A Visit to Newberg’s Cultural Gem

Chehalem Cultural Center hosts the annual camellia festival in April.

“City of Newberg” camellia blooms in winter!

Local craftspeople exhibit their creations in the center’s Parrish Gallery.

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“Community is at the heart of everything we do here!”

This theme weaved itself into every descriptive answer Executive Director Sean Andries gave to questions the View team posed about the creative pulse of Newberg’s unique gem—Chehalem Cultural Center. Sean draws from his experience as an actor and his innate gift of organization to wholeheartedly oversee the many facets of interest presented by the center. “I like doing all the things!”

All the things includes hosting 5,000 visitors at the camellia festival each April and a similar lavender festival in July, providing multimedia art classes for all ages and ability levels, music events from classical to mariachi, dance performances, writers’ open mic and Newberg’s writing league, civic groups…to list only some of its offerings. The center belongs to everyone, and for this reason the board along with Sean and those who work alongside him offer events and programs accessible to all people.

How can Friendsview residents take advantage of Newberg’s cultural center programs? Sean is glad you asked! “We love our partnership with Friendsview! The residents are eager to participate in our programs—both here at the center and on the

Friendsview campus.” Subscribe to the center’s email newsletter that entices your every cultural bent. Take a writing class, attend a concert, view an exhibit, hone your photography skills. Karen Corsini, CCC’s volunteer coordinator, would also encourage you to join the team of 600-700 volunteers from all walks of life.

Chehalem Cultural Center looks forward to hosting Friendsview’s annual intent list gathering on April 4! “It’s a wonderful opportunity for your applicants to experience what Newberg has to offer!” says Sean. Activities of the day will include tours of the facility, led by Sean and his staff, highlighting the various uses of rooms that for decades served as elementary classrooms but are now renovated for art classes and exhibition, large gatherings, a recording studio, and much more.

Chehalem Cultural Center provides a place for the community to come together, a value all can share. Visit their website for a comprehensive resource of ways to serve and be served by this Newberg gem.

visit: www.chehalemculturalcenter.org

Alicia Nilo, Chehalem Cultural Center education coordinator

Artful Aging is an educational outreach program designed especially for the residents of Friendsview. In this partnership, the Chehalem Cultural Center provides professional practicing artists to instruct the classes while Friendsview provides the materials and facilities to make the weekly lessons possible. In 2018, the Artful Aging program brought “Mixed Media,” “Painting & Drawing,” and “Art History” to the community of artists at Friendsview. This year, we are kicking things off with a series on Impressionism art—with the possibility of an introduction to salsa dancing later down the line! While we work closely with Friendsview to brainstorm future activities, we’re always keeping our eyes peeled for new class possibilities and fundraising opportunities to keep the program fresh for years to come.

Sean Andries, executive director

Four hundred people attended the eighth Martin Luther King gathering, spearheaded by Friendsview residents and the only one in Yamhill County.
All new residents at Friendsview have a story. David and Sandy Rawson’s story is more unusual than some. David served in a number of assignments in the U.S. diplomatic service, including as the U.S. ambassador to Rwanda during its era of genocide and then as ambassador to Mali. Before and after his foreign service career, he taught at universities in Ohio and Michigan, and now at George Fox University in Newberg. He and Sandy chose retirement at Friendsview to be near a son in Portland, close to George Fox University (where David is a visiting scholar), and settled in a Christ-centered community.

My admiration of the Rawsons and their unbending commitment to Christian service in the public sphere has increased now that they are my new neighbors in Friendsview’s University Village, where they moved in August 2018.

David’s love for Africa started as the son of a missionary doctor in Burundi, central Africa. Years later, after the sudden loss of his first wife in a car accident, David met Sandy in Dakar, Senegal. He was a diplomat, and Sandy was a secretary in a local Christian school where David’s two young children were enrolled. Sandy went on to serve as secretary for the U.S. government, but set aside her own career to follow her husband to continuing postings in the United States and Africa (Madagascar, Somalia, Rwanda, and Mali).

David’s capstone book, *Prelude to Genocide: Arusha, Rwanda, and the Failure of Diplomacy*, chronicles negotiations that did virtually nothing to stop the Rwanda genocide from going forward. Recently David donated documents to the George Fox University archives that record the background and events of Rwanda’s tragic genocide.

David and Sandy’s move to Friendsview involved leaving Michigan friends and neighbors and the beauty of the four seasons—including snowy winters. More challenging though was saying goodbye to the Rawson farm, in the family for more than 150 years and an anchor as they traveled abroad. Nevertheless, they have enjoyed the camaraderie of community living. Moving from farm to town has worked well for them, especially the accessibility to downtown shops and the proximity of George Fox University. Newberg already feels like home to the Rawsons as they make new friends and live life to the full.
One could simply not imagine a better location! Looking out upon Chehalem Glenn Golf Course and Parrott Mountain we residents at Springbrook Meadows can witness beautiful sunrises and glorious cloud formations. Our proximity to the Oregon Clinic behind Providence Hospital ranks high for folks in their retirement years. The independent-living community, built on a circular road among beautiful trees and manicured lawns, offers three different models ranging in size from 1,321 to 1,552 square feet.

While residents of Springbrook Meadows are part of the larger Friendsview community, our own governing body plans monthly meetings for conducting business and hearing guest speakers. Each month the social committee plans a special dinner for the entire community, coordinating the theme and menu with dining services. We invite guests, enjoy a speaker or play games, and experience an “evening out.” The hospitality committee welcomes new residents, assisting in their “move-in” and helping them become part of the community. A get-acquainted tea gives new female residents a sense of belonging. This building a community within a community

Eileen Turner will gladly tell you how much she loves living at Springbrook Meadows. Recovery from recent hip surgery gave her an opportunity to experience the many benefits of being part of a caring and helpful community.
Springbrook Meadows community, located 2.2 miles—or eight minutes—from the main Friendsview campus, comprises forty-two residences.

