



*Methodist Homes of Alabama &  
Northwest Florida*  
1520 Cooper Hill Road  
Birmingham, AL 35210  
(205) 951-2442

[www.methodisthomes.org](http://www.methodisthomes.org)

# Methodist Homes News

A Publication of Methodist Homes of Alabama & Northwest Florida

## Methodist Homes Communities

### Housing & Health Services

#### Fair Haven

Birmingham, AL (205) 956-4150

#### Wesley Place on Honeysuckle

Dothan, AL (334) 792-0921

#### Wesley Gardens

Montgomery, AL (334) 272-7917

#### Mathison Retirement Community

Panama City, FL (850) 215-4663

#### Wesley Haven Villa

Pensacola, FL (850) 434-1035

#### Haven Our Lady of Peace\*

Pensacola, FL (850) 436-5900

### Affordable Housing

(Section 8 / Tax Credit)

#### Wesley Acres & Wesley Acres II

Decatur, AL (256) 355-8281

#### Wesley Apartments

Anniston, AL (256) 237-4371

#### The Epworth House

Selma, AL (334) 875-6450

#### Wesley Glen

Decatur, AL (256) 355-8281

#### Wesley Park Apartments

Anniston, AL (256) 741-8666

#### Wesley Scott Place

Pensacola, FL (850) 437-1400

\*Joint venture operated by Sacred Heart  
Health System / Ascension Health.

[methodisthomes.org](http://methodisthomes.org)



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[Facebook.com/WesleyPlaceDothan](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyPlaceDothan)

[Facebook.com/WesleyHavenVilla](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyHavenVilla)

[Facebook.com/Wesley-Gardens-  
Retirement-Community](https://www.facebook.com/Wesley-Gardens-Retirement-Community)

[Facebook.com/MathisonPanamaCity](https://www.facebook.com/MathisonPanamaCity)



Fair Haven

## Benefits of Assisted Living

### Choosing An Engaging Retirement Lifestyle

Wondering what it's like to live in assisted living? Assisted living is perfect for older adults who just need help occasionally with a few activities of daily life. Residents furnish and enjoy their own private apartment, with caring hands nearby if needed. And it can be more affordable than you think. Here are a few of the benefits of choosing an assisted living retirement lifestyle.

#### Social Interaction

Friends, friends, friends. As we age it can be physically difficult to get together with friends. Sometimes it's impractical to visit each other's homes on a whim to play a game, or to chat about kids and grandkids. In a retirement community setting, you don't have to dress up or drive somewhere to meet up with your friends.

#### Being Independent

You love your daughter, but you don't want to live with her...again. You raised her to be independent and you're still an independent person with your own schedule and lifestyle. Choosing the right assisted living community can be a win-win for everyone.

#### Group Activities

Enjoy a little game of solitaire? Have a knitting project going for your fifth grandchild? These pleasures are portable. But when was the last time

(continued on Page 2)



Wesley Gardens



**Benefits of Assisted Living (continued from Page 1)**

an Elvis impersonator rocked his hips in your home to entertain you and your friends? When was the last time a local child-prodigy pianist gave a concert in your living room? Group activities and entertainment happen often in senior living communities, with many opportunities for special moments and new stories to share.

***Mealtime Relief***

People who live in an assisted living community no longer have to worry about food preparation. No more worries of what to cook, doing the dishes, or grocery shopping. At a retirement community you can choose from a menu of items, and who says you can't start with dessert!

*Wesley Place on Honeysuckle****Close to Care***

Let's face it. We can't do all of the things we used to be able to do. Maybe we want someone close by who can keep up with the medication regimen, or help us get that vase down from the top shelf, but we don't need them to live with us. Just someone to help now and again with some everyday stuff. Assisted living can give you that.

***Bring Your Pet***

It's not true of all assisted living communities, but it certainly is true at a Methodist Home! Small pets are welcome. Naturally, there's a pet fee, like with any other apartment. A pet fee is just a safety net in case Fido tries to bury his bone in the carpet, or Fifi slides down a closet door with her claws extended.

*Mathison*

There are many other benefits to choosing an assisted living community. Visit several communities to get a feel for the atmosphere and culture, and sit down with someone to talk about finances. You might be surprised how far your dollar will go when compared to all the expenses and hassles of maintaining a house.

If you live anywhere near Dothan, Birmingham, Montgomery, Panama City or Pensacola, you should visit your Methodist Home and see for yourself our faith-based assisted living lifestyle. Each community is unique in its character and culture, and we would love to discover if a Methodist Home can become your next home.

