

WALKING TOWARD BEAUTIFUL DAYS

EMBRACING LIFE AND FAITH

BY CHAPLAIN JULIE FREEMAN, M.DIV

Spring weather can be highly unpredictable, sunshine one minute and rain the next, making planning difficult. As we spend more time venturing outside, the more we are reminded that the moments of joy, peace, and fulfillment we seek do not simply appear at our doorstep — they require action, intention, and the courage to move forward, even when the path is unclear.

In our daily lives, it's easy to get caught in the waiting game. We wait for the perfect moment, for answers to our prayers, or for external circumstances to change before we can embrace the beauty around us. However, just as a beautiful day doesn't come to us, neither does the deeper meaning and satisfaction we desire from life and faith. We must actively seek them.

Walking toward a beautiful day doesn't mean waiting for everything to align perfectly. It means taking one step at a time, trusting that each step will lead us closer to the light. In faith, this might look like embracing hope even in the midst of doubt, finding purpose in the journey rather than just the destination.

When we walk toward beautiful days, we are choosing to live with intention, faith, and hope, understanding that life's challenges and joys are all part of the process. The beautiful days we long for are already within reach — we just need to take that first step, trusting that with each stride, we are walking toward a brighter tomorrow. Let's walk towards those beautiful days, with faith guiding every step.



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13 1:00 pm | Brewster Health Center 2:30 pm | Main Street Chapel

Open Chapel

Tuesday, April 15 | 10:00—11:00 am Main Street Chapel Time for personal prayer and reflection.

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 17 3:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20 1:00 pm | Brewster Health Center 2:30 pm | Main Street Chapel

All are welcome to attend!

MISSION

FROM THE DESK OF...

MARY BLUBAUGH, CEO

CEO SEARCH UPDATE

The Brewster Board completed the first round of interviews on March 22. They will be have more rounds of interviews and plan to have a candidate in place prior to Mary's last day, June 30. When a candidate has been selected and has accepted the position, more information will be shared. Two Resident Council officers were also present for the interviews. ■

BREWSTER BUS UPDATE

Because of generosity from residents and the community, donated funds have been successfully utilized to purchase a new transportation bus. The new bus promises to improve access to essential services and recreational opportunities for Brewster Place residents.

For several years, we have relied on an aging bus to provide transportation services. However, maintenance costs for the old bus were increasing, and reliability was beginning to deteriorate. On March 14, the order was placed for a new 22 passenger + 2 wheelchair bus.

The new bus will be equipped with overhead luggage racks, charging ports under each single and double seat, ready to talk PA system, reading lights, cup holders, and rear luggage storage. Delivery of the bus is expected within six to nine months.

MY SINCERE THANKS

A MESSAGE FROM JAMIE FRITZ

began my journey at Brewster Place in 2015 and have experienced immense joy serving as your Activities Coordinator for Independent Living. I have loved planning big events, trips, lunches, drives and card games. Most importantly, I have loved getting to know all of you and working with my teammates.

With my husband's recent retirement and my first grandchild on the way, I have decided to resign from my position with my last day being April 17. As you know my family is my priority and this will allow me time to be available to babysit and travel.

Now, this doesn't mean you are rid of me just yet, as I will be working PRN (as needed) in the future months. For example, in May I will host the New Dinner Theatre trip, and I will help as the Resident Services team transitions to a new activities person. I hope you will support the new person as much as you have supported me.

The friendships I have gained are so important to me and I hope to continue being a friend to you all in the future.

GRATITUDE CREW MOVIE NIGHT

RESIDENTS, STAFF, AND FAMILY MEMBERS INVITED

Movie and Supper

Wednesday, April 23 Dinner Served 4:30—5:30 pm

Walking Tacos, Lemonade and Water and Giveaway prizes!

Movie

Begins at 5:00 pm

Feature: RV (2006 comedy)

The Munros are a typically American dysfunctional family, complete with rebellious, uncommunicative offspring and baffled parents. Patriarch Bob (Robin Williams) would like to remedy the situation before his son and daughter instant-message their parents out of their lives. Bob rents a motor home to take the clan on vacation but soon finds that camping and togetherness can be hazardous to one's health.

