



Generous Living Update



CHRISTIAN LIVING
COMMUNITIES



August 2018

Volume 29

Purpose through Gardening

Ann joined the Primrose Assisted Living neighborhood at Clermont Park a little over a year ago. When she moved in, she was very reserved. Most days she stayed in her apartment, or occasionally worked



on a puzzle in the family room. She shied away from participating in community life and was nervous to be around others due to her speech.

That's not the Ann of today since ElderGrow, an indoor raised garden with accompanying classes, was introduced to the Primrose and Goldenrod memory support neighborhoods in February. The program was funded thanks to donations.

Each morning, team members fill the watering cans and make sure they are ready to go for Ann. She hasn't missed a day ensuring the myriad of plants receive adequate water so that others can benefit from the beauty and the sensory delights that the garden delivers.

Additionally, Ann, who typically

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Lives Well Lived

Despite being salutatorian of her high school class and receiving a scholarship to college, Barbara Bryant, like many children of the Depression era, didn't go on to college. The same was true for her husband, Art, who after his father died when he was 12, was forced to shoulder the role of man of the house. The War intervened as well.

The Bryants, who were among the first residents of Holly Creek when they moved into a cottage, were life-long learners who believed earnestly in education. They also led value-driven lives, mentions daughter Denise Johnson, with a deep conviction to give back in ways that aligned with those values.

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Our Mission

Christian Living Communities enriches the quality and dignity of life for older adults through services and care that reflect Christian love, respect, and compassion toward each individual.

Expressions of the Heart

Every Monday afternoon for the past year and a half, Clermont Park team member Karol Marquez has been gathering with a small group of residents to teach sign language.



Scholarship Fund to take an online sign language course. She's learned English sign from books, and the online course is in American Sign Language.

"I couldn't stop smiling for a whole week," she says after she learned of the scholarship.

Marquez occasionally "sings" via sign for chapel services in the community. "I would like to do more singing in chapel as everyone has said they enjoy watching me sing."

She also hopes to not only expand her knowledge of sign language, but set up a curriculum to educate other team members and residents so that they can also better communicate with residents.

"Karol is a model employee who fulfills the mission and values of Christian Living Communities every day that she comes to work," shared one colleague. ♦

*The **Employee Scholarship Fund** is supported through donations. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible gift, please contact CLC's Donor Relations Department.*

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A couple of attendees say it helps with their arthritis. Others are interested in keeping their brain engaged by learning something new. One resident is deaf, and another speaks in sign language.

"My goal is to share with the speaking world the beauty of sign language," Marquez says.

In June, Marquez, who joined CLC more than seven years ago as a CNA, was awarded \$500 in tuition assistance through the Employee

Why I Support CLC

My mother, Mabel Smith, moved to Someren Glen Assisted Living in her late nineties. The last few months of her life she spent in the Suites at Someren Glen until she passed away at age 102 in March of 2015. Since that time, I have been a donor to CLC.

We discovered early on that "Christian" was not just in the name of CLC. The word really defined the entire staff's treatment of mother. They gave her dignity, respect and love. They made life as comfortable as possible in the last stages of congestive heart failure.

*Moreover, the staff always made my family feel welcome and that we were never a bother. — **Thomas Smith***

Gifts in Memory and Honor

Christian Living Communities is very grateful to the friends and family who directed support of Christian Living Communities in memory or honor of their loved one. Below are the names in **bold** of those being remembered or honored, as well as those making such gifts, from January 1—June 30, 2018.

