



The Village Voice

March 2022

Westminster Village Resident Spotlight



“Because of our age and health issues, a decision was made to downsize and simplify our life. Marilyn’s mother lived at Westminster for twenty-two years and had a very positive experience. She passed away just three months shy of her 100th birthday. Being familiar with life at Westminster, we naturally considered it a strong possibility. Our children agreed. We hired Sherry Brown, of Organize This!, to help with the move, downsizing and getting the house ready to sell. Sherry was so helpful with the whole process. We love our apartment being conveniently located on the first floor. Because of COVID regulations, Westminster residents and staff are required to wear masks and maintain social distancing. In spite of this, we were able to attend some Christmas events: The Muncie Symphony Holiday Pops at Emens, The Holiday Choral Concert at Sursa Hall, and Elf at Civic Theatre. We especially enjoyed a tour of Christmas lights in Muncie on the Westminster Bus. In addition, we have enjoyed entertainment in Westminster’s Legacy Commons Event Hall, such as: Danny Russel as Lincoln, Atlanta Music Hall Band and Paul White. We enjoy being here with friends, joining in exercise classes, playing Bingo, and walking around the beautifully kept grounds. Marilyn has found helping out at the Next-to-New Shoppe is not only fun but a great way to meet people and socialize. There are many good books available in the Mary Garr Library for late night readers. The staff is very friendly and helpful. It is truly a joy to know them!

Bob and Marilyn Smitson have lived at Westminster since December 2021. Bob was raised in Tipton, Indiana and Marilyn grew up in Lakewood, Ohio. They met while students at Purdue. While at Purdue, Marilyn twirled a baton with the marching band and Bob was active in student activities. Following graduation, they were married. Bob served two years in the Navy, stationed in Norfolk, Virginia and Marilyn taught 1st grade. They moved to Muncie in 1967, following a short stint in Milwaukee and Detroit. Bob joined the management team at Maxon Corporation and Marilyn transitioned to motherhood and raising a family. They have had four children. While living in Detroit, their first child, Ricky, died of Leukemia when he was four. They now have six grandchildren. Bob served on several boards in the area and loves to play golf. Marilyn did volunteer work with CASA, and A Better Way and loves to play tennis.



Westminster is Celebrating 48 Years of Service!

Happy 48th Anniversary to us! Westminster Village opened its doors to residents on March 1, 1974. Dr. Robert Cooper, along with a small



group of local business and community leaders, began the journey with a vision of a local retirement community where health and supportive services were readily available. Through dedication and perseverance, Westminster Village emerged as a place where local residents could live quality lives, in their retirement



years, without having to leave their hometowns. Today, we continue to follow the mission of providing fulfilling life services and excellent continuing care, empowering residents to experience an exceptional quality of life.

Saint Patrick's Day

March 17th is Saint Patrick's Day, or the "*Feast of Saint Patrick*". This is the date of the death of Saint Patrick,



the foremost patron Saint of Ireland. Patrick was a 5th century Romano-British Christian missionary and Bishop in Ireland. It is believed that Patrick was born in

Roman Britain in the fourth century. At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland, where he spent six years as a shepherd. During

this time he "found God." After fleeing back home, he went on to become a Priest, returning to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. Patrick's efforts against the druids were eventually turned into an allegory in which he drove "snakes" out of Ireland (Ireland never had any snakes).



Weathering the Storm at Westminster Village

As the weather reports of the approaching January 28th & 29th winter storm began, our employees



kicked into action and began to make preparations.

Furnished apartments were made ready and supplied, allowing for many employees to spend the night so they would be here to work and care for the residents on Thursday and Friday, while other employees made the drive through the storm to come in to work. Keeping the residents *Safe & Warm* is top priority to all, meeting the challenge of making sure things run smoothly, even in a snow storm!

If you would like to ask any questions, or to schedule a tour, call Tyler or Melody at 765-288-2155.

If you would like to opt out of this newsletter, please call Melody at 765-288-2155.

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Happy St. Patrick's Day