

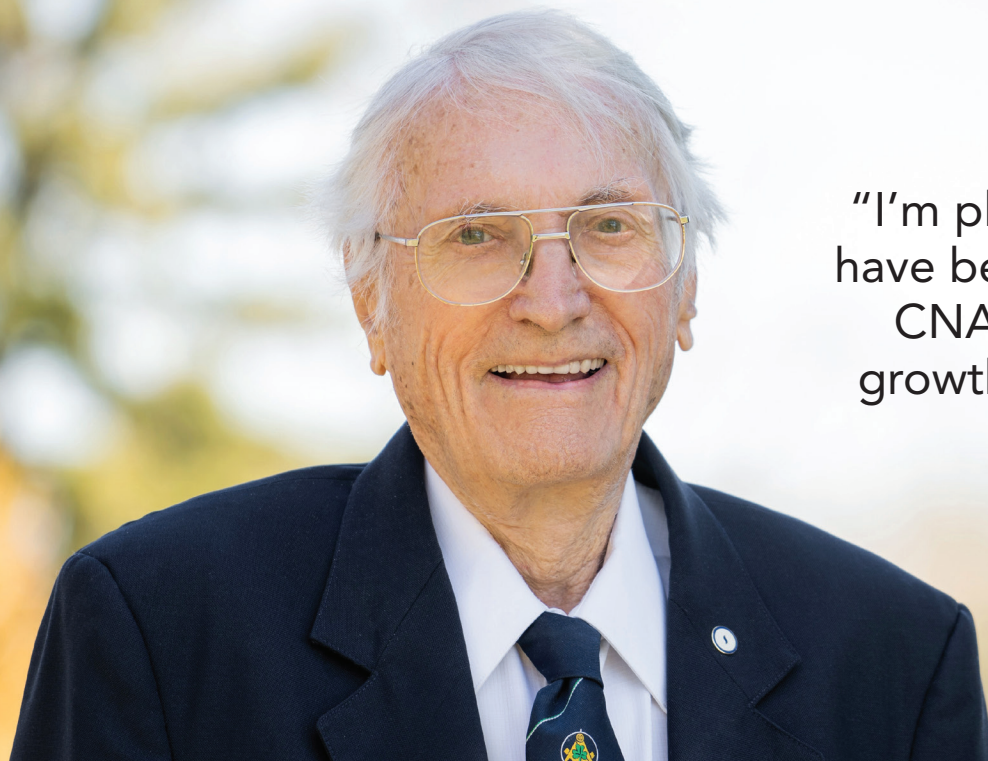


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AN AUGUSTANA | ELIM AFFILIATION

Serving all by following One

# Spring/Summer Newsletter 2021



"I'm pleased Phyllis and I have been able to support CNAs as they pursue growth in their careers."

## Launching Scholarships in Loving Memory of a Dedicated Nurse By Dr. Al Ohrt

Dr. Al Ohrt is a retired radiologist and long-time supporter of Fargo Elim. His wife Phyllis moved to Fargo Elim when her need for care increased. After her passing, Dr. Ohrt gave a generous gift in Phyllis's memory to launch an endowment fund for staff nursing scholarships.

"A caring, skilled, well-prepared staff is a high priority in all aspects of healthcare, especially

long-term care. My mother would have been pleased," says Dr. Ohrt's daughter Jule. Dr. Ohrt, who serves on the Fargo Elim Community Advisory Board, also gave generously to support Fargo Elim's capital campaign after a fire damaged the building. Here, he shares thoughts about his choices.

I knew I wanted to be a doctor while taking eleventh grade physics. I met my wife Phyllis when I was in

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medical school and she was in nursing school. After marriage, Phyllis worked as a nurse for a few years and then stepped back to raise our family—but was always a nurse at heart. My daughter Holly, who became a pharmacist, reminisces about dinners where conversations often revolved around medicine.

As years passed, Phyllis and I discussed what we'd do if one or both of us needed care. Our choice was clear: Fargo Elim. We knew the staff to be excellent and appreciated the smaller size and the family culture.

When Phyllis's health declined, she moved to Fargo Elim—and we saw so many talented CNAs there. After losing Phyllis, I wanted to do something special in her memory and gave a gift to start a scholarship program. I'm pleased Phyllis and I have been able to support CNAs as they pursue growth in their careers.

When I heard about the fire at the care center and plans to rebuild, I wanted to contribute to the capital campaign. I firmly believe the Fargo Elim care center needs to be rebuilt.

My daughter Holly says, "Wherever I live, it would be really nice to know there's a place like Elim Fargo for me, if I need it." That's just how I feel, too.



*Barbara Egli is an artist, pianist, singer and a welcoming neighbor whose generosity extends to her community at our Minneapolis campus.*

## Donor Spotlight: Meet Barbara Egli

By Philanthropy Gift Officer Therese Cain

The mission to foster fullness of life at Cassia is more than an abstract idea. It reveals itself in the smiles of residents and the peace families experience when they see loved ones thriving.

Minneapolis campus resident Barbara Egli personifies fullness of life, which includes giving back. Barbara is an artist, pianist and singer and a warm, welcoming neighbor to new residents. She is also a committed volunteer, assisting with mailing projects, participating on the resident council and helping renovate the campus library.

Barbara credits Cassia's spiritual care team with her

ability to enjoy a fulfilling life after the long illness and passing of her spouse. "The insights and wisdom our chaplain offered me during that time continue to help me to this day. Staff members offer inspirational messages from many religions and philosophies with the highest level of sensitivity," she says.

Barbara supports the Cassia community by supporting our spiritual care programs and activities. She asks you to join her in keeping our programs vital by giving a gift today. To learn how to give to your care community, please contact [Therese.Cain@CassiaLife.org](mailto:Therese.Cain@CassiaLife.org) or call 952-855-5189.



