

westminstertowers.org

## Inside View

**J**im  
**T**ime

Dear Residents,

For many of us May is synonymous with Mother's Day and I wanted to share some thoughts about my Mother.

### Forever Mother — Before, During, After



Susan Ogilvie

1945

She is "Mother" to me. For whatever reason her children have always referred to her as Mother which is more formal than "Mom." However, while I have deep respect for her, my relationship is hardly formal. While she is friendly, she is not a friend in that sense. She is simply Mother.

**Before** (children). She was the salutatorian of her high school class of 1944 in Columbia, Tenn., where she was in the marching band and lived in a home with no car so she really did walk to school for 12 years! She was a very proud graduate of the short lived, but honored, Nurse Cadet Program at Baptist School of Nursing in Memphis, Tenn., in 1947, and Vice President of her graduating class.

**During** (children). I am fourth of five children, all baby boomers born in 1951-1953-1953-1955-1958. Mother and Daddy were very busy in those years. After marrying and having a wonderful marriage from 1948-1967 my Mother had no choice but to divorce... painful for her and all of us... but Mother continued to work as a Head Nurse at the hospital where I was born never speaking to this day an ill word about our father, never complaining about raising five children, just grateful for her children, her health and healthy children. She kept us active in church and school. She was active with us; she never had time for herself.

**After** (children). It's the reaping stage where she has had a very fulfilling life. She is now 91 years old. She worked as a nurse full-time until age 70, then part-time until she had a stroke at age 76. She so loves the hospital where she worked for 30 years, she became a volunteer at the hospital and has

**Mother—continued on page 7**



Susan Thomason

1991



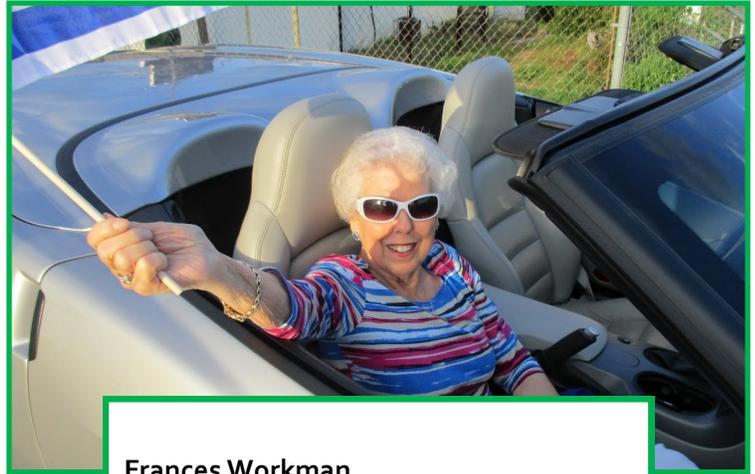
Jim Thomason

President and CEO

# Come See Me! 2017 Parade



Pix Drennan  
Gene and Imogene Blackmon



Frances Workman



Patrice Hinnant



Brittany Hutson, Liz Gray, Jocelyn Leas



Jim Thomason, Allison Matthews,  
Bette Christensen, Melanie Evans



Betty Mahan, Virginia Dunn, Frances  
Workman, Vanessa Swetnam, Janice  
Swetnam, Jack Ward, Dicksie Ward

# Welcome to the Towers



**Louise Whitfield**  
Apt. 610



**Sarah Ridgeway**  
Apt. 402



**Margaret Hausman**  
Apt. 324



**Janet Billey**  
Apt. 220



**Ethelyn Hayslett**  
Apt. 628

## TO DO LIST

- Count my blessings
- Speak gently
- Love much
- Laugh a lot
- Let go of what I can't control



**Rick Schmitt**  
Executive Chef

**Residents, Staff,  
Friends and  
Families of  
Westminster  
Towers:**

I am excited to have been selected as your new Assistant Dining Director and Executive Chef. Bringing more than thirty years of culinary

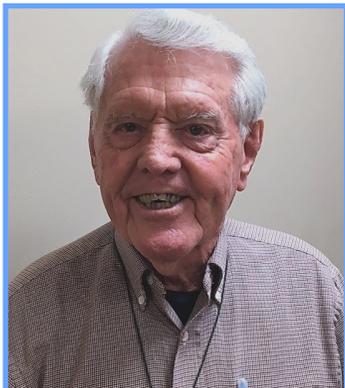
experience, sixteen years of which have been spent in healthcare and CCRCs, it is my intention to place Westminster Towers culinary services in the forefront of the state for retirement communities.

