This past year we have exhausted way too much ink, energy and effort because of a virus, a freeze and, oh yes, a storm with a tornado that went directly through Horticulture! We still have not moved back into the Streit Building, which was damaged by a fire during the February freeze, nor are the restrooms and offices in the Café or the Citizen Homes totally repaired. However, we want to focus on what really is happening at Brookwood...abundant BLESSINGS!

“Out of the Blue Blessings” is a phrase we often use to describe unexpected generosity. This phrase reminds me of the definition of Grace: unmerited mercy, blessings not asked for or deserved, but freely given.

Some of Brookwood’s latest Out of the Blue Blessings include:

- Over 100 individuals are participating in the Center for Learning Virtual Summer Series, graciously underwritten by Cinco Ranch Rotary Club.
- Donations from our Walmart Wish List that have allowed us to provide innovative strategies for engaging Citizens and replenished our emergency supplies.
- Volunteers who continue to show up with shovels, brooms, gloves, and hearts willing to serve. Brookwood has many open positions (see our website if you or someone you know would like to work here), however we have NOT had a labor shortage because of our volunteers who hostess at the Café, plant in Horticulture, paint ceramics and assist in the store and pop-up shops.
- Generosity from individuals, foundations and organizations for our operating and capital budgets; and unexpected estate gifts from those who have gone before us and remembered us in their wills to create a legacy for their families and help us grow the endowment to secure Brookwood’s future.
- Amazing new friends, such as famous pie maker and author, Tara Royer Steele of Royers Pie Haven in Round Top; and executives from Joni and Friends, the organization founded by Joni Eareckson Tada, who came to Brookwood to study our residential model for their world-wide ministry.

Our Advisory Board member Bud Simpson describes unexpected blessings as Blue Birds. He defines a Blue Bird as “an event that originally looks like a problem, but when viewed through the eyes of opportunity, is actually a blessing only God could have sent.”

Our Citizens remind us what it is to be a blessing. Come out for a visit and you might experience an “unexpected blessing” brought to you by the ultimate Blue Birds...our Citizens!

Gratefully,

VIVIAN SHUDDE | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Even through this unprecedented and challenging year, the spirit of Brookwood has always remained strong!

Residential and Day Citizens couldn’t wait to get back to the work and activities they so deeply love here at Brookwood. As state regulations continue to be lifted and the work program transitions back, there is a renewed spirit here on the Brookwood campus.

What did you miss most about Brookwood during Covid?

“I missed bell choir, painting, cutting paper, and mostly the teachers and my friends who keep me motivated.” – Stacy

“I missed my friends and dancing and Zumba.” – Melissa

“I missed being around my friends, having work to do, being out of my room, and starting a new workshop.” – Jeff

“I missed painting the bluebonnets, swimming, and going down the slide.” – Jennifer

“I missed being together with my friends and teasing and laughing with them.” – Kim

“I missed going fishing, bird watching, and the job, but I missed the friends the most. I also missed my fuzzy room with teddy bears and books in Braille or audio and my stereo with records.” – Jon

“I missed singing for everyone.” – Grant

“I missed being with everyone at work and the staff at the Tuttle home and swimming at the pool.” – Pam
A Blessing for Families

At Brookwood, we see each Citizen’s unique giftedness, seek ways to strengthened unlocked potential, and celebrate our Citizens’ meaningful contributions to society. We believe families should not be turned away because of an inability to fully pay tuition. Autism Speaks estimates the cost for lifetime care for an individual with autism or intellectual disability averages $1.4-$2.4 million.

Stacy is a Citizen in the new Woodlands Studio and Brookwood’s scholarship program has helped her family tremendously. While they wait for a residential opening to become available, being a Citizen of the day program allows Stacy to experience “The Brookwood Way” four days a week.

Stacy’s mom Sheri says, “The blessing and availability of the Brookwood scholarship program is a key bridge that has allowed Stacy to experience being a Brookwood Citizen now while we plan for her long-term future. She is thoroughly enjoying what she does every day, and our family has benefited greatly! The passion and heart at Brookwood is evident in every element—be it the Citizens, the staff, the programs, or the facilities! We are glad that so many people have helped make Brookwood all that it can be!”

