



Brewster has always been ahead of the curve with regard to technology. Many of you may not know that BPTV — Brewster Place Television — first aired in June 2000. BPTV was operated out of a computer resource center that opened in May 2000. Brewster television has undergone many updates over the years, including several changes of our channel number. We began as BPTV 5, and then due to cable programming preferences and resident feedback, we became BPTV 14, then BPTV 23, and finally, with the onset of the digital age, BPTV 1960.



using
TECHNOLOGY
to **STAY**
CONNECTED
and **ENGAGED**



The initial purpose of the closed-circuit channel at Brewster Place was to provide information to residents via screens, videos, and audio announcements. Early on music was played via a CD player, which wasn't very reliable. Over the years as technology improved, equipment was updated and enhanced so that movies could be played via a DVD player and music could be streamed from the internet. Updating the screens is now done via an online editor and the hardware for the channel is in the main Brewster computer server room located in Redwood. Movies and videos can now be streamed which adds more variety to our programming.

Now, fast forward to March 2020 — just a few short months ago — who could have predicted a global pandemic? As our campus changed due to COVID-19 and protocols were enacted to keep residents and staff safe, Brewster's routine programs, classes, events and activities were canceled. It seemed that life came to a complete halt. Residents had to hunker down in their homes and staff in all areas had to come up with new and creative ways to provide services while keeping res-

idents safe and engaged. We knew immediately that BPTV 1960 was going to be vital to communication and engagement during this uncertain time. We had to up our game — quickly.

It's hard to believe, but the week of March 16 is when we began showing a movie each weekday afternoon instead of just once a week. Just a week later, Wellness Specialist Julie Schmanke had already recorded two exercise classes that became part of the weekly program schedule. Soon we added an Easter Bible study and Vespers ser-

Continued on page 5...

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.



CREATIVE ARTS *with Kris Saia*

STUDIO GATHERINGS HOURS

There are now scheduled **Studio Gathering** hours where Kris will be available to help residents with projects. You are welcome to come draw, paint, carve or work on Bazaar quilting and sewing projects. To maintain social distancing protocols, please call Kris at 274-3317 to reserve your spot during these hours. Masks are required.

Redwood Penthouse Art Studio
Monday—Thursday
9:30—11:30 am

The Evergreens Art Studio
Tuesdays and Thursdays
1:00—3:00 pm

OPEN STUDIO HOURS

Residents who enjoy working independently without a staff person present, may work during non-class hours (Studio Gatherings), evenings or weekends. There is a special set of COVID-19 safety guidelines for Open Studio usage. Please call Kris at 274-3317 for an orientation before dropping in for Open Studio use. Masks are required. ■

mini **SALE** mini **SALE** mini **SALE** **TRASH & TREASURE SALE**

Residents and staff only. Not open to the public.

Friday, August 28
9:00 am—1:00 pm
Klinge Activity Center

The Trash & Treasure storage room is overflowing, so we invite residents and staff to this special sale. There will be an assortment of household goods and furniture for sale to help us make a small dent in our storage room. Bring your checkbook or cash (no credit cards)!

We appreciate your patience as we will maintain social distancing protocols by limiting the number of people allowed into the Klinge Activity Center at one time. ■



facebook.com/brewsterplace.org

UPDATES

BREWSTER WEBSITE
BrewsterLiving.org

You can find lots of great information on the Brewster website. You can view the latest **Brewster COVID-19 Updates**, **Brewster News, weekly bulletin, and menus**. In addition, on the home page you will find **links to make reservations** for visits to Assisted Living and Brewster Health Center.

GRAND OPENING PLANS

Brewster's major expansion project is nearing completion and Brewster team members are already meeting to plan Grand Opening events. The week of celebration will include in-person tours as well as a virtual tour, a new Brewster t-shirt, gift bag, treats from our dining team and more! Stay tuned for the date and more detailed plans. ■

EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL

BY DIANA REED, RESIDENT

Ann Wendland Uhl was born in Topeka, Kansas, the youngest of six children. Her dad was a blacksmith working on trains. He took the night shift on duty from 3:00 pm until 12:00 am each day. His skill was making repairs on wheels and suspensions. Ann's large family was close and the children grew up learning the values of joy matched with hard work.

