



September 2026 — Volume 43

Little Flocks of Happiness

The Impact and Joy of Having Someone to Care For



This spring, something special hatched at CLC. Several fluffy, feathered somethings!

Kind supporters like you made it possible for residents at Clermont Park, Someren Glen, Holly Creek, and Dayspring Villa to take part in a *Hatch the Chick* experience. Each community received an incubator, seven fertilized chicken eggs, and a complete chick-care kit from Blooming Health Farms, thanks to caring gifts to the General Mission Fund.

For weeks, residents and team members carefully monitored their community's eggs. They checked that the incubators had the correct temperature and humidity levels. Some residents prayed over the eggs each day, with blessings that they would grow healthy and strong.

After weeks of love and care, each community got to watch their eggs hatch into fluffy, adorable chicks!

For some residents, watching the chicks brought back cherished memories of growing up on farms or with families that raised chickens. Others experienced the magic of watching new life hatch out of an egg for the very first time.

The newly hatched chicks spent several weeks under the loving care of residents and team members who ensured that they had access to food, water, and adoring human companions. One resident at Dayspring Villa Assisted Living proudly shared "I checked on the chicks three times every day!" Those joyful visits quickly became the highlight of her daily routine.

There are some beliefs, rooted in ageism and ableism, that older adults who need support do not have the ability or desire to give care to others. In fact, to live with wellbeing, all of us need to give as well as receive care. Providing care for others reduces helplessness and increases feelings of connectedness, purpose, and joy.

...[Continued on Page 7](#)

Honoring a Life by Giving Back

A Gift Rooted in Gratitude

For Holly Creek volunteer Bobbie Young, giving in honor of her mother, Eve Cole, is a deeply personal way to carry forward gratitude, compassion, and a shared love of learning.

Today, Bobbie continues that connection as a volunteer, accompanying residents from the Suites on neighborhood walks so they can enjoy the outdoors, stay connected to the Holly Creek community, and visit with friends along the way.

Her volunteer service is one expression of a lifelong commitment to care, connection, and gratitude—values she also carries forward through gifts made in memory of her mother.

Each year, Bobbie honors her mother through charitable gifts to Christian Living Communities. While she supports several funds, the Employee Scholarship Fund holds a special place in her heart because it reflects a value she and her mother shared: the power of education to open doors.

"I give to the Scholarship Fund because my mom was also a teacher, and she encouraged me to become one, too. We both valued education.



Bobbie enjoys a moment of connection with Holly Creek residents

By giving to the Scholarship Fund, I believe I honor my mother."

Honoring Compassion

For Bobbie, education is only part of the story.

"The most important reason I continue to give to the CLC community is the compassionate care my mom received from the nurses and CNAs in Timbers at Holly Creek for eight years. My mother lost her ability to speak clearly after a traumatic brain injury, but her caregivers recognized that she still had a joyful heart. They always found ways to make her smile and laugh. Their devotion, love, and compassion allowed her to live a joyful, meaningful life. Our family will be forever grateful."

Many of those same caregivers are still serving residents at Holly Creek today.

Opening Doors for Others

As an educator, Bobbie believes one of the greatest gifts you can give someone is the opportunity to learn and grow.

That belief was reinforced at this summer's CLC Scholarship Breakfast, where she heard team members share how donor-funded scholarships changed the course of their lives.

One of those stories came from Rhythms Home Care team member Rose Swanson, who recently completed her Certified Nursing Assistant program.

"I was really intimidated going back to school at my age. Turns out the skills I've learned, combined with what I've been doing for the past 24 years caring for others, have shown me that no matter your age or stage of life, if you want it, you can achieve it," Rose shared.

...*Continued on Page 3*

Honoring a Life (continued from page 2)

Since 2019, the Employee Scholarship Fund has awarded more than **\$299,000** to **132 team members** pursuing nursing degrees, certifications, leadership training, administrator licenses, and other educational opportunities. Every scholarship strengthens the future of care for residents and families across Christian Living Communities.

A Legacy That Lives On

Memorial tribute gifts do more than remember someone you love. They carry that person's values forward by investing in the people and programs that mattered most to them.

For Bobbie, every scholarship awarded is a tribute to her mother's love of education—and a way of

saying thank you for the compassionate care that meant so much to her family.

If you're considering a memorial or honorary gift, we'd be honored to help you create a tribute that reflects your loved one's life, values, and the difference they made.



Eve Cole with daughters Annette and Bobbie

You are making a difference...

"Your kindness doesn't just help financially - it reminds me that there are people who believe in my potential. Thank you for making such a meaningful impact on my life."

-Enid Kadema, Licensed Practical Nurse and scholarship recipient

Thank You!