Thanks to generous donors and endowment funds, Brookwood provides over $1 million dollars in scholarships each year to more than 80 families. Will you help us provide financial assistance for Citizens like Stacy?

Now through July 31, donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to $25,000 thanks to a generous donor’s matching gift challenge. Please visit www.brookwoodcommunity.org/donate and select Financial Aid/Scholarship Fund.

Brookwood to the Rescue

Due to damages sustained during the February winter storm, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo’s plant distributor was unable to provide plants this year and called Brookwood for assistance. Brookwood Citizens proudly donated 100 beautiful baskets for the stages and exhibit areas at the Junior Livestock and Horse Show competitions held in March.
Royers Pie Haven’s Tara Royer Steele, better known as “The Pie Queen,” hosted a Pie, Plants and Purpose event at Brookwood in April. Tara served Royers pie alongside Brookwood plants on the Café patio while customers shopped to fill up their “Pie Passport” for pie giveaways. Tara also came out in July for a live pie-making demonstration and to talk more about her devotional book *Eat. Pie. Love.*

Located in Round Top, Texas, Royers Pie Haven was just named one of the South’s Best Bakeries by Southern Living magazine, and Tara was recently featured on the *Live with Kelly and Ryan* television show. Brookwood is incredibly grateful for this partnership and looks forward to having Tara here again on November 19 at the Brookwood Café for a Pies & Poinsettias holiday book signing.

### Good Food, Good Cause

The Brookwood Café continues to create new items and provide innovative ways to serve customers during these unique and challenging times. Frozen casseroles are now available for purchase at the Café, and local neighborhood pop-up events have made pick-up more convenient than ever. Holiday grill packs for at-home cooking have also been a huge hit. To find out more about the Café, please call **281-375-2400** or visit [brookwoodcommunity.org](http://brookwoodcommunity.org).

### ONLINE SHOPPING MADE EASY!

The Brookwood online store has expanded, offering a large variety of Citizen made products including ceramics, soaps, food items, greeting cards and more. Shop at [www.brookstore.org](http://www.brookstore.org) anytime, anywhere, and support the adults with disabilities who live and work at Brookwood.

### River Oaks Garden Club

The River Oaks Garden Club, in partnership with Brookwood Horticulture, is sponsoring a series of educational events in 2021 to include a variety of plant and gardening discussions and hands-on projects. The series kicked off in June with a lunch and learn about honey bees, and each guest received a coaster featuring the newest bee designs made by the Brookwood Citizens and only available in the Gift & Garden Center. Email [info@brookwoodcommunity.org](mailto:info@brookwoodcommunity.org) to be added to the Horticulture event email list.
AN EVENING IN OUR GARDEN
Staying Home for Brookwood No-Go Gala

Brookwood’s biennial evening event went virtual for 2021! Chaired by Carol and Michael Linn, the online presentation premiered on April 14 and included a fun-filled, informative video featuring the Brookwood Handbell Ensemble, remarks by Vivian Shudde and interviews by Community Members and Citizens.

Generosity exceeded all expectations with $1.1 million given to support Brookwood’s daily operations and help offset decreased Enterprise revenue during the past year. The Stephanie and Brad Tucker Family and Mustang CAT were honored as the recipients of the Jack T. Trotter Brookwood Legacy Award for Excellence and Partnership in Enterprise, and Rosemary Schatzman and Mary Whalley were recognized for their work as 2019 Gala Co-Chairs. To see the video, go to www.vimeo.com/brookwoodcommunity

“It was our pleasure to chair the 2021 gala despite the challenges brought by COVID-19 during the past year,” said Chair Carol Linn. “We would like to thank all the wonderful donors, especially Susan and Fayez Sarofim and The Whalley Foundation, for their incredible generosity!”

Below: (left) Jolyn and Marc Greer with Stephanie and Brad Tucker; (right) Citizen Frank Tucker

Windii and David Grimes
Michael C. Hutchins/Michael R. Mair
Rise and Malcolm Johns
Carol and Bill Lawler
Madison Charitable Foundation
The Marek Family
Molly and Sam Mcbriney
Trini Mendenhall
Methodist Hospital System
Mission Constructors, Inc./Don Woo
Lynn and Dan Moody
William Restrepo
Chris and Dick Rogoff
Prissy and Leonard Roth
Joan and John Scales
Nancy and Bud Simpson
Shirley and Albert Skalovsky
Cindy and Randy Smith
Shirley and Bruce Stein Family
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Virginia and Walter Tomlinson/
Statesman Business Advisors
Cynthia and Fisher Trigg
Barbara and Arv Ilutus
Elizabeth and Peter Wareing
Teresa and Dave Washko
Julie and Chris Whitten
Cindy and John Zuilhof

Visit our website at brookwoodcommunity.org for complete list of donors.