*Wesley Haven Villa***BIRMINGHAM****Father's Day Pinewood Derby**

The Father's Day Pinewood Derby was an awesome way to spend Father's Day weekend, thanks to Boy Scout Troop 322 from Hueytown. The Scouts spent time with residents at Fair Haven (Birmingham) painting the cars while the troop leaders added weights and attached wheels. Fifteen cars competed in the event held on the Saturday before Father's Day. Congratulations to **Wayne Vickery**, the Pinewood Derby Winner! The racetrack used in the event was once owned by Hueytown race car driver **Davey Allison**.

**DOTHAN****Senior Citizens Day**

Our camera found **Ida Cochran** on August 21st for National Senior Citizens Day at Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan). See more pics from the day on our Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/WesleyPlaceDothan](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyPlaceDothan).

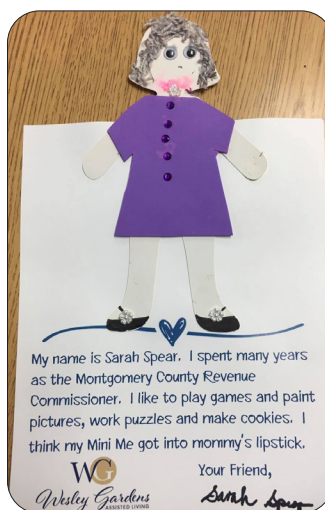
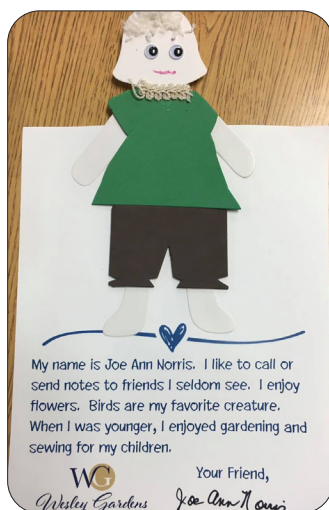
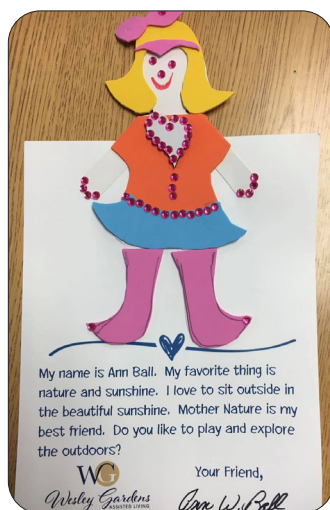




## MONTGOMERY

## Mini Me's Kids & Seniors Exchange

There were plenty of giggles and laughter during an activity exchange between residents at Wesley Gardens (Montgomery) and their new friends from Kinder Care Learning Center. Brief biographies were exchanged through the mail in this 'getting to know you' activity. Hopefully everyone will be able to meet each other in person soon. See more of our Mini Me's on our Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/Wesley-Gardens-Retirement-Community](http://www.facebook.com/Wesley-Gardens-Retirement-Community).



## PENSACOLA

## PENSACOLA

## God Bless Mothers

What a relief it was at Wesley Haven Villa (Pensacola) to welcome our families back to our building for Mother's Day! Pictured below, top to bottom, with family are **Willamae Williams, Gloria Collins, Hester Boggs and Leta Knight.**



## Changes at Popular Pensacola Home



Meet **Robert E. Wells**, the new Maintenance Technician at Wesley Scott Place (Pensacola). Robert is originally from the Ensley area of Birmingham. He lived in Randolph, a very small town with barely a post office and a general store, before relocating to Florida. Robert served in maintenance for 30 years at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). He is already making a positive difference for our residents at Wesley Scott Place, and we welcome him to our team!

**Jennifer Colley**, Administrator of sister community Wesley Haven Villa (Pensacola), has assumed the managerial duties at Wesley Scott Place. Wesley Scott Place is a very popular community, with more than 100 applicants on the waiting list for only 40 apartments.



Our heartfelt thanks to all  
of our donors and friends.

