January 2024 Page 12



Grinchmas Christmas Party! So much fun. Music, singing, dancing, food door prizes. What more is there for a party.? Oh yeah! Friends.

Two Grinches showed up and did a dance off. Cindy Lou Who came to see everyone. Residents and Staff showed up for a total of 57. Resident favorites Tammy and Jennifer sang.





Veteran's Karaoke night. So much fun! Veteran's Cleo Massey, Gary Guttridge, Tim Jones, Elvis Williams, Merrill and Nancy Frame attended.







We thank all Veteran's for their service.





The Blytheville Parade. Staff volunteered to create the float and participate in the parade. Wild, Wild, Westminster Village. Residents participated by riding the bus in the parade.









Happy New Year! 2024 is not a number I could have ever imagined as a child. It's just hard to imagine that you will one day live in the millennium, and here we are 24 years into it. We aren't flying cars around like they did

on the Jetson's, and we don't have literal robots walking around like Rosie, but we do have technology. You can now walk in to any room and ask Alexa or Google to turn something off or on for you. You can ask them to play music, pull up a recipe and even video call someone. That is something we did see on the Jetson's!

So much has changed in the past year. We all have had some loss this year. I still can't believe that Doris Marks no longer lives here! None of us had a clue that the year would end the way it did. I'm glad we can call her anytime that we want to, and we can always plan a girls trip to go see her, but I miss her! It is an absolute pleasure to know her and the lives that she has touched are plenty! We will be sending her the newsletter monthly so she can keep up with everyone here. Let us take a moment to remember those we have lost in the last year. Please keep their friends and families in your prayers.

Billy Smith Westminster April 2023 James Privett Cherrytree April 2023 Grapevine May 2023 Beverly Storey

Sharron "Marks" Wheatly July 2023 (Doris Marks daughter)

Village Ave August 2023 Onward Bullard

Cynthia Elliot Apricot August 2023

Robert 'Bob" Boney Grapevine August 2023(Beverly Storey's son)

Jerome Gardner Apricot November 2023 Charles Lipford Palm Circle November 2023

Peggy Kenner Wellness Nurse WMV August 2023

Never let what can be said today wait until tomorrow. We may not have tomorrow.

Moving forward, we are very excited about getting this grant going and getting rid of the blight around your homes. The Board has worked very hard to hire a consultant to run the demo, so that we can still focus on your needs as we go. We still do not have a definite start date but when we do we will for sure let you know. We have also received a grant from the King Foundation in the amount of \$40,000 to help with the restoration of the Ramey Center roof, and repair the leaks that have started. The Ramey Center is a vital part of the village and we will not let it fall. We are doing our very best to preserve as much as we can to keep the Village going strong. We are all hopeful for a great New Year!

I can't let the month pass by without commenting on how great everyone looked at the Resident/Staff Christmas party. I appreciate all that attended.

Happy New Year and God Bless you all!







#### **Our Mission Statement**

Westminster Village is committed to providing an environment that encourages and enables our residents to enjoy life to the maximum of their capabilities in a relaxed atmosphere of security, comfort and dignity.



## The Westminster Village Book Club

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## The Westminster Village Book Club

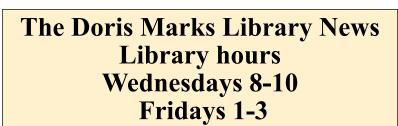
will meet Wednesday, January 10th at 2 p.m. in the Doris Marks Library

The book to be discussed will be:

"Black Cake"

By Charmane Wilkerson

All are welcome to attend.



Westminster Village residents are free go to the library at any time.

## **Library volunteers:**

Loretta Heard, , Donna Clayton, Susan Person, Nancy Frame. The library volunteers wish you a very "HAPPY 2024".

If you are an avid reader be sure and visit our library. There is a lot to choose from.

