

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Spring is full of new beginnings... The trees budding and flowers coming to life and blooming. That is what the Designers' Showhouse is all about— giving a home a new beginning. The 2017 Designers' Showhouse represents a beautiful home that is experiencing its own "new beginning" with homeowners Susan and Walt Frederick. The Fredericks purchased the house last fall, and had a two-year plan to renovate the home and make it their own. Then our agency entered the picture. Once we connected with the Fredericks and they agreed to offer their home as our Showhouse, the two-year plan became a two-month plan— and the result will undoubtedly amaze all who tour!

Leslie Hunsicker stepped into the role of Showhouse coordinator this year. She is bringing her incredible talent to bear as she works with a great team of designers and craftsmen to bring continuity and "flow" to the look of the house. We have a great mix of seasoned Showhouse professionals, along with new faces. Everyone is working hard to have the house ready to unveil at the Patron Party on April 28, 2017.

The Designers' Showhouse is truly a labor of love. Showhouse Co-Chairs Mary Lou Davis and Jane Weiler are busy recruiting others to help, as it will take nearly 300 volunteers to make the Showhouse happen this year. If you haven't already signed on, it's not too late! Visit our website at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> to learn about volunteer opportunities and how you can help.

The Showhouse is not just a chance to see new interior design ideas you can use in your own home, or attend a fun event with friends, or shop for unique gifts in the Showhouse Boutique. This fundraiser provides vital services for children and families. What happens in early childhood has a lasting impact on a child's life. Our efforts help to ensure that children arrive at school with the skills they need to be successful, and that working families can access the child care they need. Thank you so much for supporting this important cause.

See you at the Showhouse!



JOIN US FOR TOPEKA GIVES!

JUNE 6, 2017

Join us and many other local non-profit agencies between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6, for Topeka Gives— a charitable day of giving hosted by the Topeka Community Foundation. Visit our booth inside Fairlawn Plaza and show your support to Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas.

For updates about this fantastic day, keep an eye on our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>, and our Facebook page, [facebook.com/ChildCareAwareKS](https://www.facebook.com/ChildCareAwareKS).



APRIL 24 - 28, 2017

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose is to focus attention on the needs of young children and their families, and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. The 2017 Week of the Young Child is April 24 - 28; however, many enjoy this celebration throughout all of April and refer to it as the "Month of the Young Child."

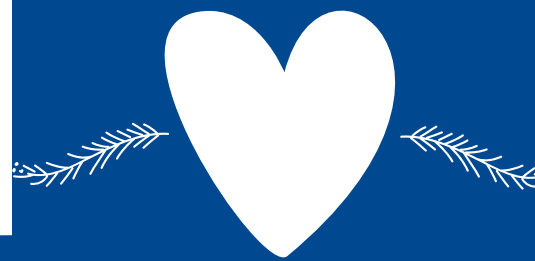
The Topeka Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas office will partner with the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library's Youth Services to present a story time at the library called, "Friendly Monsters." Preschoolers, their families and family child care groups are invited to attend on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Registration begins at 9:45 a.m., with the story time and activities beginning at 10 a.m.

We will also be participating in a Week of the Young Child Family Fun Fair on Saturday, April 22, 2017, inside of Fairlawn Plaza Mall at 21st and Fairlawn in Topeka. This event will be full of fun activities for young kids and is being hosted by the Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children.

Watch our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>, to find out about other area Week/Month of the Young Child celebrations!

