



# HERALD *of* HOPE

CHRISTIAN CARE CENTERS

Vol 2, Issue 3

October 2006



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*On the cover:*

Mattie Buckelew,

27 ½ - Year CCC Resident

## HONORING COMMITMENT

*Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve. 1 Peter 5:2*

As my tenure with Christian Care Centers matures, so also does my understanding of the heart and compassion required to create loving housing and service environments for seniors. Brick and mortar, alone, are oftentimes classified as empty vacant buildings when they lack one component ... PEOPLE. People comprise the essential elements of life that are generated when people live and work together toward a common goal. The combination of buildings, land, and LIFE is what makes up the society we call Christian Care Centers.

This edition of Herald of Hope celebrates individuals who have dedicated much of their lives to serving seniors by sharing their expertise, kindness, and God-given talents, thereby honoring their commitment to - "shepherd God's flock as overseers."

Our residents, Board, and staff help complete the circle necessary to turn life's routine days into lasting memories filled with laughter, tears, and reflective moments. Our residents, Board, and staff give life and purpose to our Mission.

Our charge is clear, and Christian Care Centers family members serve not because they must, but because they are willing - just as God wants them to be. "They are not greedy for money, they are just eager to serve." We feel fortunate to be in such a position and are grateful to serve.

God's blessings to each of you,



Phil Elmore



# CAROL CRISP: TRUSTEE

## *WELCOME ABOARD*

Being familiar with Christian Care Centers for many years (having 5 family members as residents in various Christian Care Centers' communities in three levels of care: retirement, assisted living, and long term nursing care over the years), it was quite appropriate that the Board of Trustees of Christian Care Centers proudly announced that Mrs. Carol A. Crisp became a Trustee earlier this year. Mrs. Crisp has demonstrated a "lifetime" of service to her church as well as other benevolent ministries in the areas of children, education, and the elderly.

Mrs. Crisp graduated from Paschal High School in Fort Worth, and received a Bachelor of Arts from Abilene Christian University and the University of Texas in Music. She has been a private piano teacher for 45 years and is certified by the Music Teachers National Association. Mrs. Crisp is a current member of, and has served as officer and an adjudicator for national, state, and local music teachers associations.

An active member of Highland Oaks Church of Christ, she has taught children's Bible classes for 30 years and authored the curriculum for second-grade students. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for Christian Works for Children, and is a member of Women for Abilene Christian University.

Carol is married to Don W. Crisp, and is the mother of three and the grandmother of nine. She and Don have lived in Dallas for 43 years.



# A BLESSING TO SO MANY "ELMER MORGAN"

The obituary read: Elmer Hall Morgan, age 78 of Mesquite, Texas, passed away July 6, 2006 in Little Rock, Arkansas."

It failed to say that he was on his way to Trenton, Kentucky to begin a gospel meeting in the exact location where he had preached his first sermon exactly 60 years (to the date) earlier. His daughter, Patti, once said, "There is nothing Daddy loves more than preaching and visiting his grandchildren." He was on his way to do both.



Elmer Hall Morgan was born to Jesse and Inez Morgan on March 3, 1928 in Big Rock, Tennessee. His parents were farmers, though his mother also taught school in a one-room school house. His father was wounded on the front during WWI and would have died had it not been for his Captain disobeying the rules and leaving the dugout to retrieve and carry him, on his back, to safety. That Captain's name was Elmer Holland – need more be said?

Brother Morgan became a Christian under the tutelage of such greats as J. Ridley Stroop, Robert G. Neil, Lucien Palmer, and others. In his teens, when he won a Future Farmers of America State FAA speaking award, one of the elders at the Trenton congregation said to him, "Elmer, if you can speak that well, you can preach Sunday's sermon." He did, thus beginning 60 years as a pulpit minister, baptizing over 1,000 people. He shared that ministry in the more than 30 books he authored.

After receiving a Ministerial Degree from David Lipscomb College, he and his family moved to Miami, Florida, where he began an 8-year ministry. Following, in 1965, Brother Morgan began a ministry at the Urbandale Church in Dallas. He taught courses at Christian Schools for 2 years and also taught at the Preston Road School of Preaching. In 1966, the Military Parkway church was formed by the merging of the Pleasant Mound and Urbandale congregations. Brother Morgan preached for Military church for 19 years. After leaving Military, Brother Morgan began his ministry, in 1984, at the Rockwall Church of Christ. He retired from the Rockwall church in 2004, but remained in the position of Assistant Minister.