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**



ARMAINE

WILKERSON

In my opinion covid caused us to lose sight of why Westminster Village was established. Westminster Village was established in an effort to help seniors be independent for longer. I have done the research regarding

statistics in older adults. Statistics show that people who stay active physically and socially are able to stay independent longer. To have friends to support your many challenges in life eases the stress that many of you may be under. Many of you wouldn't be as active if we didn't plan activities and events. You can do more than just rent at Westminster Village. The staff have jumped in to help reinvent Resident Services. Hee Haw was a hoot. I enjoyed the resident participation. The sip and paints are so much fun. Again, the resident participation is what makes it fun. The Veteran's Karaoke and Dance night was touching and entertaining. Lots of talent was discovered. Several residents made their debut in singing. If I'm honest my favorite was the "Halls of Montezuma" sung by Tim Jones. Every branch of service was recognized. We had Tim Jones from Marines, Cleo Massey from Army, Gary Guttridge from Air Force, Elvis Williams from Army and Merrill and Nancy Frame from Navy. We thank them all for their service to our country as well as those veterans who chose not to attend. We will continue to schedule activities and events in an effort to make your time here at Westminster Village memorable and pleasurable. Happy Happy New Year! 2024

Cindy Williamson, Administrative Director

## Please remember to disconnect your outside water hoses and set your inside faucets to drip when temperatures are 25 degrees or below. You can also open your kitchen and bathroom sink cabinets to help prevent freezing.

We try to send out one calls when we are aware of potential cold weather just in case you miss it.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

5<sup>th</sup> Ed Brownlee
5<sup>th</sup> Nina Dunlap
5<sup>th</sup> Gary Guttridge
6<sup>th</sup> Alma Gahie
7<sup>th</sup> Nola King
9<sup>th</sup> Julian Woodson
10<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Keane
21<sup>st</sup> Dale Brock
23<sup>rd</sup> Raymond Burton

26<sup>th</sup> George Watkins 27<sup>th</sup> Jewell Mathis 27<sup>th</sup> Patricia Smith

Employee Birthdays: 14th Cedric Thomas 25th Forrest Christiansen

# Birthday & Move-In Anniversary Breakfast & Bingo

Thursday,
January 25th
10 AM
Ramey Center
Must be present
to win prizes.

As always please Sign Up!

## MOVE IN ANNIVERSARIES

Jeanie Wilson
Henry & Katie Davenport
Susan Person
Kaye Faulkenberry
John DeBose & Elma Wallace
John & Bridget Owen
Mary Stark

19 years
7 years
7 years
3 years
4 years
3 years

## New Move Ins -Your new Neighbors

Anita Artison
Janice Gordon
Leonard Middlebrook & Danita Wilson

The Fannie Ruth White Elephant is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 10-3. All proceeds from the sales go into the white elephant fund. Every December the funds are split. Half goes to the resident funds and half goes to the employees for Christmas bonuses. The Advisory Committee votes on how

to use the resident funds. On behalf of the staff and residents of Westminster Village we thank you all for your support and donations.

The White Elephant can always use volunteers to help sort donations.



**Faith In Action** offers the following services: Light Housekeeping - Respite Care - Local Transportation - Letter Writing - Telephone Reassurance. If you need a ride you must have an application on file and give 24-hour notice. Please call 532-1501 for more information.

Each of you have your reasons for coming to Westminster Village to live. Some came for the socialization, some because they no longer want to do yard work or repairs on their homes, some for the safety of security. Whatever reason you came to be with us, we are happy you are a part of the Westminster Village family. Some of you may have landed here in our little community to strictly rent a home. We sometimes ask the question, what is the purpose of an independent retirement community? Here's some thoughts.

Independent living is a residential option for seniors who don't need assistance with daily living but want support, amenities and socialization. Independent living communities offer access to amenities and activities that can improve quality of life, increased social support, and peace of mind. Lets address these options.

