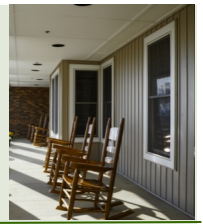


# Front Porch News

Green Hills Retirement Community ~ 6557 US 68 South, West Liberty, Ohio 43357



## Graduation 2010



Kim Yoder,  
Director  
Green Hills  
Child Center

Preschool graduation marks the end of the “baby years” and the beginning of the next twelve years of school. Albert Einstein said that “Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited but imagination encircles the world. Education is what remains after one has forgotten everything learned in school”.

The theme for the fifth annual graduation was how the children at Green Hills Child Center impact the lives of so many people around them, all while learning life’s little lessons. The children are surrounded by not only the other children and Child Center families, but by countless other employees and residents. The kid’s blanket the campus with joy and provide an air of youth. Whether they are skipping on the sidewalks of the homes, stomping on the bridge to scare the trolls away, romping in the playroom in front of the window for all to see, or participating in a structured program with the residents, they bring a smile to many faces and infectious laughter to others.

We celebrated our graduating preschoolers; Emma Swisher, Griffin Graham, Makenna Smith, Tristen Jacobs, Mia Fullmer, Morgan Henry, and Sammy Wilkins with a short program that included a musical slide show of our seven graduates, several song performances by the entire preschool class, a story read to them by Green Hills resident Pat Zook, a parent recognition time, and diplomas.

Preschool Graduation has quickly become a tradition as a special time of celebration for the children and the staff. It will forever serve as a reminder of how blessed we are to have the pure joy of sharing years with this special kids.





## *Green Hills adopts a signature flower—the majestic peony*

The campus was built on the "green hills" of LaVerne Atha's peony farm. Peonies are the symbol of honor. So, in honor of Mr. Atha and his farm, Green Hills is re-populating the campus with peony bushes.

Mr. Atha, who was an attorney by trade, was also a horticulturalist. It has been said that come Memorial Day, he would permit friends to come to the farm to dig up starts so they could be planted at their own homes.

At Green Hills, we are hoping that we are able to find some of those original peonies and bring them back to the campus.

According to history sources, the peony has been around for thousands of years and there are several versions of stories surrounding the origins of the blooms that look like paper roses that are only available in colors of pink, yellow, white, and red tones.

One legend says that the peony is named after Paeon, a physician to the gods, who received the flower on Mount Olympus from the mother of Apollo.

Another story tells that that same physician who was "saved" from the fate of dying like mortals do, by being turned into the flower we know today as the peony.

Peonies are the traditional floral symbol of China and are regarded as a symbol of wealth, good fortune and prosperity.

But even from the time of the ancient Greeks, it has been associated with many positive folk medicine cures in the western world, treating ailments that range from asthma to epilepsy and even keeping evil spirits away.

It is the 12th wedding anniversary flower.

In 1957, the Indiana General Assembly passed a law to make the peony the state flower of Indiana, a title which it holds to this day. It replaced the zinnia, which had been the state flower since 1931.

In 1994, the peony was proposed as the national flower after a nationwide poll, but the National People's Congress failed to ratify the selection. In 2003, another selection process has begun, but to date, no choice has been made.

It is also known as the flower of riches and honor.

With their lush, full, rounded bloom, peonies embody romance and prosperity and are regarded as an omen of good fortune and a happy marriage.

In Europe, the flower is referred to as "the rose without thorns" and has been used at times as a way to refer to the Virgin Mary.

ANTS—Peonies are also associated with big black ants. An old wives' tale claims that the ants help open the dense double flower buds many peonies have. The truth is that ants love the peony's buds because they hold a nectar that they can't seem to get enough of; but it doesn't hurt the flower. It's a natural and temporary event, so don't try to get rid of the ants. As soon as peonies open, the ants disappear.

