

Inside View

For the next few months, members from the Leadership Team will use this column to share their thoughts and vision for Westminster Towers

How to Share



When I was a brand new educator, fresh out of college, it did not take me long to discover this about my high school students – they pay attention to everything you do and most of what you say. Starting my career journey with that realization served me well (and continues to do so) with the privilege I had to teach thousands of students over 25 years. In our relationships – personal and professional – what we do has a far greater impact than what we say.

We can say we care about someone or love someone – but unless we demonstrate love and care through our actions, our words quickly become meaningless noise. All of us have emotional depositories and we function best when they are filled continuously. The filling comes from our everyday encounters with those we love, those we interact with on a regular basis, and even perfect strangers. Are you the kind of person who makes emotional deposits or do you withdraw from others more than you put in? Today, it may be a good time for all of us to assess our accounts. Are we purposely making meaningful deposits into others accounts or are we spending our days making costly withdrawals which can lead to strained and broken relationships? Opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others come our way every single day by our

responses to them. In my role here at Westminster Towers, I get to work with everyone to create a positive culture. I want employees to represent our values of *respect, integrity, excellence, and enrichment* as we serve all the residents, families, and one another. When I have the opportunity to share with a staff member, I want that experience to be meaningful for the individual. Even if the topic of discussion is about a negative attitude that needs to be changed, I want that person to understand how they have the chance to make someone's day brighter and how that cannot be accomplished with a display of negativity.

Look for the person who seems alone. Send a note to a friend you haven't seen in years. Say "I'm sorry" and start rebuilding a relationship. Smile and say thank you. Care enough to lovingly tell someone that their behavior needs to improve, with a promise to be a mentor.

Words matter. Actions matter more. The choices of both profoundly influence our relationships, productivity, health, and happiness. It is my hope for each of you that you encounter people who truly desire to make affirmative deposits in your life. In turn, I hope you will do the same. And that is "how to share."



Diane Howe

Director of
Culture
Advancement 



I was in high school in 1941 when I noticed **Donald Campbell**. He lived near my aunt so we saw each other frequently. He was tall, very good looking and he played on the football team. He

joined the Air Force and became a bombardier and was stationed out west.

We had been dating a lot and I missed him.

One day a small package arrived from Tucson, Arizona. As soon as I opened the package my eyes sparkled more than the diamond inside. We got married January 24, 1943 at the Air Force base; shortly thereafter he was sent overseas.

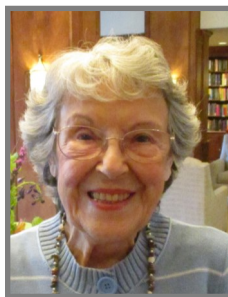
Those were scary, lonely months.

In October I received a dozen red roses from my new husband for my birthday — the very same day he was on a mission when the pilot had trouble with the plane and he told the crew to bail out.

The bombardier and the navigator were the only two to bail out and they were drowned in the North Sea, never to return. The pilot righted the plane and returned to the base. His luck soon ran out as well — he and his plane were later blown up!

How does one accept and recover such loss?

You never do, but you keep praying and hold the happy memories in your heart.



Louise Clark

I met my husband in Australia during World War II in 1942. We dated for a week before he left for the war zone. He spent his next leave with



Pix Drennan

us in Sydney and asked me to marry him.

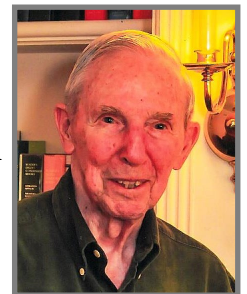
He said he knew on our first date that I was the one for him! Fate?



She was standing beside a table in the living room. She had long golden hair and she was wearing a green dress with big white polka dots.

I asked a friend to introduce me. We talked. I said, "It's pretty noisy in here. Do you mind if we step out on the front porch?" We were married in a little country church.

After 65 years, 6 months and 14 days God called her home. She was the love of my life and I miss her every day.



Marshall Doswell

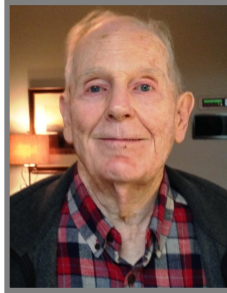
In February 1949 I was in Quantico hospital and a friend was in the next room. His girlfriend came to visit and brought **Jean** with her, so they sent her over to talk to me. We talked.

We corresponded for the next year, during part of which I was deployed in the Mediterranean area.

