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Our Mission

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



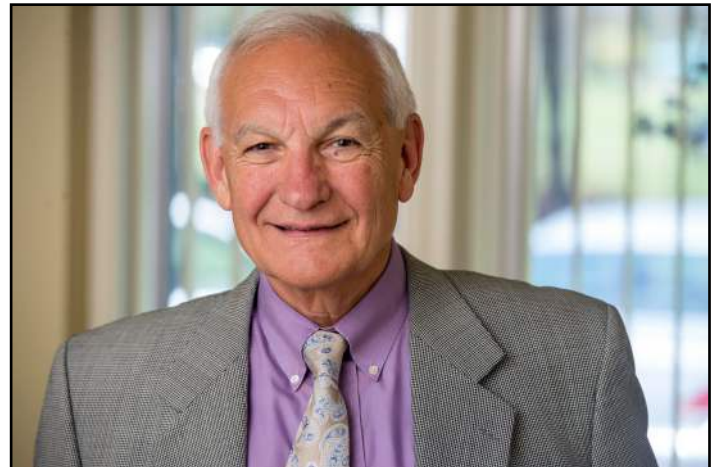
The Brewster Health Center is accredited by The Joint Commission.

One Chapter Closes | A Lasting Legacy Remains

Brewster Place has a rich history that began in 1958 with a simple dream. Roy and Frances Engler envisioned a place where older citizens could live out their lives in safety within a caring community. This dream was realized in 1964 when Brewster Place opened its doors. Throughout Brewster's 54+ year history, the simple dream of the Engler's has been nurtured by many leaders, volunteers, board members, residents and staff.

In 1996, Brewster Place was in search of new leadership after the retirement of Executive Director Larry Heath. At that time, Maggie Beers served as Secretary of the Brewster Place Board of Directors and, at the behest of President of the Board Mary Allen, Maggie became the Chair of the Search Committee.

Their task was to find the next leader for Brewster Place. Maggie and her committee (which also included the late Tom Gregg, Jo Halley, Bob Parman, the late David Rasure, Dean Rinner, Phil Wolfe and Mary Allen) sought applications in a nationwide search. From the 59 applicants, the field was narrowed four times until a candidate was hired. After a four-month search, David Beck was named Executive Director of Brewster Place.



**Retirement Reception for
President & CEO David Beck**
Thursday, December 13
2:00—4:00 pm
Klinge Activity Center

*Thank you
for your
service!
We wish
you well!*

Twenty-two years later, as we celebrate David's retirement, we want to honor his commitment to the Brewster dream and mission. Here's a brief look back!

David began his career at Brewster Place in September 1996 and stated in the October 1996 Brewster News that, "as a not-for-profit Christian mission agency, we should always be 'mission-driven.'" He went on to say, "I believe, however, that the best way for us to be mission-driven is to also be 'market driven.' That is, we need to be listening to those we are in business to serve and responding to what we are hearing." David knew that meeting the needs of those we serve was, and continues to be, key to our success.

David's vision was quickly apparent in 1996 as he led the charge to solidify our financial standing and update our physical structures. Priorities in 1996 included construction of the brand-new, state-of-the-art Brewster Health Center.

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He also challenged board members and staff to update our messaging. We moved from describing the skilled nursing facility or *Medical Unit* to *Health Care Center*. In the late 90s, David's leadership allowed us to expand home health services, revive adult day care, create assisted living apartments, and design a special care unit for those with dementia, focused around a psycho-social model rather than the old medical model.

It's hard to believe now, but in 1997 Brewster Place only had two outside phone lines which, when busy, had to be re-dialed. After hours, when no one was available to answer, answering machines were used to take messages. David knew good communication was vital to our success and soon a new integrated business phone system with voicemail was established. In addition, he also encouraged the process of gathering feedback with Resident Satisfaction Surveys for Independent Living and Assisted Living to add to the feedback that was already being collected at the health center. This step helped implement Continuous Quality Improvement across campus which allows us to hear what residents have to say – both the positive and negative – so that issues can be addressed.