In 2004, Brother Morgan and his wife, Edith, moved to McMillan Apartments on the Christian Care Center campus in Mesquite and he began his magnanimous work in Ministerial Services. He led devotionals, visited, preached, and made each resident feel special. He held a unique affinity for the Courtyard. It thrilled him when the residents, recognizing his voice as he sang "Oh How I Love Jesus," would come out of their rooms to attend his devotionals. He was instrumental in forming the Christian Care Center Veterans Club. The Club continues to grow and is a viable contributor to campus projects.

A request in almost every prayer I heard Brother Morgan pray was – "Please, God, let me be a blessing to those who know me." God answered that prayer over and over again. Even in the final few days in the Little Rock hospital, Brother Morgan won the hearts of the doctors and nurses, just as he had won the hearts, influenced, and encouraged thousands of people during his life. The attending doctor, deciding to ignore a DNR order for as long as he could, told the family, "Men like him don't walk the earth enough, and I just cannot let him go without trying absolutely everything possible to save him." Elmer Hall Morgan was, indeed, a BLESSING. The world is emptier because he is gone, but it is fuller because he lived and left a legacy that will never die.

Julia Grace Jordan, Admirer



## "JOIN THE BRIDGEVIEW ESTATES PRIORITY PROGRAM TODAY"

Bridgeview Estates, a neighborhood of individual executive homes, will be constructed contiguous to the CCC campus in Mesquite. Bridgeview Estates is unique; the homes will offer 2- and 3-bedroom floor plans with 2- or 2½ baths, 2-car garages, covered patios, and spacious closets - all in a gated, controlled-entry community. The Bridgeview lifestyle will be vibrant, offering superior amenities and services, a Clubhouse and Wellness Center. And, because Bridgeview Estates is a part of the Christian Care Centers' family of senior living communities, residents will have peace of mind for present and future needs. If you are interested in learning more about Bridgeview Estates, contact us at 972-698-2606.

# “...Residents and Employees – Giving Life and Purpose to Our Mission.”

## 27½ - YEAR RESIDENT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS



1906 was the year of the San Francisco earthquake and President Theodore Roosevelt's trip to inspect the progress of the Panama Canal. Debuting in 1906, were the first radio broadcast, the first record player, and the first feature film. Charles Walgreen, Ozzie Nelson, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, and Estee Lauder were all born in 1906.

Also born in 1906 was Mattie Hughes Teagle Buckelew. Moving to Christian Care Centers in 1979, Mattie has lived on this campus longer than any other current resident, 27½ years. She lived 18½-years in the Hartin Retirement Apartments and 9 years in Bentley Assisted Living Apartments, where she currently resides. During this time, Mattie has had short stays in the Health Care Center for nursing care and rehabilitation.

Knowing Mattie for almost 18 years, I recently had the privilege to visit with her and her son, Bryan Teagle, a few days before her 100th birthday on August 26. In response to my question, “Living to 100 years is quite an accomplishment. To what do you attribute your long life?” Mattie answered, “I worked all the time. Anything you can find to do, do it!” And Mattie has worked—professionally as a bookkeeper for almost 40 years; as a wife and mother; and as a volunteer.

Mattie was married to O.B. Teagle for 34½-years and had two sons, Bryan and Billy. Billy died of encephalitis at age 3. Following the death of Mr. Teagle, Mattie married a “fine Christian man,” N.W. Buckelew and they had 10 years together. Volunteering is the work for which Mattie is so well known at CCC. She truly did “what was needed, as long as she could.” She visited the nursing home residents and, as Mattie said, “Made them feel good.” She worked in the beauty shop, helped out in the offices, and stayed with other apartment residents when they were not feeling well. Another gift that Mattie shared for many years was cooking. Mattie loved to cook, “especially sweets.” Her specialties were pecan and chocolate pies. She, of course, made her own pie crusts, without measuring or a recipe saying, “I just knew when it was right.”