I visited her family in May 1950, just for a short visit, and then we corresponded again June 1950-July 1951, while I was in Korea. Our first date was July 7, 1951 – and **Jean** only went on a date with me because her mother said, “She should go out at least once with that poor Marine.”

We were engaged less than two weeks later, on July 20, 1951.

Jean tried to back out of our wedding at the last minute, but her mother was still on my side and we were married on October 25, 1951. We had 62+ super years.



Ed McPoland

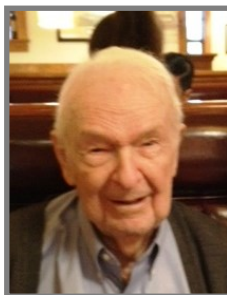


During my junior year at Catawba College in Salisbury, N.C., I kept seeing a beautiful girl named, **Helen Quackenbush**.

At a club picnic, a friend grabbed me and said that Helen was there. I looked and saw a beautiful brunette with long hair. She was wearing a white blouse, a blue and white checked skirt and, of course, a beautiful smile.

I got an introduction and we had a blast my senior year. We were married in August 1942, spent three years in the Navy and will celebrate 74 years of marriage in August this year.

That college romance has produced six children, 20 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and still going. God is so good all the time!



Bob Benson



On Saturday night, August 23, 1947, my date and I joined another couple at Reid’s Pool, a popular spot for young people on summer nights in Chester County.

Tom Gettys from Rock Hill joined us. He was home for the weekend from his job in Washington.

Both of us had recently spent three years in the Navy; he insulted me by saying that he would never marry a WAVE! But in spite of that statement he went home that night and told his brother that he planned to marry me.

Three weeks later we were engaged and four months later we were married and began 63 exciting, happy years!



Mary Gettys



My love story is short and sweet. I met my future husband **Bill Norwood** on a blind date. He was just home from being in the service. A friend of mine asked me to be his date one night. After that date I went home and told my parents I had met the man that I was going to marry. **Bill** also told his parents the same thing. He asked me to marry him, and we were married three months later on March 1, 1945.



**Ruth Norwood
Tevebaugh**



Several couples in Fort Mill were invited to a birthday dinner in Lancaster. We both attended the dinner with a date.

The group was having cocktails and socializing, but we did not drink and met at the bar when we both ordered a Coca-Cola!

He called the next morning and asked me on a date that night. We were married 18 months later and have now been married 68-½ years.

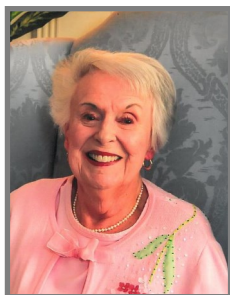


I met my husband, **Peter**, in a business setting, not a fascinating beginning *until* I discovered that he was English, as I had previously fallen in love with England through literature.

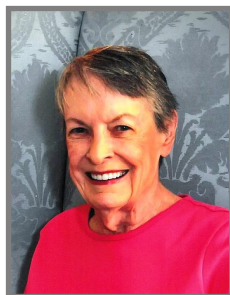
When I subsequently found that as a child he had lived in exotic Egypt, in Abu Qir near Alexandria, I was doubly intrigued and remained so during our exciting 30 years together.



She was hanging on an iron fence with her blonde hair shining in the sun. She and her Meminger High School girl buddies showed up every Saturday for the Big Parade. The biggest deal in Charleston was on the parade ground at The Citadel, the Military College, known as The West Point of the South. Sixteen Companies totaling 1,600 Cadets would put on their full dress uniforms with Shakos and strut to the bands playing Sousa's famous marches.



Pansy Kirkpatrick



Gaylon Syrett

I was a lowly plebe freshman and after the military life all week was totally ready to see some of those awesome "Bobby Sockers."

Vivian was a vivacious 5'10" bundle of energy that caught my eye! But wait, there was a war going on and every Cadet joined some branch of service as soon as he turned 18. I chose Army Air Corps. After months of training and combat and victory I had actually lost track of **Vivian**. Then — the love gods sent **Vivian** and me to a Shrine Bowl Football game in Charlotte in 1946 and on that wonderful fall afternoon we bumped into each other. I was breathless and weak in the knees. I decided at that moment she would never get away and she didn't for 65 wonderful years.

She graduated from Winthrop College in 1948; we were married in 1949 and she graduated to Heaven in 2004. That's my love story!!!



I chased **Bill** until he caught me. I was 16 years old and **Bill** was home on leave from the Navy. He was going to "Re-up," but he decided not to and returned to me.

