



## Terry McDonough didn't expect to find herself living on the Wisconsin side of the St. Croix River.

I'm a Minnesota girl," she says, with pride.

But ASI's Heirloom Courts gave her good reason to move a few miles east into an accessible, affordable building especially for seniors.

"I looked all over the St. Paul/Minneapolis area," she remembers of her discouraging apartment search. Her limited income and her desire to keep her beloved dogs created a challenge. Just when the situation seemed dire, a friend saw an ad in the paper about a brand new development just being leased. "She said, 'Just call. What do you have to lose?'"

When her application was processed and she was offered a one-bedroom apartment, Terry was thrilled. The place was so new that she was the very first tenant, moving in four days ahead of anyone else. "A three-story building by myself!" Terry remembers, amused.

Built as an income-restricted building for people 62 or older, Terry's apartment is smack in the middle of a residential neighborhood, an easy car ride to shopping, the hospital, and her part time job at the senior center where she packages and serves meals. "I like to keep busy."

Having undergone a heart bypass, she now has pacemaker and feels more secure having the medical alert button in her apartment. When she broke her arm and kneecap bowling, she was grateful for the accessible kitchen and bathroom.

What she loves most are the relationships with staff and tenants. "We have potlucks once a month," she says. There's Bingo on Tuesdays, birthday celebrations, and breakfasts out. "The people here are just wonderful. We support each other." A social worker visits to help residents with paperwork and connections to helpful programs.

Terry is willing to admit that Wisconsin has grown on her a bit. "This is the first time in my life that I've lived outside the state! They call me a cheesehead now." That doesn't mean she's any less dedicated of a Vikings fan. She has a friendly rivalry with the building supervisor who roots for the Green Bay Packers. While he's always willing to charge her car battery in the dead of winter and help with multiple projects around the building, she has to put a quarter in his Packers piggy bank when the Vikings lose.

"Beautiful" is the word Terry uses to describe her home in Hudson. "I didn't know about ASI," she adds. "It was a real lifesaver for me."

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