



WESTMINSTER TOWERS WINDOWS

CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

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THE FOURTH OF JULY

By: Nancy Anderson

I have always enjoyed fireworks displays on the Fourth of July. We have on occasion traveled some distance to see the best ones, though sometimes it took a long time to make our way home through the traffic jams that would inevitably occur.

But for the real meaning behind the celebrations, we must go back to July 4, 1776. That was the day the Continental Congress unanimously adopted the Declaration of Independence, declaring us free from Great Britain. What a momentous moment for our country! Here's what it said:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

It further stressed that while this liberty was the right of every individual, the government's task was to protect it, and, if it failed to do so, then the people should revolt against it. And revolt we did!

The first anniversary of the signing occurred on July 4, 1777. It was replete with many festivities and concluded with the firing of 13 rockets – one for each of the colonies.

Franklin Roosevelt made the Fourth of July a federal holiday and granted a paid vacation day to all federal employees. While it seems to me that the importance of the day, which we more informally call the Fourth of July rather than Independence Day, has declined in our hearts and minds, it surely remains a much-celebrated day, including family get togethers, picnics, games, and fireworks extravaganzas all over the country.

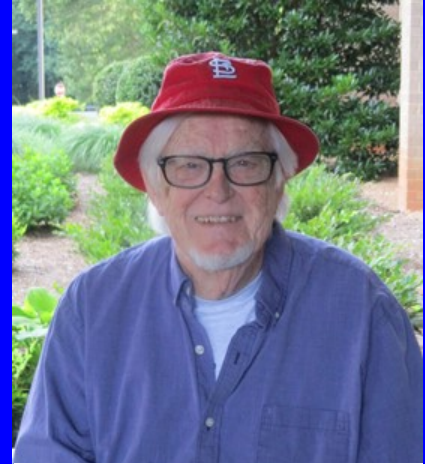
We had a visiting Brit by the name of George with us some years ago when we were living in Minnesota. On the night of the Fourth, we took him to downtown St. Paul and sat on the lawn of the Catholic cathedral to watch the display across the way by the capitol building. Radios around us were playing, “I’m glad to be an American, for at least I know I’m free . . .” and many other patriotic songs as the sky lit up with bursts of intense colors - especially red, white, and blue. I glanced over at George and found him with tears in his eyes. He thumped his breast with his fist and said, “It gets you right here.” It got me too!

Freedom has certainly come at a great price for those who died to gain it or keep it, and that price is still needing to be paid. Our freedoms can never be taken for granted and have to be protected for ALL citizens in our country!

WELCOME TO THE TOWERS



**Joan Bundy
Apartment #529**



**Earl Wilcox
Apartment #314**

Lisa Johnson Wednesday June 9th Service

Rev. Lisa Johnson, pastor of Bowling Green Presbyterian Church, presided at our Wednesday June 9th 3PM church service. Lisa was invited by Peggy Moore and Betty Love, long time members of the congregation. This was a special service for Lisa as she wore her clerical robe, a recent gift from her mother, Caroline Kruger. In addition, the green stole she wore was sewn and embroidered by her sister-in-law. Those that attended the service thought that presiding, dressed in the pastoral robe and stole, enhanced the quality of the service, the prayers, and the preaching.



Mom, Lisa Johnson, Betty Love and Peggy Moore

Rick Schmitt Director of Dining Services

By: Ed FitzGerald

Chef Rick's dining operations undoubtedly have the largest impact on the residents of Westminster Towers, and each resident has a very strong opinion as how she or he relates to "food" in the Towers. Keeping the dining rooms going with good, tasty, nutritional fare is a very complex operation. There are two separate kitchens that prepare food for Independent Living, Manor, Rehab and the Health Center. Each day, over 350 meals are served that address a variety of tastes and special needs. There is food purchasing from vendors, menu planning, dietetic needs considered, busy kitchens cooking away, harried servers and clean-up duties. All this occurs while operating under DHEC rules and Pandemic restrictions. Currently nothing is normal! Rick Schmitt is a very busy man, yet always open to resident comments, good and bad, and very willing to explore ways to improve the menu and introduce new dining ideas.

Rick joined the Towers staff four years ago as Executive Chef and was promoted to Culinary Director after a year. Born in Columbia, SC, where he resides, he does not mind the commute to Rock Hill, as Columbia is the best place for his blended family of seven children; ages 36-20. There are currently four grandchildren. He has been in the food and restaurant business since he was eleven when he started washing dishes in a local restaurant.

He spent four years in the Air Force, stationed at Ellsworth AFB outside Rapid City, South Dakota. The base had over 5000 personnel and was an important part of the Cold War Strategic Air Command. Long range bombers were flown from the base and had as many ICBM missile silos. He was trained as a missile

maintenance mechanic. After his enlistment was finished, Rick returned to the food industry—his primary love.

It is amazing how much food is prepared in our kitchens. A small number of cooks prepare soups, salads, two entrées, four sides, multiple deserts, drinks and bakery products. There is a lot of food and loads of dishes to be washed. Rick said that there is very little waste considering the scope of the operation. He has been in the food industry for over forty years and said,

"You need to be a cook before becoming a chef." He has been very active in the South Carolina Chapter of the Nutritional and Food Service Professionals, currently serving as State President, and has been actively serving in the organization for over 14 years. He has represented the state on the National Board and is mighty proud of his work enhancing the professional skills of many who work in this complex industry.

When he discussed the menu selection, he stated that it is supply driven and that he is generally working a week or two ahead of the published weekly menu. Chocolate brownies with pecans and tiramisu are the favorite desserts with the diners. Good old Breyers ice cream is always a hit! He ended the discussion with the note that maintaining a proper and adequate staff is the greatest issue today, and this problem crosses all segments of the restaurant and institutional food industry, very much driven by the pandemic and lockdowns. He also mentioned that there will be greater emphasis on the daily operation of the "Sandwich Shop," where one third of daily meals are being prepared.

When you see Rick, take a minute, and let him know how he and the staff are doing and tell him you appreciate how much they do to make life at the Towers as enjoyable as possible.



N E W S

YOU CAN USE.



