

cm

COMMUNITY MATTERS

fall / 2023

CELEBRATING
VETERANS
IN LIFESPIRE
COMMUNITIES

Pg. 14

PG. 10

The Culpeper's 75th Jubilee

CELEBRATING THE MILESTONE OF
75 YEARS OLD, 4 YEARS YOUNG

LifeSpire
of Virginia
Faith. Wellness. Community.

Contents

INSIDE THE FALL ISSUE

4

A Harvest To Remember: The Glebe's Apple Festival

8

The Summit Roaring Twenties-Themed 20th Anniversary Celebration

10

The Culpeper 75th Anniversary

14

Celebrating Veterans in LifeSpire Communities

22

Growing Together: The Story of Lakewood's Gardens

26

LifeSpire's Continuing Care at Home Program to Expand

28

Resident Spotlight: Judy Hart



31

End-of-the-Year Checklist

32

Honor Tree Gifts

34

Smart Ways to Give Before 2023 Ends



Board of Trustees

REV. DAN CARLTON, **CHAIR**
Culpeper, Va.

REV. NELSON HARRIS, **VICE CHAIR**
Roanoke, Va.

J. MATTHEW SCOTT, **SECRETARY**
Chesterfield, Va.

JAMES BALES
Newport News, Va.

SHARON BROOKS
Richmond, Va.

DR. VALERIE CARTER-SMITH
Henrico, Va.

R. SCOTT CAVE
Richmond, Va.

DR. TIFFANY FRANKS
Danville, Va.

JOHN JUNG
Manakin Sabot, Va.

SALLIE MARCHELLO
Hampton, Va.

ARNE OWENS
Henrico, Va.

DR. PAM PARSONS
Chester, Va.

JIM POATS
Lynchburg, Va.

JOHN POMA
Glen Allen, Va.

SUSAN RUCKER
Midlothian, Va.

GARY THOMSON
Richmond, Va.

JIM VAUGHT
Land O' Lakes, Fl.

Leadership

JONATHAN COOK
President and CEO

TRACEY JENNINGS
Chief Operating Officer

CHRIS MARKWITH
Chief Financial Officer

LISA LEGEER
Chief Strategy and Integration Officer

PETER ROBINSON
Chief Marketing Officer

JODI LEONARD
Vice President of VBH Foundation

TAMMY ARNETTE
Editor-in-Chief

ELIZABETH NEWPORT
Graphic Designer



A HARVEST TO REMEMBER

The Glebe's Apple Festival

Celebrating the flavors and rhythms
of fall, over 200 attendees relished
apple-infused cuisine, live bluegrass
and captivating tales



T

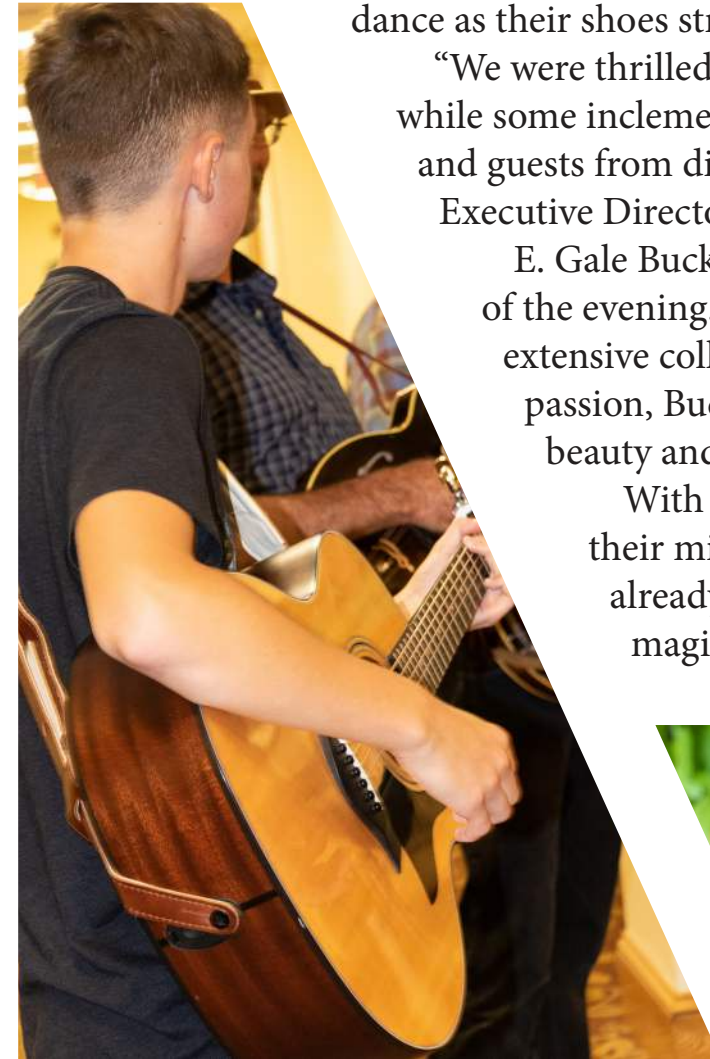
he Glebe hosted its highly anticipated Apple Festival in September, drawing a crowd of more than 200 residents and guests. The surroundings were transformed as the community was thoughtfully decorated with apple and fall themes, giving the event a warm and festive ambiance.