Always looking to the future to stay ahead of the curve, the late 90s also saw Brewster Place come into the age of technology by establishing a new website, exploring a possible computer center for residents, investigating a closed-circuit TV channel as well as continually updating phone systems and computer based technology. In addition, Brewster began the journey of culture change by becoming an Eden Alternative Community which focuses programming on enhancing wellbeing by eliminating the three plagues of loneliness, helplessness and boredom. As we approached the new century, a new mission statement, vision statement and guiding principles were established. This mission statement was again updated in 2005 to more succinctly state our purpose.

As we headed toward the new millennium, both the Brewster Health Center and Residential

Health Center (formerly the original Medical Unit and currently Assisted Living) opened, facilities were upgraded and our debt was refinanced. In addition, a new renovation project began on the lower level of Assisted Living that would be called Commerce

Court. This mini-mall included a bank, wellness center, market, chapel and computer resource center. David's forward-thinking leadership style relied on long range planning and new ideas were never far from his mind. David stated, "long range planning has to be a continuous process." By 2000 the DocADuck Resource Center opened and Brewster Place now had BPTV 5 – a new closed-circuit television station to improve communication on campus.

In the next decade, David's vision facilitated renovations to Redwood (including a new entrance, remodeled

lounge, dining room, penthouse, lower level updates, as well as elevator updates, and a new HVAC system and window replacements for energy conservation). If that weren't enough, Brewster Health Center was renovated to add another special care unit and the Grand Homes project began. And not to be left out, The Evergreens underwent a renovation in 2008 which updated the wellness center, wood shop, and business office space. All of this was done to meet the needs of our current residents as well as those thinking of moving to our community.

One of the biggest accomplishments during David's tenure occurred in 2008 when Brewster acquired the old Country Club Apartments (later renamed Fairway Apartments) which allowed us to expand our campus in coming years. While all the building projects were happening, David's vision also included keeping Brewster on the forward edge of thinking with regard to programs and services as well. In 2003, Brewster Place became one of the first non-profits to sign on to **LeadingAge's Quality First Initiative** – a national quality improvement initiative.

In addition, the concept of Catered Living became a reality as Redwood became a place for people who need more services to stay independent. A spirit of culture change, person-centered care and

Captain David

by Dick Fuller, Brewster resident

*Captain David is a kind hearted man
With a steady hand on the helm.
He steers this ship as only he can
As he watches o'er this little realm.*

*Your leadership has been supreme,
Unheralded, perhaps at times.
Yet you pressed forward with a dream —
Provide a place justly sublime.*

*Your journey sets a new course now
With all your usual gentle grace.
May only calm seas greet your prow,
We'll surely miss your smiling face.*

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wellness allowed Brewster to lead the way in how services and care are delivered – with each individual’s needs and desires being the priority. As a not-for-profit, this values-driven approach to management continued to keep Brewster on the forefront of industry standards while we continued to make a difference in the lives of residents by meeting their needs.

Over the next few years, accomplishments included opening Brewster Rehab, St. Francis Family Health and Family Medicine at Brewster Place, Main Street, and seeking innovative ways to reach those outside our campus by beginning Brewster at Home and Live Well at Home. In addition, David challenged staff in 2012 to seek Joint Commission Accreditation and after much work, the Brewster Health Center achieved this status. Brewster also has the distinction of being a PEAK Mentor facility in the state of Kansas and has been rated highly in the US News & World Report Best Nursing Homes list for several years. And most recently, the Cottonwood Villas opened and the Cultural Arts Center project is underway with new opportunities for enriching resident life.

Throughout David’s tenure, partnerships with our community have grown by supporting the arts, collaborating with other non-profits, staying involved in advocating for legislation that affects seniors, networking with agencies in our community and across the nation, and making staff education and training a priority. Sitting still and staying stagnate was never an option under David’s leadership.

David would be the first person to say that the past 22 years of growth and change are not his accomplishments alone, but the accomplishments of a committed, capable, mission-driven, board and staff. Some changes have been difficult as change is never easy. But David never wavered in his commitment to what Brewster should and could be to our residents, staff and community. It is a fact that without David’s vision, passion, dogged commitment, and support of his staff, none of this would have been possible. David has exemplified the term servant-leader and his impact on Brewster cannot be measured. Thank you, David, for sharing your dreams and vision with us. Your legacy will continue! ■

Like a good neighbor — Brewster is there!

