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HERALD *of* HOPE

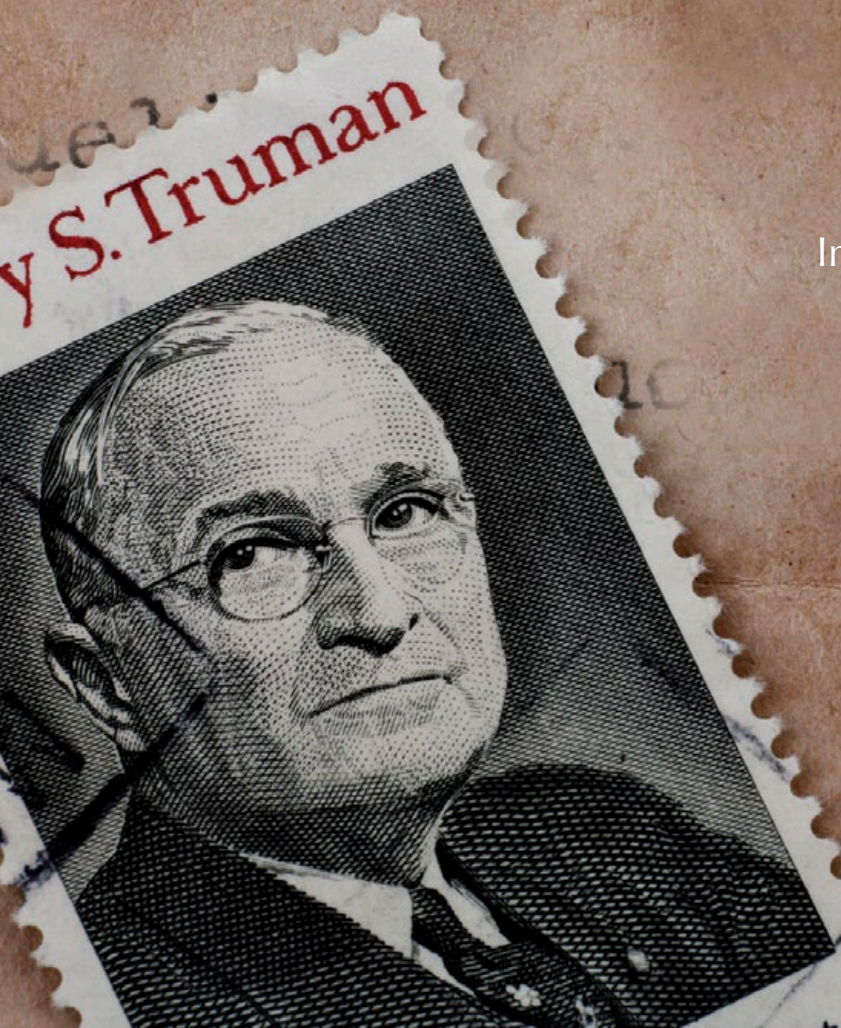
CHRISTIAN CARE CENTERS

Vol 3, Issue 3

September 2007

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SENIOR CARE

1947  2007



In 1947, Harry S. Truman was the 33rd President of the United States.

That same year, Hilltop Haven opened its doors to ministers and their families seeking a caring living environment.

60 years later, Hilltop Haven is still providing seniors with dignified and compassionate care.

Letter from the President

On The Cover:

*Hilltop Haven Celebrating 60
Years of Senior Care.*



Build!

“For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see our good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.” Col. 2:5

In a very early edition of the *Herald of Hope*, our forefathers, some 60 years ago, identified a need that had been too long neglected, and dedicated themselves to creating a place where the worthy and deserving of God’s people might live in the closing years of their life. The founders acted on their observation and, through faith, engaged in a mission to BUILD!

They would BUILD for Soul’s Sake – “A Christian environment for those who so richly deserve such blessings in the evening of life.”

They would BUILD for Mind’s Sake – “A home where there is complete security, where constant loving companionship will bring happiness.”