As attendees arrived, they were met with the aroma of a sumptuous meal. Guests were treated to culinary

dishes such as baked brie with apple chutney and a rich citrus apple-stuffed pork loin, drizzled with a Calvados apple brandy sauce. Dinner was topped off with a traditional apple pie and a refreshing apple cider bar.

Downstairs from the main dining hall, the air was filled with the sounds of live music. Guests tapped their feet and swayed to the tunes of the Trinity Tree Bluegrass group, which masterfully performed songs deeply rooted in the Appalachian tradition.

Another highlight was in The Glebe's Botetourt room. The Youth Clogging Troupe of A1 Studio, under the guidance of dance instructor and owner Amanda Burns, took center stage. They wowed residents with their rhythmic, percussive



dance as their shoes struck the floor in harmonious beats.

"We were thrilled to hold the apple festival rain or shine, and while some inclement weather rolled in, it did not keep residents and guests from dining and enjoying the live entertainment," said Executive Director for The Glebe, Ellen D'Ardenne.

E. Gale Buck, an award-winning storyteller, was another star of the evening. He captivated the audience with tales from his extensive collection. Delivering his stories with unmistakable passion, Buck's goal is to share narratives that illuminate the beauty and wonder embedded in our everyday lives.

With the success of this year's festival still fresh in their minds, both team members and residents are already filled with anticipation, eager to bring the magic alive once more next year.



THE SUMMIT ROARING TWENTIES-THEMED 20TH | ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Summit, located at the foot of the stunning Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, recently celebrated its 20th anniversary, marking two decades of exceptional care and service to residents. To make this special occasion even more memorable, the community held a roaring twenties-themed event in August.

The dining room was transformed into an elegant 1920s era setting, complete with black and gold decor, glittery tablescapes and party favors. The residents and team members arrived dressed in their finest 1920's-inspired attire.

The evening began with champagne toasts to honor The Summit's 20th anniversary. Residents, family members and team members all raised their glasses to the community's continued success.

"We are thrilled to celebrate 20 years of serving senior residents at the Summit," said The Summit's Resident Life Manager, Tiffany Coffey. "Tonight's festivities are not only about commemorating The Summit's enduring presence in the Lynchburg community, but celebrating our team members for their tireless efforts and our residents for the joy they bring to our community every day."

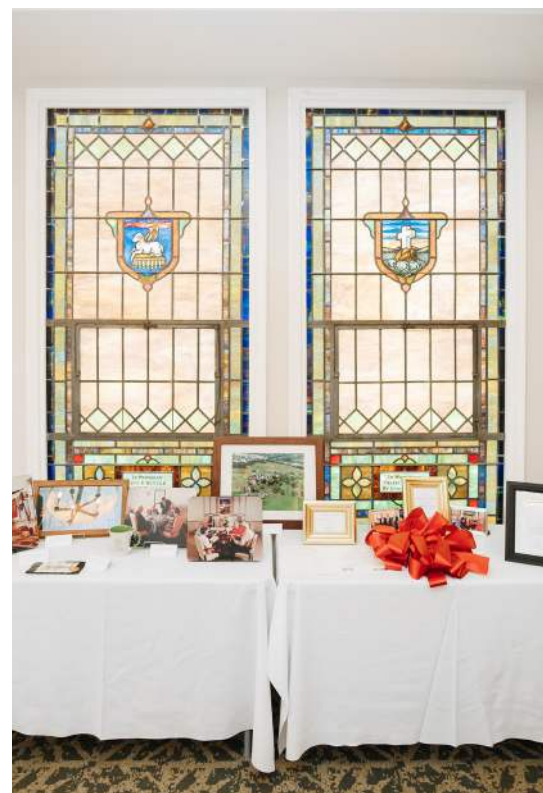
Guests were served scrumptious Oysters Rockefeller, stuffed mushroom appetizer, French mushroom soup, shrimp cocktail, filet mignon and lobster tail, duchess potatoes, asparagus and decadent bite-sized desserts. The service was top-notch, with team members attending to guests' every need.