Resident Association: An example of why we purchased a top of the line Luggage Trolley last year. It is always available for use, and stored next to reception at the front desk.
- Ed FitzGerald



Correspondence Committee: Please contact Mary Alice Mitchell at 5409 if you know of anyone who could benefit from receiving a greeting card for any reason.—Mary Alice Mitchell




Maintenance Committee: Please keep a look out for a flyer in your mailbox this month that will give you information on proper ways to recycle. - Charles Ives





Food Committee: Good news from Chef Rick Schmidtt. All tables in the dining room have been opened as of last week June 7th. We are now able to have guests and family dine with us again. A new breakfast menu has been established Sunday through Saturday and the prices are very reasonable. Residents enjoy a delicious, reasonable breakfast with each other for a delightful change. A new more expansive lunch/dinner menu has been designed by Chef Rick that gives us more selection and more options. The feedback from this menu has been very positive.

Thank you Chef Rick, Elaine and all of your staff. We appreciate all your efforts!
- Dot Modla, Chairman




 **Windows Committee:** We would like to welcome our new member, Morna Matheny, to our committee! We are so happy to have her as part of our team. We invite others to join or contribute articles to the Windows Newsletter. Thank you for your kind words regarding our June edition. - Linda Lenz

 **Wellness Committee:** The committee meets the second Thursday at 1pm and every floor is represented except the 6th! Please consider being part of this group. A new activity has been added - WALK FOR BREAKFAST- the third Monday at 8 am. Meet in the lobby, stroll around campus for about 1/2 hour and then have breakfast in dining room (cost charged to your account). Remember to stay hydrated during the hot weather. - Sue Nazak

 **Activities Committee:** Thank you to everyone who filled out the 2021 Activity Survey. The Life Enrichment team is hard at work reviewing your responses. We will look at all suggestions and work hard to bring you more of the fun things you enjoy! - Christy O'Connor

If you are interested in playing canasta please contact Nancy Preston at 803 230 4467

 **Library Committee:** A big thank you to Marie Graham for her generous gift of 6 new Lee Child's 'Jack Reacher' books. They are good stories and very popular with both the men and ladies.

The following is a reminder of how to check out a book:

1. Locate a book of interest.
2. Turn to the back of the book where you will find a card.
3. Remove the card, write your name, and write the date.
4. Place the card in the basket on the shelf.

There is no set time for returning a book. When you are finished with it, you can return it by placing it on the shelf by the basket and the staff will take it from there. If you have any questions or need help with anything library related, contact Donna Reese or Janet Yocum. We hope you enjoy the library. We enjoy serving you! - Donna Reese

PLAYING FROM THE HEART WITH FEELING AND EMOTION

By: Lou Ardrey

Patrick Hudson, one of the pianists who plays for us regularly, comes from a long line of musicians. For several generations his ancestors on both sides of the family played various instruments and sang. He is the oldest of eight children: four boys and four girls. Mom, Dad and each of his siblings plays an instrument or sings. Known as the Hudson Family Band, they first began to perform in nursing homes on January 1, 1997 and have shared their music for 24 years. In 1998 they began playing at Cracker Barrel in Rock Hill each Saturday and did that for ten years during the summer months. During that time they acquired several Blue Grass instruments and performed at Blue Grass festivals throughout the Southeast. Patrick played guitar for those events..

Patrick's mother says that, when he was two years old, he began to pick out songs like "Jesus Loves Me", "Amazing Grace" and "Away in a Manger" with one finger at a time. He began taking piano lessons at the age of six from Miss Mary Emma Dickson who was the organist at Beersheba Presbyterian Church in York. He was her first piano student but, when she passed away at the age of 90, she had over 100 students.

Patrick took lessons for three and half years, but he quit when he was ten years old because he wanted to be outside playing like most boys. He grew up on a farm in York and thought it was more fun to play with the farm animals, ride his bike and just enjoy the outdoors. He also developed other interests...playing the guitar, obedience training for dogs and meteorology. He observed the weather for several years, documenting readings from his homemade weather instrument shelter. He was totally away from music for four years. His life changed one day when he was listening to the radio and heard Floyd Cramer play "Last Date". He said to himself "I've got to learn how to play that song!". That was a turning point in his life. It took him three years to learn to play Floyd's particular technique and unique style. That song is now one of the pieces Patrick always includes in his performances.

When he was seventeen he started playing in retirement communities. By the age of nineteen he was playing on a regular basis in several nursing homes where there were older family members and friends.

He taught piano briefly at Tillman Music and Sound and piano and music theory for three years at York Technical College. He taught himself music theory by going to the Winthrop University Library during his lunch break and reading books on music theory, orchestration and instrumentation. When teaching, he told his students that there are two ways to paint a picture...painting by numbers and painting by mixing the colors. When it comes to playing, Patrick enjoys mixing the colors. He reads music but he finds it more enjoyable to play from the heart with feeling and emotion.

Patrick's full time job is taking care of the flight line at the Rock Hill Airport...all airplanes inbound and outbound...fueling, moving them around with a tug and working with maintenance and sales departments. He says he has to wear many hats. For years he has been flying recreationally--for his own pleasure. But in May, he got his commercial pilot's license, so he can now be compensated to fly passengers out of Rock Hill.

While performing at The Cypress of Charlotte (a retirement community) on June 16, 2018, Patrick met his wife Carlee, who was a CNA there. They were married on November 16, 2019.

Patrick brings much pleasure to us through his music and his winning personality.



WAIT THOU ONLY UPON GOD

By: Freda Hanbury

“Wait only upon God”; my soul, be still,
And let your God unfold His perfect will,
Thou fain would’st follow Him throughout
this year,
Thou fain with listening heart His voice would hear,
Thou fain would’st be a passive instrument
Possessed by God, and ever Spirit-sent
Upon His service sweet - then be thou still,
For only thus can He in thee fulfil
His heart's desire. Oh, hinder not His hand
From fashioning the vessel He hath planned.
“Be silent unto God,” and thou shalt know
The quiet, holy calm He doth bestow
On those who wait on Him; so shalt thou bear
His presence, and His life and light e’en where
The night is darkest, and thine earthly days
Shall show His love, and sound His glorious praise.
And He will work with hand unfettered, free,
His high and holy purposes through thee.
First on thee must that hand of power be turned,

Till in His love's strong fire thy dross is burned,
And thou come forth a vessel for thy Lord,
So frail and empty, yet, since He hath poured
Into thine emptiness His life, His love,
Henceforth through thee the power of God shall move
And He will work for thee. Stand still and see
The victories thy God will gain for thee;
So silent, yet so irresistible,
Thy God will do the thing impossible.
Oh, question not henceforth what thou canst do;
Thou canst do nought. But He will carry through
The work where human energy had failed,
Where all thy best endeavors had availed
Thee nothing. Then, my soul, wait and be still;
Thy God shall work for thee His perfect will.
If thou wilt take no less, His best shall be
Thy portion now and through eternity.

