



**B**rewster was incorporated in 1958 because of the vision of our founders to build a community that would meet the needs of seniors in our community. The vision of

## THE BREWSTER FOUNDATION



to  
plant  
a  
garden  
is  
to  
believe  
in  
tomorrow.

-Audrey Hepburn

To give to the  
**Brewster Community  
Friends 2022 Fall Appeal**  
please fill out the form  
included in this issue and  
return to the Redwood  
Information Center or  
mail to: 1205 SW 29th St.  
Topeka, KS 66611

If you would like additional  
information about the  
Brewster Foundation,  
please call Melissa Reynolds,  
Chief Financial Officer,  
at 785-274-3381.

the pastors and lay leaders of our four founding churches, and the years of planning, fundraising and hard work that followed, allowed Brewster Place to open its doors in 1964. Audrey Hepburn once said, ***“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”*** Through the years we’ve experienced sunshine and clouds as well as changes to our landscape, but those who followed in the footsteps of our founders, share the same commitment to the mission of Brewster — ***providing all of our residents opportunities for an optimal quality of life.*** How wonderful it is that we have such a rich history to look to and lean on for inspiration and guidance.

Brewster Place residents, their family members, and the greater community have also been able to depend on **The Congregational Home Foundation’s** unwavering commitment to the Brewster Place mission. The mission of the **Brewster Foundation** is to ***“raise funds in support of Brewster and its endowment.”*** During this time of thanksgiving, where we gather with our families and friends, we hope you will consider a gift to the Brewster Foundation in support our shared Brewster family.

There are many options for giving to the Brewster Foundation that support both residents and staff. For example, a donation to the **Benevolent Care Fund** enables residents to remain at Brewster when their financial resources are depleted. Donation opportunities are available to support staff as well. Through the **Employee Assistance and Support Fund**, emergency loans and grants are available to help staff avoid high interest credit cards and predatory loans when they need financial assistance. Earlier this year, a retention bonus was paid to employees and was funded in part by the Brewster Foundation.

Your gifts to the **Chaplaincy Fund** help to support Vespers services, group and individual chaplaincy work, plus numerous regularly scheduled programs and support materials. In addition, the Foundation’s **Unrestricted Fund** continues to address our greatest needs, funding the highest priority projects and initiatives throughout the campus.

Our strength is derived from the generosity and support of **you, the donor**. You remain the key to our success. Please consider a gift to the Brewster Foundation to support our ongoing work to fulfill our mission to you **and** to those who will follow. Thank you! ■

### MISSION

Brewster Place is a retirement community providing all of its residents opportunities for an optimal quality of life.



The Brewster Health  
Center is accredited by  
The Joint Commission.

## GRAND REOPENING OF THE BECK REHAB CENTER

We are pleased to announce the **Grand Reopening of the David Beck Rehabilitation Center** located at Brewster Health Center. The Beck Rehab Center has 18 large, private, single rooms available that include a bed, television, telephone, recliner, and private bathroom with a shower. If a whirlpool bath is your preference, Brewster Health Center has those available on other neighborhoods. The Beck Rehab Center also offers its own kitchenette and dining room to decrease unwanted noise and other stimulation during the healing period.

The Beck Rehab will be staffed by many of the same great Brewster Health Center team members that you are familiar with as well as some friendly new faces. The outstanding Brewster Therapy Team will provide services that focus on assisting patients in reaching their maximum potential. All of our rehabilitation staff have the same goal of getting rehab patients back into their homes in the shortest amount of time possible.

On Tuesday, November 1, the David Beck Rehabilitation Center will have its soft opening. We will begin with a small number of patients to make sure we have everything in place to provide the absolute best care possible. As we clear any hurdles that arise and are able to move forward, we will open more of the Rehab Center with a target date to be completely open by December 1.