Donor Relations Team



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More Than a Celebration - A Lasting Legacy



Colorado's 150th anniversary has given us a wonderful opportunity to celebrate something we've always believed at Christian Living

Communities: every person has a story worth knowing. This summer, we launched **Our People | Our Legacy**, a special storytelling project that honors residents whose lives have helped shape Colorado, our nation, and countless lives along the way.

The collection highlights extraordinary stories of courage, innovation, service, advocacy, and leadership. Readers will meet a physician who pioneered access to lifesaving dialysis in Colorado, a mother whose determination transformed educational opportunities for children with learning differences, a Vietnam veteran who turned her experience with PTSD into hope for others, and many more remarkable individuals whose impact extends far beyond our communities.

While the project was inspired by the *USA 250 | CO 150* commemoration, its purpose reaches much



Read the Inspirational Story of Jeanne Wilde and her Fight for Equality on Behalf of her Beloved Daughter

deeper. At CLC, we believe people are more than their age or stage of life. Every resident brings a lifetime of experiences,

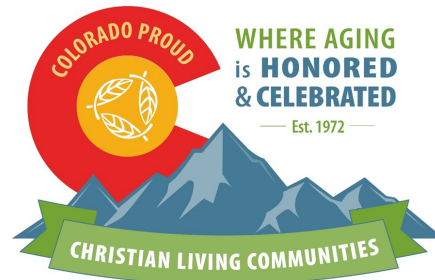
talents, and contributions that continue to enrich our communities today. As President and CEO Jill Vitale-Aussem shared, "Every person has a story worth knowing." When we take the time to truly know one another, we build stronger relationships and stronger communities.

Projects like **Our People | Our Legacy** are possible because of the generosity of donors who believe in our mission. Your support helps create communities where older adults are honored, celebrated, and recognized for the full lives they have lived—and the meaningful contributions they continue to make.

Thank you for helping us preserve these remarkable stories, challenge assumptions about aging, and celebrate the people who have left an enduring legacy for generations to come.

We invite you to explore the collection and discover the extraordinary people behind the history. Please visit our website at

www.ChristianLivingCommunities.org and click on the *Who We Are* tab and then the **Our People | Our Legacy** icon.



Plan Ahead and Save the Dates!

Giving Tuesday is December 1st
Colorado Gives Day is December 8th

Gifts in Memory and Honor

Christian Living Communities is so grateful for the friends and family who direct gifts to CLC 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 February 1, 2026 - August 1, 2026

In Memory

Mildred Angell

Ernie Angell

Ernie Blanchette

Elsie Blanchette

Marilyn Boles

Claudia Myers

Norma Burns

Daryl Burns

Allen and Eve Cole

Bobbie Young

Norma Croak

Larry and Carolyn Strutton

Audrey Dorsett

Robert Dorsett

Art and Marilyn Dykstra

Joel and Mary Gesink

Chaplain Jan Friend

Lydia Friend

Gordon Henderson

Mary Cockerham

Vee Henderson

Joe Jensen

Bruce Jensen

Shirley Johnson

Fran Berry

Edi King

Alice J. Latta

Cyndy McRae

Tina Wise

Dennis F. Jones

Rickie Jones

Dewey Long

Debby Long

Dolores Meader

Cathy Dunwody

Carol Furuta

Ron and Rhonda Mizeur

Marguerite Monson

Regina Mordente

Catherine Mordente

Jane Nagel

Bob Nagel

Connie Nederveld

Thelma Boer

Leah J. Peterson

Dorwin L. Peterson

Clayton Powers

Ken and Carol Hill

Mickie Rogers

Tom and Mary Rogers

Nancy Rogers

Suzanne Fullington

Vera Schum

Ruth Bullene

Bonnie Heit

Byron Shafer

Evy, Randy, and Lisa Shafer

Bill Shelton

D'Ann and Eric Abbott

Jeanne Becay

Nancy Groth

Janet Shelton

Ellen Singleton

Burt and Mary Singleton

Maggie Smith

Karigene Burke

Ellen Snyder

David Geras

Mary Stewart

Shirley Hull

Ivan and Shirley Sweetman

Sally Sweetman

Dennis Valentine

Barbara Shissler

Cynthia Valentine

Nellie Van Maaren

Allen and Beverly Keesen

Andrew Vander Ploeg

Paul and Mary Johnson

Joan Vasil

George Vasil

Marge Vitale

Dave Vitale

Carol Weber

Kathryn Morrow

Garry and Gail Sherman

Rebecca Sherman

Richard Weese

Doris Kats

Virginia Van Stelle

Pete Willis

Rosemary Willis

In Honor

Alexander Becker

Norbert Becker

...Continued on page 7

Colorado Proud. Aged to Perfection.

You Are Warmly Invited!



This fall, we invite you to join us for one of our favorite evenings of the year as we celebrate Colorado's rich heritage while investing in the future of older adults across Christian Living Communities.