My experience lies mainly in southern family, southwestern, Mediterranean, and fine dining. The menus for the dining room will reflect a blend of these styles of cuisine, provide a variety of high quality foods and service, unpredictable specials, and increased use of the popular salad bar. It is my hope to increase the satisfaction level of residents and guests to an all-time high in their dining experiences at Westminster Towers.

As a two-time president of the South Carolina Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Professionals and current chairman of the Political Action Committee, I help keep Certified Dietary Managers in the forefront of institutional and commercial foodservice leaders. Giving back to the community and mentoring new leaders in my career field are very important to me. I feel that it is my duty to share my knowledge to ensure the continuation of quality culinary leadership for retirement communities across the state.

# Getting People Ready for Heaven

## Campus Chaplain



Gene Craven  
Apt. 207

**Gene Craven** was born in Hickory, N.C., in 1931. He graduated from Davidson College and Columbia Seminary and was married to **Blair Isbell** for 58 years. He first pastored in Haines City, Fla. He then served as a missionary in Taiwan, China from 1958 to 1968. He was Pastor with Rev. **Ben**

**Hadan** in Chattanooga, Tenn. **Pastor Gene** came to Rock Hill to lead Westminster Presbyterian Church from 1976 until 1984. He helped to start Westminster Christian School during his tenure at WPC. He then established Quiet Water Retreat Center near Charlotte and was, and is still, Pastor of Freedom PCA in Charlotte. **Pastor Gene** moved to the Towers in 2012, shortly after his wife passed away, and became the Campus Chaplain.

As Chaplain of the Towers, **Pastor Gene** leads nondenominational Christian services and provides spiritual support to those who are unable to attend organized worship services in their home churches. He also provides spiritual guidance and counselling for those in need.

Later this month **Pastor Gene** will be travelling to China with his daughter and son-in-law on a mission trip. While there, he will have the opportunity to return to Taiwan where he and his wife served for ten years. He has promised that he will share the stories and pictures of his adventure when he returns.

### Opportunities for Spiritual Growth @ The Towers:

**Sunday** 4 p.m. Vespers—A worship service at the close of the Lord's Day.

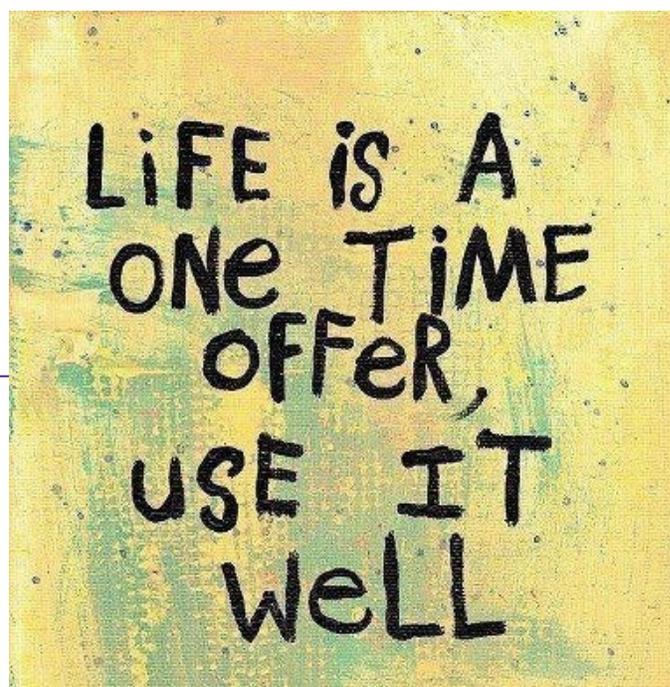
**Wednesday** 10 a.m. Devotion for Manor Residents.

6:30 p.m. Bible study—a weekly teaching from God's Word and how its truth can be applied to our daily lives.

**Thursday** 10 a.m. Devotion for Towers Residents in the 2nd floor lounge.

6:30 p.m. Hymn sing-along—sing or just listen to old timey songs from a large print Hymn book.

Accomplished pianist, Peter Brouillette, often comes to guide the worship songs with his talented piano renditions of music.





