



# CELEBRATING OUR 2013 JUBILARIANS

*525 years of love of God and neighbor without distinction*

— SEE PAGES 5-9



# THE MESSENGER

*of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, Kansas*

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## REDEFINING HER OWN *quality of life*

If you remember the classic TV commercial with the line, “Pardon me, would you pass the Grey Poupon?” then you’re already familiar with Christina Brodie’s work.

Now the woman who laughingly describes herself as a “big-time ad executive” has dramatically changed her direction and her locale — by coming to Concordia as a full-time unpaid volunteer.

The next time you see Brodie’s work it will be in the form of a new, long-term

anti-poverty program she is helping to design and will coordinate for the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The path that led the 61-year-old to rural Kansas began in her native New York City, where her grandfather had arrived as an Italian immigrant in about 1915 with \$20 in his pocket.

“My mom is first generation (American),” Brodie says, “and volunteerism was not something we were brought up with.”

See **REDEFINING**, page 4



Native New Yorker Christina Brodie arrived in Concordia as November began, and by mid December was giving presentations — including this one at the Motherhouse — on a new program set to launch in February.

## NEW PROGRAM PAIRS FAMILIES, MENTORS



Five Concordia families will make up the first “class” in the new “Hands Across the Community” program beginning in early February.

The goal of Hands Across is to pair people who are struggling financially but want to become self-sufficient with “community coaches” who will take part in the

program with them and be there for encouragement and advice.

The idea for a broad-based and long-term program came out of the

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