Submitted to the WINDOWS by Gene Craven

A PRAYER

By: Unknown

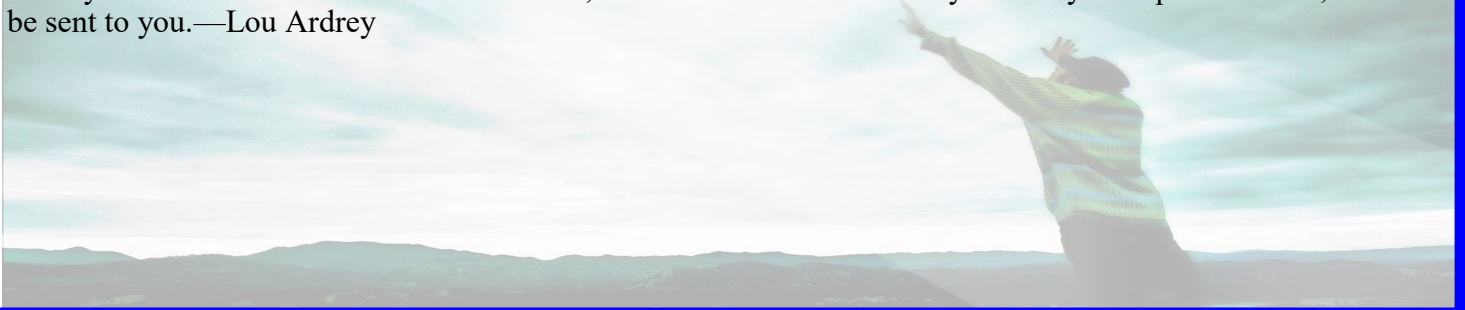
Lord, keep me from thinking I must say something on every occasion.
Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.
Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me wings to get to the point.
I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of other's pains.
Help me to seal the lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.
Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible I may be mistaken.
Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is the crowning work of the devil.
Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.
Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful, but not bossy.
With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Submitted to Windows by Nancy Anderson

Bible Study

It's not too late to join us for the last four lessons of the Bible study on the attributes of God entitled LORD, I WANT TO PRAISE YOU. God's word is full of verses which mention His attributes and names. In this study, we examine some of those passages which reflect his character and help us to know Him better. The better we know Him, the more we will be able to praise Him.

We meet in Heritage Hall on Monday mornings from 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. There is a workbook (no charge). Contact Lou Ardrey if you are interested in joining us. It is also on channel 99 at times listed in the weekly activities newsletter and on YouTube, where it can be watched anytime. If you request the link, it will be sent to you.—Lou Ardrey



JLu's Last Ride

By: Ed FitzGerald

The Friday June 4th outing to Landsford Canal to walk the Nature Trail and observe the amazing “Spider Lilies” was to be a memorable outing. It was JLu’s final bus driving assignment, as she was leaving the Towers staff to become an EMS employee at the end of the week. Those who signed up for the ride and walk were soon to find out that this outing was indeed “Very Memorable.” After stopping to pick up water, we arrived at the SC State Park about 11:30AM and split into small walking groups. Some started walking the nature trail toward the Spider Lily viewing platform. This walk is about 1.5 miles round trip. Three of us, Arlene Jenkins, Sue Nazak and I were quickly at the platform, took photos, viewed and read the signs about the amazing display of these special flowers. These rare lilies grow amid the Catawba River rapids and a few other places in Southern rivers where there are clean

freshwater rapids. The display of lilies at this park is the largest in North America, and they were in full bloom covering the rapids in beautiful white flowers.

We decided to take the Canal Trail back to the Ranger Station, the place where the bus was parked. Off we went, and I was assuring Sue that this trail would return us to our starting point. Not totally convinced, she continued to question me if we were heading in the right direction—she sensed that we were heading in the wrong direction! Eventually, we emerged from the trail onto a remote parking lot. Sue was right! We were heading in the wrong direction and away from the bus and far from where we needed to be! I remarked that we were not lost, only in the wrong place, and it was a lonely place as there were no people around and only two parked cars. To make matters worse, we were in a cell phone dead zone, and could not connect with JLu at the bus. “Let’s walk up the road,” Arlene suggested, thinking we would find better cell phone service. She was right, and eventually we connected with JLu, advising her that we were lost and walking up the road from the secondary parking lot. She said that she would try to find the parking lot and make a rescue. At



that time, a Duke Energy employee drove up the road and we hailed him down, explaining our plight. Hesitatingly, he agreed to drive us back to the main parking lot, and we all squeezed into his car. Soon Sue shouted “Stop, I see the bus!” I remarked that it was nice that there was local bus service way out in this stark part of the county. It was the Westminster bus coming down this remote road with JLu at the wheel. I believe she was as glad to see us as we were to see her. She did not want any lost residents messing up her last day driving the bus.

However, this incident was only the start of her amazing day! On the way back, we saw Carole Barber, standing alone on the roadside of the Park Entry Road. We picked her up and got her seated with water; she was exhausted and did not know how she had become lost. Finally, back at the park, we soon learned that Jason Greene, our fitness leader, was with two other members of the trip, and they were “out of gas” on the Nature Trail and would have to take it very slowly on their return walk. We did not hear from them after the initial contact and were a bit worried about their safety. Don Hunt went back down the trail to give them some physical and moral support. After about an hour, they slowly emerged from the trail and made it to the cool air-conditioning of the bus.