New residents joining Brewster in 2018 bring to our campus their experiences as shop owners, teachers, artists, public servants, veterans, nurses, grandparents, and most importantly neighbors!

More than 30 people have joined our campus in Independent Living this year. They learned about “Planet Brewster” through nearly two dozen marketing events, 150 tours, and current residents making referrals to friends.

The Sales and Marketing Team is always so proud to show off the Brewster campus, introducing potential residents to staff and residents. Some residents allow marketing to visit them in their apartments, so those considering Brewster as a future home, can get a feeling for what it’s like to live on campus. Thank you to everyone who so warmly welcome people as they tour our campus!

Choose your own neighbors by inviting family and friends to tour the campus with Nancy Park and Chris Gallagher in the Sales and Marketing Department. Feel free to call on these two ladies at 274-3350 to talk about setting up a tour. If your family or friends sign a contract, enjoy a referral bonus and share your great neighborhood with folks who could be new residents in 2019! ■

Bible Study

Mondays, December 3, 10 and 17
3:00—4:00 pm | Main Street Chapel



BECAUSE OF **Bethlehem**

From New York Times
Bestselling Author MAX LUCADO

In *Because of Bethlehem*, a four-session Bible study, Max Lucado explores how the One who made *everything* chose to make himself *nothing* and come into our world. Jesus’ birth gives us the promise that God is always near us, always for us, and always within us.

Chaplain Roger Jackson, Facilitator 274-3349 ■



From the Chaplain | Christmas Is About Christ

by Chaplain Roger Jackson, M. Div.

I love Christmas! This is my holiday. Our family used to live in a two story, turn-of-the-century house, and we decorated five trees, as well as the staircase, entry-way, and front porch. Our snowmen and Nativity collections were placed throughout. It is a beautiful time of year! Christian author, Max Lucado, in his book, *Because of Bethlehem*, writes the following:

"I love Christmas. Let the sleigh bells ring. Let the carols sing. The more Santas, the merrier. The more trees, the better.

I love Christmas. The ho ho ho, the rooty toot toot, the thumpety, thump, thump, and the pa rum pa pum pum. The "Silent Night" and the sugarplums.

I don't complain about the crowded shops. I don't grumble at the jam-packed grocery store. The flight is full? The restaurant is packed? Well, it's Christmas.

And I love Christmas. Bring on Scrooge, Cousin Eddie, and the 'official Red Ryder, carbine-action, two-hundred shot range model air rifle.' 'You'll shoot your eye out!'

The tinsel and the clatter and waking up 'to see what was the matter.' Bing and his tunes. Macy's balloons, Mistletoe kisses, Santa Claus wishes, and favorite dishes. Holiday snows, warm winter clothes, and Rudolph's red nose.

I love Christmas. I love it because somewhere someone will ask the Christmas questions:

What's the big deal about the baby in the manger? Who was he? What does his birth have to do with me?

The questioner may be a child looking at a front yard crèche. He may be a soldier stationed far from home. She may be a young mom who, for the first time, holds a child on Christmas Eve. The Christmas season prompts questions."

Lucado goes on to say:

"Because of Bethlehem, I have a Savior in heaven. Christmas begins what Easter celebrated. The child in the cradle became the King of the cross. And because he did, there are no marks on my record. Just grace. His offer has no fine print. He didn't tell me, 'Clean up before you come in.' He offered, 'Come in and I'll clean you up.' It's not my grip on him that matters, but his grip on me. And his grip is sure.

Christmas is about Christ. Christ's name occupies six of the nine letters, for crying out loud. This isn't Santa-mas, or shopping-mas, or reindeer-mas. This is Christ-mas. And Christ-mas is not Christ-mas unless or until you receive the message of Bethlehem."

How will you celebrate Christmas this year? Yes, your traditions may have changed; the number of people around your table might be smaller; you probably won't even put up a full-sized Christmas tree or a Christmas tree at all. That's okay, because Christmas is about Christ. Christmas is about celebrating Christmas and the message of Bethlehem. The true gift of Christmas is Jesus. Merry Christ-mas to all and to all a good night! ■



Join Us for Christmas Eve Services

*Love was born
for every one
of us!*

Monday, December 24

2:30 pm | Brewster Health Center

4:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

All are welcome!

