



**Sunset Home**  
— Senior Living Community —  
Locally owned and operated since 1905

SEPTEMBER 2022

# THE SUNSET OBSERVER



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## A Lifetime of Memories



Eileen Wilson has the experience of several decades. Some of her earliest memories are of growing up during the 1930s. "It was not a nice time," she says. "There was no rain and we had beautiful corn and then we got up one morning and it was all laying flat. It was very depressing."

The family farm was right on the edge of White Rock Creek in Jewell County. They didn't have

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*Eileen (left) eagerly participates in activities and events at Sunset.*

much, but they were happy. Her grandfather crossed the creek to her house every day for lunch or dinner. Eileen remembers they had wonderful Norwegian and Swedish neighbors who built beautiful homes. "They were people that always had coffee," she says. "About five times a day they had coffee, and I loved to go to their homes because at that time

when you had coffee, you could have sugar and cream. That's how I learned to drink coffee until World War II when we couldn't get those kind of things."

The beauty of the country life for many of the families would not last. In the years leading up to 1955 they tore down or moved many of the beautiful homes to make room for Lovewell Lake. Fortunately, Eileen's family home was saved and moved north of Webber, and her sister still lives in the house today.

Eileen was the oldest and had a sister and two brothers. She enjoyed doing things outside. She had her own pony and even rode it to Rose Hill School. They would bring their lunch pails and at the back of the school there was a cistern with shelves where they would keep their lunches cool. Eileen also remembers a big lawn where they would play.

In the mid-1930s, Eileen attended high school in Webber. After graduating in 1938, she went to Salt City Business College in Hutchinson. She worked for many years with the Jewell County Soil Conservation District.

Eileen met her future spouse in high school. About three months after marrying her husband in 1941, he was called into service. He joined the Navy and was stationed in Pensacola, Florida. Eileen

stayed with him there for ten years. As a pilot, he did a lot of patrolling off the coast, but was never called overseas to fight in World War II.

Back in Kansas, Eileen and her husband enjoyed managing their land as well as going on some international trips. They saw the beaches of Normandy and visited Norway, Sweden, and England.

"The one that really stands out to me is England." Eileen talks about the castles and how many of them were destroyed in the war, but many still stand. "Somebody worked hard to build them and keep them going" she says.

Eileen's family attended a Methodist church in Webber for many years. She remembers lending help wherever they might need a hand, including funeral meals and Sunday school classes. She knows many of the hymns by heart and looks forward to going to Sunset Home church services and singing along.

"I feel bad sometimes," says Eileen. "I think people have been so nice to me. Not only family, but people as a whole, and I ask myself, 'Have I remembered to do some of the nice things that people have done for me?' You know, because you're busy. And maybe you don't take time to do some of the things you should for people."

At 102, Eileen still remembers back to White Rock Creek, and visiting Grandma Gabrielson across the cornfield, who came over from Sweden. "She would tell me all kinds of nice, nice things. And I often think back and wonder what she would think of everything now. Because she was a believer and you did this and this, and you told the truth, and everything better be the right way."





# Spotlight on Teresa Shippy

*Sunset Home Administrator*

**If you could master one skill you don't have right now, what would it be?** Flying! I soloed on my 16th birthday but never followed through to get my license.

**What is one of your favorite places and why?** Table Rock Lake--our family has vacationed there since I was a child. We enjoy water skiing, tubing, fishing, picnics, and attractions like Silver Dollar City.

**If you could have dinner with one person, living or dead, who would they be?** My grandmother, Edith Raney. I didn't appreciate her spunk and fun when I was young. She invited us to play hooky from school and she would make popcorn and play cards. She lived through the Depression and was always willing to help others.



*Teresa assists a resident during a meal.*

**What is your favorite thing to do in the fall or winter?**

Decorate for the holidays and cook for family and friends. I also enjoy roasting marshmallows on an open fire.



**- September -**

**James Ramsey  
Red Hodgins  
Gene Hammer  
Cressa Hansen  
Gail Mendenhall  
Loretta Griffith**

# Happening at Sunset...

**Mondays - 10:00 am**

Veterans Meeting

**Wednesdays - 10:00 am**

Christian Service

**September 2 - 2:00 pm**

Birthday Party!!

**September 10 - 1:30 pm**

Celebrate Grandparents Day!



**September 13 - 10:00 am**

Fall About Me

**September 16 - 1:30 pm**

Make Pumpkin Crinkle Cookies

**September 23 - 1:30 pm**

Bus Trip

**September 29 - 9:00 am**

Manicures!

# Hello, New Residents



**George Phillips**  
Concordia, KS

George was in the Army and then the Navy for 18 years. He was very active at Concordia's Faith Baptist Church with his wife Ruby.



**Red Hodgens**  
Belleville, KS

Red has spent all of his life in Republic County. He helped his dad farm and liked to participate in team roping and wrestling.



**John Woerner**  
Jewell, KS

John farmed and owned a body shop. He still likes to tinker around on old things. Besides cars, he has restored buggies, wagons and even manure spreaders!

## Coffee Groups...

... join us in our  
North Dining Room  
on Mondays from  
8:00-9:30 am.



*free coffee ~ free snacks*

*Questions? 785-243-2720*

620 2nd Ave. | Concordia, KS 66901

785-243-2720 | sunsethomeinc.com

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## WHO LOVES MAIL?!?!

Would you or someone you know like to receive our newsletter, no strings attached? Simply fill out this form and send it to us at Sunset Home--620 2nd Ave., Concordia, KS 66901.

**FULL NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE, ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL IT INSTEAD** \_\_\_\_\_

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