



PCSC CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY



This January represents the 60th anniversary of the opening of Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina. With God's help and with the support of

many churches and individuals, the ensuing 60 years have witnessed remarkable growth, blessing and change for this ministry.

THE EARLY YEARS

By the late 1940s, the Presbyterian churches in South Carolina were beginning to recognize the need for a new living alternative for older members who no longer desired to live at home alone. In 1949, the Synod of South Carolina appointed a committee to study the matter under the leadership of the

Rev. Dr. W. McLeod Frampton. Gradually, a vision began to take shape. The Rev. Dr. C. Robert (Bob) Tapp joined leadership of the effort in 1952. He would go on to be the first Superintendent of the Presbyterian Home and would later serve as President of the Board of Trustees until retiring in 1984.

Dr. Jack Rhodes and his wife, Dorothy, offered 26 acres in Summerville as the site of the new home, and this was formally accepted by the Synod in 1953. The first Mother's Day Offering was collected in the churches in 1954. A capital campaign to fund construction was launched next, and by 1955 the churches had raised \$150,000. The following year, a bid of just under \$250,000 was accepted for construction of the Home and the balance was borrowed.

Finally, after years of prayer, planning and work, the Presbyterian Home of South Carolina opened its doors on January 12, 1958, becoming "home" to 20 older adults.

Continued on page 4



*These "brave souls" were the first residents served by PCSC.
They entered the Presbyterian Home in Summerville on January 12, 1958.*

ALSO INSIDE

PCSC Launches
2nd Sixty Initiative.....page **3**

PCSC Acquires Laurel
Crest Community.....page **8**

Taking Care of
Employee Health page **9**

BUILDING ON THE PAST AS WE MOVE INTO THE FUTURE

Sixty years of ministry is quite a milestone, and is certainly a time for giving thanks and celebrating.

Selfless dedication on the part of many strong leaders led to making Presbyterian Home of South Carolina a reality. It is hard to imagine the effort needed to take an idea to have churches come together to build a “nice home where people want to come” and make it happen. Gaining approval from the Synod of South Carolina and garnering state-wide support from individuals and churches to build a Presbyterian retirement community was quite an endeavor.

From my perspective, one of the major reasons for the success of Presbyterian Home (now Presbyterian Communities – PCSC) is that the men and women who helped start this ministry continued to support it throughout their lifetimes. They served as initial board members, offered free legal services, gave property, collected supplies and other gifts. Then they were vocal advocates and grew the support in Presbyterian churches throughout the state.

We must never take for granted the blessing of having PCSC for our seniors and what it took to get us this far. We must continue to be wise in our decisions, keep the ministry fiscally strong and be committed to tell the story to others of how this compassionate Christian ministry enriches the quality of life for those we serve. Having had the privilege of knowing Dr. and Mrs. Bob Tapp and Dr. and Mrs. McLeod Frampton and some of the others who established this ministry, the burden of both preserving and strengthening the mission is ever-present!

As we pause to celebrate the blessings that have been bestowed upon this ministry, remembering those who made it happen, we also look forward to the next 60 years!

The greatest way to honor those who established this organization is to keep it strong for the future. We have to be these leaders. Our voices must continue to tell the story of compassion, caring and excellence.

The manner in which services are delivered continue to evolve in the senior living field. Regulations have become even more stringent and the kinds of services more varied. However, the mission remains the same! As a not for profit, faith-based ministry, our values guide the way we operate. Our close relationship with the Presbyterian churches of South Carolina is a distinctive mark of our ministry and we remain committed to serving them, just as they faithfully continue to support us.

While we don't have a crystal ball to perfectly predict the future of senior living, we know what the mission of PCSC is and that it is being strengthened. And we know hard work, building on the past as we move into the future, is what makes this special ministry strong and viable. We pray God's blessing upon PCSC as we move into the next 60 years!



