

CONNECTIONS

at the RESIDENTIAL LIVING CENTER

NOVEMBER 2025

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Contact Us

Want to learn more about living in our Residential Living Center? Call us at **785-204-7115** to schedule a private tour for yourself or a loved one.



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Residential Living Center**
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A Few Words from Samantha

Samantha Young, RN, Senior Manager, Residential Living Center



This holiday season, I'm reminded how important it is to have love and support from family and friends. While many of our residents enjoy frequent visits from friends and loved ones, others can feel more isolated and sad this time of year. For those few residents who don't have family or friends close by, our staff becomes family, helping everyone feel valued and appreciated.

We take the time to truly get to know each resident, learn their likes and dislikes, listen to their stories, and provide attentive care. We engage residents in a variety of activities, providing pathways for them to find common interests and make friends with one another. I'm proud to be a part of our community so full of compassion, inclusion, respect, and love. The RLC is more than a place to live; it's a family.

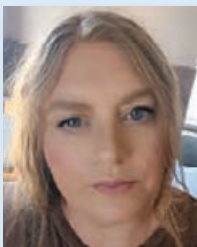
You can make a difference, too. When you visit your loved one, take a moment to introduce yourself to another resident and include them in your conversation. You'll enjoy some interesting personalities, and your loved one will be proud to share this time with their neighbors.

We're also accepting donations to help our holiday gift exchange. Items like socks, packaged snacks, décor items, craft supplies, word searches, books, puzzles, and even personal hygiene items (body wash, lotion, shaving cream, etc.) can make thoughtful and useful gifts for residents. You may drop off items at the nurses' station or make a monetary contribution to our RLC Activity Fund. For questions, please call our activity coordinator, Melissa, at 785-204-4031.

Our staff and residents support each other. We laugh, make memories together, and welcome everyone. During the holiday season, this spirit of camaraderie and kindness shines even brighter, making RLC a truly special place to be.

—Samantha

Welcome New Team Members



Amy Burnett
Certified Nursing
Assistant



Randa Teagarden
Registered Nurse

Culinary Corner



The first Thanksgiving in 1621 was a harvest celebration that brought the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe together. The Wampanoag had helped the Pilgrims adapt to their new environment and taught them how to farm the land. In return, the Pilgrims invited the Wampanoag to join them for a feast to celebrate the harvest.

Corn was a central part of this feast. The Wampanoag had taught the Pilgrims how to plant and care for corn. Corn has since become an integral part of the Thanksgiving tradition, a reminder of the importance of community and the sharing of food.

Here at the RLC, we strongly encourage residents to come together for meals in the dining room. Residents who eat together not only consume more nutrition, but often, new friendships grow while sitting around the table together. We hope you will enjoy this corn recipe around your table.

Scalloped Corn

Ingredients

Filling

- 1 16-ounce can creamed corn
- 2 16-ounce cans kernel corn, drained
- 1 cup milk
- 1 egg, well beaten
- 1 cup cracker crumbs (Ritz® or similar style)

- 2 Tbsp. green pepper, chopped
- ¾ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper

Topping

- 2 Tbsp. butter
- ½ cup cracker crumbs (Ritz® or similar style)

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Grease casserole dish.
2. In a large bowl, combine corn, milk, egg, 1 cup cracker crumbs, green pepper, salt, and pepper. Mix well.
3. Pour mixture into casserole dish. Dot top with butter and sprinkle with remaining ½ cup cracker crumbs.
4. Bake 30-40 minutes, until top is browned and corn is bubbling around the sides.



Thanksgiving Riddles

Can you answer these turkey day riddles?

What smells the best at Thanksgiving dinner?

Your nose



What do you call a turkey on the day after Thanksgiving?

Lucky!

If we feel scared on Halloween and jolly on Christmas, what do we feel on Thanksgiving?

Stuffed

When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving?

In the dictionary

What would you get if you crossed a turkey and an octopus?

Eight feather dusters

If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be most famous for?

