistant, **Deanna Watson**. Deanna first arrived as a temporary staff person. In no time at all, she demonstrated that she would fit right in with her smiling face, "can do" attitude, endless computer technology and graphic skill, as well as a great team spirit! She is eagerly learning all about Greenfields of Geneva and the people who make up this community. We know that you will all enjoy getting to know Deanna.



In addition, the team welcomed **Julie DeGrace** when she joined us as a new Residency Counselor on April 18th.

Knowing the importance of continuing to grow our community of future residents, we are delighted to have Julie assist us in sharing the unique GreenFields story of Life Care and Lifestyle. Julie has had a depth of experience working for another continuing care retirement community. She fully appreciates the value of retirement living and will be an asset as she helps people like yourselves make their decision for security, convenience, comfort, friendship and an engaging lifestyle.

We invite you to visit the Information Center to meet Deanna and Julie. They are a wonderful addition to the team.

## Let's now welcome GreenFields new Executive Director

**Judith Donovan (Judi)** was recently appointed to serve as the Executive Director of GreenFields of Geneva. Judi brings exciting skills and professional experience to this new role. As the GreenFields' Executive Director, she will act as the executive representative of our sponsor, Friendship Senior Options, NFP. Judi will have overall responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the community. Of special importance, Judi will direct the initial hiring of GreenFields staff and lead their organization into a high performing team to deliver exceptional resident programs and services.



Interestingly, Judi's career originates in the airline industry. After periods of service as a Regional Training Instructor and Customer Service Auditor for Northwest Airlines, she was asked to accept an assignment as the Manager for Transition and Planning for the new airport facilities built by Northwest Airlines at the new Detroit Airport.



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Judi assumed responsibility for over fifty operational managers to facilitate this project.

This experience created an introduction to Erickson Retirement Communities in 2003. At Erickson, Judi served initially as the Director of General Services at the Fox Run CCRC in Novi, Michigan and later as the Regional Director for Erickson's West and Northeast regions. Judi played a significant role in opening of

the Michigan community and successfully oversaw the opening of three new CCRCs in the Erickson portfolio.

"This is an exciting time for all of us and I look forward to meeting each resident as they move *home* to GreenFields. We will foster a warm fellowship and spirit of community where each day will be filled with endless opportunities and possibilities," stated Donovan.

## All Under One Roof...a Construction Update!



On March 29, 2011, Bovis Lend Lease celebrated a special occasion in the construction of GreenFields of Geneva. On that day, 250+ workers, supervisors, managers, owners and other staff personnel gathered at the construction site to celebrate "Topping Out" the building. At that time, the building was officially "under roof." This is a milestone in the construction and a reason to celebrate the hard work and safe performance on the part of the many subcontractors on the job. A hardy lunch was enjoyed by the workers and the others who were honored to attend.

Kinjal Patel, Senior Project Manager for Bovis Lend Lease, submitted this picture so that you can begin to appreciate the progress that has been made. He reports that work is being done on the elevator shafts and the installation of

several stairways. Construction progresses throughout the residential and health care area, progressing by wing or floor locations. Mechanical and electrical rough-in work continues on walls and ceilings. On the exterior, installation of the stone veneer is taking place, as well as the installation of fiber cement siding. 95% of all dormers are installed in buildings A and B.

Many of you, your friends and family members, have been able to drive by the construction site from time to time. It is exciting to see the building take shape. We are all grateful for the designing, planning, creating, supplying, constructing, inspecting and funding that is bringing GreenFields to Geneva!



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## "Destination GreenFields"

As you may remember, a Moving Expo was held on March 11, at the Eagle Brook Country Club. Many of you were able to attend the event and to gather some helpful information and resource ideas for starting your transition to GreenFields of Geneva.



Three professionals in the senior relocation field presented information on understanding today's real estate market, staging your house for a successful sale, as well as downsizing and organizing for the move to your new home at GreenFields. There were also a variety of

exhibitors at the Expo who represented products and services that may be useful as you plan your move. We have heard that many of our future residents left the Expo with some good tips and ideas.

