



# The View

Friendsview Retirement Community • Fall 2018

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## Excellent Dining Continues

**Get to know Friendsview's new executive chef, Steve Clevenger**

by Sherry Macy

Steve Clevenger followed his passion for cooking when timber industry layoffs created the need for steady employment while raising a family. Tina's, an upscale restaurant in nearby Dundee, eagerly offered him the opportunity to spread his wings—first as a pantry cook, then as grill (or line) cook while he studied classic French cooking at Western Culinary Institute—Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Portland.

"I love food, if you can't tell," Steve told Susan Fawver and me as we chatted across a Friendsview dining room table. This was clear to us as he shared his excitement for learning. Did you know *all* recipes are based on French cooking methods?

Through school and on-the-job training, Steve grew in his

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abilities as a chef. Enter Bill Jackson, former food service director at Friendsview, who introduced Steve to Bon Appétit, the Portland company that manages our food services. Steve began his association with Bon Appétit as the breakfast cook at George Fox then transitioned to Friendsview 16 years ago as sous chef, most recently to former executive chef Walter Von. When Walter resigned from his position, he felt confident Steve could seamlessly take on the role as executive chef.

Steve now finds great joy in providing a variety of appetizing and healthy foods for the residents. He discovered they aren't as afraid of spices as he thought. He loves taking their requests (and even recipes) and coming as close as possible while maintaining Bon Appétit standards. All soups and sauces are made from scratch, using fresh ingredients when they're in season.

"Do you taste as you cook?" Yes, he tastes *everything*, even though he and his wife, Vicki, are vegetarians! The payoff for Steve comes as residents regularly stop him in the halls to express appreciation and affirmation for the food he and his three sous chefs—Anndrea Stutzman, Diana Quentin, and Patty Crawford—provide.

Steve plans and cooks for neighborhood gatherings, such as the Meadow Way fall picnic pictured on the front, and other Friendsview events. When we talked to Steve, much of his energy and attention were focused on the annual Thanksgiving feast. Imagine all the moving parts involved in creating a memorable holiday meal for several hundred people, and you'll understand what



Steve takes pride in the array of delicious food offered to Friendsview residents three times every day.

it takes to succeed in the role of excutive chef for a community the size of Friendsview.

Is there life outside of Friendsview? Steve's face

lights up when asked about his two young children—Annie, age 5, and Andrew, age 8. They obviously bring him joy as does Vicki, whom he has known since childhood. Their grown children have, altogether, given them 16 grandchildren.

Clearly, God has blessed Friendsview with a skilled and dedicated chef to serve the needs of our residents. Let's go see what's on the menu for today!



Steve gets an early start each day at his computer, creating agendas, scheduling his team, placing orders, planning menus, and noting meetings on his calendar.

Resident Relations  
Committee chair  
Gary Cowles confers  
with Norman Winters,  
Friendsview resident  
and board member,  
as other committee  
members prepare for a  
board meeting in the  
Springbrook Meadows  
Community Center.



Serving on the Resident Relations Committee of the Friendsview board— (front) Nancy Almquist, Lisa McMinn, Gary Cowles, and (back) Todd Engle, Friendsview executive director; Norman Winters, resident board member

## Friendsview Board Serves Resident Needs

*The first of several upcoming articles featuring the four committees that make up the Friendsview board—resident relations, finance, personnel, and board development*

by Gary Cowles, board member and chairperson of the Resident Relations Committee

The Resident Relations Committee strives to assure the highest quality and equitable life care to all residents. It sets policies for the resident assistance fund and reviews and recommends resident applications that meet the criteria for this charitable aid. The committee is available to work with administration to craft programs and policies that directly affect residents' daily living.

Members of the committee work in tandem with board and administration to implement policies for the subsidized admission and monthly fees for pastors, missionaries, evangelists, and their spouses who have served in a Friends church in the Pacific Northwest.

Here are other ways the committee benefits Friendsview residents. It will:

- review applications for assistance and propose candidates for charitable aid;

- work with Friendsview administration as requested by board and/or administration to aid in solving problems with individual residents or living groups;
- encourage relations between the board and residents;
- maintain close communication with Residents' Council chair;
- send a representative to residents' meetings, when possible;
- appoint a board representative to the Quality Assurance Committee.

"I value being on the board and, specifically, its Resident Relations Committee because I work beside some of the best and highest qualified men and women I have ever met. They are your board members, administration, staff, and residents."



# The Story Catchers

by Nancy Thomas

When we moved into Friendsview in 2016, I wondered how I could be involved. I learned that the Residents' Council oversees many committees and activities but also encourages creativity and initiative.

