

Transition Times

A publication of the Friends House Seniors Association to chronicle our progress towards expansion and a new and improved Friends House!

Volume 3
No 4
November 2019

The worker bees are finishing up—we are on the last leg of this journey to prepare for the next 50 years!!



New grass is coming up with new green trees



New trees around the pond



The Commons circle and the new entrance off Norwood Road

Winter is arriving with howling winds and cold. Today, at Friends House, we are seeing green, new trees, and the hopes of Spring here on campus with completed buildings, new residents, and trees and shrubs blooming!! Above, see the campus restored as construction nears the end. Come Visit Us!!

A Walk in the Woods @Friends House

It was a beautiful October fall day – warm, sunny, not too hot – a good day to be outside or have your windows open here at Friends House. It was also the day when Quaker Knoll Road was being ripped up, the new road was going in at Stabler Hall and many other workmen were here on campus working on all the new structures. Noisy and dusty!!



**Pond at
Sandy
Spring
Friends
School**

I decided a walk in the woods would be a good thing to do to escape from the noise and the dust and be in nature. It worked – no noise, no dust, and no people or animals that I saw – complete solitude. I highly recommend this to our current residents and our future residents. Come out and enjoy a good walk, maybe even before you actually move in?

There are many different paths to travel in the



woods just next to our campus for a short (or long) walk. Start at the Nature Trail at 17311 Quaker Lane and it will take you down

to the stream and the bridge.



Across the bridge there is a choice for the Spring Trail which will take you to the Sandy Spring or continue to the Friends meeting-house.

The Sandy Spring walk is partially in the woods and then in a field with a large mowed path for easy walking. Other trails wind around, still on our Friends House property.



Sandy Spring—A great place to sit, relax, mediate, read, bird watch (blue birds!) or whatever inspires you.

A Walk in the Woods @Friends House

If you want a longer walk, you can walk up Quaker Lane and past the Baltimore Yearly Meeting office, through the gate and past the pond to walk on the campus.



If you want to go further, enter the woods again behind the Performing Arts Center and walk on the paths next to Sandy Spring Friends School near the Adventure Park. Often you can hear the shouts and yells of the young and old having adventures on zip lines as you walk by.



An even longer walk would be to take the right-hand fork at the creek and go up the hill through the woods of Maryland National Capital Park and Planning (MNCPP). The trail will take you to the pasture where the Park Police horses are often grazing. You may literally run into a horse or horses (with a human, of course) on this part of the trail as both the Park Police or local neighbors also like to use these trails.



I have been walking on these trails ever since moving to Friends House over 10 years ago. Watching the seasons change in the woods is a delight. And having nature so close by without having to drive

anywhere is another big plus!

In the fall or spring you may find Sandy Spring Friends School track team running along the trails. Other times there are neighbors from the various communities around Sandy Spring walking with their pets, or family members, or friends, or solo as I often do. And other times you may encounter a group of people walking the Reenacted Underground Railroad Trail from the museum located on the MNCPP grounds. Often eavesdropping on tours is an unexpected perk; listening as the guides describe local history. Or, you can drive or walk to the MNCPP grounds and take the self-guided tour with your friends or family members using the printed map available from the kiosk. And tour the museum while there!!

Enjoy your Walk in the Woods at Friends House and Sandy Spring environs !!

Joan Liversidge

New Residents



Barbara Nelson (B-8)

Barbara lived many places (New York City, Oregon, Chicago, Canada, Philadelphia, and Washington DC.) before she came here to make

Friends House her home. Born in North Dakota, her family moved to California when she was five years old.

For the last 20 years, she lived in Washington, DC where services and facilities were within walking distance from her home. Now she is getting accustomed to what sometimes “feels like Alaska” out here.

Her career included teaching at the Beauvoir School on the grounds of the Washington National Cathedral and Hood College before going to Canada to train in conflict resolution. She worked in that field in both Canada and Philadelphia before returning to Washington because it felt most like home to her.

Barbara’s 4 children live in different places from Los Angeles to Tennessee and Ithaca, New York with one in Washington., DC. Barbara continues to feel strong ties to her faith community at St. Marks Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill where she is part of the Hand Bell Choir and a book club. She also participates in the laying on of hands twice a month. Here at Friends House she has gone out with the Lunch Bunch and also participates in water aerobics at the Olney Pool. Barbara walks daily around the campus. We welcome Barbara and her warm smile to Friends House.

Kendall Anthony



Francis Oland (D-15)

Meet Francis, our newest addition to D Wing. He is now living not far from his birthplace, Montgomery Hospital. In fact, he has spent the majority of his ninety years in this area, most of it in Sunshine.

Francis spent his entire working life as a plumber after just a two week apprenticeship. As Francis says, “He never told me to stay home and kept giving me jobs so I just kept working for him. He was a good boss, just let me go to it.” Using his common sense, Francis would figure out what to do himself.