Gary Rosenthalh
Kelli and John Weinzierl

Hydrangea
Amegy Bank Family
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Linda and Sam Bradshaw
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Marc Greer/Jim and Jeannie
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Libby and Dan Vincent

Hibiscus
Mike Hall
H-E-B
Cornelia Cullen Long
Stephanie and Jean Malo/Nancy
and Earle Martin, Jr.
Melinda and Sam Stubbs
W. Hugh Phillips

Carol and Michael Linn
The online presentation
premiered on April 14 and included a fun-filled, informative video
featuring the Brookwood Handbell Ensemble, remarks by Vivian Shudde and interviews by Community Members and Citizens.
The 2020 I Believe in Brookwood campaign was a great success! A record-setting $1,317,260 was given by 1,391 donors to support 68 Citizen Celebrity Fundraising Teams! This generous support was especially important during the past year of uncertain and challenging times. Due to COVID-19 capacity restrictions, revenue from the Café and retail stores was significantly impacted. Contributions helped to close this revenue gap, but even more than that, these gifts provided opportunities for Brookwood Citizens to learn and work, experience social and spiritual fellowship, and lead fulfilling and productive lives as contributing members of The Brookwood Community.

Thank you for your commitment to the Brookwood Citizens! The 2021 I Believe in Brookwood campaign will kick off September 1. If you or your company would like to team up with a Citizen Celebrity, contact Donna Gower at 281-375-2192 or believe@brookwoodcommunity.org for more information!

Hats off to the 2020 CITIZEN CELEBRITY FUNDRAISING TEAMS who raised $10,000 or more!

BROOKWOOD DREAM TEAM
JENNY BOUDREAUX/JAMAIL HOME
FRANK TUCKER
KYNDALL KRIPPNERTONE
RICHARD CROSS/BOB SMITH
PATRICK MCBIRNEY
CHARLIE STUBBS
JEFF LAWLER
WILSON SHUDEDE/VICKI STREIT
BROOKWOOD DAY CITIZENS
JOSH BIXENMAN/STACY PERNA
CHRISTI ZULHOF
DAVIS BANKSTON
INN CITIZENS
MEADE GREER
MAX REICHEK
JAMES & JEFFREY COKER
CHRISTINE THOMPSON/GRUNDFOS
KENDALL CUTTRE
BILL OVERSTREET
TUTTLE HOME
CHRIS MCCLUNG
LAURA ROBINSON
ROBIN TORRANCE
BONNIE O’NEILL

More than 20 Brookwood Citizens and Community members will participate in the 2021 Bike to the Beach fundraising ride. The summer heat hasn’t stopped these dedicated cyclists in their weekly training sessions. Citizens and members of the Brookwood Interdependence Team will ride along the beachfront from Surfside Beach to San Luis Country Pass County Park on October 30 to raise money for Brookwood and support autism and disABILITY awareness. For more information on how to get involved in Bike to the Beach, please email janam@brookwoodcommunity.org.
Careers with a Purpose

Working at Brookwood isn’t just a job…it’s a calling. A call to serve God by “speaking for those who have no voice.” Brookwood Citizens have found their purpose in life here at Brookwood. Join the Brookwood team and ignite purpose and meaning in your own life too. For a list of current Brookwood job opportunities, visit brookwoodcommunity.org or email careers@brookwoodcommunity.org.

Visit brookwoodcommunity.org for list of job opportunities

HP Parade of Fun

Hewlett-Packard employees participated in a spring Citizen Car Parade around campus filled with decorated cars, Easter costumes, and special appearances by the Easter Bunny, the Yellow Chicken, and the Chick-fil-A cow.

Brookwood Tours are back!

