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GRACE RIDGE TO BREAK GROUND ON FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Nov. 12, 2015 – MORGANTON, NC – The final phase of a two-year fundraising effort culminates on Nov. 16 with the groundbreaking of Grace Ridge Retirement Community’s Friendship Garden, located between the memory care and assisted living facilities.

“Nature elements like plants, sunshine, water, flowers and birds all help improve our sense of well-being and put us in a [Good Mood](#). We wanted this area to be inviting for residents and their family members and friends to relax, visit and enjoy the outdoors,” said Brenda Yost, Grace Ridge executive director.

More than \$50,000 was raised in conjunction with the [Blue Ridge HealthCare Foundation](#) through memorials and honoraria by and for residents and friends of Grace Ridge. The initial phase of the project began in August 2014, with the widening the walkway and the [addition of a koi pond](#) given to Grace Ridge by resident J. Conley Mitchell to honor his brother and fellow resident, Harold.

The Friendship Garden was designed by [Appalachian Nature Escapes](#) to support the mountain lodge feel of Grace Ridge. Out-croppings will be built with harvested boulders made of Virginia Fieldstone and featured plants and flowers will include maple, conifer, azalea, camellia and hydrangea.

About Grace Ridge Retirement Community

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Grace Ridge is a Continuing Care Retirement Community spanning 52 acres in Morganton, NC. Owned and operated by Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge, our mission is to create a secure environment that supports individual choices and lifestyle, and our values contribute to our welcoming, positive attitude. We believe a good mood is integral to wellness and our vision is one where dreams and expectations truly are reality. To learn more about Grace Ridge, visit www.graceridge.org or call 828-580-8300.

About Blue Ridge HealthCare Foundation

The Blue Ridge HealthCare Foundation focuses on funding initiatives that support wellness programs, community outreach activities, medical education and special needs projects. The Foundation also secures grants from government and private foundations to support special projects and activities, and to assist Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge in advancing the delivery of excellent healthcare to all patients in Burke and surrounding counties, regardless of their ability to pay. To learn more about the foundation, visit <http://www.brhcfoundation.org>.

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