On **Thursday, October 1**, friends, donors, residents, and community partners will gather at Holly Creek Life Plan Community for **Colorado Proud. Aged to Perfection**. This special event is inspired by Colorado's 150th anniversary. Together, we'll celebrate the people, flavors, and spirit that make our state so extraordinary while raising critical support for CLC's mission of creating communities where aging is honored and celebrated.

Aged to Perfection

Thursday, October 1
Holly Creek Life Plan Community
5500 E Peakview Ave, Centennial, CO 80121
5:30pm - 8:30pm

\$100 per person - \$75 residents or team members
Mission Partner Opportunities Available

Please register online at **bit.ly/aged-to-perfection-2026** or by scanning the QR Code. For help registering, please contact **Stormie Foust Maley** at **sfoust@clcliving.org** or **720.974.3642**



Guests can look forward to an evening filled with chef-crafted Colorado cuisine, signature Colorado cocktails, wine and beer, an exciting silent auction, as well as a wine and whiskey mystery pull.

Throughout the evening, interactive mission stations will showcase how donor generosity is making a difference in the lives of older adults across our communities—from enriching daily life and expanding innovative programs to providing compassionate care when it's needed most.

Every reservation helps move our mission forward. Whether you've supported CLC for years or are attending for the first time, your participation helps ensure older adults continue to experience lives filled with purpose, connection, dignity, and opportunity.

We hope you'll mark your calendar and celebrate with us as we raise a glass to Colorado's past—and to a future where every older adult is honored, celebrated, and empowered to thrive.

We welcome your donations to the silent auction! If you have event tickets, experiences such as a mountain home, restaurant gift certificates or travel vouchers, or original new artwork or hand crafts, we would greatly appreciate your contacting Stormie by September 8th to make a donation.

CLC Board of Directors

The volunteer CLC Board of Directors is carefully selected for a variety of experiences and skillsets to serve older adults and advise for our future success.

Sandy Clark — <i>Chair</i>	Elizabeth Garner	Amanda Trask
Jill Vitale-Aussem, <i>CEO</i>	Bill Pichè	Kalen Van Maanen
Eric Keesen — <i>Vice Chair</i>	Rick Pilgrim	Lon Welsh
Briana Beasley	John Reinsma	
Eric DenBraber	Jan Roth	

Little Flocks of Happiness (continued from page 1)

After a few weeks, the chicks went back to join the flocks at Blooming Health Farms. But their impact remains. Experiences like *Hatch the Chicken* provide impactful opportunities for older adults to give meaningful care to others.

Your gift to the General Mission Fund will provide more experiences and opportunities that help residents grow. To make a gift today, please use the enclosed envelope or text **CLC** to **50155**.



Bobbie Rue, a resident of Holly Creek, bonding with a chick

Memory and Honor (continued from page 5)

Cal Creacy
Benita Creacy
Ken Davis
Stormie Foust Maley
Beata Dunham
Sarah Lampard
Fred Forseth
Carol Meier
Bob Hampel
Lucy and Andrew Floyd
Rachel Huntsman
Nancy Brady

Erna Lunn
Karigene Burke & Earl Cushman
Ray Mannes
Richard Passoth
Olivia Mayer
Bryan C. Vinz
Christine Powers
Barbara K. Burry
Ken and Carol Hill
Olivia Mayer and Gene Rose
Laura and Jerry Peterson
Abigail and Alfred Pfeiffer

Chaplains Robert Smith and Cindy Simpson
Jan Holman and Family
Our Terrific Team Members
Ed and Pat Van Bramer

Thank you to the supporters who paid tribute to those they hold dear.

Unless otherwise directed, gifts are designated to specific communities to provide opportunities for purpose, growth, and joy.



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Stay Connected!

For questions, or to update your communications preferences, including opting out, please contact Donor Relations:

Email: donate@clcliving.org
Phone: 720.974.3642

Our Vision: Creating Communities Where Aging is Honored and Celebrated

What It Means to be a *Faithful Friend*

If you've been to one of our events in the last two years, you may have noticed a "Faithful Friends" ribbon attached to plenty of nametags – maybe even your own – and wondered what it meant.

Faithful Friends is our way to recognize the incredible group of supporters who either give to CLC monthly or who have given every year for at least five years.

Whether they're able to give a little or a lot, these wonderful supporters show up faithfully to support our mission. Some of our *Faithful Friends* have given every single year for *decades*. And that support adds up to a big impact over time.

CLC is truly blessed to call nearly 300 supporters *Faithful Friends*. Their generous, ongoing support makes a huge difference. When you include CLC as part of your regular giving plan, it allows us to plan ahead and invest with greater confidence in opportunities that benefit residents and team members, such as training in new approaches to dementia care.

"Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter; whoever finds one has found a treasure."

-Book of Sirach, 6:14



The next time you see that blue *Faithful Friends* ribbon, we hope you will wear it with pride. Thank you for showing up for our mission, not just today, but year after year. It means more than we can possibly say.