Experience the beauty and spirit of God’s presence on a Brookwood campus tour, and see how Brookwood is changing the way the world thinks about adults with disabilities...one tour group at a time! For more information, please contact Tour Coordinator Joanne Clark at 281-375-2100 or receptionist@brookwoodcommunity.org.

LEARNING VIRTUALLY

Over 100 individuals participated in the first-ever Center for Learning Summer Webinar Series, graciously underwritten by the Cinco Ranch Rotary Club. On Wednesdays in June and July, participants learned about “The Brookwood Way” through a variety of online presentations from Brookwood Community Members traditionally presented at the live conferences. For more information on upcoming CFL conferences, please visit brookwoodcommunity.org.

JONI AND FRIENDS

Senior executives from Joni and Friends global ministry toured the Brookwood campus in June to learn more about residential programs and expand their commitment to bring the Gospel and practical resources to people impacted by disability around the globe.
Brookwood Young Professionals

Over 65 Houston-area young professionals gathered at Los Tios for fellowship and fun at the Brookwood Young Professionals kick-off event. Thanks to the leadership of Jacob Robinson, Sam Tucker, Ben Tucker, and Chase Fondren, the BYP organization hopes to bring together young, energetic volunteers to become more involved with the Brookwood Citizens and bring awareness to the Brookwood mission.

POINSETTIA PLANTING VOLUNTEERS

Horticulture needs your help to plant over 50,000 poinsettias this year! Volunteers are needed each day in August and September.

Get Involved!
Contact Volunteer Manager Karen Pollard at 281-375-2220 or karenp@brookwoodcommunity.org for more info on how to get involved with poinsettia planting, BYP or other service projects. There are lots of ways for families, schools, organizations, corporate groups, and churches to make a difference!
COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: Walmart
Brookwood is incredibly grateful for Walmart’s support during the pandemic. Walmart contributed $25,000 to serve as our online store shipping sponsor, which significantly helped increase Brookwood’s online sales for the past 18 months. Brookwood also received a community grant from the Walmart Neighborhood Market on Highway 6 North.

Thanks to the generosity of supporters from all over the country, Brookwood continues to receive essential items from Walmart’s Registry for Good Causes. The Walmart wish list was a huge help to replenish emergency supplies after the February winter storm. Check out Brookwood’s wish list online at www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood (choose Brookwood under Find a cause in your community). The items ship directly to Brookwood, and this hassle-free option means you can support Brookwood from virtually anywhere.

Team Work Makes the Dream Work!
What an incredible outpouring of support Brookwood has received this year. Here are a few of the companies and organizations who have stepped up to ensure that Brookwood Citizens remain safe, happy and healthy no matter what 2021 brings.

The Howard Hughes Corporation provided free retail space for The Woodlands pop-up store at Hughes Landing.

The Church of Latter Day Saints with all the fixings for a Citizen lasagna dinner night.

Grundfos pump donation to help deliver essential water for Horticulture.

Culligan Water coming through in the middle of the water shortage.

Delicious dinners from Frankie’s provided by Firethorne community members.

Chick-fil-A Katy Mills Owner/Operator Cynthia Cavin delivered meals for the residential homes.
July

**BUTTERFLY GARDENING LUNCH & LEARN**

**FRIDAY, JULY 30 | 10:30 am | Brookwood Café**

Speaker Lisa McMillan - What to plant and how to attract butterflies to your garden. Participants will receive a Brookwood grown plant and a butterfly chrysalis.

August

**FALL WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 | 10 am | Brookwood Café**

Hosted by Mesh With It.

**CONTAINER GARDENING LUNCH & LEARN**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 20 | 10:30 am | Brookwood Café**

Featuring Horticulture Manager Robert Grove. Participants will create a sun or shade container garden to take home.

September

**FALL SHOPPING MARKET**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 | 9 am – 5 pm | Gift & Garden Center**

Enjoy local vendor booths! Café open from 11 am – 2 pm

**BRIGHTENING YOUR YARD WITH NEW VARIETIES LUNCH & LEARN**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 | 10:30 am | Brookwood Café**

October

**SUCCULENT/PUMPKIN CENTERPIECE LUNCH & LEARN**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 | 10:30 am | Brookwood Horticulture & Brookwood Café**

Featuring Horticulture Manager Robert Grove. Participants will create a succulent arrangement to take home.