Katharine L. Ligon

Kathy Ligon, President and CEO



PCSC FOUNDATION

The PCSC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization that receives and manages charitable gifts given to support the mission and ministry of Presbyterian Communities of SC (PCSC) at its five historic campuses (Clinton, Columbia, Florence, Foothills and Summerville). You can make your charitable gifts to PCSC payable to the PCSC Foundation. Your gifts are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

PCSC LAUNCHES 2ND SIXTY INITIATIVE FOR PLANNED GIVING

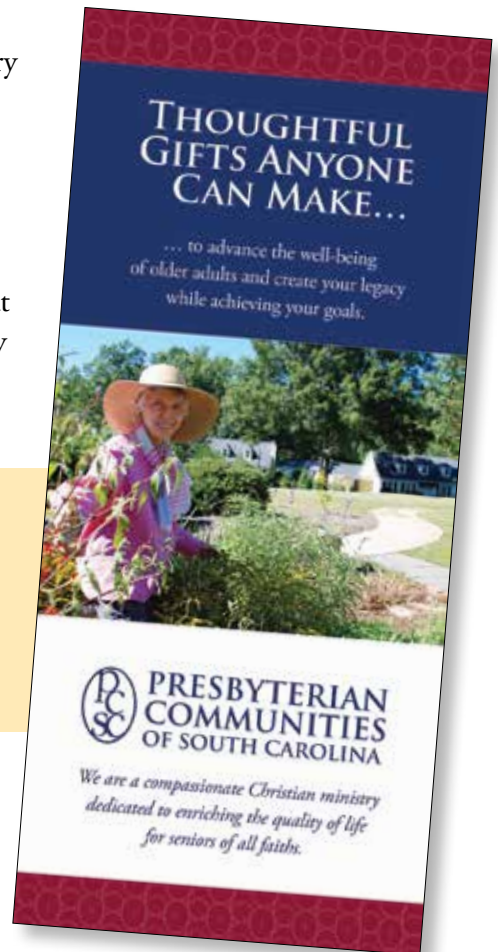
As Presbyterian Communities celebrates the 60th anniversary of its opening, we are not only giving thanks for the first 60 years of ministry to seniors. We are also laying the groundwork for a bright future with *The 2nd Sixty Planned Giving Initiative*.

With God's help, many special partners have contributed to our success in serving seniors over the first 60 years: faithful churches, visionary leaders, dedicated staff, and caring volunteers. Along with these, it must be said that PCSC would not and could not exist without generous donors. Particularly noteworthy are those special people who have left a legacy for older adults with a planned gift to PCSC.

Planned gifts are made as part of one's estate planning. This includes naming PCSC in a will, trust, life insurance policy or other beneficiary arrangement. Such plans enable donors to leave an impactful legacy for seniors at little or no cost today. They also help donors meet a variety of charitable, financial and other personal goals.

Planned gifts have made it possible to provide a remarkable level of financial assistance for residents who outlive their life savings through no fault of their own. Planned gifts have also supported campus building and enhancements, as well as provided funds for special programs.

Celebrating PCSC's 60th anniversary with a planned gift is the best way to secure the future of PCSC's mission today. Thank you for your generous role in carrying this special ministry forward for another 60 years, and beyond!



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT LEAVING YOUR LEGACY? YOU CAN:



Request information about estate planning and *The 2nd Sixty Initiative* by checking the box on the envelope in this magazine.



Contact Franklin Fant in our Foundation office at (803) 772-5885 or at Franklin.Fant@PresComm.org.



Visit www.PresCommunities.org/planned-giving



Franklin Fant, Director of Foundation Services and Church Relations

Continued from page 1



The Rev. Dr. Arthur Martin, The Rev. Dr. Robert Tapp, and The Rev. Dr. McLeod Frampton look on as Board Chairman Alfred Scarborough lays the cornerstone at Summerville on October 9, 1956.



An early postcard showing the Presbyterian Home in Summerville.

The need to expand the original home was recognized almost immediately. Around the time the Home opened, one of the Trustees, the Rev. Dr. Arthur M. Martin, stated, "This is like a new baby. It came complete, but we expect it to grow."

True to his words, 1960 found the Trustees discussing expansion due to unmet demand for accommodations at the Home. An 8-bed infirmary was constructed in 1963, increasing the scope of services to include healthcare. That same year the number of residents reached 70. This number continued to grow as construction added 31 more bedrooms in 1964.

By 1965, the Presbyterian Home had grown to 102 residents. Another important milestone was reached that year when it was announced that Dr. and Mrs. Fred Hay desired to erect a chapel in honor of Mrs. Hay's mother, Mrs. Lola E. Johnston. This chapel was



A group of Summerville residents in 1962.

completed in 1967, and is still a hub of worship and other activities today. The same year saw the beginning of construction that would add another 22 beds to the infirmary, which was made possible by a generous estate gift left by Mr. Aubrey E. Coleman.