2018 Full Scale Emergency Response Exercise

by Ron Dean, Security and Safety Manager

Brewster Place became a member of the Shawnee County ESF8 Emergency Response Group in August of 2018. This is a community partnership between the Shawnee County Emergency Operations Center, the Shawnee County Health Department and many of the healthcare providers located in Shawnee County. One of the many benefits of this partnership is the training and evaluation they provide communities like Brewster Place.

On October 2, 2018 leadership from the Brewster Health Center and Brewster Assisted Living conducted a table top training exercise with members of the Environmental Services and Security Team. The exercise involved two scenarios that have a higher likelihood of affecting our community in Topeka, Kansas — tornados and ice storms. We discussed the impact of both scenarios on all aspects of the Brewster campus. The exercise allowed us to work through deficiencies in our response plan and helped prepare us for the Full Scale Exercise that was sponsored by the ESF8 team and the Shawnee County Emergency Operations Center. This exercise occurred on October 18, 2018.

The Full Scale Exercise was a tornado scenario that impacted Shawnee County and the Brewster Place campus. The exercise lasted approximately three hours and involved Keith Jeffers, Emergency Management Director for Jefferson County, and Ester Todd, ESF8 Coordinator for the Shawnee County Health Department.

Emergency Response Drill

The practice scenario was an F-3 tornado that struck the campus, damaging three Independent Living buildings and Brewster Health Center. In our response we quickly deployed the maintenance, custodial and security teams to secure the buildings and evacuate the affected residents to the Redwood medical triage center. Layla Sullivan, Director of Clinical Services, quickly deployed her team at Brewster Health Center to ensure the safety of those residents.

The result of the evaluation was very positive for Brewster Place. Keith Jeffers was impressed with many aspects of our plan, our communications tools, and mostly with the response of our team at Brewster. He felt that our Communications Center and equipment was impressive. He said that our plan was thorough and our response to the scenario and their questions was also impressive. In addition, Mr. Jeffers was also impressed with the leadership of Lea Chaffee, Vice President of Operations, in the Command Center and quick response of Layla Sullivan and her team at Brewster Health Center. He was able to watch the Brewster team quickly deploy using our network of cameras and stated that he was involved in many exercises in facilities throughout Shawnee County in the week prior to our exercise, and felt that our response was the most impressive. It was very rewarding for the Brewster team to hear Mr. Jeffers talk through our scenario because it was an acknowledgment of our deep commitment to the security and safety of our residents. ■

Wellness Surveys

Please note residents will receive Wellness Surveys the first week of December. We value your input and hope you will take time to fill one out. Your input helps us know how to serve you better. ■



by Jeremy Hall, Director of Brewster Foundation

The year 2018 is quickly coming to a close. Like many years in the history of Brewster, it has been a very hectic year. With construction crews hammering, digging, painting, rebuilding, building, laying cables, cutting trees, laying sod, planting new trees, ripping up roads, and fixing roads, it has been busy. That does not even count the construction on the roads around our beautiful campus that the city is working to repair. It seems like a lot has been happening!

Looking back at the history of Brewster, from a groundbreaking ceremony in December of 1962, it seems that changes of some type are always happening. I was not around when the first building was completed and residents moved in during April of 1964, but I can only imagine that what we call home at Brewster today looks so very different. Change has been constant for Brewster, with this year being no different.

Sometimes that change comes in the form of construction, and sometimes the change comes, as it did in 1998, with the addition of free daily campus-wide shuttle service. That was a change we are all thankful for as the weather turns a little colder. In 2000, some of the changes brought a bank, convenience market, health clinic, beauty shop, wellness center, and computer resource center in the garden level of the Assisted Living building, which is the area we now know as Main Street. It was not called Main Street at the time, and it has even been updated since then so that we have more seating in the pavilion, a larger and better wellness area, expanded beauty shop, and greatly expanded market to provide a higher level of meals.

One thing at Brewster has not changed! From the time the first twelve-member board sat down in 1958 with the goal of creating “senior retirement housing” they have had one goal — to meet the needs of seniors. In each and every change, adjustment, remodel, rebuild, build, improvement, demolition, partnership, or project, the goal has remained the same — meet the needs of the seniors we serve. Through the ups and downs,

road blocks and grand openings, we have stayed dedicated to meeting the needs of our residents in the place they call home.

