



## Fellowship Square

**Seniors celebrate “prom” – some for the first time and others again decades later – at Hunters Woods Fellowship House Senior Housing Community**

*Dance brings back flood of memories for some, provided first opportunity for prom experience for others*



March 17, 2023 - It's been a while since most of these partygoers have been to a prom. For others at [Hunters Woods Fellowship House](#), a community that provides housing to older adults living on extremely limited fixed incomes, it was the first chance they'd had to attend a “prom” dance.

Just like a regular high school prom, the event including a DJ, dancing, food, balloons, lots of sparkling lights, posing for photos, and the naming of a prom king and queen.

“I went to my senior prom 60 years ago, in 1966. I was 17 years old and remembering it was both fun and sad because my friends and I knew we wouldn't be seeing much of each other after high school,” said Nadejda Petrenko, 76.

“I decided to wear a dress and go this event, even though I don't know how to dance. My son and daughter had a prom and they had fun, but I didn't until today. This brings me much joy,” said Samantha Lee, 68, who asked another Hunters Woods friend to be her date.

The prom was held in Hunters Woods Fellowship House's newly renovated social space. Fellowship Square recently completed a \$26 mil. renovation to Hunters Woods Fellowship House in 2022 to modernize the 50-year-old apartment building that provides affordable housing to 300+ older adults (aged 62 and older) who live on extremely limited fixed incomes of approximately \$10,000 per year. The renovation of the 225-unit property ensures that [Fellowship Square](#) can help address Northern Virginia's lack of [affordable housing for seniors](#) well into the future.

### About Fellowship Square

Fellowship Square, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is one of the leading local providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) and serving more than 800 older adults. Through HUD funding and vouchers, residents of Fellowship Houses – many who live on Social Security or Supplemental Security Income alone, with an average annual fixed-income of \$10,000/year – pay no more than 30 percent of their income toward their housing costs, including rent and a utility allowance. Through professionally managed apartment communities, programming, and services, Fellowship Square ensures that residents have the support they need to live independent and fulfilling lives even in the face of serious obstacles, such as the high costs of housing in the greater Washington DC area. For more information on Fellowship Square housing options, volunteer opportunities or donations, visit [fellowshipsquare.org](http://fellowshipsquare.org), call 703.860.2536 or email [info@fellowshipsquare.org](mailto:info@fellowshipsquare.org).

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**Photos below.**

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### Suggested photo caption:

It's been a while since most of these partygoers have been to a prom. For others, it was the first change they'd had to attend a "prom" dance. Just like a regular high school prom, the event at Hunters Woods Fellowship House, a Reston affordable housing community that provides housing to older adults living on extremely limited fixed incomes, included a DJ, dancing, food, balloons, sparkling lights, posing for photos, and the naming of a prom king and queen.