Socialization: Independent living communities provide opportunities for seniors to socialize with others and participate in group activities. (Westminster Village offers a lot.) For those who don't want to participate or for those who are timid about participating or for those who just really don't know what we offer. Make sure you peruse your monthly calendar which comes out in your monthly newsletter. There are events scheduled at the Ramey Center. There are trips planned off site. There are what we call resident driven events. On Friday's residents get together and play dominoes. Residents get together and dance. The gym in the Ramey Center has exercise equipment as well as toning tables and the opportunity to work out as a group on Mondays and Thursdays. The craft hut is available daily or you can join a group every other Thursday. You have a key that fits the Ramey Center and the Library so you can go any time. There is opportunity to volunteer for different activities. The White Elephant needs people to sort donations and work the days it is open. The swimming pool is open during the summer months and the same key that fits the Ramey Center and library fits the pool door.

**Safety**: Independent living communities are designed to be safe and secure, with features such as 24-hour security. (Westminster Village offers security.) Residents can sleep more peacefully knowing that someone is patrolling the property to keep them as safe as possible. We also rely on security for minor maintenance after hours.

Maintenance-free living: Independent living communities take care of maintenance and repairs, freeing up time for seniors to enjoy their hobbies and interests. (Westminster Village offers maintenance free living.) If you have a maintenance issue, call the office. A work order will be created and turned over to maintenance. Westminster Village hires someone to mow your lawns. For those who still want to do a little yard work, you get to take care of your flower beds. The lawn crew won't touch them.

**Improved quality of life**: Independent living communities offer a range of amenities and activities that can improve seniors' quality of life, such as exercise, swimming pools, and community events. (Westminster Village offers that and more.) Friendship is what ends up mattering the most. When you get to know your neighbors through activities and events your life is enhanced and enriched in ways that staying to yourself doesn't. If you haven't already, consider joining in.

## Westminster Village's Mission Statement

Westminster Village is committed to providing an environment that encourages and enables our esidents to enjoy life to the maximum of their capabilities in a relaxed atmosphere of security, comfort and dignity. (The staff of Westminster Village makes every effort to provide residents with a full calendar with variety. The staff looks out for you in ways you may never see.)

## **Christmas Door Contest**

We want to thank all those that decorated their doors. Congratulations to the winners.

1st place Diane Jones, 2nd place Phyllis McCanless and 3rd place Loretta Heard for their Christmas door decorating.

1st place Diane Jones



2nd place Phyllis McCanless



Third Place Loretta Heard





Chili Dogs & Chips

Wednesday, January 10th 12 noon Ramey Center

Sign Up by the 8th. We need a count.



Tomato Soup with Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwiches

Wednesday, January 17th 12 noon Ramey Center

Sign Up by the 15th. We need a count.



## 10 AM Breakfast BINGO

Thursday, January 25th Ramey Center

Sign Up by the 22nd. We need a count.



Tuesday, January 30 5:30 p.m. Ramey Center

BYOD "Bring Your Own Drink"

For the beginner or the seasoned painter.

Sign up at the front desk by the 23rd, so that we know how many supplies to purchase.





Marion Erwin, Resident of Westminster Village will have a presentation on the First Ladies. Marion is an accomplished artist who has painted some of the First Ladies portraits and will have the paintings on display. Tuesday, February 20 5:30 pm Ramey Center

## **Marketing News**

Another Christmas has come and gone. I have the best memories of so many magical Christmases. Driving around the neighborhood to look at the lights, the card making, the baking, the church services, the trip to the Enchanted Forest at Goldsmith's in downtown Memphis, the handmade ornaments, the boxes of icicles...the magic all came from the women in my life - my Mom and my Grandmother.

I never saw my Grandmother without an apron. Whatever she was doing – from frying up a chicken for Sunday dinner after church to making her famous homemade cherry and coconut meringue pies – she was wearing an apron. She made a miniature apron to match one of her favorite aprons for me to wear. I stood on a chair and wore the apron with pride as I helped her roll out the crust for one of her pies. I was only about four or five years old and I asked her if I could have all of her aprons when she died. She said I was being sassy and I got in trouble. She said children were not supposed to talk about people dying.

A few years later I was helping in the kitchen and she was teaching me how to can green beans right out of the garden with a pressure cooker. I was able by that time to wear one of her aprons tied around me a couple of times. I tried again to ask about her aprons – but I took a little different approach. I asked her if I could have all of her aprons "when she was finished with them". She laughed and told me she would let me know when she was finished.