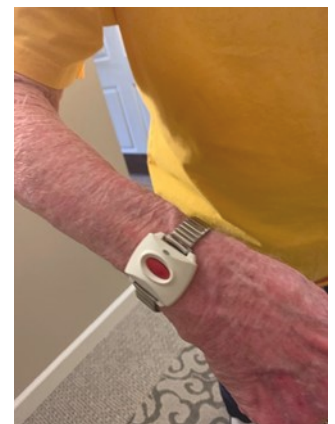
JLu was visibly relieved when she counted noses, and all the passengers were back on board. We celebrated as we drove out of the park and were heading home. As we debarked, we thanked JLu for putting up with our hiking problems and getting us safely back to the Towers. We will all miss JLu, a very special and unique person. Although she was hired as the bus driver, she became a key person in our lives as we struggled through the Pandemic lockdown. Who can forget her delivering Bojangles biscuits to our door, shopping at local grocery stores, picking up drugs at CVS and Walgreens and doing many other errands for home-bound Towers residents? All of these many services she provided were done

with a smile and zero complaints. We shall miss her happy, efficient, and positive attitude as she eased the pain of our long isolation. JLu, we will miss you, and we wish you well and much success on your new journey—it has been a GREAT RIDE.

PS—Thanks Sue and Arlene for forgiving me for bad trail leadership. I am sorry.

A Friendly Reminder to wear your pendant!

In case of an on campus emergency, press your pendant. When pressed, your pendant will dial #5000 and a receptionist/or after hours staff member will respond no matter what time it is!





An Old Lady's Poem

By Anonymous

Background: When an old lady died in the geriatric ward of a small hospital near Dundee, Scotland, it was felt that she had nothing left of any value. Later, when the nurses were going through her meager possessions, they found this poem. It's quality and content so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Ireland. The old lady's sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the North Ireland Association for Mental Health...And now this little Scottish lady, with nothing left to give to the world, is the author of this simple, yet eloquent, poem traveling the world by Internet. Goes to show that we all leave "SOME footprints in time".....

WHAT DO YOU SEE, NURSES,
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING WHEN
YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME?
A CRABBY OLD WOMAN, NOT
VERY WISE,
UNCERTAIN OF HABIT, WITH
FARAWAY EYES?

WHO DRIBBLES HER FOOD AND
MAKES NO REPLY
WHEN YOU SAY IN A LOUD
VOICE, "I DO WISH YOU'D TRY!"

WHO SEEMS NOT TO NOTICE THE
THINGS THAT YOU DO,
AND FOREVER IS LOSING A
STOCKING OR SHOE

WHO, RESISTING OR NOT, LETS
YOU DO AS YOU WILL,
WITH BATHING AND FEEDING,
THE LONG DAY TO FILL.....
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING?
IS THAT WHAT YOU SEE?
THEN OPEN YOUR EYES, NURSE;
YOU'RE NOT LOOKING AT ME.

I'LL TELL YOU WHO I AM AS I SIT
HERE SO STILL,
AS I DO AT YOUR BIDDING, AS I
EAT AT YOUR WILL.
I'M A SMALL CHILD OF TEN
...WITH A FATHER AND MOTHER,

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WHO
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.
A YOUNG GIRL OF SIXTEEN, WITH
WINGS ON HER FEET,
DREAMING THAT SOON NOW A
LOVER SHE'LL MEET.

A BRIDE SOON AT TWENTYMY
HEART GIVES A LEAP,
REMEMBERING THE VOWS THAT I
PROMISED TO KEEP.
AT TWENTY-FIVE NOW, I HAVE
YOUNG OF MY OWN,
WHO NEED ME TO GUIDE AND A
SECURE HAPPY HOME.

A WOMAN OF THIRTY, MY YOUNG
NOW GROWN FAST,
BOUND TO EACH OTHER WITH
TIES THAT SHOULD LAST.
AT FORTY, MY YOUNG SONS HAVE
GROWN AND ARE GONE,
BUT MY MAN'S BESIDE ME TO SEE
I DON'T MOURN.

AT FIFTY ONCE MORE, BABIES
PLAY ROUND MY KNEE,
AGAIN WE KNOW CHILDREN, MY
LOVED ONE AND ME.
DARK DAYS ARE UPON ME, MY
HUSBAND IS DEAD;
I LOOK AT THE FUTURE, I
SHUDDER WITH DREAD.

FOR MY YOUNG ARE ALL REARING
YOUNG OF THEIR OWN,
AND I THINK OF THE YEARS AND
THE LOVE THAT I'VE KNOWN.
I'M NOW AN OLD WOMAN.... AND
NATURE IS CRUEL;

BUT INSIDE THIS OLD CARCASS, A

YOUNG GIRL STILL DWELLS,
AND NOW AND AGAIN MY
BATTERED HEART SWELLS.
I REMEMBER THE JOYS, I
REMEMBER THE PAIN,
AND I'M LOVING AND LIVING
LIFE OVER AGAIN.

I THINK OF THE YEARS...ALL
TOO FEW, GONE TOO FAST,
AND ACCEPT THE STARK FACT
THAT NOTHING CAN LAST.
SO OPEN YOUR EYES, NURSES,
OPEN AND SEE,
...NOT A CRABBY OLD WOMAN;
LOOK CLOSER... SEE ME!!

TIS JEST TO MAKE OLD AGE LOOK
LIKE A FOOL.
THE BODY, IT CRUMBLES, GRACE
AND VIGOR DEPART,
THERE IS NOW A STONE WHERE I
ONCE HAD A HEART.

*Originally posted by Sharon Betters on her Treasures of
Encouragement
blog September 25,2010, and again in June, 2012.
Submitted to the WINDOWS by Carole Partridge.*

THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER

By: Lou Ardrey

Christy O'Connor has replaced the prayer envelope near the mail boxes with a beautiful wooden box that is located in the lobby near the kitchen. You may take a card, write a prayer request and place it in the box. The box will be checked every night and the prayer requests will be lifted up to the throne of Grace,

God's Word says in James 6: 16 "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." That is a promise. When those who love the Lord and are clothed in His righteousness pray, wonderful things can happen in answer to their prayers.

James also says in 4:2b "You do not have, because you do not ask God." We can understand that on a human level. If our children don't ask us for what they need, we can't meet those needs. God wants us to ask and He responds according to His will.

The Apostle John tells us how to pray. He says in 1 John 5: 14,15. "This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us....whatever we ask....we know that we have what we asked of him."

It's a privilege to be able to approach the Lord God Almighty, knowing that He hears us and will respond according to His perfect will and timing.

The words to the hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" by Joseph M. Scriven are very helpful:

"What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!"



