

CONNECTIONS

at the RESIDENTIAL LIVING CENTER

AUGUST 2026



BJC
Health™

Saint Luke's
Anderson County Hospital

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Contact Us

Want to learn more about living in our Residential Living Center? Call us at **785-204-4049** to schedule a private tour for yourself or a loved one.



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Residential Living Center**
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More Than Peach Pie

Samantha Young, RN, Senior Manager, Residential Living Center



I am passionate about helping residents continue to experience things that have brought them comfort and happiness throughout their lives. Sometimes it’s the simple things—tasks that were once part of their regular routines, like hearing a familiar tune or certain tastes or smells—that create the most meaningful moments.

Recently, I observed a resident sharing a favorite pie recipe while another resident talked about baking with her children years ago. As the group exchanged stories and laughter, it was clear that the moment was about much more than dessert. It was about reconnecting with cherished memories, building friendships, and experiencing a sense of purpose and belonging.

These are the moments that remind me why I love what I do. And that’s exactly why I can’t wait to celebrate National Peach Pie Day by making homemade peach pie with our residents this month. As we’re rolling dough, we’ll be sharing stories and just enjoying some special time together. And then there’s the wonderful tastes and smells!

Many families considering long-term care worry about whether their loved one will feel at home in a new environment. While each resident’s journey is unique, I’ve seen time and again that meaningful relationships, daily engagement, and opportunities to participate in familiar activities help residents become comfortable and connected. At the Residential Living Center, we work to create an environment where residents can enjoy the hobbies, traditions, and social interactions that continue to enrich their lives and help them feel at home.

We always welcome visitors and encourage families and community members to stop by, spend time with our residents, and experience the warm atmosphere that makes our community special. Whether you’re visiting a loved one, exploring long-term care options, or simply saying hello, we would love to meet you.

I look forward to celebrating National Peach Pie Day with our residents and creating another memorable day filled with friendship, reminiscing, and, of course, delicious peach pie.

—Samantha

Culinary Corner



“I found this peach pie recipe in an Amish cookbook I received as a gift,” shared Samantha Young, RLC senior manager. “We try to make most of our meals from scratch at home, and this pie recipe is a favorite!”

Samantha will be making this no-bake glazed peach pie with residents to celebrate National Peach Pie Day on Monday, Aug. 24.

Glazed Peach Pie

Ingredients

4 cups fresh, sliced peaches	1 tablespoon butter
1 cup sugar	almond flavoring to taste
3 tablespoons cornstarch	1 9-inch pie crust, baked
½ cup water	whipped cream or ice cream

Directions

1. Crush enough of the peaches to make 1 cup of crushed peaches. Put remaining sliced peaches into the baked pie crust.
2. Whisk together the sugar and cornstarch. Combine the crushed peaches with the sugar cornstarch mixture and add water. Put in heavy saucepan and cook until the mixture is clear.
3. Remove crushed peach mixture from heat. Add butter and almond flavoring. Pour into a glass bowl and cool slightly.
4. Pour slightly cooled mixture over sliced peaches in pie crust and refrigerate for at least two hours.
5. Top with whipped cream or ice cream and enjoy!

Welcome New Team Members



Caitlyn Brady
Certified Nursing
Assistant



Reagan Witherspoon
Certified Nursing
Assistant

Fun Peach Facts

National Peach Pie Day is celebrated each year on Aug. 24, in the middle of peak peach season. Did you know these facts about the sweet, tasty fruit?

- Peaches originated in China more than 8,000 years ago. In China, the peach is a symbol of good luck, protection, and longevity.
- Peach seeds are easy to preserve and transport, which made them a popular item to trade along the Silk Road.
- Spanish conquistadors introduced peaches to North America in the 1500s. Peach trees quickly sprouted in Virginia, Georgia and the Carolinas.