Their age

Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?

The outside

Which is heavier: a ton of potatoes or a ton of turkey feathers?

Neither—they both weigh a ton.

What is a cranberry called when it isn't happy?

A blueberry



What happened to the turkey that got into a fight?

He got the stuffing knocked out of him.

What do you say when your family begs you to stop making Thanksgiving jokes?

I can't just stop cold turkey!

Activities are subject to change.

November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>DAILY</div> <div>10 a.m. Devotional Group</div>						<div>1</div> <div>Music & Manicures Coloring</div>
<div> DST Ends 2</div> <div>3:15 p.m. Church of the Nazarene Service</div> <div>3:25 p.m. Chiefs @ Bills—CBS</div>	<div>3</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Men's Mugs 1:30 p.m. Karaoke Richard</div>	<div>Election Day 4</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Garnett Public Library Visit 1:30 p.m. Blue Hat Club</div>	<div>National Donut Day 5</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Resident Council 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Leaf Chalk Art 1:30 p.m. Play Noodle Ball</div>	<div>7</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Bingo 1:30 p.m. Craft with Rachel</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Group Exercises Coloring</div>
<div>9</div> <div>3:15 p.m. First Christian Church Service</div>	<div>10</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Trivia 1:30 p.m. Bake Cinnamon Wheels</div>	<div>Veterans Day 11</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Ice Cream Floats</div>	<div>12</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Activity Committee 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh</div>	<div>13</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Make S'mores Ghost Dip 1:30 p.m. Penny Ante</div>	<div>14</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Thankful Tree Craft 1:30 p.m. Bingo</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Music & Manicures Coloring</div>
<div> 16</div> <div>3:15 p.m.. Hope Anthem Service</div> <div>3:25 p.m. Chiefs @ Broncos—CBS</div>	<div>17</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Turkey Craft 1:30 p.m. Coffee & Chitchat</div>	<div>18</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Card Bingo 1:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Price Is Right</div>	<div>19</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Food Committee 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh</div>	<div>20</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Shopping Trip 1:30 p.m. Trivia on the Patio (weather permitting)</div>	<div>21</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Coloring & Music 1:30 p.m. Bingo 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner with Friends & Family</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Group Exercises Coloring</div>
<div> 23</div> <div>3:15 p.m. Mont Ida Service</div> <div>12 p.m. Colts @ Chiefs—CBS</div> <div>3:15 p.m. Beacon House Service 30</div>	<div>24</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Garnett Public Library Visit 1:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Movie & Popcorn</div>	<div>25</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Collections with Traci 1:30 p.m. Handworking Club</div>	<div>26</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Make No-Bake Cookies 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh</div>	<div> Thanksgiving 27</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Watch Thanksgiving Day Parade 1:30 p.m. Bingo 3:30 p.m. Cowboys @ Chiefs—NBC</div>	<div>28</div> <div>10:30 a.m. Turkey Coloring 1:30 p.m. Watch Movie (resident choice)</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Music & Manicures Coloring</div>



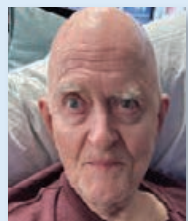
Veterans Day

November 11

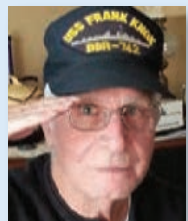
We are honored to count five veterans among our residents at the RLC. Thank you to John, Frank, Darrel, Patrick, and Sonny for the sacrifices you have made. We salute you.



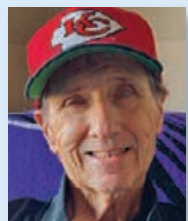
John D.
U.S. Army



Frank F.
U.S. Army



Darrel H.
U.S. Navy



Patrick L.
U.S. Marine Corps



Sonny W.
U.S. Army

Starting Hospice Sooner Rather Than Later

Melissa Wittman, RN, Clinical Supervisor, South Branch Office, Saint Luke's Home Care & Hospice



Many families put off thinking about hospice care until the very end of life. It's a common misconception that hospice is only for the final days, but that's not the case.