BREWSTER NEWS CHANGES

The Brewster News has a wide circulation including printed copies delivered to all residents, digital issues available on the Brewster Place website, CATIE Web and via email. The News has also been mailed via the postal service to prospects, family members and friends of Brewster for decades. Due to cost and the slow and unreliable delivery of the mail service, beginning in July, the Brewster News will no longer be mailed.

If you would like to continue receiving the Brewster News via email, please let Janis Swanson, Editor, know by emailing her at janis.swanson@brewsterplace.org. She will add you to the group. You can also access the Brewster News at BrewsterLiving.org. If you have concerns or questions, please contact Janis at 785-274-3389. ■

POOL CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE

The pool will be closed April 4—6 to complete work to seal the concrete surrounding the pool. The concrete is beginning to pit/erode. Sealing the concrete will prevent further cracking and any severe damage. Thank you for your patience as we keep our pool in tip-top shape. ■

NEW COPY CHARGES

To keep up with increased costs per click on Brewster's leased copy machines, in March we began charging for copies. Charges apply to residents, staff (personal copies) and contracted workers. Brewster Place is using the same fees as the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. Charge tickets will be filled out for your copies. You may also pay cash. Faxes are free.

COPY CHARGES

Black and White: First two pages are free. 10 cents per

page first two copies.

Color: 50 cents per page ■

POST OFFICE CHANGE

We were recently informed that the US Post Office will no longer allow Brewster Place to put tracking labels on any mail including packages. If you need to mail anything that requires a tracking label, you will need to go to the Post Office. ■

SPIRITUAL LIFE OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Devotions

Sundays at 9:30 am
The Evergreens Brewster Bean

Join us for coffee and a short devotion with Chaplain Julie.

Sunday Supper Club

Sunday, April 6 4:00 pm

The Evergreens Brewster Bean

Bring your dinner or snack and join us for fun, fellowship and curious conversations.

Mindfulness Meditation

Mondays, April 14 and 28 2:00 pm | Main Street Chapel

The Mindfulness Meditation group offers a chance to slow down and center yourself in the present moment. All are welcome. Come to one or both as you like.

Grief & Gratitude Group

Monday, April 21
2:00 pm | Main Street Chapel
If you need grief support,
please reach out to Chaplain
Julie by calling 785-274-3349 to
set up a visit. ■



CREATIVE ARTS

WITH KATHY PHLAUM, CREATIVE ARTS COORDINATOR

Open House | EV Sewing Studio

Wednesday, April 16

10:00—11:00 am | Evergreens Art Studio Come see the newly configured section of the Evergreens Art Studio that is now a sewing studio. We have worked hard getting this space ready for sewers and hope you will

come see it. Treats, a tour and lots of fun!

Hang the New Gallery Exhibit Tuesday, April 1

10:00 am | BEC Art Gallery

If you submitted artwork for the new exhibit and once you have received notification that your piece(s) will be hung, please deliver your artwork to Kathy's office no later than 5:00 pm on March 31. You may also may bring your artwork on April 1 at 10:00 am and help us hang pieces. We always have tasks that Kathy needs assistance with in getting this all up on the wall. All art must be ready to hang with either a wire on the back or a sleeve for quilts.

Dog Kerchiefs for Paws in the Park

Thursday, April 3
2:00 pm | Redwood Art Studio
Monday, April 7
10:00 am | Evergreens Art Studio

We are making dog kerchiefs for Paws in the Park held each year by Helping Hands Human Society, Inc. This year's event is Saturday, April 12 and our very own Marketing Team will be there to hand out our kerchiefs.

Show and Share

Tuesday, April 8 2:00 pm | Redwood Art Studio

We will be making decorative needle cases out of different sized tins, felt, beads and stitching. Come join in the fun!