WHAT HAS SINCE DEVELOPED

Now called Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina (PCSC), this ministry has continued to grow and develop up to the present day. The plural "Communities" recognizes that this ministry now operates five historic campuses in Clinton, Columbia, Easley, Florence and Summerville, as well as the newly acquired Laurel Crest Retirement Community in Columbia (see article on page 8). The number of residents served has increased to over 900, and PCSC now offers a full continuum of care on each campus – from independent living to assisted living to memory support and skilled nursing care. The original Presbyterian Home is now named The Village at Summerville. This is the largest of PCSC's campuses, and serves more than 250 seniors at any point in time.

SOME THINGS REMAIN THE SAME

What has not changed is the initial commitment to serve older adults and their families in a caring, life



Rev. Dr. C. Robert (Bob) Tapp



Rev. Dr. W. McLeod Frampton

affirming environment. McLeod Frampton has shared that much of the original idea for a “Presbyterian Home” came from his mother, Isabel Addison Frampton.

Mrs. Frampton told her son that there were too many older Presbyterians who no longer wished to live at home, but neither did they want to live in nursing home. This left them without any viable alternative. She told him that these people needed another kind of place to go, a place that they would *want to* go to, rather than a place they felt they simply *had to*.

It is remarkable to look back over the last 60 years and see what God has accomplished through this ministry. Much has changed, but Isabel Frampton’s vision still describes PCSC’s ministry to seniors. Together with the faithful churches and individuals who partner with it, PCSC continues to bless older adults and help them find ways to continue contributing to and enjoying life. Thanks be to God!

*Note: The account in the section “The Early Years” is drawn from Daniel M. Robert’s narrative, *Presbyterian Home of South Carolina 1952-1984: The Tapp Years*.*

*A group of
Presbyterian
Women
visit the
newly
constructed
Home.*



CLINTON WELCOMES NEW CHAPLAIN

Chaplains are a key part of PCSC’s ministry. While they provide spiritual care for residents and their families, they are also an important resource for staff. As such, they are constant, visible reminders that PCSC is a faith-based ministry.

The Clinton Presbyterian Community is thus delighted to welcome its new chaplain, the Rev. Jim Caprell. He began his ministry by leading the community’s Vespers service for the first Sunday in Advent.

Jim is a member of Foothills Presbytery, where he has served as Moderator. He comes to PCSC after serving more than 20 years as the Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Simpsonville, S.C. Prior to that, he led two Presbyterian churches in northeast Tennessee.



Born and reared in Aiken, S.C., Jim is a graduate of Wofford College and Columbia Theological Seminary. “I am excited about the opportunities for ministry at Clinton,” he recently shared, “and looking forward to this new season in life as I start my work there.”

Paul Pridmore, Executive Director at the Clinton Community, said, “What a blessing it is to have Jim on board as our new Chaplain! I am confident in his ability to pastor our residents and staff. I look forward to his contributions as a key member of our leadership team.”

HEALTH SERVICES UPDATES



TELEMEDICINE HEALTH AT THE VILLAGE

Technology continues to offer ways to make healthcare better, and PCSC strives to stay on the cutting edge of these improvements. An example is the acquisition in late 2016 of telemedical equipment by The Village at Summerville. This technology gives residents the potential to be examined remotely by a doctor, without having to leave the campus.

“We now have the ability to connect remotely with a doctor online, if needed,” shared Mary Guillaume, a registered nurse and Staff Development Coordinator at The Village. “Once connected, the doctor can see and talk to both the assisting nurse and the patient, as well as get medical observations from the equipment.”

By allowing a resident to be examined remotely, this equipment can help avoid the cost and inconvenience of special trips to a doctor’s office or even the emergency room.

ENHANCING COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY CARE IN HEALTHCARE

The healthcare industry is one of the most highly regulated industries in the country. Because almost one-third of Presbyterian Communities’ capacity is represented by skilled nursing beds, this high-level of state and federal regulation significantly impacts its ministry.

Besides being extensive, these regulations keep changing. Today, more than ever, nursing facilities must be prepared to demonstrate compliance with federal regulations – not only at survey time, but throughout the year. One of the ways that PCSC is facing this challenge is through periodic self-assessments, or “mock surveys,” that simulate the surveys conducted when federal regulators arrive on the premises for inspections.

