



**WESTMINSTER  
TOWERS**

# Windows

June 2026

Vol. XXXVII No. 6 1330 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732  
(803) 328-5000

The righteous man walks in his integrity;  
His children are blessed after him.

Proverbs 20:7



**HAPPY**  
*Father's*  
**DAY**



## June Church Schedule

**The 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 3:00 pm  
in Heritage Hall**

**6/3 Jim Thomason, Westminster Towers**

**6/17 Rev. Jon Oliphant, First ARP Church of Rock Hill**

**6/14 Catholic Communion Service at 2:45 pm in Heritage Hall.  
Father Johnnie & Deacon Ray will preside. All are welcome!**

**If you would like to suggest someone to conduct a Wednesday church  
service, please contact Nancy Anderson, in apartment 214.  
All Denominations are welcome!**

If you would like to submit an article or pictures, please email them to:  
[camifreeman@westminstertowers.org](mailto:camifreeman@westminstertowers.org)  
The deadline for the JuLY '26 edition of Windows is Friday, June 12.

## Windows

June 2026  
Vol. XXXVII No. 6

Newsletter Committee Members:  
Linda Lenz - Chairman  
Alice Airth  
Lou Ardrey  
Arlene Jenkins Blackwelder  
Jody FitzGerald  
Carole Partridge

Grammarian  
*Canva AI*

Publisher  
Cami Freeman

The next Newsletter Committee Meeting  
will be on Monday, June 15, 2025,  
at 2:00 pm, in the 2nd Floor Lounge.

# Two Fathers

by Nancy Anderson

Two earthly fathers impacted my life, for which I am very thankful. My father, Gilbert Maine, was born and raised in Laurel Glen, CT, the third son of a humble couple who lived in a small, unpainted house. His father farmed, hewed railroad ties by hand, and played the fiddle. Dad spoke of sleeping in an unheated attic under piles of blankets. He would arrange his clothes strategically so that in the morning, he could step right into them and run downstairs to warm himself in front of the pot-bellied stove that heated the first floor.

As he grew into a young man, he worked for a while at the shipyard in Noank, CT. It was there that he decided that working in the enclosed spaces on submarines was not for him! He was skilled with his hands, however, and thought that he should go to school to become a mechanic—but the Lord had other plans for him. Instead, he attended a Bible school in Providence, RI, where he met my mother. Upon his graduation, they were married, and he accepted a pastorate in Otisfield, ME. All in all, he had four pastorates—two in Maine and two in upstate New York.

Dad had a friendly, outgoing personality and loved to tease and play practical jokes. He was also musical, with a strong bass voice and skills in playing both the guitar and the trumpet. He was an amazing song leader, able to get an entire congregation to follow his lead.

While pastoring was his first calling, Dad used his mechanical ability in numerous ways. My literal first sentence was, “Daddy, fix it.” And he did just that – whether it was a toy or my broken heart. He kept our cars running in tip-top shape, helped neighbors with their mechanical issues, and repaired most



With their mechanical issues, he repaired most anything that broke, adjusted the bikes of many neighborhood kids, etc. He also had carpentry skills. He built a cottage for us from wood he had salvaged from an old house. He loved to hunt and fish and was an avid gardener as well, though I know my mother groaned when it was time to harvest and care for all the produce he raised!

While Dad was by no means perfect, he was my hero, and I loved him dearly. Earthly fathers have much to do with how we view our Heavenly Father. I am so thankful that I learned to trust the Lord because I had a father whom I could trust and who loved me deeply, just as my Heavenly Father does.

But Wendell also played an important role in my life as the father of our children! He took the task of parenting seriously and spent a lot of time relating to and caring for them. I have a mental image of him sitting on one of their beds with our two kids and several others draped over him while he read to them. He was the one they went to at night, as he was the lighter sleeper and would respond to them right away. And he faithfully prayed for them in the various challenges they have faced in their lives. We all miss him!