After Ann graduated from Highland Park High School, she went to Washburn University to study accounting. She was then employed for 30 years in the accounts department of an insurance office. "I got to meet a lot of people," Ann said, "I love people." Ann showed her leadership skills which lead her to a two year term as president of the local chapter of Women in Construction. In that role she toured construction sites, including the Kansas Capitol building three times. Ann was also an active member of the Kansas Insurance Women. In 2008 she was chosen Sales and Marketing Honoree.

Ann and her husband, Larry, had two sons, Troy and Scott. Ann served as a Boy Scout leader for two years. She really enjoyed taking field trips and liked helping the boys with their projects.



Ann also looked toward community and faith-based interests. She was a board member at Peppertree Park and is currently on the board of Doorstep — a local charity that gives food and clothing to the needy.

She shares her deep faith at her church, Central Park Christian Church. Ann also works with people who have drug problems and was active in the prison ministry.

Moving to Brewster Place was just another opportunity for Ann to share her many skills. She recently served as President of Resident Council and was the special committee chair planning a program with Meadows Elementary School. This program brought residents and student together for meaningful intergenerational time. Friendships were made and smiles shared. A wonderful program!

When thinking about words to describe Ann Uhl, some that come to mind are bright, helpful, reliable and kind. One can see that the tenor of Ann's life has flowed deep and wide. "I have worked hard," Ann says, "Isn't that what you're supposed to do?" The story of Ann's life begins and ends with "I love people!" ■

BEST OF TOPEKA



Best of Topeka voting begins the week of August 20. Please watch for information on Brewster Facebook page and postings on campus about how to vote. ■

RESIDENT DIRECTORY

We are updating the current Resident Directory and plan to print and distribute the **Summer/Fall 2020** edition in August.

Please call Maxine at 274-3374 by Friday, August 7 if you see corrections that need to be made or if you'd like to add your cell phone number or email address to your listing. Thank you! ■



FROM the CHAPLAIN

REV. ROGER JACKSON, M.DIV

ROOTED IN OUR FAITH

“But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

-Matthew 13:23

Have you ever thought how roots are not only important for plants but also for people? Over the course of time, we become rooted in our families, churches, communities, schools, and workplaces. To further this analogy, we understand that in order to develop healthy, strong, and fruitful lives, deep roots are essential. And this is even more important during COVID-19 when we are isolated from our families, churches, and for some our communities, schools, and workplaces. Roots do not grow overnight, though, as we now live in a society characterized by immediate gratification and supported by drive-thru windows, microwaves, Google, and Amazon. I’ve been pondering the concept of rootedness myself and thinking about how important being rooted is to our faith and spiritual lives. More specifically, how do we "put down roots" so that our faith grows strong and produces good fruit when we haven't learned the patience necessary for gardening?

I love the parable of the sower from **Matthew 13** because Jesus felt it was so important that he actually explains it after telling the story. I can imagine Jesus so fed up with people just not getting it that once he looked in their faces and saw that once again they had no clue what he was talking about, he decided to say, “Okay, let's take this slower. Here is what I meant by that.”

And, what he says is that we must allow seeds of the Word to burrow deep within us so that our lives might grow to be the fruitful lives God dreams they can be. When we have developed roots, the deep

roots of the Word of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, our lives become healthy and strong to bear the fruit of Christlikeness that can nurture the lives of others. But, if we expect our faith to come in a tidy cardboard box delivered to us immediately and asking very little of us in return, then we can expect to wither on the vine. Developing roots requires patience and takes time.

Jesus said in verse 23, **“But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”** If we offer ourselves to the Master Gardener, our lives will yield the fruit of Christlikeness beyond what we could ever imagine.

And it doesn't matter what age you are. You can be 30, 50, 70, or 90 years old, and your faith can continue to grow and produce fruit. Faith only ceases growing when you stop planting seeds, watering, and cultivating it. So continue to plant, water, and cultivate your faith, and over time you will develop strong roots that produce abundant fruit. ■

VESPERS SERVICES

SUNDAYS

2:30 pm | BHC FLR

4:00 pm | Chapel

Please note that beginning August 1, there will only be one service in the Chapel on Sunday afternoon.