“These mock surveys are an important part of PCSC’s quality assurance efforts,” says Ellen Imperial, Director of Clinical Services, who oversees the self-assessments. “These exercises give us the opportunity to take a fresh look at our systems and processes of care. They also identify potential risk areas so that we can address them proactively ahead of federal inspections.”

The mock survey assessments are not just about making sure PCSC meets regulatory standards. “Our ultimate goal is to improve quality and the delivery of care,” says Ellen.

She also describes a number of other initiatives PCSC has implemented to improve care in its healthcare centers. “All of our nursing staff in skilled care have been trained in dementia management,” she explains. “And we have undertaken initiatives to reduce the amount of psychotropic drugs used to treat mental or emotional disorders.”

“Another important initiative has been increasing the number of nursing staff trained in respiratory conditions,” she shared. This helps PCSC manage these conditions in-house and reduces the need for patients to be re-hospitalized.

It is all about the care, according to Ellen. “We want to be innovative in this constantly changing industry. But most importantly, we stay committed to providing high-quality care for the seniors who choose PCSC.”

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NEW BUILDINGS, NEW FRIENDS

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina is building to meet the needs of more seniors, as well as offer modern, state-of-the-art facilities to those it currently serves. Continue reading to learn more about these exciting projects.

RESIDENTIAL LIVING



EASLEY

Construction is completed on **Great Oak Way**, a wing of 12 Independent Living apartments. New residents began moving into their new homes in September. Only one unit remains available: a two-bedroom apartment with a den. Also included is a spacious, open kitchen, laundry room with washer and dryer, and a covered outdoor sitting area.

For more information about this one remaining apartment, please call Cathy Stuckey at (864) 307-1977 or email her at FoothillsMarketing@PresComm.org.

SUMMERVILLE

Progress continues on the construction of 18 Independent Living apartments at The Village. Move-ins are expected to begin in March, and more than half of these units have already been claimed.

Grand Oak Way will be the first three-story building at The Village. It will offer 18 one- and two-bedroom Independent Living apartments with amenities similar to the new apartments at Foothills (see left). In addition, it will offer a café that will serve soups, salads, paninis, and other “grab-and-go” fare, available to the entire community.

To learn more, call Jessa Carter at (843) 873-2551 or email her at SummervilleMarketing@PresComm.org.



HEALTHCARE

SUMMERVILLE

The new, 88-bed healthcare center at The Village continues to take shape and is expected to open this spring. The vast majority of the rooms in this state-of-the-art facility will be private. It will serve seniors needing short-term rehabilitation, as well as those requiring long-term care.



PCSC ACQUIRES LAUREL CREST COMMUNITY

In a move to expand its own ministry and preserve the ministry of another organization, Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina purchased the Laurel Crest Retirement Community from First Presbyterian Church Retirement Center, Inc. on January 5.

Located in West Columbia, the scenic Laurel Crest Community is situated where the Saluda and Broad Rivers converge to create the Congaree River. This provides a beautiful view for many of the rooms, as well as the common areas. Like PCSC's other communities, Laurel Crest is a Life Plan Community, offering a full-spectrum of living options, including dementia and skilled nursing care. It is currently home to over 120 older adults.

Purchasing Laurel Crest made good sense for PCSC for multiple reasons, according to its CEO, Kathy Ligon. "First and foremost, we felt that acquiring the Laurel Crest Community would enhance PCSC's mission. Combined with our Columbia Presbyterian Community in Lexington, this purchase expands the variety of what we can offer seniors in the greater Columbia market.

"Of course, we were very careful as we worked

through the numbers to make sure that this purchase made financial sense," she added. The purchase was financed by issuing a series of tax-exempt and taxable bonds, but PCSC made sure that borrowing would not burden the organization. "Laurel Crest is a highly-regarded retirement community with strong operations. We are confident that it will enhance PCSC's financial position going forward," said Kathy.

This acquisition was also attractive for another important reason. It gave PCSC the opportunity to preserve the mission of an affiliate of a Presbyterian church, a church

that was highly important in PCSC's past.

In the early 1980s, First Presbyterian Church of Columbia left the Presbyterian Church in the United States and joined the Associate Reformed Presbyterian denomination. This departure came after a long history of closely supporting PCSC. Indeed, the first Treasurer of the Presbyterian Home (as PCSC was once known) was Mr. William L. Heinz, an elder of First Church. The church was a generous contributor to the capital campaign for the building of the original Presbyterian Home in Summerville



Left: The dining room and patio at Laurel Crest.