- Only one gene separates peaches and nectarines. The gene variant between the two causes peaches to have a fuzzy skin and nectarines to be smooth. Nectarines are just bald peaches!
- Peach fuzz is a survival trait. It helps protect the skin from sun, moisture, insects, diseases, and blight.
- A peach once started a war. In September 1655, a Dutch immigrant living in a settlement called New Sweden—near present-day Wilmington, Delaware—killed a woman who was picking peaches in his orchard. The woman was a Native American of the Susquehannock tribe. Rightly outraged by her murder, the Susquehannock attacked New Sweden, taking hostage 150 people who were later released through negotiation. This one-day conflict is known as the Peach Tree War.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10 a.m. Devotional Group (Daily) 10 a.m. Hydration Cart & 2 p.m. Dining Room (M-F) Activities are subject to change.				1 2 p.m. Manicures & Music		
2 3:15 p.m. First United Methodist Church Service	3 10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Karaoke Richard	4 10:30 a.m. Food Committee 1:30 p.m. Guest Activity 3 p.m. Coloring & Music	5 10:30 a.m. Take a Drive 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh	National Root Beer Float Day 6 10:30 a.m. Penny Ante 2 p.m. Make Root Beer Floats	National Purple Heart Day 7 10:30 a.m. Bingo 1:30 p.m. Brain Teasers 3 p.m. Friday at the Movies (Resident Choice)	8 2 p.m. Music Through the Decades
9 3:15 p.m. Grace & Truth Baptist Church Service	10 10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Wii Bowling 3 p.m. Monday Milkshakes	11 10:30 a.m. Guest Activity 1:30 p.m. Build Your Own Pudding Parfait	12 10:30 a.m. Shopping Trip to 7th Street Market 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh	13 10:30 a.m. Bingo 2 p.m. Acrostic Poem Writing with Names	14 10:30 a.m. Jewelry Making 1:30 p.m. Make Creamsicle Drinks 3 p.m. Coffee & Chat	15 2 p.m. Individual Activities
16 3:15 p.m. Church of the Nazarene Service	17 10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Watch Elvis Movie	18 10:30 a.m. Visit Walker Art Gallery at Garnett Public Library 1:30 p.m. Bingo Auction	19 10:30 a.m. Activity Council 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh	20 10:30 a.m. Armchair Travel 2 p.m. Iced Tea on the Patio	21 10:30 a.m. Bingo 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Movies (Resident Choice) 3 p.m. Phase 10	22 2 p.m. Manicures & Music
23 3:15 p.m. First Christian Church Service	National Peach Pie Day 24 10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Make Peach Pie 3 p.m. 1-on-1 Visits	25 10:30 a.m. Coloring & Music 1:30 p.m. Play Charades	26 10:30 a.m. Resident Council 2 p.m. Happy Hour 4:15 p.m. Bible Study Josh	27 10:30 a.m. Play Rummikub 2 p.m. Make Pipe Cleaner Flowers	National Cherry Turnover Day 28 10:30 a.m. Bingo 1:30 p.m. Cherry Turnover Treats	29 2 p.m. Coloring & Music
30 3:15 p.m. Mont Ida Church Service	31 10:30 a.m. Group Exercises 1:30 p.m. Play Checkers					



Garden Critters

This summer, our residents have been spending a lot of time outside on the patio admiring the flowers in bloom and watching and feeding the local wildlife.

We even planted several tomato plants in our raised beds so residents could enjoy some fresh, homegrown tomatoes this year. Unfortunately, a few furry vandals have managed to sabotage our tomato plants. We can only hope the squirrels have enjoyed the fruits of our labor as much as we would have!



If you have extra produce from your summer garden, our residents would greatly appreciate gifts of any fresh, homegrown fruits and vegetables. Call us at **785-204-4031** to make special arrangements or just come to the RLC main entrance and knock on our door. Your generosity helps bring the taste of summer right to their table and is always warmly appreciated.



Heeling for Health

Saturday, Sept. 19 | 6–9 p.m.

Anderson County Jr./Sr. High School Stadium

After more than a decade, the Anderson County Hospital Foundation is excited to bring back **Heeling for Health**.