We look forward to assisting you or your loved ones with any of your rehabilitation needs.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact **Michael Joens**, Rehab Manager, at 785-274-3361, or **Katiana Conner**, Brewster Health Center Director of Operations, at 785-274-3304. ■



## CEO SEARCH COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER UPDATE

- CEO Search Committee met in October to review 15 CEO applications to narrow the list for preliminary interviews.
- CEO Search Committee interviewed six candidates (all were in person except for one Zoom call).
- Once preliminary interviews were completed, the CEO Search Committee narrowed the finalist list to three candidates who were then recommended to the Brewster Board of Directors.
- CEO Search Committee duties are now complete and the Brewster Board is now scheduling more extensive interviews with the finalists in November. ■

## TOPEKA FESTIVAL Singers

The 2022/2023 season of the Topeka Festival Singers is called ***A Season of Hope***, which will feature music and text that will entertain and inspire. Season tickets are available. You may also purchase tickets at the door.

### Remaining 2022/2023 Schedule

**December 19**

*Hope & Anticipation: A Holiday Concert*

**March 6**

*Hope of Loving*

**May 15**

*Hope & Belief*

**Season Tickets for 65+ are \$55**

For ticket information, please call 785-274-9009. ■



## FROM the CHAPLAIN

REV. CAROLINE VAUTRINOT, M.DIV

### BEAUTY OF CHANGE

Later this month, families and friends across the country will be gathering around tables, full of laughter and love, ready to celebrate all of the good in life. This is a particularly special time of year, when we all slow down for a moment and remember the importance of giving thanks.

In holding up those things for which we can be grateful, we are reminding ourselves of all the joys present in our lives, whether great or small. We can be thankful for each new day, for a particularly good piece of pie, for the friends around us, and for all the small moments that make up our lives.

As we prepare for the coming holiday season, take a moment to think — what are you thankful for? I am thankful for this won-

derful and nurturing community of Brewster Place. Every day, I see the warmth and graciousness of all who spend their days here, whether residents or staff.

When we hold on to a spirit of gratitude, our lives are made better. In giving thanks, we tap into the hopefulness of the world around us, ready to engage even more readily with a smile and thus, brighten the lives of those around us.

This month, I hope we all dive into a spirit of gratitude, recognizing all that life has to offer. Be aware of the blessings in your life and take moments to offer your thanks to those who have made your life better. I thank you all for the blessing that you have been to me. May God bless you this holiday season. ■

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### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Tuesday, November 22

3:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

We invite you to join Chaplain Caroline for a meaningful service of Thanksgiving before the holiday. All are welcome! ■

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### ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Tuesday, November 29

1:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

Come join Chaplain Caroline for an Advent Bible Study each Tuesday of the Advent season. This is a great addition to the Advent season as we prepare for the birth of Christ. All are welcome! ■



The **Brewster Gratitude Crew** is continuing its work to build a culture of gratitude at Brewster Place. Each week staff and residents can submit “*shout outs*” that are included in a weekly staff email. We invite you to submit a “shout out” for staff members who have gone above and beyond or are just great examples of compassionate, caring staff. It means a lot to hear from those we serve — you, the residents.

**Shout Out** boxes are located in the Redwood lobby, The Evergreens lobby and the lobby at Brewster Health Center. Write your “shout out” and leave it in the box. Thank you! ■



## CREATIVE ARTS

WITH SAMANTHA BANKS, CREATIVE ARTS COORDINATOR | 785-274-3317

### PAINT WITH SAM

Tuesdays | 1:00—3:00 pm

Klinge Activity Center Studio

In this self-directed class, Sam is available to offer help with any painting project. Come with an idea or look through reference books to find inspiration. All supplies provided, or bring your own! Please note: There will not be a class on November 29 due to holiday decorating.

### ART FUNDamentals: PRINTMAKING

Wednesdays

10:30 am | The Evergreens Art Studio

1:30 pm | The Evergreens Art Studio

Each Wednesday we'll explore what we can create with different methods of printmaking. This class is great for any level of artist, including complete beginners! You can jump in anytime and you don't have to attend every class. This is all about trying something new! Please note: There will not be a class on November 30 due to holiday decorating.