Be sure to wish the child care providers in your life a **HAPPY National Provider Appreciation Day!**

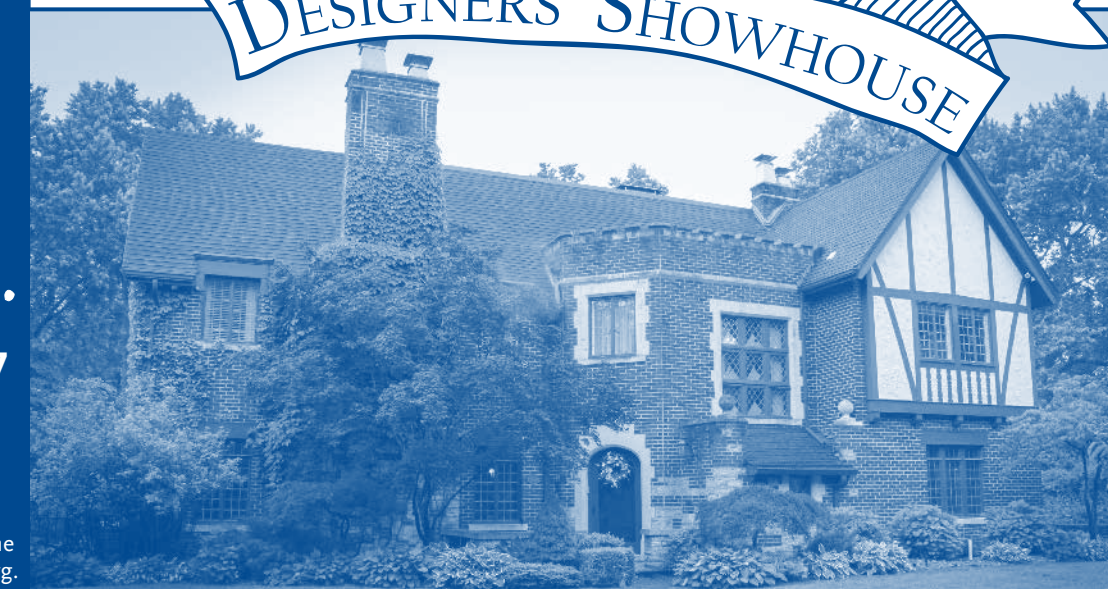
Friday, May 12, 2017



NEWS NOW!

SHOWHOUSE EDITION 2017

37TH ANNUAL DESIGNERS' SHOWHOUSE



Showhouse Particulars...

APRIL 29 - MAY 21, 2017

Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 if purchased at a ticket outlet. New this year, tickets can be purchased online April 1 - 26 at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>.

Last tour starts 30 minutes before closing. Children under the age of 8 not admitted. Lunch is available this year **only** for scheduled group tours.

Check out the rest of this newsletter or visit <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> for information on group tours, special events, ticket outlets and more!

OTHER IMPORTANT SHOWHOUSE DATES

PATRON PARTY
Friday, April 28, 2017

BEER TASTING
Thursday, May 4, 2017

WINE TASTING
Friday, May 12, 2017

LADIES NIGHT
Thursday, May 18, 2017

SUNDAY FAMILY FUN DAY
Every Sunday, April 30 - May 21, 2017

The 2017 Designers' Showhouse is truly a home overflowing with beauty and grace. Just from a glance of the outside of this house, one gathers a feeling of enchantment and a curiosity to find out what lies inside. From the polished beams that grace the ceiling, to the beautiful arches, to the character and charm of the home overall, one cannot help but be taken back. The home is certainly in good company with many other awe-inspiring homes, being located in Topeka's historic Westboro area at 3143 SW Shadow Lane.

This year's homeowners, Susan and Walt Frederick, are thrilled to be transforming the 4,906 square foot home into something that better reflects their style. Not only will the home be tailored to suit their needs, it will also display a substantial nod to the decade the home was built, the 1920s.

As this article is being written, the Showhouse remodel is underway. Designers and craftsmen are hard at work creating an amazing home. Although it is not finished, here is a brief glimpse into what is known about the 14 design spaces being transformed...

The **Living Room** is the start of the tour and was designed by Sarah Henry of Furniture Mall of Kansas. Sarah is taking a traditional approach to this room, but adding class and charm through the furniture selection and accents. Although there was much character to begin with in this room, Sarah will be taking it to the next level with her creative touch.