Below: The Laurel Crest Retirement Community in West Columbia overlooks the scenic convergence of the Three Rivers.



in the 50s. First Presbyterian also provided office space to PCSC for various subsequent capital campaigns, and was for years one of PCSC's largest supporting churches.

Kathy Ligon noted, "In addition to the direct benefits to PCSC of purchasing Laurel Crest, it is especially meaningful that this acquisition relates to an old partner in ministry. First Presbyterian Church has been so important in PCSC's history. We feel as though things have come full circle in many ways as we now look forward to stewarding this special ministry started by First Church."

A NEW FOUNDATION FOR LAUREL CREST

In connection with the acquisition of the Laurel Crest Retirement Community (see opposite page), PCSC has established a separate foundation for this community. Gifts to the Laurel Crest Foundation will be used to support PCSC's ministry to seniors specifically at the Laurel Crest Community.

Charitable gifts and related inquiries regarding Laurel Crest can be directed to Franklin Fant, Director of Foundation Services and Church Relations, or Cathy Jackson, Foundation Assistant, at PCSC's Management Services Office (2817 Ashland Road, Columbia, SC 29210; phone 803-772-5885).

As in the past, PCSC Foundation will continue to support PCSC's mission and ministry at its five "historic" campuses: Clinton, Columbia, Florence, Foothills, and Summerville.

TAKING CARE OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH ... AND MORE

Whether they have daily face-to-face contact with residents or work more "behind the scenes," employees are essential to the mission of Presbyterian Communities. It follows that PCSC not only takes the well-being of residents seriously, it also takes the well-being of employees seriously. To ensure staff members are provided a high-quality insurance package, PCSC worked with an outside consultant in 2017 to solicit proposals and compare them to packages offered by PCSC's peers.

For 2018, employees who work 30 or more hours a week are eligible to obtain medical insurance through PCSC. PCSC even pays a portion of the cost of medical and dental insurance for these employees, which is becoming rare for non-profits in the senior living industry.

A free service called "Teledoc" is included. Teledoc gives employees 24/7 phone access to a network of doctors. These doctors can treat many medical conditions, as well as write prescriptions. This is an excellent way for employees to avoid a co-pay for a doctor visit and avoid the inconvenience of scheduling an appointment when sick.

PCSC also pays the full cost of long-term disability, as well as \$50,000 in basic term life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance for employees working 30 hours or more per week.

An important retirement benefit provided by PCSC is its 403(b) plan. Not only are employees allowed to make tax-deferred contributions from their pay, PCSC provides employer matching. For every \$1 an employee invests (up to 6% of his or her income), PCSC will match with another \$0.50. Another contribution of 2% of the employee's income is added by PCSC for those participating and employed at the end of each year.

PCSC values the hard work and care its staff members give each day. Its benefits package is not only designed to attract the kind of employees who will give residents the very best care, it is also intended to show its gratitude to an exceptional and dedicated staff.

MEADOW GLEN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS HELP RESIDENTS NAVIGATE THE DIGITAL WORLD

The Columbia Presbyterian Community has a number of programs that connect young people to our seniors. One of these is a partnership with Meadow Glen Middle School. Not only is it very important for our seniors to be able to pass on their stories and knowledge to younger folks, but children have much to share about the world today, especially the world of technology. The digitally-connected world is new to many residents, and they are absolutely fascinated by what they learn.

Columbia residents first visited Meadow Glen in May 2017, when the students and the residents held a checkers lesson and tournament at the school. Many of the students had never learned how to play the game, and the residents taught them the rules. Everyone had so much fun that they wanted to have more interaction. That is how the partnership between the community and the school began.

Twice a month now, Columbia residents visit teacher Melody Shafer's iCivics classes at Meadow

Glen. iCivics is an interactive course where students learn standard government and social studies lessons, as well as reach out into the community and contribute to society through their class projects. During sessions with the iCivics students, residents interact with the children one-to-one, as well as in groups. The residents are eager to share experiences and stories, and the children are willing to teach them about our world of technology and the new ways in which people connect.

With the students' help, residents have learned more about:

- using email
- navigating the internet
- taking and sending pictures from their smart phones
- phone and computer operating tips
- social media
- setting up an online account
- and endless other pointers

The purpose of this project is not to participate in a formal "class," but to connect and build relationships between the students and residents.