### CRAFT 'N CHAT

Thursdays | 2:00 pm

Klinge Activity Center

Bring your own personal projects OR work together on projects throughout November to sell at the Merry Market to benefit the Brewster Service Fund. The Service Fund provides funding for things like the libraries at Brewster and the Employee Gift Fund.

- **November 3** — Soap Making/Sugar Scrubs
- **November 10** — Hot Chocolate/Cookie Mix
- **November 17** — Needle-Felted Gnomes
- **November 24** — Thanksgiving (no class)

### MOVIE WITH SAM

*Veteran Artists*

Friday, November 4 | 1:30 pm

Main Street Chapel

In anticipation of Veterans' Day, come watch a series of videos highlighting artists who have served in the United States military.

### SAM IN THE STUDIO

Would you like help with a project? Want to learn more about a specific type of artwork? Just want to chat? Sam in the Studio is the time for any and all of the above!

**Mondays and Tuesdays**

9:00—11:00 am

Klinge Activity Center

**Mondays**

1:00—3:00 pm

**Friday, November 11**

2:00—3:00 pm

**Friday, November 25**

1:00—3:00 pm

The Evergreens Art Studio

### MERRY MARKET

The **Merry Market is Tuesday, December 6** and the Brewster Service Fund Committee needs you! The Brewster Service Fund provides funding for programs and projects at Brewster Place as well as manages the Employee Gift Fund. If you have any home-made products or baked goods you would like to donate for the Brewster Service Fund booth at the Merry Market, please call Sam Banks, Creative Arts Coordinator, at 785-274-3317.

# BREWSTER BEAN FRIENDS

BY DIANA REED, RESIDENT

A nice group of friends gather Monday—Friday, from 9:00—10:00 am at the Brewster Bean at The Evergreens for happy conversation and fellowship. Morning drinks are offered and typically there are delicious treats at low cost available for purchase. The vibe is happy and low key, people come in and out, to and from classes to sit down and visit for a while.

**Jackie Buchanan**, who is seldom without a smile, is a helpful volunteer twice a week. She lives at the Cottonwood Villas with her husband, Don. Jackie tells an inter-



Don and Jackie Buchanan

esting story about her background growing up on a farm on Wanamaker Road. When Jackie was seven years old and her brother three years old, the family located to 80 acres near 41st and Wanamaker — which was farmland then. She fondly remembers churning butter and attending a one-room school-house. She remembers that her mother was a great cook, baking apple, cherry and cream pies. Today Jackie is a kind, friendly lady whose easy way makes

the Brewster Bean a very nice place to be.

Another Brewster Bean volunteer is **Susan Hsia**. Susan and her husband, Fred, live at Oak. Susan is a busy woman, keeping the coffee pots full, meeting new people, and crocheting her amazingly sparkly and beautiful multicolor dish pads. She sells them at a low cost and donates substantial money to The Topeka Rescue Mission. Currently she is crocheting her dish pads in the colors of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Susan and Fred were born in China and grew up in Taiwan but met at Kansas State University. Fred studied architecture and Susan studied nursing. They have an adopted daughter from Taiwan who is now grown, married and has two children. She and her family live in Fort Worth, Texas.



Susan and Fred Hsia

Susan's career grew out of her desire to help people. She was a licensed registered surgical nurse at Stormont-Vail and earned two master's degrees and a doctoral degree. After working with patients, Susan taught at Washburn University for 27 years. She taught surgical nursing and medical pathophysiology — which is how people react to the disease process. Today Susan enjoys keeping up with exercise including classes in the Brewster Aquatic Center. Susan is an important part in the lives of her friends and acquaintances at Brewster Place. Susan mentioned that in his retirement her husband Fred has enjoyed painting and works in watercolor, oil and Chinese ink. The Hsias (pronounced "Shaw" in English) enjoy classical music and travel. They have visited over 40 countries where they learned about various cultures and people.