***Gifts through  
Sept. 8, 2021***

**NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE**

North Alabama Conference  
Bluff Park UMC *Hoover*  
Canterbury UMC *Birmingham*  
Central UMC *Decatur*  
Crossroads UMC *Jasper*  
Huffman UM Women *Birmingham*  
Riverchase UMC *Hoover*  
Warrenton UMC *Guntersville*

**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONF.**

Alabama-West Florida Conference  
Alabama-West Florida Foundation  
Altha UMC *Altha*  
Grand Bay FUMC *Grand Bay*  
Frazer Memorial UMC *Montgomery*  
Shalimar UMC *Shalimar*  
Skipperville UMC *Skipperville*  
St. Luke UMC *Pensacola*  
Wewahitchka FUMC *Wewahitchka*

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Judith Wilks-May  
Faye Wynn

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Betty Etheredge  
By Cindy Barganier  
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Charlotte Forehand  
By Tami Forehand Black  
Mary Hawkins  
By Cindy Elledge  
Carolyn Hughes  
By Scott Hughes  
By Susan V. Miller  
By Patti Williamson  
Rice Jacobs  
By Paul Jacobs

Dolores Johnson  
By Edith "Edie" Olson  
Carolyn Jones  
By Elaine Payne  
Josephine Kernochan  
By Patricia R. Smith  
Leta Knight  
By Buddy (Knight), Laura & Ed  
Hazel Lumsden  
By Sandra Aycock  
By Teresa Strickland  
Mary L. Patterson  
By Craig & Susan Anderson  
Flora Richardson  
By John (Milledge) & Robert  
Faye L. Robertson  
By Her Children  
Barbara J. Rouseyrol  
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Rev. Robert C. "Bobby" Scales  
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Sara Smith  
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By Mack & Judy Smith  
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Tommie Thompson  
By Carol Savage  
Thelma Wagner  
By Roslyn & Irwin Bendet  
Connie Waldrep  
By Gail & Gil Landers  
Inez Ware  
By Her Children  
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By Susan R. Williams  
Ruby Inez Williams  
By Densie & Kim Williams  
Willamae Williams  
By Pamela Bennett & Family  
Louise Witherington  
By Sharon W. Thomason

**Tribute Gifts IN MEMORY OF**

Martha John Allison  
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By Diane Colletta  
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By Robert L. McKee, III and  
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#GIVINGTUESDAY

# Fountain of Love



Nov. 30  
2021

Make A Gift Online

Fundraise for Us!



Want to raise \$\$\$ for the Fountain of Love Fund at your favorite Methodist Home? Contact Sherri at 205-951-2442 or [info@methodisthomes.org](mailto:info@methodisthomes.org). I will notify you when our team fundraising platform is ready!

## LEGACY GIVING

In addition to the valuable support of our donors to the *Fountain of Love*, and to other projects and programs at Methodist Homes, Legacy Giving is another way to make a significant difference. Imagine the impact on older adults if Methodist Homes' donors who give during their lifetime also make a charitable gift through their estate plan! Let your estate planner know how much you would like to give, and direct that the gift will be made to Methodist Home for the Aging, 1520 Cooper Hill Rd, Birmingham, AL 35210. For more info, call Sherri, Director of PR at 205-951-2442.

### YES - I WANT TO HELP YOUR MINISTRY

\$\_\_\_\_\_ General Contribution (undesignated)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Redefining Home (capital fund raising campaign)

For: Fair Haven (B'ham) / Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ The *Fountain of Love* (provides help to residents)

Designate for: Where most needed / Fair Haven (B'ham)

Wesley Gardens (Mtg) / Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan)

Mathison Center (PC, FL) / Wesley Haven Villa (Pns, FL)

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## BIRMINGHAM

# Home Is Where The Heart Is

## Interview with Independent Living Resident

Guest Article by *Cara Clark, Freelance Writer and Editor*

**Lila and Bernie Barton** decided for themselves when it was time to move from their Trussville home to a no-maintenance independent living facility. The Bartons moved to a spanking new facility where they were the first residents in the building. It had all of the amenities and promise of future success, but it turned out not to be the right place or the right time.

“It was a very lovely apartment, but very few people moved in,” Lila says. “We knew in a year or two, it would be wonderful, but they had a lot of learning to do, and we felt like we didn’t want that to happen on our nickel.”

The Bartons, who had lived in different areas of the country over the years, had moved to Trussville to be closer to their daughter, who had been in the Greater Birmingham area for 30 years. It was her suggestion that took them to Fair Haven.

“From the moment we walked in the door, everyone was warm and loving,” says Lila, now 88 years old. “We absolutely made the right choice, and this has been one of the best experiences of our living anywhere at any time.”