The Brewster Foundation works in connection with Brewster. The Brewster Foundation has a very simple mission—***to raise funds in support of Brewster.*** In good times or bad, our goal is *to raise funds in support of Brewster.* If people love the changes, or are frustrated by construction, the Foundation’s goal remains the same—*to raise funds in support of Brewster.* Even when other things seem to be in disarray, the Brewster Foundation stays true to its course and works *to raise funds in support of Brewster.*

Contributions can go toward many different funds to help us to reach our goals. We have funds that support staff, books for the children of staff, and funds dedicated to the chaplaincy, a fund directed at future technology and being prepared for what is next. We have funds for special projects, or money set aside to buy art. We have donations placed in our trust to be used for benevolent care for those who have bought into Brewster but may have out-lived their resources. We have special projects and one time gifts that make an immediate impact. Just as Brewster has stayed true to their goal to meet the needs of the residents, the Foundation has stayed true to their mission — *to raise funds in support of Brewster.*

As the year comes to a close, and the flurry of requests come in for contributions to many of the wonderful and deserving organizations that reach out to you, please remember the Brewster Foundation. Think past the dust. Overlook the construction signs. Tune out the sounds of the tools and equipment. Do not think of those things as a frustration or inconvenience. Remember them as another way that Brewster is working to meet the needs of our residents, and the Brewster Foundation is working, with your help and support, ***to raise funds in support of Brewster.*** ■

Monday Shopping Schedule Changes

Recently several residents suggested we provide a shopping trip to Aldi's. After researching the idea, we will begin alternating our Monday shopping excursion between Aldi's and Walmart beginning in December. The schedule is as follows:

December 3—Aldi's	January 7—Walmart
December 10—Walmart	January 14—Aldi's
December 17—Aldi's	January 21—Walmart
December 24—Walmart	January 28—Aldi's
December 31—Aldi's	

For two months we will track participation at each shopping trip and determine if we want to keep the rotation or make changes based on participation and residents' opinions.

It's important to know that when shopping at Aldi's you must provide your own shopping bags, because Aldi's does not provide them. Shoppers also need to bag their own groceries and there is a .25 cent deposit for cart use that will be refunded once you return the cart. There is plenty of parking for the bus, and recent upgrades at Aldi's will make the resident shopping experience more enjoyable than in the past. ■

At the Movies on BPTV 1960

Thursdays at 2:00 pm
BPTV 1960

December 6

"The Man Who Invented Christmas"
(2017 drama based on a book)

December 13

"Lean on Pete"
(2018 drama based on a book)

December 20

"Christopher Robin"
(2018 family drama)

December 27

"Crazy Rich Asians"
(2018 romantic comedy)



facebook.com/brewsterplace.org

Creative Arts *with Kris Saia*

Make It Monday!

Monday, December 10

1:00 pm | Redwood Lounge

Save this date to get crafty with Kris. We will be making holiday cards and placemats to send to the Brewster Health Center—we hope we have lots to send over to brighten their dining tables! ■

A Big Thank You!

Many thanks to every resident who helped us make this year's Brewster Place Annual Holiday Charity Bazaar such a success. Quilters, woodworkers, knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, painters, bakers, seamstresses, pricers, cashiers, and wrappers — every one of you made the whole process a real pleasure! 'Twas fun, wasn't it? We're jumping right back in for Bazaar 2019, so please come see me for volunteer opportunities.

-Kris Saia, Creative Arts Coordinator

Bazaar Total
\$11,913.36

Five to Thrive



dimensions of wellness

Join Us as We Celebrate the Spirit of the Holidays



Merry Market
Wednesday, December 5
10:00 am—2:00 pm
Redwood Lounge and Founders Room

Let's kick off this holiday season with some shopping. We are excited to welcome over 14 vendors this year to help make your holiday shopping a little easier. We will be offering poinsettias for sale from The Plant Shop, which is supported employment for KNI. The poinsettias can be purchased for your home or in memory of a friend or a loved one to be displayed in the Redwood Lounge with a memorial card.