At the event, Chief Operation Officer for LifeSpire of Virginia, Tracey Jennings, introduced The Summit's new Executive Director, Kristi Martin with a champagne toast. Martin, previously with Centra Health, brings a wide array of senior living, nursing and leadership experience.

As the night progressed, live jazz music from the Piedmont Jazz Quartet, delicious food and dancing filled the dining room. From classic tunes to contemporary jazz, the music lifted the spirits of everyone at the celebration.

President and CEO of LifeSpire of Virginia, Jonathan Cook, recognized The Summit for two decades of exceptional care and service to residents and exciting opportunities for future growth.





*The Culpeper
Celebrates 75 Years of
Compassionate Care
and Growth*



75th ANNIVERSARY

The Culpeper celebrated its 75th anniversary with a jubilee to honor its rich history as the Culpeper Baptist Home. The celebration highlighted the legacy of Dr. J.T. Edwards and his vision for a Christ-centered home to care for aging adults, along with the generosity of members of the Culpeper Baptist Church, to establish the community in Culpeper.

Carrie Millman, a member of Culpeper Baptist Church and a widow in her seventies, offered her home in 1948 in return for the care of her daughter Miss Louise W. Millman, her sister Miss Lillian Sweeney and herself. It served as a temporary location for LifeSpire of Virginia and set the standard for outstanding care, programs and services for seniors.



Today, the road leading to the new Hillside Cottage neighborhood at The Culpeper, is named Millman Circle in her honor. These cottages are exquisite, maintenance-free homes, a fitting tribute to the legacy of care that began in a widow's home on Main Street 75 years ago.

"We don't work here, we serve here. The residents serve each other. We all serve as a family," said Director of Marketing for The Culpeper, Rose Meeks Ervin. "Our



reputation is built on qualities like trust, integrity, faith in God and each other."

Vernelle Hicks Paul, a former nurse for the Millman House, attended the celebration as a special guest of honor. "Mrs. Paul is the only known living team member from the Millman House," said Executive Director for The Culpeper, Jim Jacobson. "She worked as a nurse for for nearly nine years between the Millman house and original Culpeper Baptist Home building. Vernelle shares stories with me of what went on back in the day."

The Culpeper Baptist Home, which initially opened its doors in 1951 at its current site with a picturesque view overlooking the Blue Ridge Mountains, has been completely transformed. In 2019, it underwent a complete replacement, renovation, and expansion, marking a new chapter in its history of compassionate care.

President and CEO of LifeSpire of Virginia Jonathan Cook addressed attendees at the Jubilee and highlighted the growth of the organization. "Today we cater to the needs of 1,600 residents within the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Cook. "Over the past eight years, we invested \$250 million in our communities and we are well-positioned for the future."

As part of The Culpeper's 75th jubilee festivities, attendees were treated to a lavish spread of delectable food and beverages. The celebration was further enriched with live music, guided bus tours to Millman Circle, and an impressive display of memorabilia in the chapel.



Celebrating VETERANS

In LifeSpire Communities



*Chuck Geiger,
Veteran at The Glebe*

Chuck Geiger, resident at The Glebe, boasts a commendable military background. Born into a Marine Corps family and raised on its bases, Geiger embarked on a journey that began at the Marine Corps Boot Camp in Parris Island, South Carolina. He then honed his expertise in a mechanics course in Jacksonville, Florida, preparing him for his eventual selection as a Marine Aviation Cadet (MARCAD).

In his tenure as a Marine Aviator, Geiger undertook two tours in Vietnam, specifically in Da Nang and Chu Lai, totaling a staggering 477 combat missions. He skillfully piloted a range of aircraft, from the F4 Phantom II fighter jet to the F-18 and other notable USMC planes.

His service didn't stop there. His impressive list of duty stations encompasses:

- Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, North Carolina



- Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina
- A unique stint as an exchange pilot with the Royal Air Force at RAF Leuchars, Scotland
- Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan
- Headquarters Marine Corps, wearing the hat of an Aviation Safety Officer
- Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, where he served in the Aviation Warfare School and as executive officer of Station Operations
- An engineering stint at Marine Corps Air Facility Quantico, Virginia
- Office of the Secretary of Defense,



he stood as the Marine Corps Liaison to COMNAVAIRLANT, Commander Naval Air Force Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia

Geiger's illustrious career saw him ascend to roles such as the Deputy Commander and Commander of Naval Space Command in Dahlgren, Virginia. He commanded the VMFA 451, an F4 squadron and the MAG-15, a USMC

fighter group stationed in Iwakuni, Japan. When he drew the curtain on his service in June 1992, Geiger had dedicated 30 years, four months, and fourteen days to the United States Marine Corps.