The idea for The Story Catchers group came several years ago from my acquaintance with a publication out of West Hills Friends Church in Portland. When I moved here, the concept for a similar community journal emerged, and I began talking with other residents. On discovering interest, I decided to propose a new "committee" to the Residents' Council. Last year, 2017, the council approved and we began organizing the first issue, which came out in spring 2018.

Each issue of "The Story Catcher" contains first-person narratives written by residents around a single theme. The best way to describe this is to share the invitation to all Friendsview residents:

*Enjoy reading these three excerpts from the eleven stories submitted by residents for the fall issue of "The Story Catcher." (Edited for*

## An Unexpected Generosity

by Milli Laughlin, Creekside 3rd Floor

After 39 years of marriage, a devastating divorce left me short on finances. God helped me become licensed as a proprietor of a four-bedroom bed and breakfast. During the slow season Concordia College asked if I would house Japanese executives who came to America to sharpen their English skills.



My guests were delightful! One gifted me with an exquisite wedding kimono. I read that to be artistically relevant, it should be hung in the entry hall.

The kimono caught the eye of everyone who stopped into the inn. It proved to be a conversation piece and the background of many photos. Though my world had fallen apart, God used this as one means of gradually bringing beauty out of ashes.

When planning my move to Friendsview, I knew I could not be without my conversation masterpiece. Now at night I leave the bedroom door open so when I awake in the morning I

can see the kimono on my living room wall. I am reminded again how God faithfully walked me through my crisis.

## Ten Bell Rings for Ten Birthdays

by Bill Rourke, Meadow Way

Some of my earliest memories come from Whitney Friends Church, just outside Boise, Idaho. When I was still a babe in arms, a neighbor invited my sister to attend with her, and soon the whole family was involved. Throughout my growing years, a small wooden church sat on the altar; it had a steeple and a slotted chimney for coins to fit. The slot was used only for birthday offerings. Every Sunday the pastor would invite anyone who had celebrated a birthday in the previous week to come forward and be honored. I loved it and



anticipated that time every year when I could walk up the aisle to the altar and plunk in, one by one, a penny for each year. A mechanism inside the little church caused a bell to ring for

## Invitation

The theme for our fall issue is “Tell the story of something of value you brought along in your move to Friendsview.” Author Joan Chittister writes that “life, it seems, follows a relentless cycle: in our early years we accumulate, but in our later years we divest.”

All of us who have moved into Friendsview have “divested.” We call it downsizing or decluttering, and, unfortunately or not, it was necessary. We made piles of things to give away, things to sell, or things to toss on the garbage heap.

But there was another smaller collection of things we chose to bring with us. Tell the story of one of those items: a picture, a book, a collection of tea cups, a teddy bear, an old photo, some trinket that may be of no monetary value but for some reason it is precious to you. Tell the story of why this item is so important to you.



space.)

each coin. Imagine! That meant 10 bell rings on my tenth birthday. Then the congregation would sing a Christian version of “Happy Birthday.”

Missionaries received our birthday offerings, and I sure hope they knew how special that gift was!

During my young-adult years, the old meetinghouse was torn down and replaced by a new one. My dad was on the tear-down crew and apparently rescued the birthday-offering church from the rubble to keep in their home. From there it passed down to my sister, who had it for many years.

And now it sits in my study to remind me of growing up in a church where giving our offerings, as well as our lives, was a regular way of celebrating God’s faithfulness.

## Memory Bearer

by Maribeth Hampton, Springbrook Meadows

At age 18, my father moved from Kansas with his parents and siblings to serve in a mission in Cuba. He and one of his brothers rode horseback to take lunches to men who were still in Cuba after the Spanish-American War, and then they worked in the sugar cane fields. Dad got a job in a sugar mill and later became manager of the United Fruit Company office in the area where he lived.

He and his new wife had two children, but when they were 7 and 8, their mother died in the big flu epidemic. Then my grandparents became ill, and the family moved back to the

United States, settling in Oregon. There my father married a teacher—and soon I was born.

My father had a bookcase made of Cuban mahogany, with glass doors and carved plugs at the ends of the shelves for packing and shipping. When he died, my sister, brother, and I got together to dispose of his belongings. Since I had no connection to his life in Cuba, my siblings naturally had the right to any of their dad’s Cuban belongings.

I always admired that bookcase, and when neither my sister nor brother chose it, they asked if I would like to have it.

I never dreamed it would ever be mine, even though I had been using it to display my special glassware. I was absolutely thrilled.

The bookcase doesn’t have the monetary value of other antiques I own, but it is my most treasured piece of furniture. The love represented in that gift brings tears to my eyes each time I share the story of my Cuban mahogany bookcase/dish cabinet, which now has a welcoming presence in our front hall.