**HEARTS & HANDS HOLIDAY MARKET**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 18 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20 | Memorial Drive United Methodist Church**

**JUDY DIERKER HOLIDAY MARKET**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 | Foundry United Methodist Church**

November

**SUGAR PLUM MARKET**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3 – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6 | Stafford Centre**

**NUTCRACKER MARKET**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | NRG Center**

**WOODLANDS JUNIOR LEAGUE HOLIDAY MARKET**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | The Woodlands Waterway Marriott**

**PIES, POINSETTIAS & PURPOSE — BOOK SIGNING WITH TARA ROYER STEELE**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19 | 10:30 am | Brookwood Café**

**BIKE BARN HOLIDAY RIDE**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | 7 am | Brookwood campus**

**LADIES NIGHT OUT**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 | 5 pm - 8 pm | Brookwood Gift & Garden Center**

A fun night with extended shopping hours and cash bar. No reservations required.

December

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 | 9 am – 4:30 pm | Gift & Garden Center and Café**

Enjoy holiday shopping, Citizen pageant, campus tours and lunch in the Café!

**PICTURES IN THE POINSETTIAS**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 | 10 am – 2:30 pm | Brookwood Horticulture Greenhouse**

Capture the perfect family holiday photo!

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18 | 9 am – 10:30 am | Brookwood Café**

 ITEMS NEEDED AROUND CAMPUS

Choose from the list below and either use the enclosed envelope to mail in your monetary selection, or donate online at brookwoodcommunity.org and indicate the item in the comments box.

**TRANSPORTATION**

- **SmartFloor van | $60,000**
- **15 Passenger van | $45,000 (3 needed)**

**ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS**

- **Heat press for paper maker | $600**
- **Heat press for curved surfaces | $800**
- **Kiln carts to transport ceramic items to the kiln area | $700 (3 needed)**
- **Industrial ice maker for Café | $4,000**
- **Industrial freezer for Café retail products | $3,000**
- **Industrial convection microwave for Café kitchen | $1,000**
- **Ice and water dispenser for Café | $1,500**

**RESIDENTIAL HOMES**

- **Golf carts to transport Citizens and staff around campus | $6,000**
- **Larger household items such as dishwashers, Smart TVs with wall mount, cordless vacuum cleaners and microwave ovens | $500**

**HORTICULTURE**

- **Rolling shipping carts to transport plants to greenhouse and deliveries | $550 (10 needed)**
- **Greenhouse generator | $20,000**

**BROOKWOOD GRAND PARKWAY**

- **Washer and dryer | $2,000**

When you shop on Amazon, make sure you are logged into Amazon Smile first at smile.amazon.com, then select The Brookwood Community as your charity of choice. It’s the same as shopping on Amazon.com, only it will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to Brookwood.

**On behalf of all the Brookwood Citizens, thank you for your support!**

Visit brookwoodcommunity.org for more information on events.
SHOP & DINE WITH A PURPOSE

BROOKWOOD GIFT & GARDEN CENTER  ➤ 281.375.2149 ➤
1502 FM 1489  |  Brookshire, Texas 77423
OPEN Monday - Saturday  |  9 AM - 4:30 PM

BROOKWOOD GIFT & GARDEN CENTER  ➤ 832.759.5077 ➤
at Gallery Furniture
7227 W. Grand Parkway  |  Richmond, Texas 77407
OPEN Monday - Saturday  |  9 AM - 5 PM

BROOKWOOD CAFÉ  ➤ 281.375.2400 ➤
1752 FM 1489  |  Brookshire, Texas 77423
OPEN for lunch Monday - Saturday  |  11 AM - 2 PM
Reservations recommended: Call or reserve online. To-go options available.

The Café is available for group Christmas celebrations, evening private events, weddings, and off-site catering. Call the Café at 281-375-2400 or email catering@brookwoodcommunity.org to book your holiday event.

Thank You!
All purchases at the retail stores and Café help to provide purpose in the lives of Citizens who live and work at Brookwood.

Connect with Us
@brookwoodcommunity

Use the QR code or email info@brookwoodcommunity.org to be added to our eNews or mailing list.

brookwoodcommunity.org
#brookwoodcommunity
SHOP ONLINE
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