IN HONOR

Meindert Bosch

Francisco Sabichi

James Dunbar

Carolyn Dunbar

Donna Hammen

Jill Soronson

Bob Palme

Amy Dorr

Bruce Dines

Lori DeWitt

Betty Frensley

Robert & Shelley Beall

Bob & Nancy Campbell

Buddy Campbell

Brian & Gretchen

Gallaway

Stephen & Page Gray

John & Elaine Walsh

Jan Friend

Lydia Friend

Ana Gutjahr

Harold & Ilene Gutjahr

Harold Haberman

Jean Giles

Patricia Keenan

Mary Keenan

Sue Keenan

William Keenan

Jacqueline Larsen

Lori DeWitt

Francisco Sabichi

Suzy Lee

William & Isy

Voback

Martha Loats

Lori DeWitt

Francisco Sabichi

Curtis & Marilyn

McDonald

Michael McDonald

Bernie Menninga

Lori DeWitt

Francisco Sabichi

Margaret Peterson

Linda Cassaday

Vickie Pollard

Don & Mildred VanWyke

Lee Sheffer

Tom & Lynne

Cavanaugh

Lisa DeChiara

Doris Hale

Kathryn Skinner

Lloyd Steinman

Lori DeWitt

Alva Mae Van Wyk

Jean Giles

Ruth Rosendale

Doris Wieringa

Jerry & Barb Alger

Gary & Jan Bomgaars

Glenn & Doris Boonstra

Marla Wittick

Lori DeWitt

Elysa Wycisk

Jean Giles

IN MEMORY

Clarence Ammons

Francisco Sabichi

James Baker

Linda Baker

Barbara Baldwin

Dennis Baldwin

Melba Beck

Ron & Rhonda Mizeur

Barbara Bryant

Jeff & Cynthia Dohse

Chuck Carlson

Lori DeWitt

Francisco Sabichi

Betsy Casillas

Kristen Carr

Ben Casillas

Betty Frensley

Compassion Circle

Christian Living Communities created the *Compassion Circle* to honor and thank those who remember CLC with a gift in their estate plans.

We are honored to acknowledge these Compassion Circle members:

Anonymous (9)

Philip Benton *

Edward & Cynthia Berghuis

Art & Barbara Bryant *

Cornelia E. Blankvoort *

Gary & Janice Bomgaars

Meindert & Evelyn* Bosch

Charles* & Betty Bosman

Bryon & Heidi Childs

Steve & Sandy Clark

Russ & Judy Den Braber

Dave & Gladys De Ridder

Frank* & Loretta DeWitt

Jim & June Englehorn

Rodney * & Mary E. Ham

Jayne Keller

Milton* & Millie* Kurth

Earl & Carolyn Lammers

Olivia Mayer & Gene Rose

Florence Morrissey

Edward & Kay Schans

Mary Lou Scott

Frank* & Sylvia* Velzen

Bryan & Rachel Vinz

Elaine Westblade

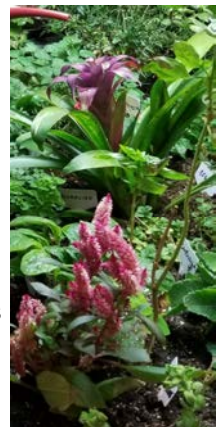
**Deceased*

Did you know that CLC in 2017 helped six qualifying residents in financial need with more than \$93,000 in support?

Purpose through Gardening ...Continued from page 1

didn't leave her apartment, now comes to all of the ElderGrow classes where the instructor, Nicole, provides new ways to care for the garden and also features art, cooking and sensory projects with each class.

Ann now not only champions the garden, as a Masterpiece Living Champion Team Member she encourages neighbors on their successful aging journey and is the resident go-to for any advice on what programs should be added to the calendar. She's the first to sign up for an outing and participates in almost every daily class and community life offering. Her smile shines bright, and her passion for growth and community life exudes.



The garden has done wonders not only for Ann, but for many other residents living in Primrose and Goldenrod neighborhoods. Its success prompted the Suites at Clermont Park to add their own ElderGrow garden, which was made possible by a bequest gift from the Deters family. ♦

To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul.— Alfred Austin

Lives Well Lived ...Continued from page 1

Their philanthropy supported organizations focused on world peace, and easing oppression and poverty, among others. They also extended that support to helping their neighbors throughout Christian Living Communities.



“I think they both understood the extent to which Holly Creek became more than the place they lived, and CLC more than just a landlord,” says Johnson.

They delved into community life serving on various committees. Art even mentored Holly Creek team members.

“As early residents of Holly Creek, they realized how important it was to be a part of a community and how meaningful it was,” says Johnson. “They were so happy here, and they thought highly of the manner in which the mission was being fulfilled.”

Art passed away in October 2013; and Barbara earlier this year, just three days shy of her 97th birthday.

In addition to their ongoing support of CLC while residents, the couple

included Holly Creek and Christian Living Communities in their estate plans. Their bequest benefits the Employee Scholarship Fund, the Resident Assistance Fund and Holly Creek.

Johnson, who continues to volunteer at Holly Creek, says fulfilling their final philanthropic wishes has been a lesson for her in the “joy of giving back to the world.”

“The spirit in which Holly Creek was managed and the mission of CLC to help seniors meant a lot to them,” says Johnson. ♦

If you are interested in learning more about sustaining CLC’s mission by making a gift as part of your estate plans, please contact Olivia Mayer, Director of Donor Relations, at 720.974.3675.