They would BUILD for Body’s Sake – “Suitable fireproof facilities, where proper food and tender care may be given by loving hands.”

These words are direct quotes from an original *Herald of Hope*, and were used as an appeal for congregations and individuals to “contribute liberally to Home for the Aged.” Through the years, Christian Care Centers has followed the call to create environments that minister to one’s Mind, Body and Soul. Our numbers have expanded through the years in locations, buildings, and number of seniors served annually, but our focus has remained constant.

We dedicate this edition of *Herald of Hope* to those individuals who stood firm and steadfast in the face of uncertainty, working tirelessly in a ministry of serving seniors in need and to those servants who have followed in the footsteps of our founders. May the Lord continue to bless Christian Care Centers in the future as He has in the past.

In Christian Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Elmore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

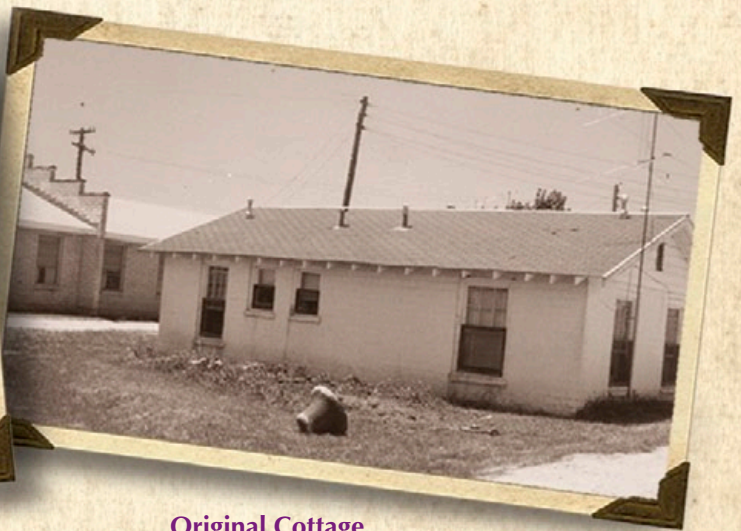
Phil Elmore
President/CEO

A History of Hilltop Haven

“OLD PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY LIVING AT HOME FOR THE AGED”



Gunter Bible College



Original Cottage

The December 20, 1947 issue of *Herald of Hope* read, **Aged Guest Now Living at the Home**, with the article stating, “We are happy to announce the fact that old people are actually living at Home for the Aged,” (early name of Hilltop Haven). Hilltop Haven was established to relieve the distress of needy and deserving elderly people of “the household of faith.”

Planning began in 1947 at the former Gunter Bible College (1903 to 1926) to build a home for older people on land donated by Col. Jot Gunter and, later, by Mrs. Will May. Dr. J. L. Gammill, M. S. Phillips, John W. Pigg, B. O. Yeakley, R. L. Spears, Homer P. Reeves, and Foy Wallace formed a non-profit corporation, which enabled the opening of Home for the Aged in December 1947. Its first guest was Sister Sara Daniel, age 88 (born in 1859).

The first residence was described as “a pretty little white stucco cottage, with green shutters and roof.” The master plan for Hilltop Haven envisioned a campus incorporating the former college building for administration, worship space, and dining halls with 300 residents living in dormitories or cottages. The initial plans were based on the generosity of individual members’ and churches’ monetary contributions, needed items, and donated labor.

After expansions in 1957, 1958, and 1967, trusteeship for the Home for the Aged was transferred from the College Hill

church to the Garland Road Church of Christ, which coincidentally was planning the construction of Christian Care Center in the Dallas area. In August 1968, Dr. S. E. Crawford, an elder at Garland Road, announced that Christian Care Center and Home for the Aged would be united under one trusteeship, and the name of Home for the Aged was changed to Hilltop Haven. At that time, Hilltop Haven could serve 215 nursing home residents. In 1980, the Howard Apartments for independent living were built with a gift from W. B. and Ruth Howard.