CONTINUED INSIDE

ERC RESOURCE & REFERRAL, INC., D/B/A CHILD CARE AWARE® OF EASTERN KANSAS

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SHOWHOUSE, CONT.

From the Living Room, guest will visit the **Family Room** designed by Winston Brown Construction's Monica Parsel. This space is undergoing a major overhaul that includes removing existing built-in cabinets and a fireplace. A new brick-paved wall is being installed, along with new wainscoting, built-in cabinets, a fireplace and mantel. When you come to tour, be sure to venture into the side porch off of the family room and view the reclaimed wood herb garden built just for this space.

The **Dining Room** is the next fabulous space on the tour. This room is being designed by Vickie Lynch and Angie Varney of Soho Interiors. They plan to add beauty from the area rug and the base of the amazing table, to the stenciling on the ceiling that is to be accompanied by a new chandelier. Be sure to take in the marvelous accent pieces that they plan to bring into the space, including the artwork.

A quick step from the Dining Room into the **Foyer** introduces a space full of unique charm that is illuminated by the creative painting technique utilized on the ceiling. The talent instilled in this space comes from Dana Niemack, interior designer and owner of Tooter and Tillay's Home Goods. Dana plans to extend her talent by trickling up the stairs through her selection of carpet runners.

Before you go up to the second floor, do not pass up the chance to visit the **Library**, designed by Red Door Home Store's Jesse Borjon and Jane Koger. This room had much to offer to begin with, but the designers plan to take it to the next level by incorporating unique accessories and touches throughout. They plan to keep the focus of the room on the amazing fireplace.

Last space to tour on the first floor, although tiny, will definitely be worth a glimpse. Brandi Whisler of Carpet One® Floor & Home plans to take the **Main Floor Powder Room** from a simple stop on the tour, to a memorable space. She will be pulling out the dated, and bringing in a feeling of richness to the space. She also plans to incorporate period correct elements that reflect the time in which the home was built.

Moving up, guests will get a glimpse in the **Laundry Room** through a little window as they climb the stairs. Leslie Hunsicker of Leslie Hunsicker Interiors, who happens to also be this year's Showhouse coordinator, plans to transform this simple place for doing laundry, into a lively and multifunctional space. Cabinets will be added and machines will be stacked to make an organizational and storage haven.

Jan Davis of Carpet One® Floor & Home is the designer of the next space on the tour, the **Northeast Bedroom and Bath**. Jan is working her magic on the bath and taking it back to the 1920s with her tile and fixture choices, among other details. The bedroom will be revamped through the use of fresh paint, window treatments and accents.

One room that always tends to be popular on Showhouse tours is the **Master Suite**. This room will hold to that truth, as Leslie Hunsicker of Leslie Hunsicker Interiors and Jan Hutt of Jan Hutt Interiors have been doing some major demo on the master bath. The bath is being completely remodeled with a new freestanding tub, shower, countertops and sink, and will have a more tranquil feel. The bedroom will be brought to life with touches of color and print only existing on the accessories. Be sure to check out the closet, as they plan to repurpose some of the removed family room cabinets in this space!

Guests will not feel left out in the luxury realm, as the **Northwest Bedroom** will make one feel like they are on a relaxing getaway. Cheryl Bozarth and Joyce Varner, both of Portico, and Carolyn Cox, The Open Window, are all teaming up to bring their own flair to this space. They plan to incorporate sparkle and bling, while still giving the room a functional beauty. Be sure to check out the dresser and night stand that they have been hard at work repainting and adding their personal touch to.

The **Second Floor Hall Bath** is being reimagined by designer Jennifer Metzger of Fine Design Studio/Interior Design Resources. She is taking the wallpapered, tight bathroom, and opening it up. No square feet will be added. She is simply utilizing her design skills to make the space seem less cramped. Jennifer will also be using creative painting techniques, including stenciling.