## Meet Your Neighbor



**Spencer and Elizabeth (Lib) Anderson** met on a blind date in 1962. Several young ladies from the First Presbyterian Church Greenville's Young Adult Sunday School Class had planned to visit Camden, S.C., and attend the famous Carolina Cup horse races. **Spencer** was encouraged to join the group as one of the ladies' dates. He was instructed that he would be paired with the shorter girl, **Lib!** This was to be a very momentous day in their lives, as they are still going strong, having recently celebrated 53 years of marriage. They are now residing on the third floor in apartment #319.

**Elizabeth** was born and raised in Lake City, S.C., and as there were five Elizabeth's in her class, she was assigned to be the "**Lib.**" The teacher said there would be only one Elizabeth and so the new names were assigned to the girls. Here at Westminster she answers to both names. She graduated from Coker College in Hartsville, S.C., majoring in Social Work. She went on to earn a Master's degree in Clinical Social Work from William and Mary's two-year program in Richmond, Va. She was working in Greenville as a Clinical Social Worker when **Spencer** appeared as her date at the Camden Race.

**Spencer**, a Bishopville native, attended Presbyterian College in Clinton, S.C. He served three years in the Army as a cryptographer, assigned to the Brady Air Force base, Japan, for two and one-half years.

Returning to civilian life, he joined Kendall

Corporation, at their large manufacturing plant located in Bethune, S.C., as plant scheduler. He was promoted to Regional Operations Scheduler at the corporation's Southeastern Regional Office located in Charlotte, N.C. He supervised the manufacturing schedule for all the Kendall operations in S.C./N.C./Ga./Ala. The **Andersons** have lived in Rock Hill since 1967.

After leaving Kendall, **Spencer** worked as a management recruiter concentrating in the textile industry for several years. Prior to retirement, he was Legal Administrator for the local law firm of Roddey Carpenter and White.

**Lib** was affiliated as a Clinical Social Worker with Piedmont Medical Center until her retirement. She was the first Social Worker for Saluda Psychological, starting in April 1976 and retiring in 2008.

Their two children live in Charlotte and Gastonia, N.C., and there are three growing grandsons.

The **Andersons** are long-time members of 1<sup>st</sup> ARP and have been choir members for 50 years. Devoted to the outdoors, they are experienced campers, gardeners, and birdwatchers. **Spencer** is a dedicated Rotarian with over 16 years of perfect attendance! He participated in Rotary International's recent polio vaccination operation in India. They are looking forward to attending the 2017 Convention this summer in Atlanta, Ga.

Please take a moment to welcome this interesting couple to the Westminster Towers Community.

~ Ed FitzGerald



Lib and Spencer  
Anderson, apt. 319

**Writers Note:** "Love is blind" is a quote by Wm. Shakespeare. I wonder how many Towers residents first met on a blind date. Pat and I met 58 years ago on a blind date in Hawaii. It might be an interesting survey to take. Call me at 5227 or email: [fitzpatr@comporium.net](mailto:fitzpatr@comporium.net) and let me know if this was your situation. May be worth a Windows article.

Ed FitzGerald



Don Hunt

President of the  
Resident Association

*When I received this from my young cousin, I just had to share it with my friends and neighbors. I believe it's applicable for all age groups. Enjoy!*

## **“Hi handsome, my name is Rose”**

*...Continued from April Windows*

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, “We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing.

There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. We have to laugh and find humor every day. You’ve got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die.

We have so many people walking around who are dead and don’t even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.

If you are 19 years-old and lie in bed for one full year and don’t do one productive thing, you will turn 20 years-old. If I am 87 years-old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn 88.

Anybody can grow older! That doesn’t take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets.

The elderly usually don’t have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets.”

She concluded her speech by courageously singing, ‘The Rose.’

She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year’s end, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those months ago.

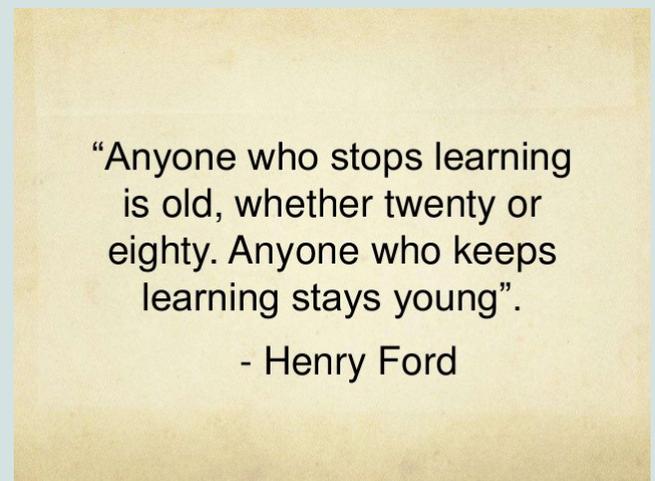
One week after graduation, Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

Over 2,000 college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example — that it’s never too late to be all you can possibly be.