Heeling for Health is more than a fundraiser. It's an opportunity for families, friends, businesses, and community organizations to come together to support local health care and all those who depend on quality care close to home.

Funds raised through this year's event will go toward improvements to community gathering spaces at the **Anderson County Hospital Residential Living Center**, enhancing opportunities for our residents, families, and visitors to connect and enjoy meaningful experiences together.

We hope you will make plans to join us!



Ways to participate

Join the walk.

Sign up as an individual or rally a team. All ages and levels of ability are welcome. Each registered walker will receive a 2026 Heeling for Health T-shirt.

Light the night.

Honor loved ones with glowing luminaries. Love light luminaries are placed around the track during the walk to light the way.

Become a sponsor.

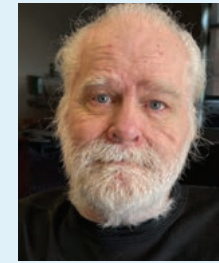
Make an impact through your support. Sponsors receive recognition, and each sponsorship includes walker registrations and love light luminaries.



Learn more and register

[Birdease.com/AndersonCountyH4H](https://birdease.com/AndersonCountyH4H)

Resident Spotlight: John Doran



John Doran was born in 1953 in Frankfurt, Germany. His father, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, was stationed there at the time. When John was just 3 years old, the family returned to the United States and moved to another military base in Yakima, Washington.

The military family eventually grew to 10 children, evenly split between five boys and five girls, with John right in the middle. Life on base was structured and demanding, but he fondly remembers growing up alongside his siblings. Later, John moved to Kansas City to live with his grandmother, where he attended West High School.

Following in his father's footsteps, John joined the U.S. Army after graduation. Over his 27-year military career, he earned numerous decorations, including three Purple Hearts.

John's first experience in combat came during the Vietnam War. He recalls a terrifying encounter with an enemy soldier wielding a machete. Instinctively raising his arms to protect his head, he suffered a blow that broke both bones and nearly severed his left forearm. Fortunately, another soldier from his platoon followed close behind, allowing John to escape the attack.

After completing two tours, John was stationed in Great Bend, Kansas, where he trained as a combat medic, a role he considers his true calling. Although combat medics are granted protected status under the Geneva Convention, the realities of war often proved different. During another enemy attack, John was shot in both kneecaps.

"Sometimes medics were targeted in combat," John explains. "They'd try to take us out because we were the ones saving those who were injured."

His most serious injury came several years later when a transport helicopter he was riding in was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade. The explosion ejected him from the aircraft. He suffered a broken back along with numerous other injuries and spent the next four years moving between military hospitals

and rehabilitation centers before eventually being medically discharged.

When asked whether he would do it all over again, John's answer comes without hesitation. "Yep," he says. "I helped save a lot of lives."

After his military career ended, John began a new chapter. He returned to Kansas City and partnered with friends to open Wolf and Chester's Hot Rod Garage. The custom automotive shop operated for 12 years and specialized in building one-of-a-kind hot rods. John's passion for fast, eye-catching cars made those years some of the best of his life.

John transitioned to residential care about 10 years ago when he needed additional support. After living in several communities, he found a home here in the fall of 2023. "The RLC is the best place I have lived in," John shares. "I have my own room and so much freedom, and everyone is so kind."

Today, John continues to embrace life with the same adventurous spirit that carried him through decades of service. He enjoys getting out to explore and never misses the chance to hop in the van (or a golf cart) for a country drive or other special outing. In 2025, he attended Garnett's Grand Prix Revival and is already looking forward to seeing the races this fall.



The Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is awarded to those wounded or killed while serving with the U.S. military. When a service member has additional qualifying wounds, a bronze oak leaf cluster is awarded and added to the ribbon.

With its forerunner, the Badge of Military Merit—a heart made of purple cloth—the Purple Heart is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military members. The original Purple Heart was established by George Washington in 1782, when he was commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.

