



AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESIDENT PROFILE

Edith Kishdaugh

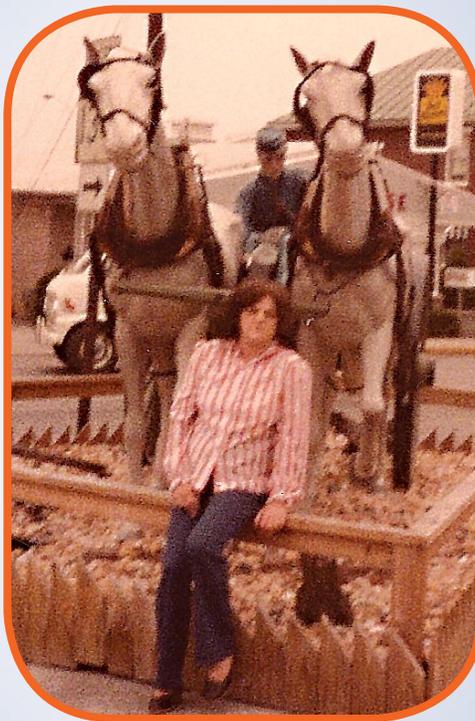
“I guess I’m like my mother,” said Edith Kishdaugh, a 30-year resident of the ParcView Apartments. “When she lived someplace she liked to stay there.”

At 86, Edith has called ParcView Apartments home for more than one-third of her life. She moved into the complex after her former apartment building was sold and the tenants had to move out. “This is just like any home,” Edith pointed out. “Some folks come and go, but a lot of us stick around. They’re such good neighbors—the kind always concerned about you and asking how you are.”

The opportunity to live in ParcView came at a good time for Edith. She not only needed a new place to live, but also had developed a severe asthma condition in her late fifties that forced her to leave her job in a laundromat. As a hard-working person who had raised four children, nine grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren, Edith didn’t want to give up her independence in her later years of life. Her daughter helped her find ParcView, where she could live affordably near her family in the Northern Virginia area.

ParcView, a mid-rise apartment building in Alexandria, was built in 1973 with a tenant assistance contract that provided “market affordable” rental units for more than 20 years. However, in the last ten years

the owners began to transition ParcView to market-rate units—a change that would have made them unaffordable for lower-income residents, many of them seniors like Edith. Through the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, Wesley Housing Development Corporation helped preserve affordable housing at ParcView when it purchased the building in 2006.



In partnership with the City of Alexandria, the Virginia Housing Development Authority, and Enterprise Community Investment, Wesley Housing renovated ParcView to create more family-size units and provide accessible housing for persons with physical disabilities and seniors wishing to age in place. These improvements have made ParcView a good home for its residents, who enjoy amenities including a swimming pool, fitness facility, and small outdoor area with benches.

Edith has a very comfortable one-bedroom apartment that meets all of her needs. “To me, it’s not an apartment. It’s my home,” she said. With a warm and cheerful personality, Edith has made many friends at ParcView and knows her neighbors and all of the building staff. Though she still dreams of having a house of her own some day, she has always been very happy living at ParcView and is glad she never had to move.