### Remember:

- Growing older is mandatory. Growing up is optional.
- We make a LIVING by what we get. We make a LIFE by what we give.
- God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.
- Good friends are like stars...You don’t always see them, but you know they are always there.

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20b



- Henry Ford

# Contributions



## Endowment Fund

Jim Thomason

In memory of **Evelyn French**

Anonymous

John Harris

Ron and Mary Jo Walsh

Jane Watkins

In memory of **Doris Greene**

Claudia Jenkins

In memory of **Judy Hicklin**

Lynn Hornsby

In memory of **Bill Holley**

David and Kloo Vipperman

In memory of **Clarence**

**Hornsby**

David and Kloo Vipperman

In memory of **Charles**

**Mitchell**

David and Kloo Vipperman

In memory of **Mitt Sadler**

Sig and Judy Huitt

Rion and Virginia Rutledge

## General Fund

Pinky Funderburk

Jim Thomason

## Employees

### Assisting

### Employees

In honor of **May Williams**

Rachel Roberts

*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*



**Mother—continued from page 1**

earned her 20-year pin!

Mother remains extremely active in her church, working in the Sunday School class for developmentally disabled adults and serving as the communication channel for her five children, seven grandchildren and now 11 great-grandchildren remembering all of them on birthdays, Christmas, all baptisms and school graduations, attending in person.

Mother lives a full life in Jackson, Tenn., anchored in her faith and has forever focused on the good things of life and believing out of all of life's experiences, good comes from it if we but look for it.

If I looked the world over I would pick my Mother for me!

**I am so grateful for her!**

To the world  
you are a  
mother, but to  
your family  
you are the  
world.

~ Unknown



Mother's 80th Birthday Party  
Janice, Dale, Jim, Mother, Mike and Leeta

## Schmitt Continued from Page 3

Joining me in Rock Hill from Columbia will be my beautiful wife **Cindy** and our youngest daughter **Jessie**. We have been blessed with seven children – five girls and two boys that range in ages from twenty-nine to sixteen. **Cindy** and I also have one nine year-old grandson and a granddaughter due in June. We are looking forward to completing our move to the upstate and becoming part of your neighborhood.

Open communication with my customers is the key to my success and your satisfaction. I welcome your comments, suggestions, recipes and ideas. Please feel free to contact me by phone, email, or stop me in the halls or dining room. I look forward to serving you!



**Chef Rick Schmitt, CDM, CFPP**  
Assistant Dining Director/Executive Chef

## Riverview @ The Towers

**Urgent and Primary Care Clinic**  
**Located in the Lower Level**

**HOURS: 8—noon Monday and Wednesday**  
**803-328-WELL (9355)**

## WESTMINSTER TOWERS RESIDENT'S BILL OF RIGHTS

As a resident of Westminster Towers Independent Living campus, you have, or your legal guardian has, the right to:

- ⇒ Choose your own personal physician;
- ⇒ Have security in storing your personal possessions;
- ⇒ Be treated with respect and dignity;
- ⇒ Be free from mental or physical abuse;
- ⇒ Be free from working or performing services for the facility;
- ⇒ Have your legal guardian, family members, and other relatives see you when they visit;
- ⇒ Send and receive mail with freedom and privacy;
- ⇒ Associate and communicate privately with persons of your choice;
- ⇒ Meet with and participate in social, religious, and community group activities.

Westminster Towers, an extension of the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church, was founded on the theological principles and values of the Presbyterian Church in America. Our mission is to provide services that inspire, encourage, and empower seniors, while demonstrating the love of Christ to support individual well-being.



*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).

Editor: **Bette Christensen**; Newsletter Committee — Chair: Members: **Vernon Sumwalt, Pinky Funderburk, Beverly Henriquez, Gaylon Syrett**; Residents' Association President: **Don Hunt**; President and CEO: **Jim Thomason**; Director of Life Enrichment: **Patrice Hinnant**