Adorning his uniform were numerous accolades. Colonel Geiger was awarded the Legion of Merit with two gold stars, the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star with Combat V, the Defense Meritorious Medal, the Air Medal with Numeral 22, the Vietnamese Service

Medal adorned with four stars and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

Transitioning from the military, Geiger pivoted to the Information Technology sector. With entrepreneurial spirit, he and his wife Carole launched a consulting firm, offering services in organizational leadership and professional development across several states.

The Fincastle community warmly embraced Chuck and Carole after the couple became enamored with

the region during a 1997 vacation. They acquired a historic early 1800s estate, “The Olde Manse,” and actively participated in community endeavors, notably with The Kiwanis Club of Botetourt and Historic Fincastle, Inc.

Having globe-trotted and relocated multiple times, their move to The Glebe marked a significant milestone: their 41st relocation as a couple.



Chuck Geiger,
View from home at The Glebe



William Charles, resident at The Chesapeake, is a retired Second Lieutenant with the United States Army Air Corps. At just 18 years of age, a mere few months after his high school graduation, Charles took to the skies by enrolling in the aviation cadet program.

Charles recalls the events that spurred his decision. “When I saw what happened in Pearl Harbor, I knew what was next,” he



remarked. Determined to take control of his destiny, he continued, “I didn’t want to be drafted so I enlisted.”

His enlistment wasn’t without its challenges. Charles undertook the demanding task of learning to navigate aircraft like the A-26 Invader and the B-26 Marauder. The latter earned the nickname of the “widowmaker” due to the high rate of accidents occurring during take-offs and landings.

Over the course of his service, Charles found himself leading some of the most dangerous missions, navigating complex situations and

battling challenging terrain. His compelling journey recently caught the attention of WTVR CBS6’s Greg McQuade. An in-depth interview, including a television segment detailing Charles’ experiences and insights is available for viewing here:



<https://bit.ly/3ZPU1A2>

This year marked yet another milestone for Charles. Surrounded by loved ones, he celebrated his 100th birthday on August 12th at The Chesapeake.





Lakewood resident Ken Hitchens embarked on a significant journey of service when he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1967. For three years, the Lieutenant dedicated his active duty to the USS Valor, MSO 472 minesweeper. His role encompassed a diverse array of responsibilities, reflecting the multifaceted nature of life on this extraordinary vessel.

During his time in the Navy, Hitchens was involved in various joint North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) exercises, short training missions,

and critical missions aimed at locating, removing, detonating and deactivating marine mines. Beyond these vital duties, he carried the weight of leadership, overseeing thirty sailors and petty officers aboard the ship.

Hitchens's role was not confined to a single department; rather, he wore many hats. From managing supply chain logistics to ensuring the provision of food services, and from participating in the intricate task of minesweeping activities to coordinating refueling operations, Hitchens found himself navigating a multitude

of responsibilities. He also took charge of supervising weapon gunnery exercises, adding another layer of complexity to his duties.

"A small ship was a great way to get a lot of opportunities and responsibility that would not have been available on a larger ship," said Hitchens. "I met extraordinary people and as most others would agree, it was a pivotal experience in my life at 23 years of age."

What made his experience particularly unique was the setting of a minesweeper, a relatively compact vessel compared to larger ships in the Navy. The USS Valor measured 175 feet in length and had a beam of 35 feet. It sported a distinctive wooden hull and was powered by four aluminum diesel engines, all designed to maintain a low magnetic signature. The ship featured an "open bridge," exposed to the elements except

for a canvas awning and plexiglass windscreen. Its propellers, notably large for its size, were variable pitch, akin to airplane propellers.

Hitchens's daily responsibilities included working in the supply department where he was tasked with managing repair parts, consumables

and special clothing. Simultaneously, he took on the role of managing the galley, overseeing the cooks and ensuring the smooth operation of both the enlisted and officers' mess.

Hitchens also shouldered the duty of standing deck watch at sea and commanded duty

when the ship was in port. The comprehensive nature of his responsibilities was a testament to the versatility demanded by life aboard a minesweeper.



*Ken Hitchens,
Veteran at Lakewood*





Elisha Phil Sanders, resident at The Summit, spent more than two decades of his life in the United States Air Force, with much of his tenure spent soaring the skies. The Lieutenant Colonel's passion for aviation, however, almost hit turbulence early on due to a minor health concern: a tooth cavity. Yet, once resolved, nothing deterred Sanders from pursuing his dream. He was determined to report to duty and learn to fly.

Born and raised on a Kansas farm, Sanders spent his days divided between familial duties and memorable rides on his cherished horse, Dolly.



Though the agricultural life had its charms, Sanders had one goal in mind. He had a strong desire to fly.