With much of her time devoted to family, friends, and volunteering, Mattie still had time for her favorite hobby, now crocheting, but for most of her life, it was catfishing, and then cooking her catch with a cornmeal batter in a big black iron pot. Some of her fondest memories are going catfishing with her husbands when they were alive. For Mother's Day in 2002, Bryan took her on another successful catfishing trip (see front cover).

Mattie lists the 5 highlights of her life: being baptized and becoming a Christian at age 11, her marriage to Mr. Teagle, the birth of her two sons, Bryan and Billy, her marriage to Mr. Buckelew, moving to CCC and living here for 27½-years. Mattie's family consists of son, Bryan and daughter-in-law Carolyn Teagle and 4 grandsons and, 8 great-grandchildren. After spending any time with Mattie and Bryan, the love and devotion they have for each other is obvious. Mattie says Bryan has blessed her life. Mattie's advice to today's parents is “love and discipline.”  
*Mattie, Happy 100th Birthday. You have blessed our lives!*

Lynn Chennault, Senior Vice President

## Long-Term Employees



### Left Side of the page: Hilltop Haven

Back Row Left to Right: Debbie McFarling (33 yrs.), Marlene Pecina (26 yrs.), Becky Reed (28 yrs.), Helen Harrison (30 yrs.)

Front Row Left to Right: Wanda Pelley (33 yrs.), Debbie Pecina (26 yrs.), Irene Garcia (30 yrs.)

Not Pictured: Linda Turner (33 yrs.), Dora Mercado (28 yrs.), Mary Scott (26 yrs.)

### Right Side of the Page: Christian Care Center

Left to Right: Clara Morgan (32 yrs.) and Sherrill Tiner (25 yrs.)



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**If you would like to make a donation to Christian Care Centers In Memory or In Honor of someone, please call 972-698-2618 or email JLoshier@cccinc.net.**

## MISSION

Christian Care Centers, Inc., a ministry of churches of Christ, is committed to providing housing and healthcare services for senior adults and others with special needs in a loving and compassionate environment which encourages relationships, independence, and dignity through spiritual, physical, social, and recreational programs.

Christian Care Centers provides long-term care, assisted living, and retirement living at its three communities: Christian Care Center, Mesquite; Hilltop Haven, Gunter; and Lakewood Village, Fort Worth. Christian Care Home Health is available for seniors living in Collin, Dallas, Henderson, Johnson, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Tarrant Counties.

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Editor: Lynn Chennault  
Co-Editor: Julia Jordan

If you do not want to receive this publication in the future, please notify Julia Jordan at 972-686-3754 or JJordan@cccinc.net.

## Everyone Can Make A Difference

Many times we see difficult situations in the world, and we wish we could do something to make a difference. But it seems there is no way we can be involved. At Christian Care Centers, we are committed to making a difference in the lives of senior adults. We are committed to making sure that seniors, whose incomes fall short of meeting their needs, can have the assurance that they will have assistance in their time of need. We are all getting older, and some day may have to face this challenge ourselves. This is a great need, and one where Everyone Can Make A Difference.

**You ask, "How can I make a difference?" At Christian Care Centers, there are many ways:**

1. You can volunteer. You can bring brightness to our residents' lives by visiting them on any of our campuses.
2. Women can join our Women's Auxiliary Council where volunteering is a time of fun and social interaction.
3. You can do something as simple as linking your Tom Thumb Reward Card to the "Good Neighbor Program," which enables Christian Care Centers to receive a percentage of the dollars spent at Tom Thumb (Christian Care Centers' Number is 1547). The same benefit to CCC is also available at Kroger stores. If you don't already possess a Kroger Card, please call the Foundation office and we will be happy to send you one.
4. You can give Christian Care Centers your old cell phones. A program has been established whereby Christian Care Centers receives a gift from every cell phone we turn in.

There are many other ways that you can serve in this ministry. If you would like to know more about these programs or other available programs, please call the Foundation Office at 972-686-2618 or email us at [JLoshier@cccinc.net](mailto:JLoshier@cccinc.net).



1547

Organization Number

Don't forget to link our Good Neighbor Number to your Reward Card and help us raise funds the easy way!



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