We were married two years later and spent the next 65 years together.



Pinky Funderburk



Wilma Best



Meet Your Neighbor



I met a lovely lady from England: her name is **Margaret Henson** and she is now living in #504 at The Towers, a long way from England!

She was born April 27, 1928 and lived in England until she was 18. She was a schoolgirl during World War II, and one school year they were asked to choose a project that would be appropriate to the War Effort.

After much thought, she and a friend decided to study chickens! They fed and took care of about a dozen chickens, studied their habits and turned in all the eggs laid, as eggs were rationed.

Margaret met her husband, "**Dotch**" (a military nickname that stuck), in Baldock, (southeast England) when he was in the U.S. Army Air Corps and stationed at Basingbourn Barracks (*editor's note – about 75 miles from Amy's home town of Norwich*) and they dated until he had to return to the United States. **Dotch** was 12 years older than **Margaret** and her mother did not approve of their relationship – as soon as she turned 18 she came to America and they eloped, marrying on July 4th, 1946.

Dotch was an electrician by profession, and

they came to Rock Hill while he was supervising the electrical side of the building of the Bowater plant. **Margaret** kept busy with her in-home business of making ladies lingerie – her items were popular and purchased by everyone from Winthrop College students to married ladies. Several Towers residents were customers of **Margaret's**!

Margaret and **Dotch** had five children: **Stephanie, Elizabeth, David, Lisa** and **Wendy**, and then two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Dotch sadly passed away in 1987 from lung cancer, and **Margaret** jokes that the U.S. Army should be held responsible, as the GIs were given as many cigarettes as

they could smoke.

Margaret likes living at The Towers and has been enjoying meeting new people. In her spare time she knits, watches PBS television shows (especially gardening), visits with friends and talks on the telephone to her sister in England. You will enjoy meeting this friendly lady and hearing her stories.

~ Louise Clark 



Margaret Henson, Apt.
504

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. Proverbs 31:10-13



Don Hunt

When the calendar page turns to February my thoughts focus on Valentine's Day and the people I love.

This poem by Helen Steiner Rice is a great reminder that FAITH and LOVE will triumph, no matter where I am.

~ **Don Hunt**, President of the Resident's Association



The Legend of the Valentine

The legend says St. Valentine
Was in a prison cell
Thinking of his little flock
He had always loved so well
And, wanting to assure them
Of his friendship and his love,
He picked a bunch of violets
And sent them by a dove...

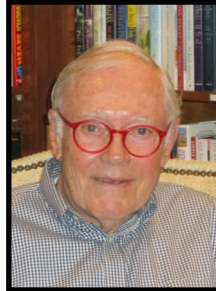
And on the violets' velvet leaves
He pierced these lines divine
That simply said, "I LOVE YOU"
And "I'M YOUR VALENTINE"

So through the years that followed,
From that day unto this,
Folks still send messages of love
And seal them with a kiss...

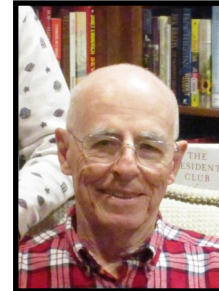
Because a SAINT in prison
Reached through prison bars one day
And picked a bunch of violets
And sent them out to say
That FAITH and LOVE can triumph,
No matter where you are,
For FAITH and LOVE are GREATER

Than the strongest prison bar.
~ Helen Steiner Rice,
Loving Thoughts

Welcome to The Towers!



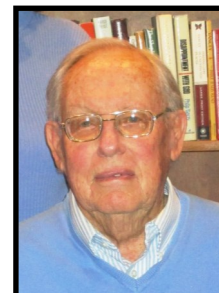
Edmund and Pat FitzGerald
Apt. 227



David and Beverly Henriquez
Apt. 226



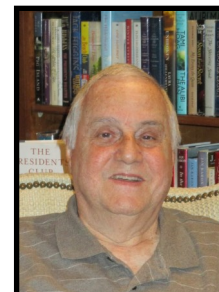
Robert and Dorothy Southwell
Apt. 514



French and Alma O'Shields
Apt. 314



Elizabeth Faris
Apt. 202



Robert and Nancy McDuffie
Apt. 614



Naomi Schlick
Apt. 306



Betty Rudd
Apt. 509



Capital Campaign

Dwight and Alma Benson
 Patricia Bramer
 Joanne Cauthen
 Courtney Clark
 John and June Eason
 Tony Fountain
 Randy and Tracy Imler
 Will and Sandra Mauldin
 Donald and Laura Wagman