To align with his aspiration, Sanders dedicated his final high school years to the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), setting the foundation for his future aerial adventures. His ROTC tenure was initially with the U.S. Army Air Corps, the precursor to the modern U.S. Air Force.

The aeronautical world welcomed Sanders with a six-engine jet, initiating his flying career. Over time, he mastered the controls of diverse

aircraft like the B47, K97 and C47, accumulating an impressive 5,000 flying hours. Among the array of planes Sanders piloted, the C130, a robust four-engine turbojet, holds a special place in his heart.

"I learned a lot," Sanders reflected with a gleam in his eye. "I loved flying the C130. I loved that bird. It was fun." He elaborated on the thrill of managing the C130's reverse prop, enabling the plane to land on abbreviated runways, and how he felt an unparalleled connection when piloting it. Sanders proudly mentions the U.S. Air Force's trust in the C130, retaining it for 80 years, surpassing other aircraft in longevity.

As Sanders neared retirement, he officially hung up his flight wings and finished his career serving in a logistics role at The Pentagon.

The
SUMMIT



In 1944, freshly graduated Magna Cum Laude from Union College, Virginia Walczak took the significant step of enlisting in the United States Marine Corps. Her father's legacy as a marine and World War I veteran was a guiding beacon. Inspired by his service, Walczak felt a natural inclination to continue the family's commitment to the military.

Though she began her professional journey as a mathematics teacher, the Marine Corps had other plans for Sargeant Walczak. Instead of teaching math, she was tasked with teaching grammar via correspondence courses to



young men battling the front lines during World War II.

As she delved deeper into her military experience, she recalled the uncertainty of her service duration. "At enlistment, I was told I would serve as long as the United States was at war," she shared. Yet, despite the potential risks, Walczak's commitment remained unshaken. "I felt no hesitation," she remarked when probed about her feelings on enlisting during a tumultuous wartime.

A memory etched in Walczak's heart is that of 1945. While stationed in the District of Columbia (DC), she witnessed an outpouring of joy and relief. As news of World War II's end unfurled, the streets of DC were alive with ecstatic crowds, dancing and rejoicing in the hard-fought peace. It was a moment of collective celebration, marking the culmination of personal sacrifices made by individuals like Walczak.

Her story recently caught the attention of WTVR CBS6's Greg McQuade. An in-depth interview, including a television segment detailing Virginia's experiences and insights is available for viewing here:



<https://bit.ly/3Q1uFMB>

THE CULPEPER
A Continuing Care Retirement Community for All Levels of Care

GROWING TOGETHER

The story of
Lakewood's
gardens



Dean Decker,
Resident at Lakewood

Over the past five-plus years, Lakewood's gardens have undergone a significant transformation. It all began with a vision from resident Dean Decker. He imagined a space where gardening was not restricted by age or physical abilities. With his idea of raised garden beds, he wanted to ensure accessibility for all residents. Now, 100 such beds dot the landscape, with some innovative designs such as the arc-shaped bed that further minimizes physical strain.



Today, approximately 65-70 dedicated resident gardeners tend to a plethora of plants. The range is impressive, from juicy grapes and strawberries to aromatic peppers and

vibrant daylilies. When the fruits of their labor are ready, Dean, acting as the unofficial gardener-in-chief, gathers the produce and distributes it at the community's front



Lakewood's
Greenhouse

desk. This way, the fresh, organic produce becomes a shared treasure, enjoyed by both team members and fellow residents. As for the flowers, their vibrant hues and fragrances are collected into beautiful bouquets, brightening up communal spaces and serving as a daily reminder of nature's bounty.

An antique hand plow stands sentinel at the garden's entrance. This relic, once used by an early Lakewood gardener, now symbolizes the rich history of cultivation on this land. For Dean, the gardens are an extension of his identity. Drawing from childhood



memories on a mid-western farm and supported by his academic pursuits in botany at the University of Richmond, Dean's influence

on the garden is notable. But Lakewood's gardens are more than just a space for plants. They've evolved into community



classrooms. Here, stories are swapped, techniques are shared and generations connect over the simple joys of planting and nurturing.

Moreover, the gardens have become an emblem of holistic well-being. They promote physical exercise, provide therapeutic benefits

and serve as serene retreats for residents and team members of Lakewood.