# Father's Day Tributes

From early in life, I saw Dad tower above others. I remembered him as he served his country, taking the family to the YMCA, basketball, and going to his softball games. I was proud of the business most of all—the name and reputation he nurtured.

## Sam Burns

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“The righteous lead blameless lives; blessed are their children after them.”  
Proverbs 20:7 New International Version

“It is a wonderful heritage to have an honest father.”  
Proverbs 20:7 Living Bible

## Claude Burns

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Whenever I was scared...  
Whenever I had a game...  
Whenever I needed to be straightened out...  
Whenever I wanted to talk sports...  
Whenever I wanted to talk politics...  
Whenever I wanted to talk business...  
Whenever I had a heartbreak...  
Whenever I went AWOL after four days at the Citadel...  
Whenever I was well below a 2.0 in my first semester at Winthrop...  
Whenever I needed to be talked off a cliff...  
Whenever I need advice on anything, Dad will ALWAYS BE THERE because he taught me right from wrong and set a great example for me to follow.

## Robert Burns

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My love of Chevy, Clemson, the Red Sox, History, John Wayne, Westerns, and old war movies comes from sharing these special moments with my Dad. When we went on trips, we would tour historical sites along the way. However, my greatest, most cherished memories come from his love of family history and gatherings. Many of our visits occurred at Edisto, where we gathered for family reunions, weddings, holidays, and vacations—just for family to share their time together. Both Mom and Dad worked hard to provide for their family and to share love, respect, and God in our hearts and with others. I have been blessed to have him as my father.

## Sarah B. Rowe



# Honoring Don Hunt on Father's Day 2026



*Don Hunt pictured with his two daughters, Meg and Susan*



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*A father is neither an anchor to hold us back nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.*

When we think of our Dad, truer words could not be said. A man of deep faith, principles, devotion to family, and a believer in teaching by example, he encouraged, led, and lived with unconditional love as his foundation for parenting. No matter what we did or wanted to do growing up, he was always there to support us, teach us, and guide us in good decision-making, and most of all, remind us that character, integrity, and faith were non-negotiable as we became who God created us to be.

And now, even as adults, we not only have the wisdom of those lessons learned but also the blessing of still having his watchful eye keeping us focused on living, sharing, and supporting others with the same devotion to fulfilling God's purpose for our lives.

Thank you, Daddy, for always being there in word and deed for us; for laying a foundation of faith, hope, and love in each of us that allowed us to believe that we could be and do anything we set our minds to, and which continues to guide us today. We love you!

*Meg & Susan  
/Father's Day 2026*

# Cottages

by Melanie Evans

As Westminster Towers celebrates its 37th anniversary this month, we are reminded of how far we have come and the many lives that have helped shape the warm and welcoming community we proudly call home. Each year brings new memories, lasting friendships, and exciting milestones, and this year has certainly been one to remember.



One of the most anticipated highlights of the past year has been the opening of our beautiful new cottages. Ground was officially broken on December 3, 2024, and just one year later, in December 2025, we proudly welcomed our first cottage residents home. These thoughtfully designed residences represent not only growth for our community but also our continued commitment to providing comfort, connection, and vibrant living opportunities for current and future residents.

We are delighted to welcome 16 new neighbors into the cottages, each bringing their own unique stories, personalities, and energy to the community. Several residents relocated from Rock Hill, while others joined us from Lancaster, South Carolina; Belmont and Matthews, North Carolina; and even Florida. We are also excitedly awaiting the arrival of our final cottage resident later this month from Alabama.

Watching the cottages come to life has been truly special. Through the leadership and vision of the Board of Directors and Administration, what once began as a dream has become a thriving reality for so many residents and families.

A huge thank you goes to JM Cope Construction and Vinyet Architecture for their partnership, expertise, and dedication throughout this project. Their hard work and commitment helped bring this vision to life and created beautiful homes our residents are proud to call their own.



We look forward to formally introducing our newest cottage residents, along with other new members of the community, at an upcoming New Resident Reception hosted by the Marketing Department.