Friday Bazaar Making Event Painting and Wood Go Together!

Friday, April 11

9:30 am | Redwood Art Studio

Come join us to paint wood items and create beautiful décor and ornaments for the Bazaar. If it is warm enough, we also have a number of items we will need to stain, and we could do that out on the veranda. It's recommended that you wear your grubby clothes in case you get paint or stain on your clothes.

Table Runners

Monday, April 14

10:00 am | Redwood Art Studio

Calling all sewists! We would like to make some table runners for the Bazaar. Let's have a meet up and see what we can achieve for the Bazaar. We have some delightful holiday fabrics that we can use to create some fabulous table runners.

Counted Cross Stitch Anyone? Tuesday, April 15

1:00 pm | Evergreens Art Studio

We have been given a large amount of counted cross stitch fabric and some patterns. Would you like to learn this art form? Join us and check out what cute items we could make for the Bazaar.

Decorative Tin Needle Cases

Wednesday, April 23

10:00 am | Redwood Art Studio

We will be making decorative needle cases out of different sized tins, felt, beads and stitching. Come join in the fun!

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Block of the Month Special Class

Thursday, April 10

10:00 am | Redwood Art Studio

Our very own Waunita Shoemaker will show us how to make a Confetti Toss quilt. This is a bonus to our April Block of the Month program.

Teddy Bear Challenge

Work Session | Tuesday, April 22 1:30 pm | Redwood Art Studio

We will have a challenge beginning April 15 to make Teddy Bear quilts for the Bazaar. One of our sewing residents provided a picture recommending we have a challenge. We definitely have enough fabric and think this would be a fun endeavor. On the 15 of April, we will provide a basic pattern in both sewing studios (squares and half square triangles). We would like to have the tops completed by July 15, so that we can get them all quilted and bound in time for the Bazaar. Kathy will join in the challenge of making a Teddy Bear guilt. This can all be done out of scraps. We will have a work time if you want to pick out fabrics or need assistance to get started.

Tea Towel Tuesday

Tuesday, April 22

10:00 am | Redwood Art Studio

We will continue to learn new stitches that can be used on the tea towels. We already have 25 completed tea towels and they are beautiful.

Other Monthly Opportunities

Don't forget about the following ongoing classes that happen each month. Check the activities calendar for dates and times.

Knitting and Crochet

Come join in the fun to learn new stitches from each other, chat and have fun!

Cardmaking

Learn tips and tricks to making cards.

Papermaking

We are learning and creating artwork with paper or making new paper with collage and lots of other fun and creative artwork. We will continue to experiment with melting plastic bags.

Block of the Month

Each month we introduce a new quilt block. This is a 12-month program, and you can start any time. At the end of the 12-month program we will assist you with building a small lap size quilt.

Let's Paint

We meet as painters to share techniques and tips.

Bazaar Making

We continue to put together items that we can sell in the Bazaar in November. These are classes that focus on one or two items each month.

Open Studio

This is a time to gather together, chat, work on individual projects, get assistance and have fun! Please see calendar for days/times.■





KU OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE SPRING and SUMMER 2025

America's Forgotten Wars

Tuesdays, April 1 and 8 1:00—3:00 pm Cultural Arts Center

e'll examine three often overlooked conflicts in our nation's history. First, we'll focus on the undeclared 1798-1800 Quasi War with France. Then we'll review the American Navy's second serious conflict - the war against the Barbary States (1801-1805) when President Thomas Jefferson ordered a naval expedition to the Mediterranean to curb piratical activities. Finally, we'll focus on the Spanish- American War, a fourmonth war with Spain that launched America as an international power and made national heroes of Theodore Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders."

Instructor: Robert Smith, Ph.D., is the recently retired director of the Fort Riley Museum. He has a doctorate in history from KSU and has published numerous articles on military history.

The JFK Assassination: 60 Years Later

Instructor: Brian Edwards

et fence.