Anne Harty Visits the Towers with the Rock Hill Story

By: Ed FitzGerald

Anne Harty, Chief Financial Officer for the City of Rock Hill, recently visited with a full house of residents in Heritage Hall. Her presentation, 140 years of Rock Hill History, was enthusiastically received. Anne had prepared this power point presentation and displayed many documents and yearbooks that touched on several residents that were seated in the audience. This was her first presentation of the walk-through Rock Hill history.

Anne is a Winthrop School of Business graduate. She has earned her designation as a Certified Public Accountant and is a licensed Certified Government Finance Officer. In 2017, she was named CFO of the year by Charlotte Business Journal, in the category of Nonprofit/Government Organizations. Recently she was nominated by Winthrop School of Business as a Distinguished Graduate and her photo will be displayed in Tillman Hall alongside six other distinguished graduates. She is married to Brian Harty, and between them, they have five children, all on their own with the last one in college. Currently, she is Westminster Towers Board Chairperson, and the first woman to assume this leadership role. She is connected to our community! Anne's family has a long association with our city. Since her father Coleman and mother Genie were connected deeply with the political and social life of the city. They passed on this love of community to their five children.

The early history of the city and surrounding community was farming. However, in 1881 the first textile plant, called the Cotton Factory, opened. With inexpensive electric power and a good labor force the future was now locked into textiles. In 1895, Winthrop College was educating young southern women. Anne showed a dramatic photo of the famous "Blue Line," with the College President and his wife leading a line of ladies down the side of Oakland Avenue to the various churches along the route. Oakland Avenue was unpaved! The girls were dressed in the straw hat and official blue uniform worn at the college. Anderson Motor Car Company was up and running. They manufactured a higher priced car, and their roadster sport model could be a marketing hit today. Sadly, the company was a victim of the stock market crash and depression that followed. Soon, the closed plant was converted into the Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company also

known as the Bleachery. At its height, this textile plant employed over 4800 workers. There were slides of the National Guard called out in 1934 when the workforce went on strike. Celanese Corporation built a large fiber plant on the shores of the Catawba River in 1948 and immediately employed 2500 workers. Textile was king!

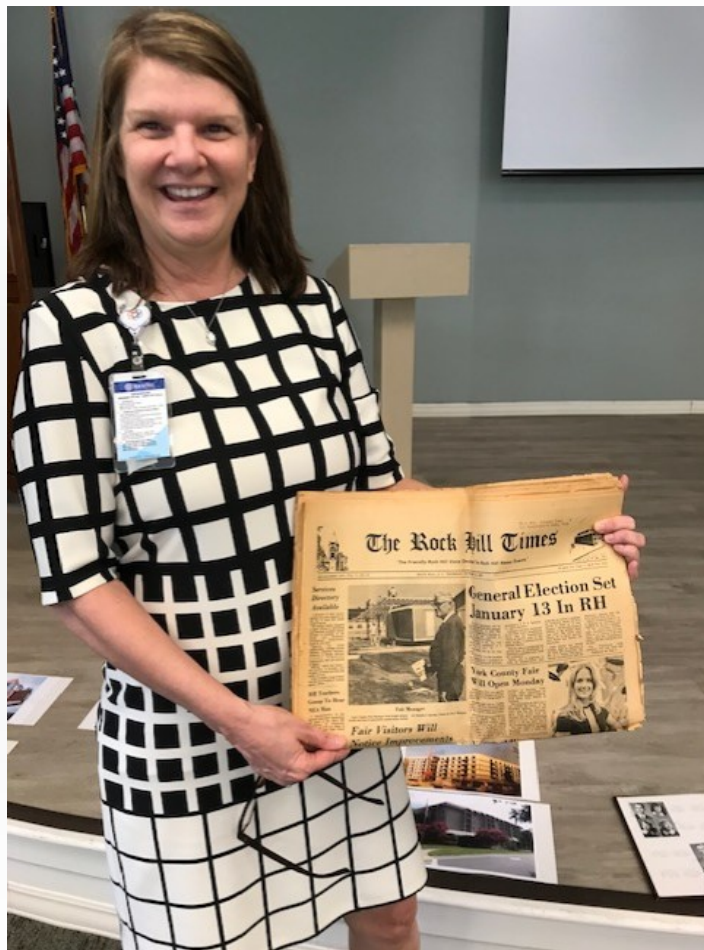


Eventually textile was moving offshore, and the plants were closing which meant the city needed to chart a new direction. With Betty Joe Rhea as Mayor and a proactive City Council, they set in motion a plan to attract small technical and service companies as well as exploring opportunities in the Sports Tourism Industry. Currently, the old Rock Hill Printing and Finishing plant is being developed into a technological park in conjunction with Winthrop University. A recently completed Sports and Events Center, stands on the shoulders of a very successful sports tourism plan supported by the city. The first venture was the development of Cherry Park with its many ball fields and amenities that attracted regional tournament competition. Manchester Meadows Soccer Complex was next and always buzzing with local schools, clubs and visiting teams engaged in area wide tournaments. The old Celanese plant had been demolished and commercial and residential development was growing along the river. River Walk was soon to become recognized, internationally, as a bicycle competition center. The BMX

course and the Velodrome are state of the art facilities in the bicycle world, and riders from all points of the globe arrive in our city to compete. Now nearing completion, near Cherry Park is the 13-acre Miracle Park, a place for special needs citizens to enjoy the-out-of-doors as well as the spirit of competition in many sports settings. It will open in August and Westminster has been a sponsor supporter.

The future is very bright with multiple downtown apartment developments and conversion of existing buildings. There are new restaurants and significant commercial growth. The local economy is healthy, having survived the Pandemic, and there are “help wanted” signs everywhere. Winthrop is recognized as a top Southern Regional University, granting many advanced degrees, and fielding powerful intercollegiate sports teams. And it is anyone’s guess on the impact the Panthers Practice and HQ complex will make on our community. For sure, it will bring excitement, community recognition and good jobs!

Thanks for sharing the story, Anne Harty. Please come back as this story continues.