My dear grandmother was in the hospital right before Christmas on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She came home and passed away a few weeks later. A few months at her home and I found a box with my name on it with the things she had for me to keep. It had some broaches and items that she knew I treasured – along with several of her aprons. She had made all of these aprons herself and some of them were worn and the threads were frayed. In the bottom of the box was my favorite apron, her Christmas apron with poinsettias on the pockets. I put the box away and pulled the apron out right before that first Christmas without her. I put it on Christmas as I got ready to serve my best efforts of a meal including a dry turkey, scorched dinner rolls and the salad that I forgot to take out of the fridge. I reached for a tissue to dry up my tears and put the tissue in the pocket of the apron. As I reached in the pocket I found a handwritten note with familiar writing. It said "I am so very proud of you and I love you! I am finished with the apron now." – Momma. She knew I would have out her Christmas apron and reached out to me as best she could.

She left a forever stamp on my heart that still makes the holidays feel like the most wonderful time of the year. I am thankful for her adding that special ingredient of magic during the holidays that continues all year long.

Leslie Acred, Marketing Director

## **Accounting News**

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday, Never hesitate to call me if you have a question or concern. If I can't answer or help you I will definitely get someone who can. I am always glad to hear from you all. Sometimes a phone call is the only way I get to know some of you.

The 11/12 Program is still available to our Westminster Village residents. Prepay your rent for 11 months and the 12<sup>th</sup> month is FREE. This is a great deal. Remember your

monthly statements are emailed unless you contact the office and ask for yours to continue to be mailed. Just ask for accounting.

If you are tired of writing those rent checks we can set you up on direct deposit which allows your rent to come out automatically each month. Sign up at the office by bringing in a voided check and we will give you a form to fill out. It's just that easy.

Have a wonderful 2024.

Angela Hollins, Accounting Director

Don't forget about the 11/12 program. Earn more interest than you can get from the bank! Call the accounting office for more information about this program.

#### **Environmental Services News**

Greetings to all. Cold weather is setting in. Please make sure water hoses are disconnected from your outdoor faucets. When the temperatures dip below freezing leave your water dripping and your kitchen cabinet doors open to prevent water lines from freezing.



We want to do our best to serve you and part of that best is to minimize needed maintenance in your homes.

Please remember the plumbing lines at Westminster Village were installed prior to the use of garbage disposals, which affects how efficiently they are able to carry away waste. Please do not put items such as: pasta, orange rinds, melon rinds, red meats, coffee grounds, greens (lettuce, cabbage, cilantro etc.) or potato skins down your garbage disposal as these items cannot be chopped up enough to go smoothly through our plumbing lines and cause your kitchen sink to stop up. This includes any type of animal fat or cooking grease.

We change filters as we do preventative maintenance one street as a time. If you would prefer changing the filter yourself please pick up an orange flyer from the administrative office that states, "Please do not change filter" and attach it to your kitchen door.

Thank you all for your patience and cooperation with all maintenance needs.

Happy New Year!

**Butch Sander, Environmental Services Director** 



### Thunder Bayou Golf Course

is ranked # 4 in the state of Arkansas Call Tony, Van or Ron for more information. 532-2621.

## **Westminster Village Directors**

Tammy Swanson
Cindy Williamson
Leslie Acred
Kendall Berry
Butch Sanders
Angela Hollins

Executive Director
Administrative Director
Marketing Director
Resident Services Director
Environmental Services
Accounting Director

#### **Board Members**

President Janet Robertson
Vice President Beth Fitzgerald
Secretary/Treasurer Roger Oldham
Jeremy Bennett, Billy Curl, Tom Henry, David
King, Victoria Sierra, Bill Sullivan, Gary Swain
Westminster Village is a 501(c)3
non-profit corporation

### **The Advisory Committee:**

Loretta Heard, Helen Walker, Annie Campbell, Gary Walker, Tommy Hayes, Vicki Schrimsher, Patty Guttridge

The Advisory Committee serves as a voice for the residents of Westminster Village. The office has an open door policy. Residents are welcome to call or come by anytime. However if you prefer to speak to someone on the Advisory Committee instead they will bring your concerns to management at the monthly meeting. The Advisory Committee meets at 1:30 the second Tuesday of the month.

