

My Hometown

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MY HOMETOWN

I like living in Muncie. Here are some reasons why.

1. Muncie facilities have come to my aid as needs arise: Ball Hospital when health was in danger; a Muncie business which hired me after high school; Ball State Teachers College where my degree was via a scholarship and student employment; Central High School where I did student teaching; Ball State Placement Bureau where I received my first teaching job.
2. Though life took me away from Muncie the chaos of World War II brought me back home to await war's end. My parents helped me raise my brand new son until after D Day when our eighteen-month-old son met his daddy for the first time. Trying to settle into normal life was chaotic, but a Muncie day nursery helped us so that I could return to teaching and help us build a future. A loan from Muncie's Mutual Federal Bank made it possible for us to build our home.
3. When my husband died suddenly, I was stunned and alone. Volunteering in Muncie helped. I ushered at Emens, was a docent at Minnetrista Cultural Center, helped at Y.W.C.A.'s Jinglebell Journey for children at Christmas, and sold green carnations. Now I read to the blind by phone recording, I act with Third Age Theater where a Ball State faculty speech teacher supervises, sing with Friends Church choir, belong to two book clubs and a Red Hat group. I've made a life for myself without my husband.
4. I like life in Muncie. I've seen many famous people in person: Edgar Burgen when I took my parents, since they were fans of his radio shows. The sparse audience caused

him to joke, "If I had charged \$10 admission, the house would have been packed." I heard and saw Fred Waring, Red Skelton, Pearl Buck, opera stars—so many famous and talented artists.

5. Our lives have been enriched by many wonderful landmarks made possible by generous philanthropic citizens of Muncie: Emens Auditorium, Shafer Bell Tower, Schumann Stadium, Sursa Performance Hall, and many more.
6. I like my kind, thoughtful Muncie neighbors like the one who put salt on my icy back steps, and the one who stopped the Muncie Star-Press carrier and said, "Why don't you put her newspaper on her front walk so she won't have to cross that busy street to the mail box every morning?" He did, and it's convenient.
7. I like reading the editorial page of the Star-Press every morning to see the disagreements, praises, political turmoil, local news—constantly changing, never dull.

I have traveled quite far from home, but I'm always glad to come back. My anchor is America's Hometown, Muncie, Indiana.

Lucky Me!!

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