Susan said, "I like to help people," which is certainly evident as she volunteers at the Brewster Bean. Come enjoy a cup of coffee at the Bean! ■



## PLEASE NOTE

### SHOPPING TRIPS

- The only shopping trip the week of Thanksgiving will be on Tuesday, November 22 leaving at 10:00 am.
- Please have your shopping lists turned in by Monday, November 21.

### PETS ON CAMPUS

- Residents, if you have a pet on campus and have not shared their necessary documentation with Maxine, please make sure you do so. The following is required to be filed with Maxine at The Evergreens Information Center: **Current city registration, proof of vaccinations, and proof of liability insurance.** Please check with Maxine if you are unsure whether or not your pet's documentation is on file.
- Pets are not allowed in food venues or during events where food is served unless they are certified service animals. This also includes The Market, Main Street Pavilion and the Brewster Bean.

### ACCOUNTING REMINDER

- We ask that residents not mail monthly payments via the USPS. You may drop your payment off with Cheryl at the Redwood Information Center or Maxine at The Evergreens Information Center. They will forward your payment to accounting. Thank you!

### CAMPUS DIRECTORY

- We are currently making the final updates to the 2022/2023 Fall/Winter Resident Directory. If you have any updates to phone numbers or email addresses, please let Maxine Thuston know by calling her at 785-274-3374. Our goal is to have the new directory out in December.



## KU OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING SERIES

### THANKSGIVING AND INDIGENOUS FOODS: A CELEBRATION

Tuesdays, November 1, 8 and 15  
1:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center

In 1492, the “discovery” of the Americas made for the incredible and continuing exchange of foods between the Eastern and Western hemispheres. From the first legendary Thanksgiving, when Indigenous people shared harvest with Pilgrims, we have celebrated with American foods. Join us for a history and a tasting of the rich larder of the New World.

**Instructor** — Thomas Fox Averill

Please call Jamie Fritz, Activities Coordinator, at 785-274-3398 to register for Osher classes at Brewster Place. ■



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BY CHELSEY WESSEL

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

## THANK YOU!

**W**e want to extend our thanks to everyone who donated to the Harvesters Community Food Network Drive in October. In addition, a big thank you for donating items for the Meals on Wheels Christmas Bags. Both organizations serve vulnerable people in our community and we know they appreciate your gifts. ■

# SPACIOUS CORNER APARTMENT AT REDWOOD

## REDWOOD 322

**A**s you enter Redwood 322, every corner of your heart will be filled with awe at the spaciousness of this 850 square foot home. Facing west, this one-bedroom, one-bath, corner, apartment also features a window in the kitchen area that fills the room with light. No wonder it's one of our most desirable and sought-after floor plans. Open your heart to retirement living at Brewster Place and love where you live.



To see this apartment or to learn about other living options at Brewster Place, contact Chris Gallagher, Director of Sales and Marketing, at 785-274-3351. Remember, you can help choose your future neighbors by making a referral and receive one month's free rent once the friend moves in! ■

## CATIE WEB AND CATIE TV ON BPTV 1960

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**I**n September we hosted our partners at Status Solutions who gave a program about the features of CATIE (**C**ommunication and **A**ccess **T**o **I**nformation **E**verywhere). In simple terms, CATIE is software that residents and staff can use to enhance communication, track community events, and stay informed with the latest announcements. Currently there are two components to CATIE — CATIE Web and CATIE TV. Below are features of both components:

#### CATIE WEB

**CATIE Web** is a web-based tool that residents can access on their personal devices (smartphone, tablet, laptop or computer) to stay up-to-date with information about what's happening at Brewster Place.

##### Features include:

- Activities and class information
- Resident portal
- Staff directory
- Calendars
- Menus
- Free video chat
- And more!

If you would like to access CATIE Web on your personal device, please contact **Taylor Cooper, Director of Resident Services, at 785-274-3348**. She will schedule someone to come to your home to get you set up.

#### CATIE TV on BPTV 1960

Brewster's BPTV 1960 (our closed-circuit TV channel) was established in 2000. Over the years we have utilized different systems to run our channel. With **CATIE TV** our TV programming is enhanced with new features.