THE Recipe for Watkin's Hotdog Chili – over 100 years old.
Brought to you by: Anne Harty

3 lbs Ground Beef (85% +, but not lean, needs some fat)
1 lb Sausage (Jamestown brand or similar)
½ cup chili powder
1oz. salt
½ oz. black pepper
1 quart water

- Grind together ground beef and sausage; use a potato masher or some such to mix well. Do not brown or drain.
- Combine all ingredients in a large pot, mix well, cover and simmer for 6 hours over low heat. Stir occasionally, as the goal is to have crumbly pieces of meat at the end. Do not drain. Serve from pot and drain with a spoon with holes in it.

According to knowledgeable Rock Hill sources, Mr. Watkins would buy his meat at the butcher and have the beef and sausage ground up together. He would buy the cheaper cuts of beef and the cheapest sausage, both for profit and for the sake of the fats. The beef/pork fats are an integral part of the recipe, so never drain the chili until spooned onto hotdog.



Let's talk about the beach!

We are looking for any beach related stories and/or pictures you have for our August newsletter. All entries can be submitted to Linda Lenz or Christy O'Connor until July 15th!

Betty Whoooooo
Betty Whoooooo
Betty Whoooooo?

By: Janet Yocum

Betty Mahan: I moved here three years ago and as I entered the lobby with my suitcase, a little lady welcomed me sweetly and introduced herself as Betty Mahan, She advised me that if I could not remember someone's name to say "hello Betty" and I would probably be right. We lost dear Betty in 2020.

Betty Love: When Betty Love and Peggy Moore moved to the Towers, I knew two of my best friends had just arrived. Betty was a native sweet Carolina girl born in Bowling Green, S.C. When she was about six years old, she knew her calling was to become a nurse. She received her nurses training at Carolina Memorial. She spent three years in hospital nursing before moving into pediatric nursing where she stayed for 40 years. Betty introduced me to the historic, beautiful Bowling Green Presbyterian Church which her family actively established and she and Peggy have carried on the family tradition of serving the church. After Betty retired, she mentored children and a little boy, named Netorrian, won her heart. She has been a wonderful influence on Netorrian's life and he became a student at Winthrop University, graduating in 2021. He became the Director of Music at the Bowling Green Church. Betty not only enriched his life over the years but she enriches ours every day.



Betty Cunningham: I met Betty soon after I arrived. I love bingo and there she was working to help Frank Polito call the bingo. Someone soon told me that Betty C. was special. She was voted Tower's 'Princess' of the year and she was loved by everyone. WOW! I joined the crowd. Betty is kind and nice, a friend to all, especially me. She is a wonderful grandmother and mother of four remarkable boys, all exceptional students graduating from the nations top schools such as MIT and Cornell and others. She is very proud, but modest and humble, and won't let me write about their and her wonderful accomplishments. I snuck this one by her!

Betty Spradley: a very busy, accomplished lady. She laughs as she tells her son is retired but she is still working! She is a mother of two children, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Betty is another excellent nurse, and she is a medical case manager working part time now. Betty is a busy person but she found time to be a Resident Association Secretary for two years. She is very active in her church, the First Baptist of Rock Hill. She is a member of the Senior Adult Joy Choir, a well known, wonderful choir, that performs throughout our city, South Carolina, and other states, in churches, nursing homes and retirement communities such as ours. Betty is a lovely neighbor to all, but especially to me.

Betty Jo Rhea: Betty Jo, a Rock Hill native, was the daughter of a very prominent physician here and after college she returned to Rock Hill to marry and rear her family. She served on many committees and became a framer and supporter of making Rock Hill the beautiful and progressive city it is today. After years of service to Rock Hill, she became our Mayor and was known for her commitment and dedication. Rock Hill is a beautiful city adorned by parks, trees and flowers, neat and well cared for homes and small businesses, sports complexes, excellent restaurants and Winthrop University, the cornerstone of our beautiful city. Her steady hand is evident everywhere. We are so glad she has joined us at Westminster.

Betty Rawls: There is a tall lady, beautiful inside and out, who lives on the fourth floor and of course her name is Betty! She was born in Forrest City, N.C., but moved to Rock Hill when she was a little girl. She met her husband here whom she describes as the love of her life. She and her husband were members of St. John's Methodist Church, one of our beautiful old downtown churches, for 70 years. Betty and her husband had one daughter and thought after 11 years that would be their family, but the Lord surprised them with a baby boy and created their perfect family. Her son will be here on June 14th to take her to visit with him in the mountains of western Massachusetts. She lost her husband in 2017 and joined us here at the Towers. Betty, you are a model for us all.

Betty Walters: Betty has been a friend to me practically since the day I arrived. I was sitting outside waiting for life long friends from Florida to arrive for a visit. They called and said they had followed my directions and they were sitting behind First Baptist Church of Rock Hill and couldn't find me or Westminster. I panicked and said to Betty who was sitting there too "What am I to do?" She took my phone and talked them right to our front door. I concluded she was the smartest lady in Rock Hill. Shortly thereafter she invited me to join her son and wife at Sunday dinner and made a new resident feel very welcome. Being kind and nice seems to come naturally with her. Must be something with that name!

Betty Worrell: Betty had been a very active resident here for many years. She was a doer and on many committees such as co-chair of the Library Committee. She helped promote Friday game night, which many people enjoy and it was especially good for new residents to get acquainted. They played Rummikub, bridge, scrabble, canasta and games of their choice. It made Friday night something to look forward to. She played bridge and taught bridge to residents who desired to learn the game. During covid her daughter wanted to care for her, and she remains there for now, but thankfully she hasn't forgotten her many friends here and we see her often.

Betty Hildebrand: Betty and her husband Dr. Hartwell Hildebrand are fairly new residents here. After Hartwell completed his military service during WWII they moved to Rock Hill with their three children. They lived in Rock Hill where Hartwell practiced medicine and Betty enjoyed rearing her family. Hartwell retired at 70 years of age. After retirement he was instrumental in establishing a free medical clinic for the needy who could not afford health services. Betty continued to enjoy her children, gardening and flower arranging. Welcome to another Betty!

Betty Leach: Betty was originally from Indiana and was a Physical Education teacher and sports enthusiast here in Rock Hill. She was a very friendly and nice lady and we enjoyed meeting her sisters when they visited from Indiana. She moved into the Towers originally but her health deteriorated and she moved to the Manor and finally to the Health Center where we lost her last year. We remember another nice Betty.