# Is a Life Plan Community Right for You?

## *A resident addresses your concerns*

*When approaching your retirement years you begin to ask yourself if a move to a Life Plan Community is right for you. What about the cost? Am I too young? What about everything I'll have to give up?*

*Sam and Dorothy Farmer heard many of these same questions as they told their friends about their plans to move to Friendsview nearly 15 years ago. And as a volunteer resident tour guide since moving here, Sam sometimes hears similar questions from guests.*

*We asked Sam to share some of the questions he's heard over the years and provide his perspective based on his experience here at Friendsview. Perhaps you are navigating some of the same issues as you look into your own options.*

### ◆ “Why did you move to a retirement community at such a young age?”

We became Friendsview residents at age 70 because we wanted to be active enough to enjoy our time at Friendsview and build new friendships and relationships. Most important, we wanted to become a productive part of the community

while we were still healthy enough to enjoy our new neighbors, friends, and community.

### ◆ “Hasn't it cost you more to live at Friendsview than to own a home?”

Before we made our decision, we counted the cost: property taxes, utilities, upkeep of a 30-year-old home, replacement of aging appliances, and myriad other expenses that come with owning our own home. We found the costs to be about the same after taking all these factors into account.

### ◆ “Isn’t Friendsview going to be very expensive?”

If you seriously check on the cost of equivalent facilities in the area and the additional expenses involved when you require the services of an assisted-living or nursing facility, you’ll discover your own answer to that question.

### ◆ “How did you manage to downsize?”

I admit that is a tough one. It was especially traumatic for my wife, Dorothy. But it can be done, and we don’t regret parting with those things that didn’t fit. Also, our children are really glad they don’t have to go through all that stuff someday.

### ◆ “Why would you want to live with so many old people?”

I don’t hear this question often now that I have passed my 80th year. But I would answer it the same as the day we moved in: Age is only a number, and everyone here has a fascinating story to share, even if that person’s mobility requires the help of a cane or a wheelchair. It has become a real blessing to share with our Friendsview neighbors.

### ◆ “You are so healthy, why would you move in now?”

We were blessed with excellent health for almost 15 years here, but as we aged that changed. We are grateful we chose to prepare for our future. If we had waited, we might not have qualified to move into Friendsview. A “Type A” continuing care facility has different entrance requirements from other retirement programs. Prospective residents must meet certain health requirements to be covered by the healthcare provided by Friendsview. We find it very comforting that our continuing care community will allow us to move from our current independent living home into assisted living, nursing care, or memory care if or when needed—and without a huge increase in costs associated with other programs.

### ◆ “How confident can we feel about Friendsview’s financial health?”

You are wondering if your final earthly home can survive the ups and downs of the economy. I can assure you that our community is on very solid ground financially and has successfully weathered the economic storms for nearly 60 years.

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To learn more about Friendsview, please contact Friendsview’s marketing staff at 503-538-3144 or visit the website at [www.friendsview.org](http://www.friendsview.org).

#### **The View Editorial Staff**

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*director of marketing*  
  
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1301 Fulton Street • Newberg, Oregon 97132



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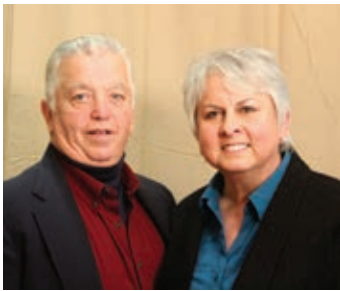
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[www.friendsview.org](http://www.friendsview.org)

[information@friendsview.org](mailto:information@friendsview.org)

## *Your Future in View*

for those on the Friendsview intent list  
and those contemplating the possibility



*Bob and Karla Holveck, in their third year of the five-year off-campus residency program, say: "We think this is a great way to transition to life at Friendsview! We got involved in events, made friends,*

*learned our way around, and are easing our way into downsizing." Bob loves the library; Karla enjoys line dancing class. They've already created their niche and feel ready to move in! To learn more about Friendsview's off-campus residency program, please contact us at [information@friendsview.org](mailto:information@friendsview.org) or 503-538-3144.*

### **Kitchenettes in Manor Studios**

Interested in simple living? Friendsview is renovating a select number of Manor studio apartments with kitchenettes and efficiency options. For more information, or to add this to your list of preferred floor plans, please contact us at [information@friendsview.org](mailto:information@friendsview.org) or 503-538-3144.

## **Save the Date Thursday, April 4**

## **2019 Intent List Gathering**

**Hosted by Chehalem Cultural Center  
415 E Sheridan St, Newberg, OR**

### **Seminars • Luncheon**

This event is reserved for those who've paid a non-refundable application fee and placed their names on the intent list.

***Watch for more information  
in the weeks ahead—but mark  
your calendar for this annual event!***

Please contact us at  
[information@friendsview.org](mailto:information@friendsview.org)  
or call us at 503-538-3144.