That feeling was reinforced less than six months ago when her husband died after the two lived together at Fair Haven for almost three years.

“Everyone surrounded me with love,” Lila says. “They have been so kind and considerate. Here I feel like I live in a huge apartment with 60 other wonderful people around me.”

Lila believes it’s people that make a true home – the actual structure is simply four walls and a roof.

“The best thing about the experience was that we decided on



*Lila Barton*

**We didn’t want to live in a house all by ourselves. We needed the companionship of other people.**

our own,” Lila says. “We knew for ourselves that it was time to make a move. We didn’t want to live in a house all by ourselves. We needed the companionship of other people. I tell people they need to do this when they are capable and not when it’s decided that they need to be in a facility.”

As she discusses her life, Lila corrects her verbiage several times, saying she doesn’t view Fair Haven as a facility, but as a treasured home. If the couple had not settled there, she would have been completely adrift when she lost her husband.

“I would have been totally devastated with no support whatsoever,” she says. “Here, I open a door, and within two minutes someone is here. I would do anything for any of these people, and they would do anything for me. It’s a caring, wonderful home.”

Originally from New York, Bertie was a psychologist and Lila was a school teacher. They moved from South Carolina to settle close to their daughter in Birmingham. Another daughter lives in Seattle, a climate they wanted to avoid, and a son is in Australia. They lived in their Trussville house for almost 14 years before deciding the upkeep was becoming a burden. Life at Fair Haven is relatively carefree.

“You pick up the phone, and they fix a light bulb or change a fan or help with the television,” Lila says. “It’s so much easier to be here. It’s all inclusive for me.”

Lila loves to read and takes part in a book club and playing bridge. She’s also an avid knitter and almost started a cottage industry of her own knitting for people’s great-grandchildren.

“I love people,” she says. “That’s the best thing about life – the people you come into contact with and hopefully make an impression on. Life is about being kind and caring for the other person so they can care for you.”







## SELMA



It was truly a celebration at Epworth House (Selma). Residents enjoyed delicious chicken, ribs, potato salad, beans, and strawberry shortcake at our July 4th cookout! At that time, masks were optional in our community. Pictured below are **Linda Sanders and Alice Leveret**; **Lawrence Williams, Tommie Garner, Barbara Malone (Associate) and Kenny Andrews**; **Linda and Alice joined by Doretta Pettway, Vera Riley, Sherri Williams, John Taylor, and Melissa Buster.**



## DECATUR

## Spirit of Summer

Despite the gusty, blustery day, friends from SouthernCare New Beacon held a cookout distributing takeout containers of hot dogs, chips, and cookies to the residents of Wesley Acres (Decatur). Pictured receiving their takeout boxes are **Fran Askews**, a resident since 2016, and **Margie Thomas**, a resident since 2013.

A few weeks later, SouthernCare sponsored a social distance BINGO, which was our first BINGO game since March of 2020. Residents spread out around the perimeter the large central common room. Thank you for your generosity, SouthernCare!



## ANNISTON

## Ensuring and Promoting Senior Health

Thank you to **Natalie Bushey** and her team from Amedisys Hospice who came out to Wesley Apartments (Anniston) in July to perform blood pressure checks and provide refreshments. Pictured left in action is **Nancy Teague**. Seen in the background are **Martha McClain** and **Dorothy Anderson**, who also got their checkup from Amedisys.

Also in July, a team from the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission visited with residents and distributed information on elderly abuse at Wesley Apartments and Wesley Park (Anniston). The EARPDC provides connections to a variety of senior services such as legal aid, caregiver assistance and prescription assistance. Residents pictured (L-R) are **Alma Davis** and **Catherine Ervin**.







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#### OUR MISSION

To enrich the lives of older adults and all those who serve them in faith-based communities, where life is celebrated, relationships are valued, teamwork is embraced, service excellence is expected, and the touch of God's love is ever-present and ageless.

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### PANAMA CITY

## Antique Car Show

### Surprise Birthday Treat from Daughter

Beep! Beep! A line of classic automobiles stretched down the drive and around the parking lot at Mathison (Panama City). The car show was courtesy of Jackie, daughter of resident **Charles Nichols**, who wanted to do something special for her father's 99th birthday. The Bay British Car Club brought 20+ vehicles to participate in the procession, including a WWII Navy Jeep. Residents had the opportunity to peek into the cars and under the hoods, just like a real car show. To finish off the exhibition, the cars started back up, revved their engines, and made a final parade lap around the drive.