#### **Resident Services News**

Happy New Year! 2023 is over!!! We are going to keep active in 2024! The Westminster Village Newsletter hit a Milestone with Volume 300 this month after 27 years of WMV newsletters. Interaction is important and uplifting to the spirit when we all have to deal with getting older every year. We all must be thoughtful about our individual safety and the care of those around us. So I have planned activities accordingly. We are having two Wednesday Lunches the 10th and 17th and a

Thursday morning Bingo Breakfast on the 25th in the Ramey Center and a couple of out of town lunches in January, Benny Bobs on Friday the 19th and the Sandbar Grill on Wednesday the 24th.

You must sign up for all activities you plan to attend by calling the front desk, except Exercises on Monday and Thursdays and 10 AM Thursday Coffee. When ever it says Sign Up! Look over the calendar of activities and sign up by calling the front desk.

2024 will be the start of my fifteenth year here at Westminster Village.

If you have not been to the BAFB Exhibition it is a nice get away to see the Base of the past. It is located near the Base Control Tower. Somewhere to go on your own just to get out. It is open Fridays and Saturdays 10 to 4.

God Bless You and Westminster Village in 2024.



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## Appendix 1 Maintenance Price List

Maintenance requests not listed are \$25/hour labor plus materials.

Maintenance requests with an (\*) require a <u>work order</u> which must be preapproved and prescheduled with the front desk.

Maintenance requests with a (\*\*) require a preapproved modification form.

\*Ceiling Fans \$50/hour labor + materials. This is for replacing existing ceiling fans.

(subject to licensed electrician availability – must conform to state electrical code)

\*Light Fixtures \$50/hour labor + materials. This is for replacing existing light fixtures.

subject to licensed electrician availability - must conform to state electrical code)

\*Faucets \$50/hour + materials. This is for replacing existing faucets.

<u>\*Ice Maker Lines</u> \$50/hour + materials. This is for installing an ice maker line.

\*Ice Makers \$50/hour + materials. This is for installing an icemaker.

\*Receptacles \$50/hour + materials. This is for additional receptacles.

(subject to licensed electrician availability - must conform to state electrical code)

\*\*Switches \$50/hour + materials. This is for additional switches.

(subject to licensed electrician availability – must conform to state electrical code)

\*\*Grab Bars \$50/hour + materials. This is for grab bar installation.

(Grab bars cannot be installed on deluxe tub surrounds)

\*Curtain Rods \$50/hour. This is for installing curtain rods and hanging curtains.

\*\*Interior Doors \$150 flat rate + door and materials

\*\*Storm Doors \$50/hour + door and materials

\*\*Painting \$25/hour + resident provides the paint

\*Additional Keys \$25 each for home keys / \$50 for mailbox keys

\*Wax—White Sun \$20 per gallon

(purchase through the front desk)

<u>\*Seal--Shineline</u> \$20 per gallon

(purchase through the front desk)

\*Landscaping \$25/hour (flower beds / trim hedges)

**Pressure Washing** 

\$25 flat rate (includes washing garbage can) (weather permitting)

Garbage Room

Pressure Washing \$100 flat rate (weather permitting)

Pressure Washing

Garbage Pickup

\$25/hour (weather permitting)

<u>Concrete</u>

\$25 per truck load (We do not pick up furniture, mattresses, box springs, bedding, etc.)

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It has been brought to the attention of management that residents are a little confused about the maintenance price list. The price list has been around for years. It has been in the resident handbook for years. It isn't anything new. The maintenance list identifies things that residents may need or want but doesn't fall into the regular maintenance for upkeep category. We've been told that residents are not calling in work orders because they are afraid they will be charged. Some are just going with things not repaired while others are hiring the work done. The maintenance list in no way replaces regularly needed repairs to homes. We urge residents to call the office with maintenance needs. We want you to be comfortable in your home. If you believe there is a chance that what you are asking for is a charge, we can clarify this for you.