Tuesdays, June 3, 10 and 17 1:00—3:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center

This course will examine the political and social climate of the early 1960's and the circumstances involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. The course will discuss the major theories as to who was likely behind the assassination. Numerous photographs which were not available to the public in 1963 will be utilized during the course. The course will conclude with an in-depth examination of an eyewitness, who was ignored by the federal government, who ob-

Significant United States First Ladies of the Modern Era

served a man shoot at the President from behind a pick-

Tuesdays, August 5, 12 and 19 1:00—3:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center Instructor: Anita Tebbe

We will look at eight U.S. first ladies who lived in the 20th and 21st centuries. They are not as well known as some of the other first ladies, but they made impressive contributions to the United States. We will study Lou Hoover, Bess Truman, Mamie Eisenhower, Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, Rosalynn Carter, Barbara Bush, and Laura Bush. ■

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

Free Blood Pressure Clinics will be provided in Independent Living by Brewster's Community Health team. The clinics will alternate weeks between the Winchell Wellness Center at Redwood and The Evergreens Library (across from reception desk).

SCHEDULE

Mondays, April 14 and 28 1:30 pm | Winchell Wellness Center Wednesdays, April 9 and 23
1:30 pm | The Evergreens Library

4th TUESDAY BOOK GROUP

oin us each month for rich discussion facilitated by Sara Tucker. Books can be picked up/turned in at each meeting or at Chaplain Julie's office. Contact Chaplain Julie at 785-274-3349 with any questions.

The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kiernan **Discussion Date** — **Tuesday, April 22 10:30 am** — **Main Street Chapel**

In this book the author traces the story of the unsung World War II workers in Oak Ridge, Tennessee through interviews with dozens of surviving women and other Oak Ridge residents. This is the story of the young women of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, who unwittingly played a crucial role in one of the most significant moments in U.S. history.

The Tennessee town of Oak Ridge was created from scratch in 1942. One of the Manhattan Project's secret cities, it did not appear on any maps until 1949, and yet at the height of World War II, it was using more electricity than New York City and was home to more than 75,000 people, many of them young women recruited from small towns across the South. Their jobs were shrouded in mystery, but they were buoyed by a sense of shared purpose, close friendships, and a surplus of handsome scientists and Army men.

But against this wartime backdrop, a darker story was unfolding. The penalty for talking about their work, even the most innocuous details, was job loss and eviction. One woman was recruited to spy on her coworkers. They all knew something big was happening at Oak Ridge, but few could piece together the true nature of their work until the bomb "Little Boy" was dropped over Hiroshima, Japan, and the secret was out. The shocking revelation: the residents of Oak Ridge were enriching uranium for the atomic bomb.

Though the young women originally believed they would leave Oak Ridge after the war, many met husbands there, made lifelong friends, and still call the seventy-year-old town home. The reverberations from their work there, work they did not fully understand at the time, are still being felt today.

FUTURE SELECTIONS...

Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly Pickup Date — Tuesday, April 22 Discussion Date — Tuesday, May 22

Before John Glenn orbited the earth or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as 'human computers' used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Among these problem-solvers were a group of exceptionally talented African American women, some of the brightest minds of their generation.

Originally relegated to teaching math in the South's segregated public schools, they were called into service during the labor shortages of World War II, when America's aeronautics industry was in dire need of anyone who had the right stuff. Suddenly, these overlooked math whizzes had a shot at jobs worthy of their skills, and they answered Uncle Sam's call, moving to Hampton, Virginia, and the fascinating, high-energy world of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory. Even as Virginia's Jim Crow laws required them to be segregated from their white counterparts, the women of Langley's all-black 'West Computing' group helped America achieve one of the things it desired most: a decisive victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War, and complete domination of the heavens. -Publisher's description

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and SweetBy Jamie Ford

Pickup Date — Tuesday, May 22 Discussion Date — Tuesday, June 24

Set in the ethnic neighborhoods of Seattle during World War II and Japanese American internment camps of the era, this debut novel tells the heartwarming story of widower Henry Lee, his father, and his first love Keiko Okabe.