A person can become eligible for hospice when a physician certifies a terminal illness and estimates a life expectancy of six months or less. Patients

and their families must also be ready to prioritize comfort over continuing curative treatments.

An early admission to hospice gives more time for the hospice care team to get to know the patient and their family and understand what matters most, without feeling rushed or pressured to make quick decisions. An earlier admission also allows time to develop a thorough, individualized care plan that offers many advantages, including:

- Medications and therapies that can be adjusted for better pain and symptom control
- More time to acquire necessary medical supplies, such as a hospital bed or wheelchair
- Improved quality of life over several months, with less stress and anxiety
- Bereavement support for families prior to their loved one's passing in addition to support following death
- Fewer hospital admissions that make it more likely for the patient to spend their final hours at home surrounded by loved ones

Hospice is a service that benefits both the patient and their family. When utilizing hospice services earlier in the process, family caregivers can receive helpful tools and education from their hospice care team, ensuring they feel supported along the way.

Hospice is covered by Medicare, Medicaid, VA benefits, and most private insurance plans. It's important for patients to discuss disease progression and overall quality of life goals with their provider, and to ask for information on all resources and options available.

Saint Luke's Home Care & Hospice serves patients in 11 counties in Kansas including Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Coffey, Franklin, and Linn. To learn more about hospice care services or volunteer opportunities near you, please call our South Branch Office, located inside Anderson County Hospital, at 785-448-2753 or visit saintlukeskc.org/hch.

Resident Spotlight: Darrel Hawk



Darrel Hawk grew up on a farm south of La Harpe, the fifth of 10 children. He attended elementary schools in Carlyle and La Harpe, graduating from Iola Senior High School with the class of 1964.

Darrel joined the U.S. Navy shortly after high school where, because of his last name, he earned the nickname "Buzzard," later shortened to "Buzz."

By December of 1964, he was stationed aboard a naval warship, the USS Frank Knox. The crew completed several training missions before heading to Vietnam, where they provided naval gunfire and coastal patrol in support of the ongoing conflict. On July 18, while sailing to Taiwan, the Frank Knox became stuck on the Pratas Reef in the South China Sea. The ship's crew, along with other support units, worked day and night to save the vessel. After 38 days of uncertainty, the ship was finally freed and towed to Kaohsiung, Taiwan, before being transferred to a facility in Japan for repairs.

"I'd do it all over again if I was 18," he says.

Discharged in 1968, Darrel moved to Spring Hill, where he met and married his wife, Jeanette, and the couple raised two daughters. He found work welding and building trucks for coal mine operations but particularly enjoyed the 20 years spent as a driver for UPS.

Before retiring, Darrel and Jeanette moved to Wellsville, where they spent a lot of time with their daughters, Heather and April, and three grandkids. Jeannette passed away in 2018.

The following year, Darrel reconnected with Charyl, an old high school sweetheart, on Facebook. The pair enjoy going out to eat, attending school reunions, and taking trips together. A particularly memorable excursion was to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 2021 when Darrel and Charyl attended a USS Frank Knox Reunion. That year, Darrel received a "Reef Runner" lifetime membership from the reunion organization.

Darrel was later honored with an invitation to join a Kansas Honor Flight with the Southern Coffey County Honor Flight hub. He was also presented with a Quilt of Valor from a quilting group in Yates Center, a prized possession.

Since moving to the RLC, Darrel has met several other veterans and has reconnected with another Iola classmate, Grace.

Darrel is a jokester who likes watching Westerns and solving word search puzzles out on the patio, and has gone on a couple of outings with other residents.

We sure enjoy Darrel's fun personality and are so glad to have him here at the RLC!



Resident car guys John and Darrel enjoyed a recent outing to the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival. They spent some time checking out the classic cars parked around the downtown square and got to make a couple of laps around the old ghost track. What a fantastic day!