In addition to learning from these wonderful young people during each



Resident Mina Dexter learns about smart phones from Meadow Glen students.

session, the residents play fun, classic games such as checkers, Scrabble, Spoons, Sorry!, and Uno. During game time, the residents interact with students by telling stories and just enjoying one another's company. They also enjoy a snack served by the children.

There are many students in the classroom who do not have great-grandparents, but the conversations with the residents are similar to those they might otherwise have with such family members. Ms. Shafer emphasizes to the class how important it is to learn from and respect the elderly population. The students are honored to engage in conversation with people who lived through some of the events that they learn about in class.

One resident, Charlotte White, had this to say about the project: "My experience visiting Meadow Glen for our technology classes can be explained in one single word—AWESOME. The students have unreservedly treated us with information, kindness, interest and dignity, while having the marvelous grace to also treat us as peers whom they enjoy. AWESOME."



Resident Tom Hornsby plays Jenga with students from Meadow Glen Middle School.



"The Ladies" pose with dining staff member Coleman Gibbs at the Masquerade Ball.



Above: Special memories being made at the Masquerade Ball.

Below: Our residents cut a rug as they dance the foxtrot.



Billie Payne, Eleanor Barker, caregiver Debbie Dover, Margaret Lusk, and Life Enrichment Coordinator Julia Greer at the Masquerade Ball.



Billie Payne clogs as other residents and family members clap along.



The chair volleyball competition heats up as it is guys vs. gals.



During Family Night, visitor Sue Barker encourages resident Mary Dill Branch as she takes her turn at Big Bowling.

SOLAR ECLIPSE PARTY

South Carolina buzzed with excitement about the first total solar eclipse the state has seen in almost 100 years. In preparation, the Clinton Community bought hundreds of special eclipse glasses, watched educational videos and brought in guest speakers.



Resident Marion Simmons, modeling her eclipse glasses.

On the afternoon of August 21, 2017, the Community held a party on the front lawn and invited residents, friends and family to observe this rare phenomenon. Guests enjoyed MoonPies, SunChips, Starbursts, and Milky Ways, while playing Cornhole and socializing with friends. The staff put together a playlist featuring solar-themed songs like *Total Eclipse of the Heart*, *Here Comes the Sun*, *Blue Moon*, and many more. With the help of modern technology, they were able to track and broadcast every phase of the eclipse using an app and a Bluetooth speaker. Residents, staff and guests were grateful for the chance to be together for this once-in-a-lifetime event.

TRAVEL SERIES

The residents of the Clinton Community have broadened their horizons and experienced other cultures through a new Travel Series program. For three months, residents learned about three different countries by attending lectures featuring guest speakers. With additional involvement of the activities and dining staff, residents were able to explore different aspects of the unique cultures through customs, games, trivia and food.

Residents “traveled” to India, China and Israel. There was even a special presentation by the son and daughter-in-law of resident Susan Henderson. Thanks to Carter and Xio Xio Henderson, who were visiting from China, residents learned how to use chopsticks and watched a cooking demonstration featuring dumplings – yum!

Not only did residents learn more about new countries and cultures, they also learned that it is possible to “travel” without leaving home and it is never too late to try something new!

M.S. BAILEY FALL FESTIVAL

The residents of the Clinton Community have some new, slightly younger friends at the M.S. Bailey Child Development Center. In the past, residents have engaged in volunteer opportunities, such as reading to a class and knitting hats and scarves for the children. When the school needed help with its Fall Festival, the Clinton Community was ready to help!

Residents enjoyed a boxed lunch with the kids in the cafeteria. Who knew peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with chocolate milk could conjure so many fond memories? After lunch, residents chaperoned games like the ring toss, pumpkin toss and spooky bowling. Buzzy Randall entertained the students as the friendly scarecrow while taking pictures with them in front of the fall-themed display.



The scarecrow (resident Buzzy Randall) and a student.

Outside, children and residents enjoyed a hayride around the school grounds. By the end of the day, the children (and the grown-ups) were ready for a nap! When the festival came to an end, residents said their goodbyes to the kids with happy hearts, lots of smiles and plenty of hugs.



Above: Norma Fryfogle masters the chopsticks! Left: Xio Xio Henderson, daughter-in-law of resident Susan Henderson, demonstrates how to make dumplings.