APRIL SHOWERS BRING APRIL INCENT VES!

Spring is in full bloom, and so are our brand new one-bedroom apartments on the fifth floor — just waiting for you to call them home! These cozy spaces, each just under 725 square feet, offer tons of natural light and room to stretch out. Imagine cooking with under-cabinet lighting, flowing effortlessly into an open concept living area. Plus, enjoy the convenience of a stackable washer and dryer, an oversized closet, and a bathroom with plenty of space to unwind after a busy day.

From your fifth-floor perch, enjoy gorgeous views of the east side of campus — lush green spaces and trees that are starting to bloom! While there's no balcony, the deep windowsills offer plenty of room

for plants, your favorite décor, or anything that makes you smile. And, for that sleek touch, the windows are dressed in stylish horizontal wood blinds.

But wait! There's more! In the spirit of April showers, we're offering exclusive incentives for anyone who signs a lease by the end of the month. Keep your eyes peeled for the exciting details coming your way soon! Want to take a tour or learn more? Give Brewster Place Sales and Marketing a call at 785-274-3351.

Bonus — Residents in Independent Living who refer a new friend to Brewster Place will receive one month of free rent once your friend moves in. A perfect chance to share the love! ■

SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES — EVERY DAY!



Beverly Nicholas and Don Mahrle joined a session of True Colors taught by resident Larry Beam. Larry was a corporate trainer and certified to teach True Colors — which is a personality test that seeks to help in understanding each other and how we live and work together.



Pattie Jones is part of the large Bridge group that meets every Monday in two locations on campus. She was decked out in her St. Patrick's Day shamrocks and looked like she might have a good hand!



Quality of Life Specialist Haven Bradford with June Tebbutt at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl held at Brewster Health Center. Staff prepare decorated booths and serve different appetizers and beverages. They had a great turnout this year and the *Luck of the Irish* was indeed present!





OFF CAMPUS — A few highlights!

NEW THEATRE AND RESTAURANT Wednesday, April 9 | 9:45 am | Shuttle pick-up at BEC

New Theatre presents Alley Mills in *Rumors*. *Rumors* is a farce about what happens when the rich behave poorly. As the posh guests arrive for a 10 year wedding anniversary party, they realize that something is terribly wrong! The servants are inexplicably absent, the food has not been cooked, the wife is missing and the husband seems to have been severely wounded in the earlobe. The comedy unfolds as the guests try to figure out what happened, relying too heavily on a wide variety of RUMORS! Tickets are \$40 and include lunch. Transportation is \$13. Please call Jamie at 785-274-3398 as space is limited.

DAY OUT IN MANHATTAN Wednesday, April 16 | 8:30 am | Shuttle pick-up at EV and RW

We will begin with a lovely spring drive through the flint hills. We will start at the new museum in Manhattan call the Museum of Art + Light. The museum is the first of its kind to blend immersive digital and physical are experiences. We will have a timed ticket to see a special exhibit of Renoir: A Luminous Evolution. This exhibit takes visitors on a deeply engaging artistic journey of the life and artistry of Pierre-August Renoir's images of 300 of his beloved works, family photos, and pre-recorded family films tells a rich story of the artist's home, travels, and artistic passions. The MoA+L is committed to pushing the boundary of traditional art forms by developing its own method of artistic creation utilizing cutting-edge technology to tell a diverse array of artistic stories that are sure to redefine the way museums interpret the art world. Afterwards we will grab lunch and continue our adventures in Manhattan. Museum cost is \$15. Lunch is Dutch Treat. Transportation is \$13. For reservations please call Jamie at 785-274-3398 as space is limited.

SPRING DRIVE AROUND TOPEKA Wednesday, April 30 | 1:00 pm | Shuttle pick-up at EV and RW

Join us for a delightful Spring Drive around town! Enjoy the fresh blooms, bright skies, and the beauty of our community as we cruise through the season. Don't miss this relaxing outing — call Jamie at 785-274-3398 to reserve your spot!