## Life-changing Gifts

What's the best way to leave a legacy conveying your values while helping others for generations to come? Gifts by bequest enable us to improve the quality of life for the inspiring residents we serve. Donations may be made using cash, securities, IRA and other retirement accounts, real estate or tangible personal property.

Gifts are deductible to the full extent of the law; consult an attorney to be sure. You'll also want your attorney to verify that the provision states our legal names: Augustana Care, Cassia or Elim Care Ministries.

Please inform us of your bequest so you may be acknowledged and we may better plan for the future. **For more information about planned gifts and other donations, please contact [Matthew.Crawford@CassiaLife.org](mailto:Matthew.Crawford@CassiaLife.org) or call 952-855-5181.**

## Mission and Partners

Cassia's mission is to foster fullness of life for older adults in the spirit of Christ's love. Cassia works with Centrex Rehab, Grace Hospice, Guardian Angels + Elim Care Home Care and Hospice, and Pro Rehab to provide home health, hospice and rehabilitation throughout our communities.

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## First Evangelical Free Church Works in Harmony with Cassia



*Deacon and Lay Leader Jon Addington, Cassia Vice President of Building Development Andrew Centanni and Church Elder Eric Berglund (left to right) tour the site where Harmony Gardens will be built.*

If a church can be described as being in harmony with Cassia, the First Evangelical Free Church in Maplewood, Minnesota would. It's fitting, therefore, that the church has a longstanding relationship with Cassia's New Harmony community in St. Paul.

A significant number of congregants have lived at New Harmony. Recently, "the church had a vision of expanding our ministry to include those in need," says Jon Addington, a deacon and lay leader at the church and former church chair. Now that vision is coming true.

In the past year, Cassia purchased seven acres of land near the church and is building a new care community with updated features called Harmony Gardens. As always, Cassia serves people of all faiths and backgrounds.

Because Harmony Gardens will be close to the church, more parishioners will be able to enjoy the company of Cassia residents. The church is giving congregants the opportunity to raise money for Harmony Garden's new chapel. We are extremely grateful for this partnership as we work together to build the chapel and full continuum of services, which will serve numerous residents and families.

# New Settings for Cherished Communities: You Make it Possible

We're thrilled to share that construction is starting on two communities!

## Fargo Elim - Fargo, North Dakota



*Cassia's new Fargo Elim building will offer a four-seasons porch and many other amenities.*

Though damaged by fire in 2020, Cassia's Fargo Elim community is now being rebuilt from the ground up. When completed, the new community will offer private rooms, inviting surroundings and amenities that include a four-seasons porch and kitchens that invite active participation. Due to a gap in what insurance can pay and what's needed, a campaign to raise the necessary funding is underway.

## Harmony Gardens - Maplewood, Minnesota

The original New Harmony community was built when skilled nursing communities looked more like hospitals. The new building will be located on land purchased from Maplewood's First Evangelical Free Church.

The new community, called Harmony Gardens, will offer skilled nursing and senior living neighborhoods including independent and assisted living, memory care and care suites. Numerous amenities will be available throughout the campus.



*The new Harmony Gardens campus will include independent and assisted living, memory care and care suites.*



*Harmony Gardens chapel rendering*

Cassia wants to thank all supporters of Fargo Elim and Harmony Gardens. For more information on how to help, please contact Vice President of Philanthropy, Matt Crawford at [Matthew.Crawford@CassiaLife.org](mailto:Matthew.Crawford@CassiaLife.org) or 952-855-5181.



# Genevive Partners with Cassia to Enhance Resident Care

Personal medical attention is crucial for older generations, who often experience complex conditions. That's why Regent of Burnsville resident Ray Bonacorsi is enthusiastic about Genevive, a medical practice tailored to older adults.

During Ray's first visit with a Genevive practitioner, he received a full examination right in his apartment, including lab work. "The nurse showed me the results and what I needed, including more vitamin D and less vitamin B12," says Ray.

Cassia became a minority owner of Genevive in March 2021, complementing the existing ownership of Allina Health and Presbyterian Homes & Services. "Our mission is to treat patients like family," says Genevive CEO Amanda Tufano. "We work to provide the kind of care we want our own loved ones to receive." To anticipate the needs of older adults, Genevive staff learn patients' histories, medications and preferences.

In addition to its onsite medical services, Cassia strives to create a circle of care for residents so everything they need is onsite or nearby. Services include A&E Pharmacy, adult day services, rehabilitation, spiritual care, personal drivers and more. For information about Genevive, please visit [Genevive.org](https://www.genevive.org).

*Genevive health care providers are committed to taking the time to get to know those we serve. That allows nurse-practitioners like LeeAnn Hartman, pictured here, to provide more comprehensive care.*





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## Play Golf, Celebrate Summer and Support Our Communities

**The Milaca Elim Meadows Golf Classic** will be Friday, July 30, 2021 at the Stones Throw Golf Course in Milaca. Register online at [MilacaElimMeadows.org/GolfClassic](http://MilacaElimMeadows.org/GolfClassic). Proceeds will support Elim Meadows of Milaca. For more information, contact Laura Broberg at 320-983-2185 or [Laura.Broberg@CassiaLife.org](mailto:Laura.Broberg@CassiaLife.org).

**The Cassia North Golf Tournament** will be Friday, August 27, 2021 at the Links at Northfork in Ramsey. Register Online at [CassiaLife.org/GolfNorth](http://CassiaLife.org/GolfNorth). Proceeds will support the Bridge Program, which offers temporary financial assistance to Cassia residents in need. For more information contact Paulette Anderson at 952-855-5184 or [Paulette.Anderson@CassiaLife.org](mailto:Paulette.Anderson@CassiaLife.org).