Now, it is on to the next phase: **Action!**

For those of you who will be selling the house you are now living in, preparing the house is Step One. Spring is the perfect

time to start cleaning, fixing and painting. Front yards, back yards, attics, basements, garages, closets, under the bed and on top of the shelves...it probably all needs attention.

If you haven't already started interviewing for a realtor at this time, do so. Get an accurate appraisal of your property. We hear that a selling price that reflects a fair appraisal value will most likely to be successful. Many realtors have emphasized the importance of staging a house so that it looks like the kind of home that your buyer can see him/herself living in. Pack up your own pictures and personal treasures to bring to your new home at GreenFields!

As Moving Coordinator, Susan Hanson, will be contacting you to assist in any way possible with resources, information and encouragement. Call her, at 630-232-9105, if you have questions.

NOTE: One of the exhibitors at the Expo has a new business location. Carrie Girman, formerly with Realty Executives, is now with RE/MAX Action. Her contact information is: [CarrieGirman@remax.net](mailto:CarrieGirman@remax.net) or Phone 630-542-3357

## SAVE THE DATES!

**April 27, 2011 - 11:00 a.m. Mill Creek Club House**  
**John Spooner**, Executive Vice President, Greystone Communities, is an outstanding, nationally known speaker on the value of a Life Care community, among today's multiple options for senior living. Mr. Spooner is both knowledgeable and entertaining. You are welcome to come and bring a friend that you have been waiting to impress with the wisdom of retirement community living...the Life Care way.

**May 14, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. GreenFields Information Center - Gardenology!** This spring Saturday presents a very special opportunity for GreenFields' future "Green Thumb Gardeners" to meet and greet, and then to participate in a city of Geneva all-things-gardening event. Many

of you have already mentioned your interest in gardening at GreenFields. If others are also thinking about this, we welcome any and all of you to call us today to let us know if you would like to join us on May 14 for an experience in Gardenology. 630-232-9105.

**May 18, 2011 - 11:00 a.m. Persinger Recreational Center** - We have planned a special program for all future Residents, "**Getting to Know the Territory!**" The team invites you to discover the world around GreenFields of Geneva! Where are the churches, shopping centers, post office, library, cleaners, hospitals, doctors' offices, drug stores, craft stores, flea market, theaters, golf courses, favorite restaurants, coffee shops, service clubs, Watch for your invitation.



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## Meet your New Neighbors... Ruth and Dick Shipley



When you visit the Shipley's, you will enjoy getting acquainted with two talented and creative people. They come to GreenFields via Glen Ellyn where they have resided for years. Dick is from Pittsburgh and attended Carnegie Mellon University. Ruth grew up in Minneapolis and moved to Glen Ellyn in 1945 with her family. Ruth attended Iowa State University.

After graduation, Dick worked as a junior designer, learning the basics of the blossoming retail design field. In 1960, he arrived in the Chicago area to become a design director for a store planning firm. It was here that Ruth and Dick met. Ruth had been working there as a design specification coordinator. They discovered their shared love for retail design as well as each other.

Years later they started "The Shipley Associates," which they successfully headed for the next seventeen years. As the firm grew, they were fortunate to work for many of the country's top retail giants. During this period, Dick became the International President of the Institute of Store Planning. He began designing retail stores worldwide. His projects took him to South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Panama, and Saudi Arabia.

The Shipley's have three daughters. Lisa lives in Northern Virginia and works as a Marketing Associate at a technical high school. Jill is a freelance graphic designer in the Chicago area. Jocelyn has her own line of jewelry which she manufactures and markets from New York.

After 45 years in the retail design business, Dick retired in 1997 to pursue his love of watercolor painting. Now he shares his knowledge by teaching his own watercolor workshops throughout the area. He has been teaching watercolor painting at the DuPage Art League in Wheaton for the last 11 years. He might be talked into giving a watercolor workshop for his new neighbors at GreenFields.



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