The **Home Office** is the last stop on the second floor, with Cindy Manry of cmDesign taking this room over. Paint will be added to the existing credenza and hutch. She also plans to utilize some of the homeowners' unique items to accessorize the room, including an antique propeller.

This year's homeowner, Susan Frederick, and her friend and returning Showhouse designer, Caroline Bivens, have been



SHOWHOUSE, CONT.

elbow-deep renovating the **Third Floor Suite**. The blue shag carpet has been removed, and bathroom is being completely remodeled. They are looking to create a space that guests will feel at home in and will enjoy a relaxing stay.

A stroll down the back stairs leads to the completely remodeled **Kitchen**, created by Thad Wende of Wende Woodworking, LLC, and Dan Brungardt of Home at Last and Kitchen Gallery. New, custom cabinetry and an island are being installed to better suit the new homeowners. This kitchen is truly being upgraded to a chef's ideal kitchen that will include the addition of new Wolf appliances, but with family time in the forefront.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, makes for an incredible 2017 Designers' Showhouse! Find more information about Showhouse hours, purchasing tickets, special events and more throughout this newsletter, as well as online at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>.

The house exterior photo and before photos were taken by Hannah Swain and provided by Berkshire & Hathaway's Jerry Brosius and Kristen Cummings.



GROUP TOURS AT THE SHOWHOUSE

Group tours are great for special interest clubs and groups, or even just a group of your fabulous friends! Groups of 10 or more attending the Showhouse together may enjoy a self-guided tour during normal Showhouse hours. Special guided group tours are also available on Mondays by appointment. Come and enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the Showhouse!

Lunch is available only for scheduled group tours. Advance reservations and payment are required.

For more information about group tours, visit <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> or call 785-357-5171, option 1.

5 BIG CHANGES AT THE SHOWHOUSE... AND YOUR GONNA LOVE IT!

1. Hours. The Showhouse will close at 5 p.m. every day. Hours are Tuesdays - Fridays, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mondays are reserved (as they have been in the past) for guided group tours by appointment only. Evenings are reserved for special events and scheduled group tours.

2. Lunch. This year, lunch is available for group tours only with advance reservations. We also have a new caterer and menu. Get all the details on our website, <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>. Gather a group of 10 or more friends, book a group tour, and join us for lunch at the Showhouse!

3. Special events. We have our traditional Patron Party this year, as well as three new special events— a Beer Tasting, a Wine Tasting and a Ladies Night! Registration for each of these events is online through our website listed above, where you can also access additional details about each event. Shuttles are provided to make parking easy. Adults 21 and over only for these special events, please! See the *Showhouse Special Events* article at the right for more details.

4. Online ticket purchases. This year, for the first time ever, you can buy a Showhouse ticket online. Advance tickets can be purchased through our website listed above from April 1 - 26. Buy your tour ticket for just \$10, and then show your receipt at the door when you come to tour. It's that easy!

5. Sunday Family Fun Day. This is an opportunity for families with young children to bring them to the Showhouse! Children ages 1 - 7 will be entertained in the event tent with a story time and activities. Children under 12 months or ages 8 and up will tour the Showhouse with their parent. Sunday afternoon sessions will be held at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., while parents enjoy their Showhouse tour. See the *Showhouse Special Events* article at the right for more details.

In addition to these fantastic changes, you will also find **NEW** vendors and merchandise in our Showhouse Boutique. **NEW** participating designers, as well as many returning favorites, are also lending their time and talent to make the Showhouse one to remember. Don't miss it!

SHOWHOUSE SPECIAL EVENTS

PATRON PARTY, Friday, April 28, 2017, 6 - 9 p.m.

Be the first to see the completed Showhouse! Join us for an evening of festive celebration as we unveil the 37th annual Designers' Showhouse. Come and go at your leisure between 6 and 9 p.m. Tour the Showhouse, meet the designers, enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, and partake in cocktails! Business casual attire. This event is sponsored by FHLBank Topeka. Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. \$60 per person.