Above: Residents and staff enjoy a beautiful day before a show in Flat Rock.

Below: Gin Jacobs, Mary McAllister, and Virginia Sides dress up for a photo booth session.



Bill Stoddard and Life Enrichment Director Louise Parr work together to carve pumpkins.



Virginia Sides enjoys time with a trick-or-treater.



Above: Residents truly enjoyed painting in the Truth Be Told art class.



Kinleigh, daughter of Wellness Director Erica Slatten, trick-or-treats with Sally the Great Dane.



Staff member Hannah Taylor and Dot Eargle don their Halloween costumes.



Left: Terry Freeland loves competing in cornhole.



Cherokee Church



Forest Lake Church



Peterson Church



McGregor Church



Congaree Church



Seven Oaks Church



Mt. Hebron UMC Youth



Providence Church

COLUMBIA AREA CHURCHES HELP DECORATE CHRISTMAS TREES

For several years now, it has been a tradition at The Columbia Presbyterian Community that local Presbyterian churches send volunteers to assist residents with tree trimming. Delicious refreshments are served, and the trees always look beautiful. A special thank you to all of the churches, residents, friends, family, and staff who helped decorate this past December! Your gifts of love and support are truly a blessing to all at the Columbia Community. Churches who sent members to help are represented in the pictures shown.



Westminster Church



Trinity Church



Shandon Church



Above: A special thank you to the Southeastern Freight Lines Fall Festival Volunteers.



Patsy Pennington and Jean White laugh during the Southeastern Festival.



Jane McGregor enjoys meeting a new friend from Southeastern.



Sarah and Jason Basile (Executive Director) prepare for the eclipse with resident Lodi Williams.



Jason Basile (Executive Director), Faye Daniel, and Franklin Fant (Director of Foundation Services and Church Relations) look forward to the 7th inning stretch at the Lexington Blowfish baseball game.



Tony Fountain (Chief Operating Officer) and Ron Jacobs laugh together at the Blowfish game.



Dr. Charles Still poses during the Veterans Day Program.



Nancy Jacobs explains how to make mats for the homeless at Center Pointe Community Church.

RESIDENTS TOUR CHARLESTON HARBOR

On an early, brisk Tuesday morning, residents from The Florence Presbyterian Community boarded the bus and set out for “The Holy City,” Charleston, South Carolina. The weather was even more brisk and windy when they arrived in Charleston, but that did not slow them down.

They boarded the 80-foot Carolina Belle for a guided boat tour of Charleston Harbor. Luckily, the Carolina Belle has an indoor viewing area so residents did not have to brave the wind on the observation deck. From the water, residents viewed and received a short history lesson on Fort Sumter, Forts Moultrie and Johnson, St. Michael’s Church, and homes on the Battery. They were also able to watch dolphins swimming on the surface of the water as the boat made its way.

Before leaving Charleston, residents took a joy ride on the bus to see some of the sights on land. They rode around the Market, down King Street, and of course, along the Battery.

The Ravenel Bridge (below) is a cable-stayed bridge over the Cooper River, one of the many sights enjoyed by Florence residents on their tour of Charleston Harbor.



Dorothy Shaw and Kate Powers work on knitting caps for premature babies born at McLeod Regional Medical Center.

NOVICE KNITTERS

Novice Knitters is a small group of residents who meet a few times a month at The Florence Presbyterian Community. The group consists of talented knitters as well as those who are just learning. The group began as a fun diversion, but has now developed a mission. Resident Sue Haigler is knitting caps for babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at McLeod Regional Medical Center. As other members of the group progress in their knitting skills, they hope to increase the number of hats that can be donated.

The meetings throughout the month are not solely about knitting. Often the ladies of the group are chit-chatting and fellowshiping about life. The group chat has brought up topics that allow for reminiscing, as well as laughter about fun times past.



Right: Smiles are all around the room as children from the Kings Academy perform their program.





Sue Haigler, Olive Timberlake and Joan Hart view the eclipse together.



Proving you are never too old to learn something new, Chris Hobson gets crocheting tips from Sue Haigler.



Above: Lawrence Copeland speaks at the Veterans Day festivities as staff member Chris Hobson listens and holds the microphone.



Right: Gladys Sandlin enjoys her 103rd birthday!



Maymie Lou Spearman has fun with Trick-or-Treaters from First Presbyterian Church of Florence.