The fitness center is open to all residents. Men and women seem to divide themselves naturally, though all are welcome in either circle at the Wednesday morning coffee and conversation gathering in the community center.

The garden committee assigns individual garden plots, maintains orderliness, and schedules deliveries and “pick-up” of needed supplies. Sharing of produce is a wonderful by-product! The disaster preparedness committee provides programs, demonstrations, and guest speakers who can assist individual occupants in preparation for “the big one.” Springbrook Meadows is also a designated community location for “gathering” should a major disaster occur.

Much community building happens at our weekly “coffee,” where residents give and receive the support, gifts, and talents each person has to offer. And who doesn’t enjoy sipping a hot beverage with friends in your own community?

The larger Friendsview community provides a very fine fitness program. A number of those classes take place in the community center for all to participate. The fitness area provides safety-approved senior-friendly exercise equipment for most ability levels.

Springbrook Meadows residents who love to serve find opportunities for involvement, adding to the abilities and interests of the larger community.

Perhaps the most important aspect of all is the supportive environment felt from within the community itself. When a neighbor falls ill, sustains an accidental injury, or has special needs, people in the community come together, visit, bring baked goods, offer transportation, share concerns. One never feels alone. Doors are open, friends are knocking, calling, sharing. Whether life is easy or gets hard, we can enjoy a sense of comfort and community because we’re among “family.”

To learn more about Friendsview, please contact Friendsview’s marketing staff at 503-538-3144 or visit the website at www.friendsview.org.

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Flying Solo

by Sherry Macy

When Jeanine Elliott moved to Friendsview after making her home for the previous ten years with her daughter in Beaverton, she said the transition was BIG, with capital letters.

As Jeanine met incoming residents who were also single, she recognized herself in some of the struggles they expressed and wondered if they might all find it helpful to meet as a group and share what they’d learned about how life works at Friendsview.

That’s exactly what she did!

Walking alongside fellow residents Milli Laughlin and Bonnie Sloat, Jeanine scheduled the first gathering in fall 2017 and sent invitations to all new—not more than two years—single, female residents. An encouraging turnout illustrated a need, spurring Jeanine to continue reaching out in this way.

A few months later Jeanine learned that 11 single women would be among those making University Village their home! She quickly added their names to the invitation list, and at the next gathering of Flying Solo, twenty women attended!

Yes, by this time the officially organized group had given themselves a name, and Bonnie had designed a clever logo to dress up their flyers.

Monthly dinner gatherings of Flying Solo feature a speaker or a meaningful topic, always designed to provide practical help in finding one’s way around as a single woman. Suggestions are always heard—and usually tried! How about instigating a “buddy system”? Let’s offer a “community table” at breakfast! And Jeanine lists 15 areas of learning she hopes to present over the coming months. “We all find our way—and we have!”

Flying Solo offers our incoming single female residents encouraging connections that will help them navigate life here.

A recent Flying Solo Valentine event gave these residents plenty to talk about!
The Friendsview board’s finance committee strives to assure maintenance of economic stability in carrying out Friendsview’s mission to provide active residential living and quality continuing care to seniors in a Christ-centered community. Members of the committee include several board members, two senior administrators, and two representatives from the Friendsview community.

The committee’s responsibilities include:

- Develop and recommend to the board the financial principles, plans, and courses of action that provide for mission accomplishment and financial well-being.
- Work with administration to draft the annual budget and then submit for board approval.
- Make recommendations with regard to the level and terms of indebtedness, cash management, investment policy, risk management, and financial monitoring.
- Recommend policies to administration regarding employee benefit plans.
- Recommend policy for signatory authority for expenditures.
- Oversee the organization’s internal accounting controls.
- Recommend external auditors for board approval. Review the external auditors’ annual audit plan, the annual report, the management letter, and the results of the external audit. The committee also converses privately with the auditor.
- Responsible for oversight of regulatory compliance, policies and practices regarding corporate responsibility, and ethics and business conduct–related activities, including compliance with all federal, state, and local laws governing tax-exempt entities.
- Oversee written conflict of interest policies and procedures for directors and officers.

In addition to these specific responsibilities the committee works closely with the Friendsview administrators to develop strategic long-term capital plans, including the best funding models for economic stability.

As chair of the finance committee I assure you that all the members of the committee take this responsibility seriously and make every effort to ensure that Friendsview will continue fulfilling its mission for years to come.
Your Future in View

... updated information for those who have placed their names on Friendsview's intent list

Are you on the intent list?
Applicants pay a nonrefundable fee of $325 (single or couple) and receive contacts about openings. Those calls are made in order of application date; applicants retain their position on the list if they decline. If you are seriously interested, we encourage you to apply, as this is the way we fill openings. In 2018, more than 118 individuals placed their names on the list.

Find more information at www.friendsview.org or contact us at information@friendsview.org.

If you are already on our intent list and need to update your contact information or preferred neighborhoods, contact us at information@friendsview.org.

2019 Intent List Gathering
Thursday, April 4

Hosted by Chehalem Cultural Center
415 E Sheridan St, Newberg, Oregon

- Trolley Tours of Newberg
- Chehalem Cultural Center Tours and Exhibits
- Luncheon in the Cultural Center’s Grand Ballroom
- Seminars
- Friendsview Neighborhood Tours

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED by Friday, March 29.

Please RSVP at www.friendsview.org/rsvp.
Find the detailed schedule and description of seminars at the same “RSVP” site.