In honor of **May Williams**
 Rachel Roberts

In memory of **Bill Holley**
 Rachel Roberts
 Jack and Dicksie Ward

In memory of **Betty Jordan**
 Rachel Roberts
 Jack and Dicksie Ward

In memory of **Nell Tevebaugh**
 Shaneka Cornwell

Endowment Fund

Dan and Ginny Barnes
 Bette Christensen
 Diane Howe
 Amy Laughlin
 Deb Pedersen
 Mandy Stamper

In memory of **Pesta Stathopoulos**
 Harry and 'Becca Dalton
 Billie Bell
 Lynn Hornsby
 Sara Rooks

Continued on Page 8

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

The classic movie revolved around an unannounced dinner guest that caused quite a problem for Matt (Spencer Tracy) and Christina (Katharine Hepburn).



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner is a 1967 American comedy-drama film starring Spencer Tracy, Sidney Poitier, Katharine Hepburn and Hepburn's niece Katharine Houghton.

By the end of the movie, after a lot of soul-searching, everyone came together to enjoy dinner.

Unexpected guests in the Towers Dining Room can be a problem too, but for different reasons.

Seating capacity in the Dining Room is limited, and **Chef Gary** and the staff go to great lengths to make sure there is enough food for everyone. They are just as dedicated to making sure that food isn't wasted — a tricky prospect if you don't know who is coming to dinner.

Guests are welcome in the Dining Room; however, only a limited number of reservations can be accepted for each meal service.

It is recommended that guest reservations are made at least two days in advance for weekdays, and one week in advance for Sunday lunch and holidays.

The Private Dining Room may be reserved for special occasions; however, to accommodate additional staffing requirements, reservations should be made at least one week in advance with the Dining Room Coordinator and two weeks in advance for holidays and groups of ten or more. Any catering service desired should be discussed two weeks in advance.

Communicating with our Dining Room Coordinator, **Elaine Walker**, at extension 5118 will help us be good stewards of our resources and avoid guessing games for everyone!



The shopping carts located near the reception desk in the Towers Lobby have been purchased by the Resident Association for the convenience of **ALL** Towers residents. Please be kind to your neighbors by promptly returning the cart to the Lobby.

Contributions (cont.)

In memory of **Bill Holley**

Hugh Barnett

Lynn Hornsby

In memory of **Edythe**

Langston Martin

Maggie Haddad

Sara Rooks

Nancy Thomas

In memory of **Betty Jordan**

Lynn Hornsby

In memory of **Clarence**

Hornsby

Elvin and 'Rene Walker

In memory of **Ralph and**

Shirley Brannan

Elvin and 'Rene Walker

In memory of **Anna Seyler**

Elvin and 'Rene Walker

In memory of **Emil Ridzick**

Billie Bell

In memory of **Buddy Culp**

Lynn Hornsby

In memory of **Annie**

McGarity

Sara Rooks

Elvin and 'Rene Walker

Employee

Assistance

Peggy Jordan

In-Kind

Contributions

Ken Galloway and Anita Pitre

*Any gift to the Endowment,
Capital Campaign or Employee
Assistance Fund can be made in
honor or in
memory of a
loved one or
neighbor.*

*Thank
you*



The Library Committee is most appreciative of the books that are being offered for the Lobby Library. However, because of space limitations these gifts have to be reviewed for duplications, categories etc. In order that these criteria can be followed please contact Library Committee Chair, Barbara Whitman, or any member of the committee if you have books to contribute.

Don't forget that the York County Book Mobile visits twice monthly for added availability of good reading material.

In Loving Memory of

Edythe Martin

Oscar "Buddy" Culp



"Surely goodness and
mercy shall follow
me all the days of my
life, and I shall dwell
in the house of the
Lord forever."

Psalm 23:8



Westminster Windows is published monthly for the residents, staff and friends of Westminster Towers continuing care retirement community.

Submissions and column ideas are welcomed in writing to the following members of the newsletter committee (submissions will not be returned, and they will be used according to space availability and content appropriateness).

Newsletter Committee: **Bette Christensen**, Editor, **Ginny Dunn**, Chair, **Louise Clark**, **Hugh Barnett**, **Vernon Sumwalt**, **Bob Benson**, **Pinky Funderburk**, **Gaylon Syrett**, **Don Hunt**, Residents' Association President, **Jim Bright**, Interim President/CEO, **Amy Laughlin**, Director of Life Enrichment