A Special Care Unit for Alzheimer’s disease was opened in 1989 to serve 30 residents. This certified Alzheimer’s Unit was the fifth one in the state of Texas and first one in the North Texas area. Later, a second 30-bed unit was constructed. The units were named Morrison Unit I and II in honor and recognition of Linda Morrison, Vice President and Administrator. In 2006, Hillside Rehab opened in a renovated wing of Hilltop, with 14 private rooms for Medicare rehabilitation and skilled nursing.

For over 60 years, Hilltop Haven has fulfilled its Biblical ministry of giving compassionate and loving care to seniors. May His grace provide a bright future for the continuation of this mission.

TILLET S. TEDDLIE & RALPH GODFREY

Tillet S. Teddlie

HILLTOP'S MOST FAMOUS RESIDENT

Minister, gospel singer, teacher, and composer of 135 gospel songs, including “Heaven Holds All to Me” and “Worthy Art Thou,” lived at Hilltop Haven from 1982 to 1987, and passed away at the age of 102. He was considered by most, “the most famous resident ever to live at Hilltop Haven.”

A graduate of what is now the University of North Texas, and a member of Skillman Avenue Church of Christ, Teddlie published 12 song books and directed “gospel singing workshops” and “church singings” across the nation for 50 years. As a resident at Hilltop, he loved to hear his guests perform his songs. Linda Morrison, Administrator at Hilltop Haven during his residency, often visited Bro. Teddlie and said, “I would feel like I had sat at the feet of Jesus. He was such a wise, compassionate soul.”

Ralph Godfrey

ARDENT FUNDRAISER and FOUNDING SUPERINTENDENT

Ralph Godfrey was involved in the initial discussions for Home for the Aged and became its founding Superintendent (today called Administrator) on June 1, 1947. While living in the old Gunter College building, Godfrey began repairing the building, held meetings, preached sermons, and wrote articles about the vision. He wrote the official publication of Home for the Aged, *Herald of Hope*.

Ralph Godfrey was also a formidable fundraiser. One of his famous requests was, “Home for the Aged needs three things—Grit, Grace, and Greenbacks. Grit, we have; Grace, God will provide; but who is going to give the Greenbacks?” He unabashedly asked for funds and gifts, listing needs such as a pig and a cow, a truck, canned goods, mops and brooms, kerosene heating stove, etc.

Bro. Godfrey served Hilltop Haven three different times as Superintendent; from 1947-1950, again from 1960-63, and in 1969. In 1992, he returned one final time as a resident. He passed away in 1994, leaving an extraordinary legacy for Hilltop Haven. His widow currently lives in Dallas with family.

AND THE LIST GOES ON . . .

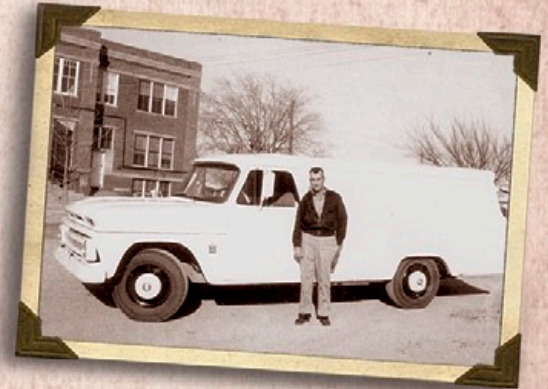
Hilltop Haven would not have existed these past 60 years without the Grace of God and the sacrifice of talent and financial resources from the brotherhood of faith; to the founding Trustees and their wives for Home for the Aged - C. M. and Lois Miller, Foy and Jennie Wallace, Odell and Lorene Lowe, and Howard and Zelma Kinney; Superintendents and Administrators - Ralph Godfrey, John W. Pigg, Graly Langford, William E. Ball, M. E. Blake, Laurence Hedges, Linda Morrison, Kyle Douthit, Brad Burt, Tim Fleming, Greg Losher, David Boggs, and current Administrator, Brett Hansen; long-tenured employees Linda Turner-33 years, Wanda Pelley-33 years, Debbie McFarland-33 years, Helen Harrison-31 years, and Irene Garcia-31 years; and each and every employee, visitor, volunteer, and everyone else who has ever visited a resident, written a check, baked a cake, or performed other deeds that have sustained our mission of serving the elderly with compassionate and dignified care, we extend a most sincere THANK YOU!