“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.”

Proverbs 11:24-25

Growing Awareness

Christian Living Communities, The South Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce and Project Resource Group (PRG) have teamed up for a collaborative project called **Dementia Inclusive**. The project is a community effort to increase awareness, provide education and create a designation program around dementia.

Dementia Inclusive is a web-based portal that delivers targeted education. The first audience for the program is area businesses so as to educate and equip them with the skills to welcome and include those living with dementia into the general community.

Christian Living Communities has been assembling experts and crafting the educational modules with the support of the Colorado Alzheimer's Association Chapter and Comfort Matters.

However, the business community isn't the only group to benefit. All

CLC families, residents and friends who want to sign-up for education modules will be able to once the portal has been tested, launched and is operational.

Currently six companies have signed up for the beta testing phase, including a large not-for-profit who helps at-risk older adults. From their input, we hope to have the portal ready for launch later this year. For a sneak peek of the website portion of the portal visit www.dementiainclusive.org.

Thank you to the many donors who have made this possible through supporting Rhythms Dementia Services, from which this effort stems. Each dollar not only blesses CLC residents, families and associates but also reaches other families on the dementia journey. ♦



Instead of reaching for your checkbook, perhaps consider whether a Qualified Charitable Distribution might make more sense.

For more information about these gifts, please contact Olivia Mayer at OMayer@clcmail.org or 720.974.3675.

A Hand Up

Thanks to your generosity and support, team members struggling to make ends meet are being helped. Late last year, Christian Living Communities established the Critical Needs Fund to help team members with emergency transportation or housing needs. Less than a year into the program, it's already been a blessing to nine team members and

their families.

Just recently we learned of two CLC team members whose circumstances have been eased.

The first was a Certified Nursing Assistant who is attending nursing school as well as caring for her husband and four children.

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A Hand Up ...Continued from page 6

Their one car was no longer drivable and required repairs totaling more than \$1,000 -- money they didn't have. She was forced to take the bus to work, a trip of three hours daily.

WorkLife Partners, which administers the Fund and provides counseling and assistance to help employees with barriers to work, identified some financial programs and resources that, coupled with the Critical Needs grant, covered the cost for the repairs.

Another team member was struggling to pay rent after her fiancé was laid off from his job. WorkLife helped her develop a budget plan. Again, with a one-time \$500 grant from the Critical Needs Fund and as well as some additional support for her other bills, she was able to make her rent payment.

Both team members were extremely grateful for the assistance. ♦

Help Make our Event a Success

Aged to Perfection featuring the Earthen Vessel Award will be held Oct. 4 at CU South Denver (formerly The Wildlife Experience) and will benefit the Resident Assistance Fund, helping qualifying CLC residents who, through no fault of their own, can no longer afford their care.

The evening features a vibrant silent auction, delicious international food, wine tasting stations, a live jazz band and a short presentation about CLC's Mission, as well as time to honor this year's Earthen Vessel recipient. The theme is *Postcards from Around the World*, tying our international backgrounds into the evening.

Thank you to our presenting sponsors: Compass Group, Lantz-Boggio and Pinkard Construction.



We need your help gathering Silent Auction items such as :

- Gift certificates
- Golf outings
- Mountain getaways
- Pro sports tickets
- Wine for the popular wine pull.

Please contact Lucy Floyd, Donor Relations Coordinator, at 720-974-3642 or lfloyd@clcmail.org.

Thank you!

Aged to Perfection with the Earthen Vessel Award will be held Oct. 4 at CU South Denver, formerly The Wildlife Experience.



Enriching the lives of seniors since 1972.

7000 E. Belleview Ave., Suite 150
Greenwood Village CO 80111



Community Life Hub

Thanks to your generous support as part of the *Helping the Healing* campaign and also The Tank event earlier this year, coupled with interest generated from a large bequest by Frank and Sylvia Velzen, long-term care residents at the Suites at Someren Glen are close to having a dedicated activities space.

Design work has begun, and construction should start soon on the new Community Life Hub. The Hub will be located near the dining room and provides an area dedicated

to activities where residents can experience art, music, cooking and hobbies.

Donations are also paying for arts and crafts supplies, storage, etc.

Someren Glen Life Enrichment Director Beth Corn can't wait for the Hub. "A dedicated space affords us the luxury to be spontaneous and meet the needs of residents on their time."

Plans are to have the room available by the holidays. ♦