Example: The resident has a ceiling fan, but wants a different one; the resident will purchase the new ceiling fan and pay for maintenance to install it. It is understood that the ceiling fan will stay in the apartment when the resident leaves.

Example: The resident has a ceiling fan but the ceiling fan stops working. This is a regular work order with no charge.

For \$50.00, (one time) you will receive one housekeeper for up to 1-1/2 hours. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly contract (weekly=\$2400.00 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is a savings of \$200.00. You will receive one housekeeper for up to 1-1/2 hours. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly contract (bi-weekly=\$1150.00 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is a savings of \$150.00. You will receive one housekeeper for up to 1-1/2 hours. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly (monthly cleanings = \$550 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is savings of \$50. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

For \$75.00, (one time) you will receive two housekeepers for up to 1-1/2 hours. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly contract (weekly=\$3600.00 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is a savings of \$300.00. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly contract (bi-weekly=\$1800.00 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is a savings of \$150.00. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

Yearly contract (monthly=\$825.00 with a one-time fee of \$150). This is a savings of \$75.00. This will include sweeping, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, dusting, and vacuuming.

For \$25.00 (one time) per hour, you will receive two housekeepers to clean windows inside and out. This service could take up to two hours.

This service is done by appointment only.

For \$50, (one time) per appliance or for 1.5 hours we will clean your refrigerator, stove and/or dishwasher.



# Village Voice Happy New Year! January 2024



Sun		·	I there are an O to 10				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Cum		Library open 8 to 10				Library open 1 to 3	•
<b>5</b> 411	Mon	Tue	Wed	T	hu	White Elephant 10 - 3	Sat White Elephant 10 - 3
December 31st Resident New Years Eve 9 to 12 Ramey Center	1 Office Closed  HAPPY  VEAR	2	3 No Lunch Trip	4	9 AM Exercise Class RC 9:30 AM COFFEE Mingle 10 AM Meeting Book Club Recruiting	5	6
-		•	10	4.4		6 PM Mexican Train Dominoes RC	40
RC - Ramey Center CH - Craft Hut DML - Doris Marks Library	9 AM Exercise Class RC	9 1:30 PM Advisory Meeting	10 12 noon Ramey Lunch Chili Dogs & Chips Sign Up by the 8th.	11	9 AM Exercise Class RC 9:30 AM COFFEE Mingle 10 AM Activity Meeting	12	13
ANC - Arkansas Northeastern College	4:30 TOPS		2 PM Book Club in the Doris Marks Library pg 2		2 PM Crafty Ones CH	4:30 Resident Dance RC 6 PM Mexican Train Dominoes RC	
14	15	16	17	18	9 AM Exercise Class RC	19	20
	9 AM Exercise Class RC 4:30 TOPS		12 noon Ramey Lunch Tomato Soup & Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwiches Sign Up by the 15th.		9:30 AM COFFEE Mingle 10 AM Meeting Marion Erwin	11:30 AM Lunch at Benny Bob's - Blytheville Sign Up!  4:30 Resident Dance RC 6 PM Mexican Train Dominoes RC	
21	22	23	24	25	9 AM Exercise Class RC	26	27
	9 AM Exercise Class RC 4:30 TOPS		11 AM Lunch at Sandbar Grille - Osceola Sign Up!		9:30 AM COFFEE Mingle  10 AM Breakfast Birthday - Move In Anniversary BINGO Party Sign Up! RC pg 3  2 PM Crafty Ones CH	4:30 Resident Dance RC 6 PM Mexican Train Dominoes RC	
28	29	30	31	1	9 AM Exercise Class RC	2 Groundhog & National	3
Westminster Village of the Mid-South Active Adult Community   5215 Southside Drive Blytheville, AR 72315 (870) 532-4100	9 AM Exercise Class RC 4:30 TOPS	5:30 pm Paint & Sip RC Sign up by the 23rd.			9:30 AM COFFEE Mingle 10 AM Meeting  FEBRUARY	12 noon Lunch Me	arious Pizzas at - Cheese & Vegetables