

Stan, Wesley Woods resident

I was familiar with Wesley Glen and Wesley Ridge, but Wesley Woods was newer, modern, and able to provide the apartment configuration that we wanted. We were looking for continuing care as we didn't want to keep moving. It's important to us that it's a faith-based nonprofit senior living community. I wanted to be able to bring my shop with me, and they have their own woodshop here!

We do all kinds of stuff in the wood shop! We make small items, music boxes, cutting boards, just great gifts to have for the holidays. We offer a beginner class for all residents and staff alike. Residents who used to be nurses have found a hidden talent for woodworking! We've made mailboxes, benches, wine racks, and bookshelves for residents and their families, and they love it! Whatever anyone wants to do, we can do. It's a fairly complete woodshop with even opportunities to engrave things. We doubled the size of the library shelves and even matched with the original oak, you can't tell the difference!

I've been a ham radio operator for years and years, and I worried it was something I would have to give up when I moved to a senior living community. When we came to Wesley Woods, we discovered the field in the back that would give us room to set up the antennas. We combined the technology to the woodshop and set up a microwave link and satellite dish outside my apartment window so I could get an internet connection and link it through the woodshop to the antennas out back. I appreciate how Wesley Woods was able to accommodate and support my passion for the ham radio and let me bring it to the community. They said, "You tell us what you want, and we'll do it for you!" I have a couple residents here interested in the ham radio who enjoy having access again here. I have fun talking to people all around the world, and it's great that I can keep doing that. This station can operate in a state of emergency, so if everything went down, we would still be able to communicate.

I'm fascinated by the interpersonal dynamics at Wesley Woods. You get to know your neighbors very quickly here and want to help each other and connect, which is nicer than being in a house where you might not ever take the time to get to know your neighbors. It's a very inclusive community, especially in dining. If there's an open spot, people invite you over to sit with them.