Vespers is also shown every Wednesday at 10:30 am on BPTV 1960.

WSU LIFELONG LEARNING

Brewster is happy to partner with Wichita State University and offer a class from their Fall 2020 Lifelong Learning program.

They were called the “Greatest Generation.” They were the men and women who served when their country called. However, the war affected not only them, but also

KANSAS AND WORLD WAR II

Wednesdays, August 12, 19, 26 and September 5
1:00—3:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

Seating is limited. Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to reserve your spot. We will be viewing this class via the internet.

their families in profound ways. During the war, Kansas experienced a population explosion when it became a major manufacturing center. Bombing ranges, airfields, and prison camps were built across Kansas. We grew Victory gardens, saved and bought war bonds, improvised and made do. We will explore

Kansas during WW II. The class will be led by Beccy Tanner, Lecturer, Department of History, Wichita State University and former Wichita Eagle reporter. ■

...continued from page 1

vices to the schedule. In the weeks and months to follow, more exercise classes were recorded including Sit ‘n Bee Fit, Senior Circuit, Simple Circuit, Yoga and Qigong. In addition, President and CEO Joe Ewert provided updates about COVID-19 and campus protocols via his Cup of Joe show. Resident Services team members Jamie Fritz and Julie Schmanke began a weekly show called Another Day with J and J that provides updates, information and lots of fun stories — as their tag line says, the show is “Slightly informational and mildly fun.”

Currently the BPTV 1960 program schedule includes morning announcements, a daily devotion from Chaplain Roger, six different exercise classes, a world adventure documentary, Another Day with J and J, a daily movie, Vespers, and special updates as needed. This is in addition to the normal update screens, music, photographs and news feed.

As you can see, we are using this resource to its greatest capacity. It has “taken a village” of team members to make it all happen. From Security Manager Ron Dean securing a wonderful new video camera through a grant **to** everyone who has

filmed videos **to** those who run to and from the server room to start and stop the videos **to** choosing movies and documentaries **to** recording audio announcements and devotions — keeping residents informed, updated and engaged via BPTV 1960 has been a **TEAM** effort. All of this would not be possible without the expertise and efforts of IT Manager John Long and his team. We thank them for their support as well.

The pandemic has been a challenge. It has pushed us to use technology in new and different ways, and we pledge that we will continue this once the pandemic is over. Currently we are reviewing options to leverage technology to better connect us in the age of coronavirus. As part of this process, we would like to know more about what residents are watching, not watching, and what programs would be valuable to add. In the coming weeks, you will receive a survey about BPTV 1960, and we hope you will take time to fill it out. Your input will help guide our decisions going forward.

Thank you for your continued support and patience as we journey through this uncertain time. Team Brewster includes **ALL** of you and we **CAN** do this together. ■



ELECTION SEASON

IMPORTANT DATES

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, August 4

IN PERSON VOTING

Polls Open

7:00 am—7:00 pm

Redwood Chandler Sun Porch

Brewster Place is the polling place for Brewster residents. Members of the public also vote at Brewster Place. To maintain safety precautions and social distancing protocols, everyone (including residents) will need to enter/exit the Brewster Polling Place via the outside north entrance to the Chandler Sun Porch. Therefore, please go to the Redwood Veranda and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Vote by Mail for Primary Election

If you have already submitted an application for a mail-in ballot and you have received the ballot and have not yet mailed it, please take your completed ballot to the Brewster Polling Place and give it to the poll worker.

It is very important to remember that once you receive your mail-in ballot, it is imperative to use that mail-in ballot and NOT try to vote at the polling place.

GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 3

- October 13 – Last day to register for General Election (if people have voted in primary, they don't have to re-register.)
- October 27 – Deadline to apply for Advance Ballots by Mail for General Election ■

RED CARPET

A SERVICE OF THE TOPEKA AND SHAWNEE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Tuesday, August 18

9:30 am | Redwood Veranda

1:15 pm | The Evergreens

Outside North Entrance

NAIL CARE

Appointments are required by calling Maxine Thuston at 274-3374.