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*Help us add to this piece of Green Hills history by jotting down any information or story you may have regarding Mr. Atha and his peonies.*

*Information can be left at the Community Center Drop Box or send an email to [cbarns@greenhillsrc.org](mailto:cbarns@greenhillsrc.org)*

## *A Good Time*



Pastor Cheryl  
Siegenthaler,  
Green Hills Chaplain

“the One enthroned in  
heaven laughs...”



“to make a joyful noise  
unto the Lord”

On a beautiful evening in May, Green Hills held the annual Spring Benefit Concert. It was a night-with-the-arts kind of affair with a mixture of music and song plus an exhibit of art projects the clients who attend DayBreak have completed or are currently working on.

Cathy Middaugh, a member of the Life Enrichment staff, sang for the audience. What a witness her music is! She generously gave of her time before going off to direct practice of the praise group at her church. Alison and Chris Adams, church musicians as well, provided piano and trumpet duets for the audience’s enjoyment. This, too, was a gift as Chris had to leave immediately for Sidney High School to give awards to his band students. Taking time out of busy schedules to provide evening entertainment speaks of Christ’s commandment to love others, to serve others, and to use gifts God bestows on us.

Erin Henry, director of DayBreak, used the intermission to explain the program and services DayBreak provides. Besides the art projects on display, Brandy Bowers and Phyllis Campbell, DayBreak staff members, had created a display of the activities the clients do each day.

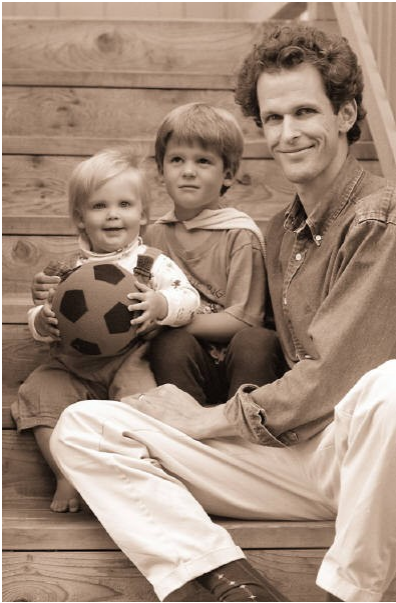
After the intermission, Green Hills’ very own Kitchen Band provided the rest of the program. Under the direction of Mary Kay Regier, they entertained us with golden classics, bits of humor, and a dance to “Those Golden Slippers” by Louanna Calland. Kate Krout and Lucille Daugherty played a violin and piano duet, too.

Everyone seemed to have had a good time, and on the way home I recalled one of my favorite partial verses and that is “the One enthroned in heaven laughs...” and thought God probably had enjoyed the evening, too. We can never underestimate the wealth of talent we have among the staff and residents of Green Hills and in the area as well. We are rich in folks who love to share their faith through song and instruments. It is in the Psalms we find many references to expressing our praise and thanksgiving to God through various forms of music. We are told “to make a joyful noise unto the Lord,” and so we shall.

Thanks be to God! *Pastor Cheryl*

## ***Father Knows Best***

What advice did your father give you? What advice did you give your children? Does any of this sound familiar?



*“Fatherhood is pretending the present you love most is soap-on-a-rope.”*

*~ Bill Cosby*

- Don't waste time learning the "tricks of the trade." Instead, learn the trade.
- Be willing to lose a battle in order to win the war.
- Stand up straight, shake hands firmly, and look people in the eye.
- Do things the hard way sometimes – it's good practice.
- Your word is your bond.
- If you want to be taken seriously as an adult, don't wear your baseball cap backward after the age of 18 - unless of course, you're a major league catcher.
- Fill up the gas tank if you want to drive the car.  
It takes a lot of work to make a marriage work, and the most important thing is to bite your tongue.
- Never walk out on a quarrel with your wife.
- Phone your mother

## ***Tie One On***

George Bryran (Beau) Brummell (1778-1840) was born on June 7. He claimed to take five hours to dress and recommended that boots be polished with champagne. His style of dress was known as "dandyism," and we can thank him, or scorn him, depending on your point of view, for introducing the modern man's suit and tie.