BEER TASTING, Thursday, May 4, 2017, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy a fun evening touring the Designers' Showhouse and sampling beers from local breweries. Appetizers and door prizes add to the fun and will make this an evening you won't want to miss! This event is open to the public for those that are 21 and over. It is graciously being co-hosted by the Topeka Active 20-30 Club and the Topeka Harley Owners Group. Blind Tiger, Norsemen Brewing and Happy Basset Brewing Company are the local breweries supporting this event by providing their own specialty brews. This event is sponsored Envista Credit Union. Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. \$25 per person.

WINE TASTING, Friday, May 12, 2017, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Back by popular demand, this evening provides a wonderful opportunity to learn about wine. Sample a variety of wines, pair foods with wine, and enjoy a tour of the Showhouse. This event is open to the public for those that are 21 and over. It is being sponsored by Summers, Spencer & Company, P.A. Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. \$40 per person.

LADIES NIGHT, Thursday, May 18, 2017, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

It's an evening of fun and festivity specifically for the ladies (although guys will not be excluded!). Tour the Showhouse, enter to win door prizes, and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine and a specialty drink made specifically for this event. This event is open to the public, and is graciously being co-hosted by the Topeka (Kansas) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and the Junior League of Topeka. This event is being sponsored by Entrepreneurial & Minority Business Development/GO Topeka. Advance registration at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org> is required. \$25 per person.

SHUTTLE SERVICES

The Patron Party, Beer Tasting, Wine Tasting and Ladies Night all have shuttle services to and from the events. Shuttles provided by Ed Bozarth Chevrolet #1 Buick GMC will be available from the First Congregational Church parking lot at 1701 SW Collins in Topeka. They will run continually during the events.

SUNDAY FAMILY FUN DAY

Although the Designers' Showhouse is typically a "grown up" event, Sunday Family Fun Day provides an opportunity for families with young children to bring them to the Showhouse. Babies under a year old and children over 8 can tour with their parent, while children ages 1 - 7 enjoy a story time and supervised activities in the Showhouse tent. These special sessions begin at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. each Sunday, and they will last one hour each. No advance reservations are required, and there is no fee for this fun event for the kids! *Adults and children over age 8 touring the Showhouse will need to purchase tour tickets.*

VOLUNTEER AT THE DESIGNERS' SHOWHOUSE!

If you are interested in volunteering at the Showhouse, visit the Designers' Showhouse section of our website at <http://east.ks.childcareaware.org>.

BOARD NEWS & AGENCY UPDATES

The Community Outreach and Marketing Committee met in March, approving the draft Marketing Plan for 2017. The plan was forwarded to the Board of Directors, and approved at the March meeting. A significant recommendation was the establishment of an Outreach Advisory Committee, with one designated representative from each of the 33 counties the agency serves. The Outreach Advisory Committee will meet four times annually, typically by conference call.

Outreach Advisory Committee members are tasked with being informed about Child Care Aware® of Eastern Kansas programs and services, identifying opportunities to promote the agency in their county through events and fairs, and sharing community information of relevance with the agency. Recruitment has begun, with the first meeting scheduled in June 2017. Anyone interested in more information should contact Reva Wywadis, Executive Director, at reva@east.ks.childcareaware.org or 785-440-4507.

The Fund Development Committee also met in March. The group approved the agency's Fund Development Strategy for 2017, which was forwarded and approved by the Board of Directors at their March meeting. Specific efforts on increasing support from individual donors and growing the effectiveness of all fundraising endeavors, including the Designers' Showhouse, were outlined in the plan. Specific strategies to support consumer education and expanded programs and services for families were also included.

Any agency supporter is eligible to serve on a task team or committee. Please contact Reva at the contact information listed above for any additional information.