Betty Rudd: Betty first lived at the Towers, but she and her children decided her needs would be better met in the Manor. She has resided here for approximately two years. She loves to laugh especially when Daniel makes her smile and laugh. She is a retired antique dealer and expert on antiques. She also enjoyed golf. God bless Betty.

ALL OF THEM!



Actress, Betty White

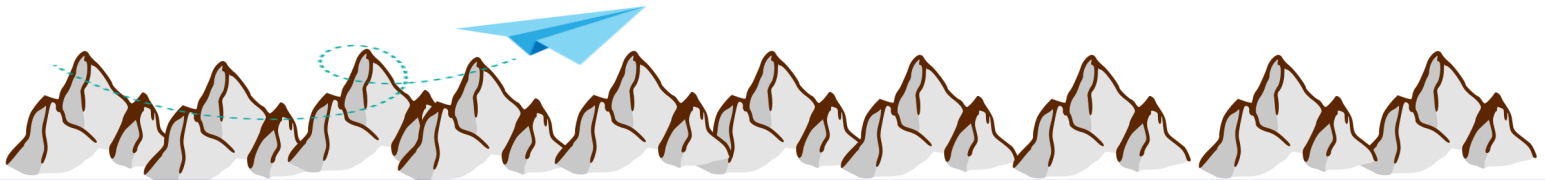
MOVING MOUNTAINS!

By: Wendell Anderson

Many years ago, I was on a flight from the island of Bohol in the Philippines to the island of Cebu where we lived. It was a short morning flight on a small plane. The plane lifted off the runway and proceeded to climb toward a range of very low mountains on Bohol. All was going well, except it seemed that we weren't gaining altitude very quickly. The plane was still low, the mountains were rapidly approaching and I was becoming uneasy. As I looked around there were no signs that others were troubled. I remember watching what I thought was a businessman in a white shirt, calmly reading his newspaper. Soon the plane skimmed over the mountain range and landed safely across the water at the airport in Cebu City. Apparently it had been a normal flight pattern, and I was happy to be safely back on my home island!

In some ways it reminds me of the story of life for most of us. We frequently face "mountains," physical, emotional, or spiritual, which loom ahead on the horizon of our lives. Happily, the Lord is able to "move" them for us as we ask and exercise faith in Him, so that they cease to be a major obstacle. We go over, through and around them -- or they simply move and sink into the surrounding sea of life! On one occasion, after Jesus had performed a miracle, He said to His disciples, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt . . . Also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" (Matt. 21:21-22) it is, of course, important that we are asking something that is His will for us -- as revealed through the Scriptures and prayer.

"Mountain moving faith" does not always come easily. Usually it is a product of growth in our experience of God, stimulated by reflecting on His promises and the works of Christ in Scripture. Then, as we focus on what the Lord does in the smaller hills in our lives, we become more confident as we face the higher mountains that loom on the horizon. We also need to trust God for His timing and method, whether, as someone has said, He chooses to use a chisel or a neutron bomb to move the mountain! However, one thing we can be sure of, "all things are possible with God," (Mark 10:27) and "Everything is possible for him who believes." (Mark 9:23)



NEW RESIDENT, MERLE CRAFT

By: Carole Partridge

The question has been asked: "Dare one be bold enough (or foolish enough) to interview one's table mate for the house publication, and still be on speaking terms afterward?" Following the WINDOWS publication, will there be an abrupt reassignment of dinner seats? We shall see.....

Stepping into Merle Craft's apartment for the first time, one is reminded of that marvelous childhood book The Secret Garden. It is bright and cheerful in sunshine yellow and multi-colored floral fabrics.... a magical place to wake up smiling in the mornings. Family pictures adorn the walls, revealing a pictorial history of a life well-lived.

One must admire our new resident to the Towers. Merle keeps her "outside" independence by continuing to drive to run errands, keep doctors' appointments and meet with friends and faithful family. She is blessed to have family who have helped tremendously in transferring into The Towers. They are now assisting Merle in storing treasures while her Rock Hill home goes up for sale any day now. Tis a gigantic task, as most of us old timers already know. "The Towers was perfect for me," she says. It seems that way indeed because Merle's history is unique in that during her professional life with Bank of America, she became one of the first women to serve on The Towers' Board of Directors. But we are getting ahead of ourselves.

"Let us start at the very beginning", sings Maria Von Trapp.... "a very good place to start." Merle was born into the family of Douglas Corley and his wife, Vera Mae Dominick Corley, a teacher for fourteen years. Mr. Corley was a carpenter at the time in the Batesburg, SC area. Merle's parents added a brother, Rhett, and a sister, Anne, to their family.

Vera Mae, ever the teacher at school and at home, sat down with Merle at the age of ten, to explain and show the scriptural meaning of giving one's life to Jesus. "Would you like to know Jesus?" she asked. Merle gave an affirmative answer and prayed the prayer of commitment at her mother's knee, she joined the church the following Sunday.

Merle met her husband, Howard Craft, while they were both still in high school. Described as "a fun guy" by friends, Howard had a natural talent in art and color, but made his professional life in business sales.

Merle looks back on those early years with a conspiratorial smile and a certain matter-of-factness when she

reveals that she and Howard had a somewhat unorthodox beginning as a couple. Then she admits that she and Howard ELOPED and became secretly married while they were both seniors in high school. They did not tell their parents or anyone until AFTER graduation. Mr. and Mrs. Corley were sound asleep one evening when the flip switch in their bedroom came on, flooding the room with light. When informed of the couple's nuptials, all Mr. Corley said to his daughter was, "I hope you understand what you are doing." Her father must have been an amazing man indeed.

Evidently the two young people were mature enough to make their plans and carry them through for a long-lasting union as a couple. Her mother, ill at the time, and her father's acceptance and approval were welcome after living the secret to stay in school and graduate.

Eventually Merle and Howard had two children: Angell, a daughter, and Greg, a son, who remained a bachelor until he died at the early age of forty-two.

After the marriage Merle and Howard became members of First Baptist West Columbia, eventually joining the Westminster Presbyterian Church PCA, where Merle became close friends with Anne Sanford, wife of their pastor, Shelton Sanford in Rock Hill. When asked about hobbies, etc. Merle loves to sew, crochet, and knit, making many of her children's clothes through the years. When she was married, she and Howard would finish their work for the day, have a bite to eat, and serve as volunteer ushers at the theater in downtown Charlotte, and volunteered at the Tech School also as a couple. The theater work allowed them to see the Broadway shows free. She and Howard loved to travel all over the world.