Initial leaders of The Home for the Aged, Mr. C.M. Miller Jr., Mr. Orville Watson, Mr. Howard Kinney, and Mr. Odell Lowe, Sr.

THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD

**Odell Lowe and
the Delivery Truck**



Most of the founders of Hilltop Haven have gone on to their heavenly reward, but we do have “first-person memories” from those who were children of employees, families, or volunteers. Harold Tidwell and Linda Morrison currently play significant roles with Christian Care Centers, but they also have childhood memories and impressions of the early years.

Harold Tidwell is Vice Chairman of Christian Care Centers Board of Trustees and has served on the Board for ten years. Harold and his wife, Gail, live in Allen, Texas, and have had nine family members live at Hilltop Haven (two) or Christian Care Center (seven). Harold grew up in Dallas and attended Saner Avenue Church of Christ where his father, Fred W. Tidwell, was the song leader and education director. To help build the first “cottages” in the late 40s and early 50s, many of the congregations in North and East Texas would send volunteer work parties to assist with the construction, as well as other projects at Hilltop Haven. Harold, as a young boy, traveled with his father and others from the Saner church to work on those cottages. The men would work and the kids would play.

Harold’s remembrances span Hilltop’s entire history, from playing with other children of church volunteers in the late 1940s and early 1950s, to visiting his grandmother, Jeannette Tidwell, in the 1960s, and his Aunt Helen Haddox from the late 1970s to 1990s. He also has fond memories of driving his Dad on Sunday afternoon during the 1980s to visit his good friend, Tillet S. Teddlie.

Linda Morrison, Senior Vice President of Operations for Christian Care Centers, 35-year employee, and former Administrator of Hilltop Haven for 26 years, moved to Gunter after her mother passed away in 1957. Living with her Aunt Hester, who worked in the nursing department, Linda said, “My Aunt recounted the interesting lives of the residents, and after church on Sunday, we would share family-style meals with the residents. Even as a small child, I felt Hilltop was a very special place.”

“Resources were always limited. Cows and pigs were donated, raised, and butchered for food for the residents. Bro. Odell Lowe drove all over the state, picking up and delivering donated clothing, food, and other items. The residents were always so grateful for everything they received. One resident told me, “Living at Hilltop Haven is like ‘Heaven on earth’.”



**Dr. John Losher,
Representative and
Mrs. Ralph Hall,
Linda Morrison,
and Charles Shelton**

Hilltop Haven’s 60th Anniversary Celebration

Join us **Saturday, September 29, 12 noon at Hilltop Haven**, “Under the Tent.” Share memories with friends and loved ones. Enjoy a BBQ lunch, anniversary ceremony, live country music, and tours.

Reservations are required by September 17. Call Julia at 972-686-3754.
Event Location: 308 E. College, Gunter, Texas 75058

Christian Care Centers Communities

Automated Medication Dispensing Machine at Mesquite Health Care Center



Mesquite Health Care Center First in U.S. With New Innovation

Christian Care Center Health Care Center is the first long-term care facility in the United States to implement an Automated Medication Dispensing Machine, similar to what is used in hospitals. Medications are dispensed per resident. Benefits for residents, their families, the HCC staff, and physicians are: safer medication management processes, significant reduction in drug waste, lower drug cost to resident and CCC, reduction of administrative burden on physicians, nurses, and pharmacists, and reallocation of nurses' time for more resident care.