As we reflect on the past 37 years, we remain grateful for every resident, team member, family member, and supporter who has contributed to making Westminster Towers such a special place to live and belong.

Here's to celebrating our past, embracing the present, and looking forward to many more wonderful years together!

# There is a Time For Everything...

## a Time to Keep and a Time to Throw Away

by Lou Ardrey

Some people in this world have the ability to throw away things in a timely fashion and maintain a neat, organized home. I'm not one of them. When Jim and I moved to Westminster Towers in 2015, I threw away hundreds of letters I had kept through the years, found homes for boxes of books that I had accumulated, and gave away china, silver, furniture, clothes, and various other objects. You would think that would have taken care of my problem, but it's amazing what is left.

I recently decided it was time to go through my files and begin another attempt at organizing. In the past several months, I have given away hundreds of books, read through and thrown away letters that go way back (including the love letters that Jim and I sent each other), disposed of 45 Bible studies that I had participated in at the various churches to which we belonged, deleted thousands of emails that I never found the time or had the heart to trash, went through my picture albums and narrowed them down significantly (it was easy to get rid of the "bad hair day" ones), listened to and threw away boxes of audio cassette tapes and CDs, watched and then tossed two boxes full of VHS tapes, disposed of various newspaper clippings concerning family weddings, funerals, graduations, and family gatherings, and gave away or tossed piano music that I played from elementary school through college, as well as all the programs for the recitals in which I performed. I also disposed of multiple newspaper write-ups of our wedding that not only have the engagement and wedding pictures but a write-up of every shower that was given in my honor and a detailed account of the rehearsal party and wedding reception. In those days, the smallest detail was noted: the name of the hostess, the woman who greeted the guests,

the friend who poured punch, how the home was decorated, the refreshments that were served, the gifts that were given, what the honoree wore, and what kind of corsage she was given.

You would think that would have taken care of my problem... but it's amazing what is still left: two more bookcases full of books, over 4,000 emails on my computer waiting to be deleted, a box full of DVDs I need to look through, notebooks full of genealogy facts related to my family line, binders full of more letters and cards going back to my childhood, boxes of my lectures when I was teaching in Bible Study Fellowship, and much, much more.

Fortunately, my two daughters have joined me in this overwhelming task. They come once a month and go through the things I have worked on in preparation for their visit. We have three piles: one for them to look through to see if there is anything they want, a "Give Away" pile, and a "Throw Away" pile. It's slow going, but we're making progress!

Solomon, one of the wisest men who ever lived, said, "There is a time to keep and a time to throw away." I wish I had followed his advice sooner.





# IN AND AROUND

WESTMINSTER TOWERS

BY ALICE AIRTH

Did you know we have a garden? Actually, we have 12 gardens, but don't worry – they're all in one place, so you don't have to travel far to enjoy them all. They're located on the north side of The Towers where the bus and limo are parked, and can be easily reached by taking the north elevator (near the Community Room) to the basement level and exiting through the door by the swap table – it's also the way to get to the recycle bins, so the next time you take your recyclables out, take a minute to walk a bit farther and enjoy the gardens. There is an arbor covered in sweet-smelling Carolina jasmine, and chairs and benches for sitting and chatting, or just for quiet contemplation. The ground around the beds is a bit uneven, so a cane or companion's arm would be wise for those of us whose balance isn't quite what it used to be. There are two St. Francis statues watching over the smaller visitors to the gardens, and both came from the swap table! (The things you can find there....)

There are several tomato plants (no, they're not ready for picking), and a few strawberry plants (oops, you just missed their crop), but mostly there are flowers—lots of flowers putting on a show for you. There were so many blooms in May that Activities thought an ice cream garden party would be a great idea—and it was! An ice cream truck—just like the ones you've seen in the movies, driving through neighborhoods, ringing their bells, and being chased by children—was hired to provide the goodies, and as each resident came to the party area, they were given a ticket good for one ice cream treat. The truck had a big sign on the side showing all the different kinds of novelties available—fudgesicles, nutty buddies, ice cream sandwiches, and more—and it was hard to choose just one! Eating ice cream, admiring the colorful blooms, and chatting with gardeners about their plants is a great way to spend an evening, and hopefully, there will be more parties—the ice cream truck was such a good idea!