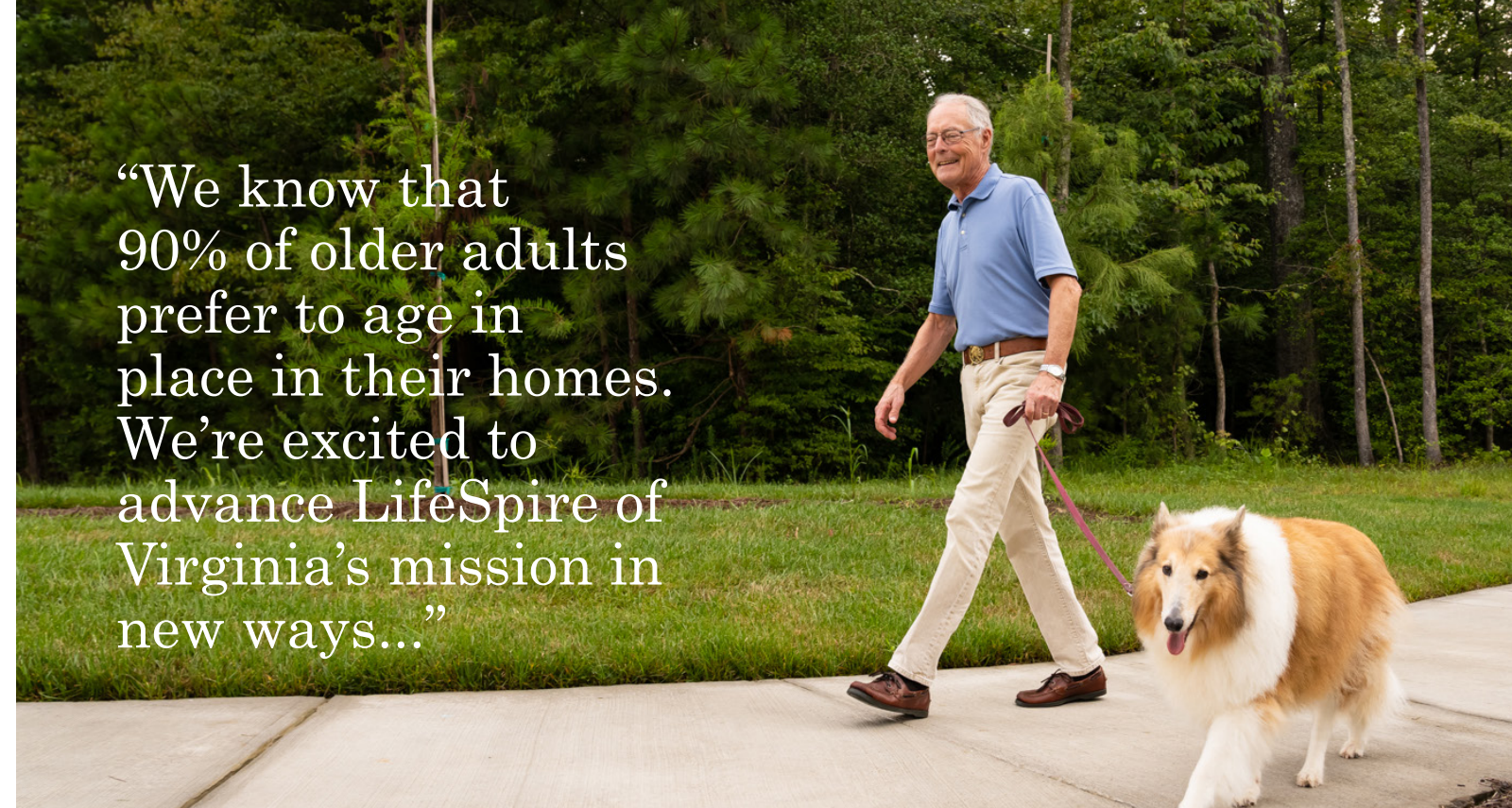
Dean Decker



Five years ago, the leadership of LifeSpire of Virginia chose to take the mission statement of “empowering individuals with choices in purposeful living” beyond the boundaries of our first-class Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRC) by launching a Continuing Care at Home (CAAH) program known as Lakewood at Home. Since the program began in 2019, Lakewood at Home has allowed more than 130 people to remain at home while protecting their assets from the rising costs of long-term care. These members have found peace of mind knowing that they can rely on professional care coordination and the quality care provided through the program, instead of burdening family and friends with the task of coordinating and providing for their long-term care needs.

Dr. Hilton Almond, the first member to join Lakewood at Home, shared why he embraced the program from the start. “Well actually it was a no brainer. I think that when you’re in your home that you’ve lived in for many years, I think that’ll extend our life expectancy. Because we’re happy and because we’re in a place we love and a place that’s so comfortable for us.”

Similar to others who joined, he was proactively planning for the probable need of care in the future, but he wasn’t interested in moving to a retirement community. Other members joined knowing that there was a possibility, or even a certainty, that they wanted to move into independent living in a



“We know that 90% of older adults prefer to age in place in their homes. We’re excited to advance LifeSpire of Virginia’s mission in new ways...”

retirement community in the future. The program’s bridge options allow a member of the program to receive discounts on a future move to independent living at one of LifeSpire’s premier communities.