Anne Lyons and her daughter, Diane Yates, enjoy a meal together during Family Night.



Residents Mary Jane McDonald and Frances McRae share a meal with Mary Kendall Bittle.

THE VILLAGE AT SUMMERVILLE HOSTS FIRST-EVER LOWCOUNTRY SENIOR GAMES

In October, The Village at Summerville hosted a friendly competition between its residents and those from two other Lowcountry retirement communities: Franke at Seaside (located in Mt. Pleasant) and Bishop Gadsden (located in Charleston).

The event was similar in concept to the PCSC Olympics, in which residents from PCSC's five communities gather in Columbia each spring to compete in various events. The Lowcountry Games included bocce ball, water lap walking, putting, walking, and a spelling bee. After a close competition, fellowship over lunch was enjoyed, and the winners were announced. Congratulations to Bishop Gadsden, which took home the first place trophy!



Nancy Shows receiving her gold medal in putt-putt.



Above left: Senior Games athletes from The Village. Above right: Social Services Director Vincent Thurman and Executive Director Robin Miller dance in the welcome line at the 1st Annual Lowcountry Senior Games.

THE VILLAGE PREPARES CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR VETERANS

In honor of Veterans Day, residents and staff at The Village at Summerville assembled 60 boxes filled with non-perishable food items, toiletries, playing cards, crossword puzzle books and even hand-knit hats. The care packages of supplies, collected over the previous two months, were all wrapped in Christmas paper and delivered to the Charleston Area Veteran's Administration for distribution to needy vets.



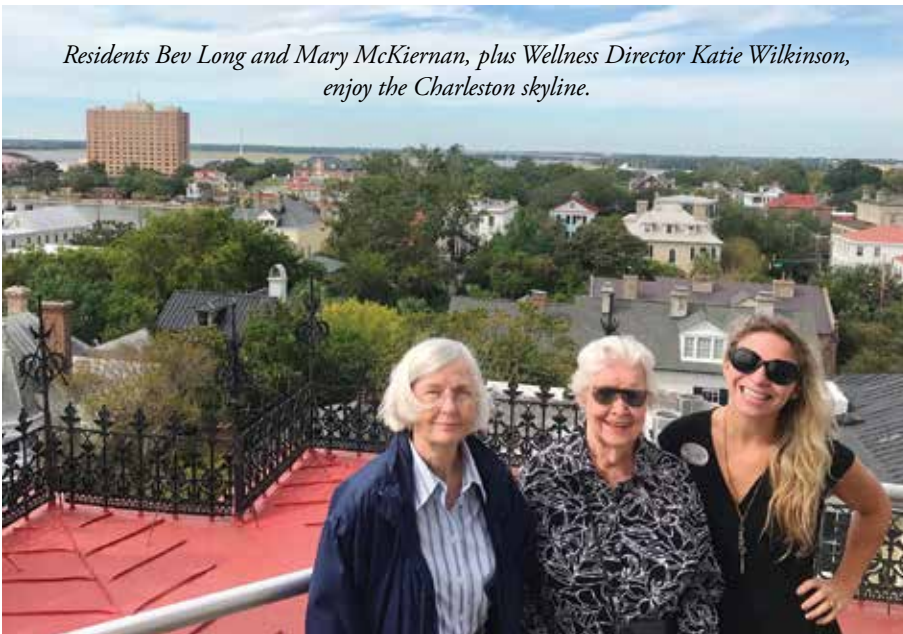
Village representatives delivering Christmas boxes to the VA were (L to R): resident Clif Green, staff members JoAnn McAfee and Karmen Wood, and residents Bev Long and Harriet DaSilva.



All hands are needed on deck to serve residents and guests in a single seating at the annual Christmas dinner. Wait staff pictured serving include (clockwise) Chaplain Achim Daffin, Life Enrichment Director Karmen Wood, Hospital Liaison Leah Johnson, and HR Coordinator Arlene Davis.



Above: Honoring Michael Murray in appreciation of his years of music and volunteerism.



Residents Bev Long and Mary McKiernan, plus Wellness Director Katie Wilkinson, enjoy the Charleston skyline.



The SC Aquarium staff presented a great program, and Peach Boswell made a new friend!



Retired Marine Corps Colonel Karen Williams enjoys her birthday celebration.



Bruce Krucke and Lambert Mills laugh at the Halloween party.



Señora Joyce Bagwell joins in on the Halloween festivities.



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