FUTURE EVENTS

TOPEKA CIVIC THEATRE

Thursday, May 1 | 6:00 pm | Shuttle pick-up at EV and RW

TCT presents Cyrano a heroic Comedy by Edmond Rostand. The most legendary nose in literature gets a make-over with this lively American adaptation of the 1897 French classic. Will Roxane fall for Christian's dashing looks or Cyrano's daring poetry? Find out in this timeless tale—full of wordplay and swordplay—that's been an inspiration to writers and lovers for centuries. Tickets are \$38. Please call Jamie at 785-274-3398 as space is limited.

NEW THEATRE AND RESTAURANT Wednesday, May 21 | 9:30 am | Shuttle pick-up at BEC

New Theatre presents Tony Award winner JERSEY BOYS. It is an uplifting tale of four blue collar Italian boys from the East Coast. Their voices take them from the gritty streets of Newark to the dazzling lights of Broadway as the battle adversity, embraces brotherhood and create a unique sound that forever changes the beat of American Music. It is based on the true rags-to-riches journey of Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito, and Nick Massi. Set to the heart-pounding sounds of their iconic group The Four Seasons, with music that defined a generation—hits like "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like A Man," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You" Tickets are \$40 and include lunch. Transportation is \$13. Please call Jamie at 785-274-3398 as space is limited.

ON CAMPUS — A few highlights!

KU OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING SERIES: AMERICA'S FORGOTTEN WARS Tuesdays, April 1 and 8 | 1:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center

We'll examine three often-overlooked conflicts in our nation's history. First, we'll focus on the undeclared 1798-1800 Quasi War with France. This maritime conflict was significant as the fledgling American Navy's baptism of fire against a foreign power, Revolutionary France. Then we'll review the American Navy's second serious conflict - the war against the Barbary States (1801- 1805) when President Thomas Jefferson ordered a naval expedition to the Mediterranean to curb piratical activities. Finally, we'll focus on the Spanish- American War, a four-month war with Spain that launched America as an international power and made national heroes of Theodore Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders." Please call Jamie at 785-274-3398 to register.

SPECIAL MUSIC: JL WILKINS AND HIS ONE MAN BAND Thursday, April 10 | 2:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center

Come to a special musical program sponsor by Brewster Service Fund. We are excited to welcome JL Wilkens and his cowboy band. He will be playing and singing classic country music bringing timeless tunes to life for all to enjoy.

SARA TUCKER PRESENTS: LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARRY TRUMAN Tuesday, April 15 | 2:00 pm | Cultural Arts Center

Discover the fascinating history behind the life and legacy of Harry Truman. He was the 33rd President of the United States. Sara will explore his impact on American history, his ties to Kansas and Missouri, and the significant decisions he made during his presidency.

COMMON CAMPUS ABBREVIATIONS

Below is a list of abbreviations for the most common areas on campus where activities and events are held. These abbreviations are used on the monthly calendar and weekly bulletin. Where space permits on other communications materials, we will spell out the locations instead of using abbreviations. Please note the NEW Redwood locations.

BEC	BREWSTER EVENTS CENTER	MS	MAIN STREET
BEC AC	Aquatic Center	MS Chapel	Chapel
BEC CAC	Cultural Arts Center	MSP	Pavilion
BEC WC	Wellness Center	MSM	The Market
BEC WS	Wood Shop	VHH	Veterans Hall of Honor
EV	THE EVERGREENS	wwc	Winchell Wellness Center
EV AS	The Evergreens Art Studio	RW	REDWOOD
EV BB	The Evergreens Brewster Bean	RW AS	Redwood Art Studio
EV CR	The Evergreens Community Room	RWR	Redwood Restaurant
		RW GR	Redwood Game Room

SHUTTLE

Brewster Bus/Cars/Shuttle

For off-campus trips and events where residents will be picked up from the lobbies of Redwood and The Evergreens, we will now denote these events with Shuttle (instead of Lobbies).