



The Village Voice

May 2022

History of Memorial Day

On Monday, May 30th, as we observe Memorial Day, let's look at



why we celebrate Memorial Day and what the

history is behind the holiday. Memorial Day, formerly Decoration Day, is a holiday honoring those who have died in our nation's wars. It originated during the American Civil War when citizens placed flowers on the graves of those who had been killed in battle. More than half a dozen places have claimed to be the birthplace of the holiday. In October 1864, for instance, three women in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, are said to have decorated the graves of loved ones who died during the Civil War; they then returned in July 1865, accompanied by many of their fellow citizens, for a more general commemoration. A large observance, primarily involving African Americans, took place in May 1865 in Charleston, South Carolina. In Columbus, Mississippi, they held a formal observance for both Union and Confederate dead in 1866. By Congressional Proclamation in 1966, Waterloo, New York, was cited as the birthplace, in 1866, of the observance.

After WWI, as a day came to be observed in honor of those who had died in all the U.S. wars, its name changed from Decoration Day to Memorial Day. Since 1971, Memorial Day has been observed on the last Monday in May. Memorial Day is observed with the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, and by religious



services, parades, and speeches nationwide.

Flags, insignia, and flowers are placed on the graves of veterans in local cemeteries. Westminster would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day.

Westminster Village annually honors the residents who have passed in the last year (from May to May) on the Sunday before Memorial Day.

Welcoming Erin Ailstock to Westminster Village

We are pleased to announce that Erin Ailstock has joined the Westminster Marketing Team as the Community Outreach Coordinator. She previously worked at the Muncie-Delaware County Chamber of Commerce for the past

twelve years. She has over 22 years of marketing experience. Erin graduated from West Del High School and is currently enrolled in college at WGU, studying Marketing. She has been married to Kevin for 22 years and has two children. We are looking forward to her energy and commitment to Westminster Village.



Indianapolis 500 Trivia

The race was originally advertised as the “*International 500-Mile Sweepstakes Race*” from 1911-1916. In 1919, the race was referred to as the “*Liberty Sweepstakes*” following WWI.

The race is among the world’s best-attended single-day sporting event and it is held on the weekend of the country’s Memorial Day holiday.

The official nickname of the Indy 500 track is the *Brickyard*. The name comes from how the track was initially paved with red bricks.

The speedway is the largest sporting facility in the world with more than 250,000 grandstand seats and the ability to host close to 400,000 on race day throughout the entire property.



The first Indianapolis 500 took place on May 30, 1911, with Ray



Harroun winning in 6 hours, 42 minutes and 8 seconds.

The drivers do 200 laps around the 2.5 mile track.

During a pit stop, the crew changes four tires and adds 18.5 gallons of fuel in less than 7 seconds.

Everyone looks forward to hearing, “*Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines!*”

Planning a Summer Move to Westminster Village?

It is not too early to start making plans for a summer move to Westminster Village. Picture yourself dining in one of our six dining rooms, sharing a cup of coffee



with a friend in our café, sitting out on our deck watching the swans paddling around on the pond or spending an afternoon, or evening, attending one of our events. All of this, and more, is waiting for you at Westminster Village! To schedule a tour, or to ask a question, 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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