Physicians are able to prescribe medications for their patients on-line. The prescription is reviewed for formulary benefit information, side effects, and drug interaction, and, upon approval, an order is sent to the Automated Medication Dispensing Machine. This new process greatly improves the accuracy and timeliness of physician-directed prescription orders and their administration to residents.

Christian Care Centers Hospice Begins "Healing the Grieving Heart" Support Group



Christian Care Hospice Chaplain, Danny Mack, will facilitate a "Healing the Grieving Heart" Support Group at Saturn Road Church of Christ beginning September 6 for six weeks. This program, created by Mr. Mack, is to support those suffering from or experiencing a loss.

Mr. Mack is a graduate of the University of North Texas and received a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Call 972-686-3765 for additional information.

Christian Care Hospice offers services to patients with a limited life expectancy. The team of professionals is "passionate about the care we provide patients and their families. Maintaining comfort and dignity is imperative when managing end-of-life needs." For information on Christian Care Home Health or Hospice call 972-613-7945.



Medical student and resident

Lakewood Village Welcomes Medical Students for Home Visits

Lakewood Village Retirement Community in Fort Worth and the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine are partnering in a "Home Visit" program. "The goals are to enhance the education of future physicians and provide the opportunity to improve the future medical care of seniors," stated Jennifer Heffernan, D.O., Assistant Professor of Medicine UNT Health Science Center. Dr. Heffernan is in medical practice with LWV Health Care Center's Medical Director, Janice Knebl, D.O.

Second-year medical students are introduced to a senior living environment and seniors 65 years+ who live there. Lakewood residents participate on a voluntary basis. The students work with the residents individually to obtain information about their medical history, surgeries, drug allergies, medications, social history, family history, and current symptoms. April Maclin, Administrator of the Health Care Center states, "This joint venture is another way Christian Care Centers can help improve the future medical care of seniors."

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MR. & MRS. JOHN ACKER
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffery Joe King
**MATTIE FRANCES
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Ms. Margaret Stanley

IN HONOR OF:

ELOISE COOPER

Dr. Bruce Cooper
**HAROLD &
BILLIE FAYE CURTIS**
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OF CHRIST**
Mr. & Mrs. W. W. Minchew

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

Mission Statement

Christian Care Centers, Inc., a ministry of churches of Christ, is committed to providing housing and health care 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. Christian Care Hospice is available in the Dallas, Henderson, Kaufman, and Rockwall Counties.

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972-686-3100

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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.

Mr. John Pigg (Superintendent), and his wife Mrs. Eva Pigg





Excerpt from February 5, 1948 issue of *Herald of Hope*:

FARM NEEDS FOR HOME FOR THE AGED

“Springtime isn’t too far off, and our pasture that is now covered with snow will soon be looking quite different as the green grass begins growing there. We will need some cattle to graze on the luscious green grass. By next fall, we hope to have several more old people here with us and, thus, we will need more meat and milk, both of which are very essential to serving good, well-balanced, nourishing meals to our aged guests. If someone could give us some beef cattle, we could fatten them during the summer and have them ready to put in the locker by fall. If you can spare a cow or pig, you will be doing a lot toward giving old people the nourishment and strength they need.”

Although the type of needs has changed, needs for Hilltop Haven, nonetheless, still exist: new roof (\$100,000), covered awning for outdoor activities by the lake (\$55,000), 75 electric high-low beds (\$94,000), 12 vinyl recliners for Morrison I and II Units (\$5,400), completion of Collier and Annex flooring used by residents and employees, wall-mounted flat screen TV for Buckner area, 6 glider rockers at Buckner (\$2,400), ice cream machine for residents (\$4,000), 10 chairs for resident rooms (\$2,000), 10 dressers for resident rooms (\$3,000), stereo system in dining room for residents.

For more information about assisting Hilltop Haven this 60th Anniversary year, please call Dr. John Loshier at 972-698-2620 or email at jlosher@cccinc.net.



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