Bill Lee, membership counselor for the CCAH program, explains, “What is most appealing about the program is that it keeps all your options on the table. While designed to support members who wish to remain in their homes, circumstances can change or you may simply have a change of heart, and the bridge options are a great example of the program’s ability to adapt to those changing needs and wants. Lakewood at Home has already had three couples bridge to independent living at Lakewood.”

While the bridge option discounts are only available for those who later move into a LifeSpire community, the program also includes a portability provision allowing members to move to other communities in

Virginia or any place in the US where quality care is available through partnering home care agencies and senior living communities.

Personalized, quality care is the goal of the program. We have continually achieved that goal through our personal care coordination. “We are able to design a care plan that fits the exact needs of each of our members, and our ongoing goal is to provide interventions early on in a condition or illness, so that we give the greatest chance of recovery and wellness to our members,” says Marygrace Cantilo, one of the program’s care coordinators.

Executive Director of the CCAH program, Tammy Mackey states, “We have a rigorous underwriting process for prospective members, so the time to join is while you’re still healthy. However, when unexpected illnesses, falls and surgeries occur after a member joins the program, we are there to walk with our members through

each of those situations. Over the last four years this has included anything from temporary care provided for one day after a surgery to several weeks of care after a fall or a stroke, as well as many individualized care schedules in between. We have also provided care on a more permanent basis, from a couple of days a week to support a member remaining at home independently, to permanent long-term care at one of our sponsoring communities when it is no longer safe for a member to stay in their home.”

Now, LifeSpire of Virginia is delighted to announce the expansion of our CCAH program. In September of this year, the State Corporation Commission gave LifeSpire of Virginia approval to take the program to areas outside of the greater Richmond area where our other continuing care retirement communities (CCRC) will join Lakewood in sponsoring the comprehensive program.

“We know that 90% of older adults prefer to age in place in their homes. We’re excited to advance LifeSpire of Virginia’s mission in new ways and we anticipate that many older adults in Virginia will take advantage of the opportunity to join the CCAH program now that we are expanding beyond the metro Richmond area,” said President and CEO of LifeSpire of Virginia, Jonathan Cook.

For more information call us at 804-420-1952 or visit our website at lakewoodathome.org.

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT:

JUDY HART



*Judy Hart, Author
and Resident at Lakewood*

Judy Hart, resident at Lakewood, has dedicated her life to advocacy and public service. Hart says she is forever inspired by her late grandfather, a prominent figure in Kansas and Missouri. “He said if you want anything done, you have to go straight to the president,” said Hart. A valuable lesson that continues to guide her today.

Hart’s passion for public service led her to Cornell University, where

she pursued a major in arts. Eager to broaden her horizons, she embarked on a European adventure at the age of 22, immersing herself in different cultures and expanding her worldview. It was during her time as a Public Service Relocation Specialist for the Boston Redevelopment Authority that she discovered her voice and unwavering commitment to public service.

As Hart’s career progressed, she joined the National Park Service as a legislative specialist and superintendent, playing a pivotal role in establishing the Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York and the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California.

The culmination of Hart’s lifelong journey occurred in July 1982 when the Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, was officially inaugurated. The celebration and dedication drew over 5,000 attendees and Hart proudly took the stage to announce the new park initiative. She convinced celebrity Alan Alda, renowned television star from M.A.S.H., to perform the ribbon-cutting at the new park.

“Unlike traditional parks, this “idea” park focused on historical events rather than specific buildings or natural landscapes,” said Hart. More idea parks were later created honoring significant historical events such as The Rosie the Riveter Park and the Underground Railroad.



Throughout her career, she learned the value of persistence. The park was only given \$5,000 in funding to get started. Hart knew she had to move to Seneca Falls to keep the park going, where she would later become the founding director.

Hart's story of advocacy, persistence and inspiration to others is remarkable. Her life has been and continues to be dedicated to public service. A book written in partnership with Cornell University about Hart's life, career and advocacy work has been published and is available on Amazon.

The book is available on Amazon here:

<https://amzn.to/3rMfkY0>



Watch the WTVR CBS6 story of Judy Hart here:

<https://bit.ly/3RUvBVt>



TIME TO CHECK YOUR *End-of-Year List*

MAKE A GIFT

Make a gift to the VBH Foundation

Honor a loved one on your holiday gift list by making a gift to the VBH Foundation. We'll send a card notifying the recipient, and you'll get that warm-fuzzy feeling of helping a senior in need – a lot better than a fruitcake!