Appointment Schedule

Tuesday, August 4

8:30—11:30 am

Wednesday, August 5

1:00—4:00 pm

Thursday, August 13

8:30—11:30 am

Tuesday, August 18

8:30—11:30 am

Tuesday, August 25

8:30—11:30 am

MOVIES on BPTV 1960



If you have movie suggestions, please let Janis Swanson, Director of Communications, know by calling her at 274-3389 or emailing her at Janis.Swanson@BrewsterLiving.org.

If the titles are available, she will do her best to include your suggestions in the line-up. Thank you! ■

at the 

KITCHEN TABLE WITH SHARON ADERMAN AND KATHIE TAYLOR

Ponder & Stir with Sharon

*"Chemistry is like cooking,
just don't lick the spoon." -unknown*

Fried Elderberry Blossoms

This unique recipe is one of those fun recipes you make for a treat on a hot August day. First you have to drive along a country road and pick the blossoms from elderberry bushes growing with the weeds. They resemble Queen Ann's Lace, so look carefully as you pick as many blossoms as you can. Plan to pick 5-8 blossoms per person.

STEPS

- Once you've picked your blossoms, put them into water and keep in the fridge — like bouquets in jars
- When ready to fry, rinse and let them dry a bit
- Make a batter of egg and milk or use thin pancake batter
- Hold by the stems and dip each blossom in the mixture
- Deep fry in hot corn oil for a couple minutes until light brown
- Drain on paper towel
- Sprinkle with a bit of powdered sugar

You can smell and taste the tiny floral blossoms. "Taste and fragrance not of this earth. Poetry reduced to food."

Comments with Kathie

This easy summertime classic cucumber salad is so simple yet flavorful. It comes together fast and makes use of garden or farmer's market produce.

Cucumber Tomato Salad

- 3 cucumbers sliced
- 1 red onion cut in rings
- 4 tomatoes chunked (can use cherry tomatoes halved)
- 1 red pepper chunked

Dressing

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- salt and pepper to taste
- can add fresh oregano or dill to taste

Cut up the veggies, add the dressing, marinate for an hour and enjoy!



Simple Recipes Using Canned Crabmeat

Seafood Soup

Stir a can of crabmeat into cream of celery soup.

Crab Quiche

Add crabmeat to your favorite quiche recipe.

Pasta Plus

After cooking pasta add crabmeat to your favorite marinara sauce and cooked pasta. Heat and eat.

Tastes good anytime...

Add crabmeat to a veggie stir fry or a fresh green salad. ■

BREWSTER BOOK GROUP

Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library and Brewster



The **Brewster Book Group** has chosen *The Friday Night Knitting Club* by Kate Jacobs. Georgia Walker is a single mom and successful New York City entrepreneur whose yarn shop, Walker and Daughter, has become something of a mecca for knitters of all skill levels and dispositions. Georgia, who is overwhelmed with juggling the store and single-handedly raising her teenage daughter is happy to escape the demands of her life, looks forward to her Friday Night Knitting Club, where she and her friends — Anita, Peri, Darwin, Lucie, and K.C. — exchange knitting tips, jokes, and their deepest secrets. But when the man who once broke Georgia's heart suddenly shows up, demanding a role in their daughter's life, her world is shattered. Luckily, Georgia's friends are there for encouragement, sharing their own tales of intimacy, heartbreak, and miracle making. And when the unthinkable happens, these women will discover that what they've created isn't just a knitting club; it's a sisterhood! ■

BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION

Tuesday, August 18 | 1:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

Please call Jamie at 274-3398 to request a copy of the book.

Call soon as there are only 10 books available. Books will be available on August 3.

LIVE YOUR FULLEST LIFE at Brewster Place



Anita Wolgast lives at the Cottonwood Villas with her husband, Larry. Anita participated in Art Camp at Brewster and showed off her creative talents. Anita has been a big supporter of the ARTS in our community for many years.



Mary Kasiska with longtime Team Brewster member **Derick Siwila** at one of Brewster Health Center's many events. Team Brewster members have had to be very creative in programming to maintain safety precautions while also providing engaging and fun experiences.



Benny Meyer lives at The Evergreens with his wife, Wanda. Benny loves working in the wood shop and is very much looking forward to the new wood shop that will provide lots of space and more wood working machines and tools. We can't wait!