##### Features include:

- Date, time and weather updates
- Morning audio announcements
- CATIE Radio with news updates and a variety of music genres
- Rotating screens with information about activities, classes, celebrations, programs and photos (also viewable on CATIE Web)
- Scrolling list of activities of the day
- Ability to schedule videos of classes, movies, and other content to play automatically
- Scrolling ticker that allows us to give important updates as needed. ■

## REDWOOD RENOVATION AND EXPANSION SET TO BEGIN

Welcome to the **Club Level of the Redwood!** On December 2, 1962, Congregational Church and community leaders gathered to break ground on what was then referred to as the Main Building. Now six decades and 25 buildings later, Brewster Place is again ready to address the first structure on campus with an incredible renovation and expansion.



Rendering of the Club Level foyer

In the coming months, a construction site will be set up and the refashioning of a 60-year-old building, now called Redwood, will begin. Six new Penthouse suites will be added to the sixth floor. In addition, 13 apartments on the fifth floor and four apartments on the first floor will be redesigned and renovated with full kitchens and washers and dryers in each apartment home.

The first floor becomes the **Club Level** and promises to add to the enjoyment of all of our residents. The Club includes card and gaming table space and a state-of-the-art studio for quilting, sewing, crafting and painting. The new exhibition kitchen will provide a welcoming atmosphere for residents and guests. This dining venue is designed to enhance social time at meals with the ability to set tables for small and larger parties for friends to gather.

So whether you want to enjoy a long conversation at dinner, add to the puzzle board, or play hot games of bridge and dominoes, the Club Level will bring music to your ears — because, of course, the Steinway grand piano will have a central presence for visiting guests and for our very own musical entertainers. Enjoy the Club at Brewster Place! ■

## WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT A CAUSE



**Susan Perry and Norma Mitchell** rode in a classic car during our Walk to End Alzheimer's Parade. The day was gorgeous and we appreciate everyone who participated in the parade.



**Larry Bowser** joined many staff and residents at our on-campus Walk to End Alzheimer's. Purple was the color of the day as we supported those living with and caring for those with Alzheimer's.



**Gayle and Alice Vernon** participated in Northeast Kansas Walk to End Alzheimer's at Every Plaza in October. Alice was instrumental in starting the very first local walk in Topeka to raise funds in support of Alzheimer's care and research. They both have a long-standing commitment to this cause. Thank you!





# OFF CAMPUS — A few highlights!

## **NEW DINNER THEATRE**

**Wednesday, November 9 | 10:00 am | Shuttle (pick up from RW and EV)**

Kick off the 2022-2023 season of New Theatre and Restaurant with Hank Williams Lost Highway. You'll enjoy this show because: By the time Hank Williams turned twenty-five, he was a superstar. Four years later, the music world would lose this extraordinary talent at a very young age. Within those four years, Hank revolutionized the music industry. The joy, the humor and the music of this amazing talent is brilliantly captured in LOST HIGHWAY. Cost is \$35 for lunch and ticket. Transportation is \$13. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to make reservation as space is limited.

## **TOPEKA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**Saturday, November 12 | 6:45 pm | Shuttle (pick up from RW and EV)**

Enjoy the 2022-2023 season of the symphony as they are *Falling in Love* this season. This concert explores nostalgia and grief over lost loved ones in Jennifer Higdon's beautiful elegy to her late brother, and the melancholy memory of being in love, always present in the music of Johannes Brahms. We also welcome back superstar violinist Rachel Lee Priday for Barber's romantic Violin Concerto. Call 785-232-2032 for tickets but call 785-274-3398 for a ride on Brewster bus.

## **CHEAP AND CHEARFUL SHOPPING**

**Wednesday, November 16 | 10:00 am | Shuttle (pick up from RW and EV)**

Let's go spend a fun day bargain shopping. Call Jamie at 785-274-3398 to sign up.