JOIN

Join our Monthly Giving Circle!

You can make an even bigger impact with your gift by joining the Monthly Giving Circle! A commitment to giving every month helps to sustain available funding for seniors in need, while also helping to lower our costs, as you will not receive future solicitations.

ELIMINATE INCOME TAX

Eliminate income tax on your mandatory IRA

Make a gift to the VBH Foundation directly from your IRA and take advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover. This gift will also count towards the donor's required minimum distribution (RMD).

Gifts can be made using the enclosed envelope, or with a credit card through our secure online form at lifespireliving.org/give. Please contact the Foundation office at 804-521-9213 for information or assistance.

HONOR TREE



“Much to my relief, our community’s Benevolent Fund came to my rescue! It provides a subsidy which gives me security and peace of mind. I continue to offer my sincere appreciation for these blessings!”

You can give your tribute gift by visiting our website: <https://lifespireliving.org/give/honor-tree> or by using the enclosed envelope. If you have any questions, please contact the Foundation at 804-521-9213.

Every year, the Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation sponsors an Honor Tree in each LifeSpire of Virginia community. An ornament is placed on the community tree for every donation made to the VBH Foundation in 2023 in memory of or in honor of a loved one. It’s a wonderful way to remember someone special in your life.

Your tribute gifts help people like Barbara, who moved into her community

after a lifetime well spent serving the Baptists throughout Virginia alongside her husband, a Baptist pastor. He passed away shortly after, and due to factors beyond her control, Barbara’s retirement savings were not able to keep pace with the rising cost of living. She was worried that she would be unable to stay in her home of over 20 years, but thanks to generous donors to the Benevolent Fund, she still calls her LifeSpire community home.

Four Smart Ways to Give Before 2023 Ends

Would you like to finish this year with a gift that maximizes your impact and reduces your taxes? Consider the four smart options here:

1

Make an Immediate Difference

When you support the Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation or any of our communities by simply writing a check, you make great things happen and may receive a federal income tax charitable deduction. If you itemize, you can write off the amount you're donating, resulting in lower taxable income. Unsure of whether your gift is tax-deductible? Contact your financial advisor or tax consultant.

Did you know? Your envelope must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year.

2

Use Appreciated Securities

By donating appreciated securities that you have owned for longer than one year, you receive the same income tax savings as you would by making a gift of cash. You also eliminate any tax on the appreciation.

Did you know? If the securities are electronically transferred to the VBH Foundation, the gift date is the day the securities enter our account—not the date you ask your broker to make the transfer.

The Countdown Is On

As we approach the end of the year, we are happy to help ensure that you realize the greatest benefit for your kindness. Please contact Jodi Leonard at (804) 521-9213 or jleonard@lifespireliving.org.

3

Contribute to Your Donor Advised Fund (DAF)

Add funds to an existing DAF or open a new one by a written agreement at a community foundation or sponsoring organization.

You qualify for a tax deduction when you make a gift to a DAF, without immediately having to choose the organizations you want to support. If you are ready to start making an impact with your DAF, consider recommending a grant (or recurring grants) to support the VBH Foundation.


Did you know?

4

Make a Gift From Your IRA


If you are 70½ or older, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to the VBH Foundation. (Note: This amount will be higher in subsequent years to adjust for inflation.) You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are required to take minimum distributions, you can use your gift to satisfy all or part of your obligation. Your IRA administrator must remove the funds from your account by Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year.

Did you know? If you have check-writing features on your IRA, your check must clear your account by Dec. 31 to count toward your required minimum distribution for the calendar year.



J.T. Edwards Society
Leaving a Legacy of Benevolence

Legacy Giving



Take the time to learn more about enhancing your own financial plans, as well as benefiting seniors in need with your generosity. You can help by including the VBH Foundation or a specific LifeSpire community in your will or estate plans. For more information, visit our website:

<http://vbh.planmylegacy.org>



Faith. Wellness. Community.

3961 STILLMAN PARKWAY
GLEN ALLEN, VIRGINIA 23060

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
WAYNESBORO VA
PERMIT 129

five communities. one vision.



WHERE FAITH, WELLNESS AND COMMUNITY FLOURISH.

LifeSpire of Virginia's five communities offer many choices of apartments and homes in beautiful and inviting settings along with access to continuing care as needed. The Lakewood at Home program enables members to age in place, regardless of location. Take advantage of the security of knowing the future is well planned in an atmosphere where faith, wellness and community flourish.



The Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation is the philanthropic arm of LifeSpire and provides support to residents and team members through its four funds—benevolence, crisis, education and spiritual life.



TO LEARN MORE, CALL (804) 521-9214 OR VISIT LIFESPIRELIVING.ORG