But you don't have to wait for a party to enjoy the gardens; they are there for you year-round—summer being the best time, of course. Now that it stays light so late, a stroll after dinner is a great way to close the day.

See you in the gardens!



# Silent Sundays

by Carole Partridge

There is something about Sunday afternoons that beckons one in another direction. I did not know what that “something” was as a child. Children want to go, go, go... do, do, do, regardless. My parents cherished their Sunday afternoons as “nap time.” This was hard to believe, let alone cope with. Time seems to stand still on Sunday afternoons... BORING!

My favorite mystery stories came on, and heaven help us all, if anything presented itself as a competitive and mighty force. “The Green Hornet” and “Ma Perkins” were regular bills of fare that were looked for in my area of the state. They were the staples of soap opera at its best—long before any of the current stories existed.

The Green Hornet was mysterious and dramatic. Only the hip of my neighborhood listened. Ma Perkins was the soap opera that appealed to the “ladies of sound”.

Dear Ma... she could never quite get her squeaky porch screen door fixed. My tears flowed between those squeaks. She was the one person whom everyone came to with their troubles and woes. Ma Perkins was the ideal dumping place. She had a heart as big as the Grand Canyon. Hers was the soundest mind in the neighborhood – ready to take on the ups and downs, the tattered dreams and shattered hearts of friend or foe alike.



Somehow her empathy and concern included everyone’s latest disaster or secret longing. Her shoulders were wide enough to include anyone of any age to be “put upon” on the home front.

She was cherished and anticipates as faithfully as “The Green Hornet” and “The Shadow.” Now those were mysteries (with a capital M).

“Who knows”, the announcer said, “what EE-VIL lurks in the heart of man?” His answer: “The Shadow knows.”

He surely DID! But heaven help him, he never shared them with inquisitive pups like us. My childhood radio fare ended very shortly after the radio announcement broadcast the non-fiction death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This was a commercial radio disaster that my parents could not nor would not accept until it was announced on “regular” network Sunday afternoon, along with the latest details of WWII. Then and only then was the truth accepted as anything other than “make believe” or “propaganda”. The world was never quite the same.

Just curious... what were some of your favorite radio programs? They were called “soaps” because more times than not, they were sponsored by soap commercials.

As Edith used to sing in her irritatingly nasal vibrato, “Those were the days!”

# MEMORIAL DAY MEMORIES

In spite of the intermittent rain, the Memorial Day Flag raising ceremony, followed by a presentation of service featuring patriotic music was a success. Over 70 residents filled the lobby centering on Veteran service. The names of recently passed away Vets, were read followed by patriotic song lead by the "Singing Sergeant" and Jim Bookout on piano. The ceremony was preceded by a very tasty breakfast, also well attended



PLEASE

THANK  
YOU

*Etta Kett says....*

## Charitable Donations

A gift of a charitable donation should be one of interest to the receiver rather than the donor. Requests for donations rather than flowers at a funeral should be honored.

Gifts of money should not be requested on invitations from bridal couples, birthday honorees, graduates, etc. Such requests are acceptable for disaster victims (fire, floods, storms, etc.).

The Activity Committee will meet on Monday, June 8th, at 2:00 pm in the 4th floor lounge. Please come and share your suggestions for lunches, dinners, and other fun outings. Hope to see you there!!