- ◆ KNI Plant Shop
- ◆ Avon
- ◆ Martha's Munchies
- ◆ Pearl with Blankets
- ◆ Brewster Creative Arts Craft Corner
- ◆ Purses by Peg
- ◆ Mary's Card Creations
- ◆ Paparazzi Affordable Jewelry
- ◆ Betsy with Glamour Nails
- ◆ Davidson's Jams and Jellies
- ◆ Sylvia's Quilt Books
- ◆ Linen Tree
- ◆ Kathy's Treasures



Resident Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 18 | Klinge Activity Center
6:00 pm | Delicious Dessert and Holiday Drinks
6:30 pm | Entertainment Provided by Nancy Goodall and Friends
Santa will be on hand for photos along with lots of other surprises!

A Shared Purpose Brings Smiles



Above: Sydney Fluke is a talented woodworker and for this year's Bazaar he created several items including a barn that brought in \$200 as part of the Silent Auction.

Right: Jackie Buchanan and Elizabeth Stubbings worked in the Tiny Tea Room on Friday of the Bazaar. The Tea Room proceeds were approximately \$250.

Above Right: Tickets for the Quilt Drawing (Susan Anderson and Santa) were sold at various events as well as during the Bazaar. Total proceeds were approximately \$750. **The Grand Total for this year's Bazaar was \$11,913.36** — all of which will be divided among charitable organizations in Topeka. **Thank you everyone!**



Birthdays

Norma Douglas	2
Beverly Northrup	3
Peter Packard	3
Adrian Allen	4
Cinnie Wahle	5
Rose Alberg	6
Betty Meyer	7
Marjorie Murphy	7
Waunita Shoemaker	9
Lois Durbin	10
Vada Drayer	11
Betty Craig	12
Jack Collins	13
Lila Jones	15
Bart Ramsey	16
Beverly Robards	19
Roseanna Sterbenz	19
John Salisbury	20
Gwen Holmes	23
Virginia Thompson	23
Bette Bossler	24
Sydney Fluke	27
Delpha Tucker	28
Margean Cress	29
Jackie Buchanan	30
Dusty Greene	30

Anniversaries

Don and Delpha Tucker	12.07.1946
Brice and Lois Durbin	12.17.1989
George and Lenore Marschall	12.20.1959
Dean and Georgia McKeever	12.21.1985
Dick and Donna Crawford	12.31.1950

In Memoriam

Mrs. Dorothy Mergenmeier	11.12.2018
Mrs. Maureen "Twink" Lynch	11.18.2018
Mrs. Muriel Smith	11.18.2018
Mrs. Mary Petrik	11.22.2018

Staff Anniversaries

Brewster staff members who are celebrating their employment anniversaries in December!

Department	Location	Years
<u>Administration</u>		
Karen Jackson	EV	6
<u>Community Relations</u>		
Phyllis Lansford	SH	1
<u>Dining Services</u>		
Victoria McPherson	BHC	12
Kelly Chavez	RW	3
<u>Environmental Services</u>		
Geoffery King	Campus	3
Kay Kempton	EV	15
Kimberly Jenkins	RW	4
Ana Marquez	Campus	3
Danny Moss	BHC	15
<u>Health Services</u>		
Evelyn Guzman	BHC	1
Alma Quiroz	BHC	18
Angela Roberts	BHC	1
Marcus Hill	BHC	11
Lynnise Livingston	BHC	14
Tiffany Hand	BHC	1
Hanna Lincoln	BHC	7
Ashley Rishel	BHC	2
Maria Ramirez	AL	9
<u>Live Well at Home</u>		
Lisa Carter	SH	2
<u>Rehab</u>		
Kristin Webb	Rehab	7
Melissa Watson	Rehab	7
Olivia Delgado	Rehab	8
<u>Security/Transportation</u>		
Larry Cadoret	Campus	3
Denise Coleman	Campus	11
<u>Therapy</u>		
Joe Bloomfield	BHC	1
Alicia Newberry	BHC	1
<u>New Residents</u>		
Mary Cochran	Redwood 407	

The Brewster News is a monthly publication for the residents and friends of Brewster Place.

The Brewster News is also available online at: www.BrewsterLiving.org

Janis Swanson, Editor

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