Brummell rejected the frilly, brightly colored men's fashions of the day. Instead, he established the mode of men wearing understated, but fitted, beautifully cut clothes, adorned with an elaborately knotted cravat (now called a necktie). "Tie one on" this month in Mr. Brummell's honor.



## *Baseball's Luckiest Man*



June 19, 1903, saw the birth of baseball legend Lou Gehrig. Twenty years later, on June 15, 1923, Lou made his major league debut with the New York Yankees as a pinch hitter. Not only could Gehrig hit, he was also a masterful first baseman and excellent base runner. He played in 2,130 consecutive games, earning him the nickname “The Iron Horse.”

On June 19, 1939, Gehrig’s thirty-sixth birthday, doctors diagnosed the ball-player with amyotrophic latero sclerosis, a degenerative disease for which there was no cure. July 4, 1939, was proclaimed “Lou Gehrig Day” at Yankee Stadium, and Gehrig made a speech that lives forever in baseball lore. Despite his hardships, he said, “I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth.”

## *Peonies*



**GROWING**—Peonies are very easy to grow. They love full hot sun in the summer and cold winters. In fact, the colder the climate, the better they bloom in the spring.

Without the proper sun, the flowers lean over and need to be supported with a cage or staked.

Don't cut the foliage after the peony blooms; leave foliage in tact after blooming. Peonies will bloom, and then produce seed pods.

The seedpods should remain all summer long; then in the fall, they will fall to the ground and those seeds will take root the following year. Peonies are also great for the fall garden because the green cut-leaf foliage turns red to burgundy to bronze.

**BASHFUL**—Mischievous nymphs were said to hide in the petals of the peony thus causing this magnificent flower to be given the meaning of “shame” or “bashfulness” in the *Language of Flowers*. Therefore, once it is planted, the peony likes to be left alone and punishes those who try to move it by not flowering again for several years. Once established, however, it produces splendid blooms each year for decades.

**HEALTH/WELL-BEING**—It is believed that the first use of peonies was for their medicinal value. There is evidence that peonies were used extensively in both the Far East and Europe as long as two thousand years ago. Many parts of the plant are said to have medicinal properties. Roots, bark, seeds and flowers were all believed to be of some medicinal use.

Today a number of medical researchers throughout the world are isolating compounds in peonies and evaluating their medical potential. The available research suggests that there are numerous useful compounds found in peonies and it is possible to project that in time researchers will be using those compounds to treat some of our more serious diseases.

*Information cultivated from several Internet sources: Wikipedia, Delaflowes, Flower Temple*

## June Birthdays



<i>Morgan Freeman</i>	<i>Actor</i>	<i>01</i>	<i>Donald Trump</i>	<i>Mogul</i>	<i>14</i>
Cooper Craig	Child Center	02	Tom Secrist	Homes	16
Alice Ball	Apartments	04	June White	Apartments	17
Beckett Vilaysane	Child Center	05	Bernard DeRemer	Apartments	18
<i>Gwendolyn Brooks</i>	<i>Poet</i>	<i>07</i>	Adelia Wilson	Center	18
Bus Jenkins	Inn	08	Florence Boyd	Emerald	21
Dave Kuhl	Homes	08	<i>Prince William</i>	<i>Royalty</i>	<i>21</i>
Jim Hostetler	DayBreak	09	Madison Hoffman	Child Center	22
Heath Tackett	Apartments	09	<i>Sonia Sotomayor</i>	<i>Justice</i>	<i>21</i>
Carol McMullen	Center	10	Roger Brown	Apartments	26
<i>Tara Lipinski</i>	<i>Skater</i>	<i>10</i>	Sara Ellen Stoltzfus	Homes	26
Thelma King	Apartments	12	<i>Peter Lorre</i>	<i>Actor</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Jim Nabors</i>	<i>Actor</i>	<i>12</i>	Olivia Fritz	Child Center	28
Eleanor Swartz	Apartments	13			



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 West Liberty, OH 43357

**CURRENT RESIDENT**