Linder Tucker,  
Activity Committee  
Chairman





by Ed FitzGerald

- The Towers have always maintained a strong program of recycling supported by many concerned residents. Recently, changes in the recycling process have made the system more user-friendly and efficient. Gone are the separate bins that were located just inside the basement exit door. No smells and no creatures! They have been replaced by three large rolling containers that accept all mixed recyclable items. Here, you can deposit metal, glass, plastic bottles, and containers, plus newsprint and paper products like cereal boxes. What cannot be deposited are any Styrofoam items, such as plates, cups, clamshells, and other containers. General trash is not acceptable and needs to be deposited properly down the trash chutes. Plastic laundry and grocery bags from your favorite store have their own recycling container next to the FREE TABLE. If you transport your recyclable items to the new containers in a plastic grocery bag, please dump the items directly into the large container and place the empty grocery bag in the container for bags. Please make sure the jars and cans are washed clean before recycling. Paper, magazines, catalogs, and newsprint can also be deposited in the blue recycling basket located in the closet with the trash chute. Garbage and general trash are to be deposited in the chute if properly packaged in plastic bags. Corrugated boxes, once knocked down, should still be placed in the large steel dumpster outside marked for cardboard products. If your box is too large or difficult to handle, place it outside your door and call reception. They will have it picked up, and it will be properly disposed of. If you have questions, a maintenance person can assist. Thank you for your help with this matter.
- Swimming pool water temperature is just perfect! Recently I did some water walking and aquatic exercises. It felt so pleasant and comfortable, and with the new brilliant colors and smooth bottom, the pool felt brand new. One needs to turn on the newly installed LED lights for full effect. When lighted, the effect is amazing. The light switch is on the wall near the entry door from the hallway. There is a changing room, a shower, and a bathroom in the pool area.
- Alice Airth reports that the Emergency Pendant, if engaged, alerts the reception when activated from the outside garden area. This is good news for both guests and visitors. Thanks, Alice.
- The Employee Appreciation Fund is the account where all the contributions made in its name or made to the Employee Christmas Fund during the year are deposited. CEO Jim Thomason has assured that all money in the fund will be distributed to our employees at Christmas.
- There has been some discussion in Washington to reinstate the Draft. In December, the process of draft registration was changed very quietly. The old rule was that youth, when turning 18, were required to register for the draft within two months. Failure to do so was a felony. Now the registration process is automatic—once 18, the individual is now draft registered. Certainly, this change does not affect any of us. However, your grandchildren should be aware of a change. There are already drums beating in the administration for draft consideration. Hope not!
- Residents who park their cars at the lower level basement parking lot are concerned about dumped bird seeds from apartment units above. The seeds dumped from the balconies make sticky messes on the autos below, as well as causing additional squirrel activity. If you need to dump seeds, please do so in a plastic bag and drop them down the trash chute. Thanks for keeping the cars and parking area clean.

## June Outings

### Signup at the Bulletin Board

Tuesday, June 2

6:00 pm Movie outing to see Revolutionary America at Manchester Cinemas

Wednesday, June 3

11:30 am Lunch at Flipside in Rock Hill

Friday, June 5

10:00 am Brunch at Pop's Cafe in Rock Hill

Sunday, June 7

2:00 pm PW's Ice Cream

Wednesday, June 10

4:30 pm Dinner at Rock Hill Diner

Thursday, June 11

10:15 Outing to Carolina Rising Museum in Gaffney, SC

Friday, June 12

11:30 am Lunch at Steak & Shake

Wednesday, June 17

11:30 am Lunch at Trio's in Pineville

Friday, June 19

10:00 am Outing to King's Mountain Visitor Center and Lunch at 133 West in King's Mt.

Saturday, June 20

2:00 pm Da'Gullah @ Newberry Opera House

Wednesday, June 24

9:30 am Historic Brattonsville Tour with Zach Lemhouse

Thursday, June 25

6:15 pm Lyrics on the Law at The White Home presented by Historic Rock Hill

Friday, June 26

4:30 pm Dinner at Pier 51 Seafood

Sunday, June 28

1:15 Showtime Theater: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat

Monday, June 29

3:00 pm Outing to Target and Home Goods