## **CASA HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS TOUR**

**Saturday, November 19 | 10:00 am | Shuttle (pick up from RW and EV)**

In its 35th year, CASA of Shawnee County's signature fundraiser, Homes for the Holiday Tour, builds community awareness of the vital work they do, day in and day out, for youth involved in the court systems. Through the tour, CASA features three homes with each home accompanied by a designer that decorates their specific home for the holidays. Tickets are \$20. Lunch is Dutch treat. Call Jamie at 785-274-3398 to register.

## **ADVENTURES IN WICHITA**

**Wednesday, November 30 | 8:00 am | Shuttle (pick up from RW and EV)**

Join us for a day out in Wichita. We will start at the distinguished Wichita Art Museum with a docent lead tour and delicious lunch. We will then do a little shopping. In the afternoon we will do shopping at the Dillard's outlet for a true adventure in cheap and cheerful shopping. After lots of deals, we will go to the Illuminations light show at Wichita Botanica Garden. This light show has been voted the Top 10 Best Light Show in the country. Guided art tour is \$10, Wichita Botanica tour is \$13, transportation is \$13 and meals are Dutch treat. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to make reservation.

# ON CAMPUS — A few highlights!

## **KU OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE**

### **Thanksgiving and Indigenous Foods: A Celebration**

**Tuesdays, November 1 (CAC), 8 (Chapel), 15 (CAC) | 1:00 pm**

See page six for more information.

## **BREWSTER CHOIR PRACTICE**

**Tuesdays, November 8, 15 and 29 | 3:15 pm | Main Street Chapel**

Calling all singers both staff and residents. This is a great way to have fun and meet friends. The choir will be directed by the outstanding director, Dorothy Iliff. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to let her know if you'd like to join.

## **COUNTRY MUSIC PERFORMANCE BY MIKE AND BRENDA SCHIRMER**

**Thursday, November 10 | 6:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center**

Come and enjoy the classic country music sounds of this lovely couple.

## **FRIENDSGIVING BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY BREWSTER FOUNDATION**

**Tuesday, November 22 | 9:00 am | Cultural Arts Center**

*Friendsgiving* is a blend of *friend* and *Thanksgiving*, and it refers to a meal eaten with friends either on or near Thanksgiving. So to celebrate the Foundation is hosting a free pancake breakfast for all residents to come and enjoy.

## **HOLIDAY DECORATING CREW**

**Tuesday, November 29 | 9:00 am | Cultural Arts Center**

Come and join Sam and Jamie in making our campus beautiful for the holiday season. Many elf hands make light work! Let's meet in The Evergreens Art Studio. We will serve a pizza lunch for all who volunteer.

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## **FUTURE EVENTS**

### **TOPEKA CIVIC THEATRE**

**Thursday, December 8 | 6:00 pm | Shuttle**

TCT presents *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* about one little girl's belief in Santa. Tickets are \$32. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to make reservation as space is limited.

### **THE KREADY HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR**

**Friday, December 23 | 5:30 pm | Shuttle**

The Topeka Performing Arts Center invites you to come celebrate the season at a holiday concert for the whole family! With 17 Broadway shows between them, Jeff Kready and Nikki Renée Daniels promise to thrill you with vocal stylings that are direct from New York City, but have hometown heart. Santa has put together a special group of musicians from the Topeka Symphony Orchestra and Shawnee Choral Society. Tickets can be purchased by calling TPAC at 785-234-2787. If you need help with tickets call Jamie. Please reserve transportation by calling Jamie at 785-274-3398

### **NEW THEATRE**

**Wednesday, January 4 | 10:00 am | Shuttle**

New Theatre and Restaurant presents *Come Blow Your Horn* starring Hal Linden and Sally Struthers. This show is about family and all the crazy, hilarious and wonderful things that happen when parents and their adult children get together. It's 1961, the era of *The Twist* and swinging bachelor pads. Alan Baker, a 30-ish single guy with time, money and women to spare, welcomes his innocent and naïve baby brother Buddy into his den of iniquity while their horrified parents can only watch and overeat. Cost is \$35 for lunch and ticket. Transportation is \$13. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to make reservation as space is limited.