One of Merle's most cherished ministries is mentoring young people who may not have a parent to shelter their aspiring hearts. Investments of time and love into other people who need the family influences reap valuable unseen benefits for both parties. It also honors her commitment to Christ.

Merle has not had time yet to participate in many of the planned activities at The Towers but hopes to complete her move and the sale of her house in order to assist with the Library Committee perhaps in the future, being an avid reader.

Currently Merle is assigned to the 5:30 p.m. Evening Dining Room Seating with two veteran residents and one "nosey", inquisitive reporter who hopes not to have overstepped the bounds but laid out the WELCOME mat for a new resident acquaintance.

Welcome, "Miss Merle"! ♥♥♥



GOD BLESS AMERICA

By: Janet Yocum

Irving Berlin was born Israel Isadore Baline in 1888 in Siberia, Russia. He was one of eight children. When he was five years old his family migrated because of violent pogroms (massacres, attacks, and expulsions of Jewish people and other ethnic groups). His family was one of over one-thousand who were escaping brutal poverty. Others in that group were George and Ira Gershwin, Al Jolson, Sophie Tucker, Louis B. Mayer, and the Warner Brothers of Hollywood fame. His father died when he was thirteen and he quit school and began hawking newspapers for pennies. His mother became a midwife, three of his sisters wrapped cigars, and his brother worked in a sweatshop. Every night the children would bring their coins home and place them in his mother's outstretched apron. He began singing in the bowery for coins until he could obtain a job singing in a Chinese restaurant for coins. He began writing songs to entertain the diners. He sold his first song for thirty-six cents. He went on to write over fifteen-hundred songs including "White Christmas, Alexander's Rag-time Band, and Easter Parade." His composition "God Bless America" became America's unofficial national anthem. It became an immigrants prayer asking God to bless America.



God Bless America,
Land that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam,
God Bless America, my home sweet home.
God Bless America, my home sweet home.



Both Irving Berlin and Kate Smith who introduced the song to the nation pledged never to take a penny from the monies the song earned but give it to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. The song has earned millions for the two charities. God Bless America.

THE MONTH OF JULY

By: Nancy Anderson

I think July was meant to be a month for fun.
Memories come of things our family has done.
The month started out with quite a blast, of course,
As fireworks were displayed on the night of the Fourth.
Sometimes it was sparklers to our yard bringing light.
Sometimes it was watching huge displays – what a sight!
Our family found activities that were fun to do.
Let's see if I can remember more than a few.
We've fished, boated, and swum in ponds, rivers, and lakes.
We've picnicked and barbequed and eaten many cakes
That were made for celebrations that happened to come
In this month of July, which I think was created for fun.
And with July also came the opportunity to roam -
To visit friends and family in places far from home.
To take rides in the car after the heat of the day

When all work was done, and it was time to play.
To cool off with ice cream cones bought for each one
In this month of July, which I think was created for fun.

In my youth we raised a great abundance of food.
Our garden produced many vegetables that were good.
Carrots, radishes, beets, zucchini, spinach, and lettuce

—
These were only part of what our garden would give us.

I admit that harvesting this bounty was not always done
With joy in this month, which I'd thought was created for fun!

Take some time to reflect on what July means to you.
During this mid-summer month, what did your family do?

What freedoms do you remember that came your way?

Was there a good balance between work and play?
Would you agree with me, when all is said and done,
That the month of July was indeed created for fun?

In Loving Memory:

Mary Doty



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.

ONE MINUTE AFTER A BELIEVER DIES

By: Anonymous

Angels usher your soul to heaven. (Luke 16: 22)
You immediately enter God's presence. (II Cor.5: 6-8)

You are conscious, in command of your thinking,
feeling, speech, and
memories. (Luke 16:19-31)

You participate in magnificent worship with angels
and believers

before the throne of God and Christ. (Rev. 4-5)

You are aware to some degree of activities and
events on earth.(Rev.6:9-10)

You will recognize and communicate with believers
who preceded you to
heaven. (Luke 9: 28-36)

Submitted to Windows by: Carole Partridge

Contributions

Endowment

In Honor of: Mother's Day Special Offering
Westminster Presbyterian Church

In Memory of: Lloyd Twedt
Bill and Carol Meyers

In Memory of: James Ardrey on his 90th birthday
Louise Ardrey

**In Honor of: Caroline Roueche on her retirement
from teaching**
Ed and Jody FitzGerald

In Memory of: Mary Doty
Robert and Dorothy Southwell

In Memory of: Mary Doty
Joanne Cauthen

In Memory of: Lloyd Twedt
Alvin and Carolyn Liles

Employee Assistance Fund

In Memory of: Jean McPoland
Ed McPoland

Employee Christmas Fund

In Memory of: Mary Doty
Ed and Jody FitzGerald

Thank You

Marketing Minute

After more than two years, we had our first marketing event again on campus! Our events were put on “pause” when Heritage Hall was turned into the temporary dining room. Then of course the pandemic hit after that. We’re very excited to be able to have prospective residents back on campus. Talking on the phone to others about what Westminster Towers has to offer doesn’t compare to seeing it in person! We’re grateful to be able to do that again.

You’ve probably heard, “you never get a *second* chance to make a *first* impression.” First impressions are so important! When a new resident moves in or even when we’re showing someone around, one of the first things they mention is how nice and friendly everyone is. Marketing can always count on the residents to make newcomers feel welcome! We thank you for your hospitality. It made a difference in those who live at Westminster Towers now and to those who are still deciding.



We are looking for articles about Westminster Towers residents and happenings around the Towers!

Entries can be submitted directly to Christy O'Connor or Linda Lenz.

Deadline for entries for August is
July 15th.



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).

Newsletter Committee — Committee Chair: **Linda Lenz**; Members: **Morna Matheny, Lou Ardrey, Marshall Doswell, Pinky Funderburk, Barbara Gladden, Mary Alice Mitchell, Carole Partridge, Gaylon Syrett, Janet Yocum**; Residents' Association President: **Spencer Anderson** President and CEO: **Jim Thomason**; Windows Editor/Director of Life Enrichment: **Christy O'Connor**