Of course he also did all the plumbing on his own farm, where he lived with his wife and two sons until they were grown. He and his wife went out to work every day until they retired. Unhappily, she died on the 12th of January this year after three bouts with cancer and sixty-four years of marriage. “She was a good woman,” he says, clearly still grieving her loss. “I never left her side.” Francis’s sons live out of the area but a granddaughter comes by every two weeks to do his paperwork.

Although Francis suffers from almost constant back pain, he doesn’t want to use a cane or a walker so as not to become dependent on it. He is also very hard of hearing, but in a quiet place can have a conversation. Give him a friendly hello next time you see him!

Ann Gerike

New Residents



Mary Ann Summer (C-9)

Have you met our new resident who used to live in Colesville, has 14 family birthdays to remember, has moved 11 times since she married, taught elementary school, raised her two sons plus foster children, enjoyed camping, loves sewing and most of all shared her time with people who needed a place to live, a family or new drapes? She tried to always be available for people in her church or neighborhood who needed her and that included people from other countries. Now she is busy taking care of herself as she ages and is waiting for her apartment in one of the lodges.

While Mary Ann's husband worked as a chaplain in the Bureau of Prisons, Mary Ann taught school. She loved to see the creativity the children demonstrated in first and second grade. She also enjoyed teaching students with special needs. One of her foster children arrived with a paper bag containing socks, underwear and nothing more. Mary Ann is still his mom as well as the mom to a girl who came at age 15. She also has six great grandchildren, unfortunately, none are local.

When it came time to leave her home she discovered that nine people had keys to the house because she had cared for them.

Mary Ann loves to write, paint and read. Now she is busy finding out where she put things when she moved in!

Marty Hale

Best Things at FH



Party Time!!

Garden Party

On a sunny October day, we had a party with pumpkin carving, good food, visiting with one another, and enjoying the sun and fun in the Friends House garden.



Halloween Party



Left -Barbara and Catherine Brubeck

Below—Mike and Barbara Boswell



Residents and Staff dress up and parade around the community. Prizes for most creative, scariest, funniest are given. All had a great time, as always. See above, mother/son and mother/daughter duos!!



Friends House Seniors Association

We welcomed our State delegation on September 12th. After a tour of the campus, with hard hats of course, they stopped in to our Association meeting. A lively exchange took place. Gratitude was expressed for their support of Friends House.



Left-Delegate Pamela Queen; Center - Senator Craig Zucker; Right- Delegate Ann Kaiser



Left- Delegate Kaiser; Center- Senator Zucker; Back- Mystery Man; Right- Delegate Queen

Message from the President and Board

November, 2019

There are many signs (not the detour signs!) that construction is coming to an end. In 2020 we will welcome many new residents; their ideas, and their energy. The final move is to the new apartments by early summer. We applaud the spirit of those who have lived here with many disruptions and challenges throughout the transformation. Our staff have worked hard to assist us along the way. Let's think about how to celebrate during our next meeting in the new dining room, as the Miller Center gets its face lift!



Place for next FHSA Meeting

Thursday, December 12

7:30 pm

Rich Liversidge

Construction Process

Everyone here and those moving in soon are looking forward to our new kitchen, dining room, Bistro, commons, administrative offices, and the refurbishing of Flower Alley and the Miller Center.



Dining Room and kitchen open by end of November— maybe Thanksgiving???? See progress in the pictures



Above—stove and ovens
Left—huge mixer
Below—refrigerator



Administrative offices completed by mid December, Miller Center refurbishing end of December and Flower Alley this week!!

Activities

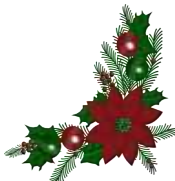
Friends House Chorus

Holiday Concert

December 18, 2:00 pm,
Stabler Hall Dining Room



**Only a Baby Came
Still, Still, Still/Brahms
Lullaby
Brightest and Best
I Wonder as I Wander/
What Child is This?
Star Carol
Los Reyes Magos
Jesus Child
Every Day is Christmas
Day
Sleigh Ride**



Game Night in New C Lounge!!

When: Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9:30

What: Board, card games, and tables.

(Note: Bring your own games or use those already in New C Lounge.)

Refreshments: Provided. You can also bring your own drink or snack.

**Everyone Welcome!!
Have Fun!!**



Welcoming New Friends

From Buildings to Community

The lodges are up, roofs are on, and interior work is underway.



The duplexes are also built and interior work underway, with several near completion. Folks are making plans to move into their new homes this winter.

Apartment residents will be moving into their new Homes on Quaker Lane in the late spring/early summer. Income certification and information from WAYFORTH, the organization that will assist moving current residents, has begun.



An important part of Friends House is that we are a community with values that we strive to live each day.

- ◆ Self-reliance
- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Caring for Others
- ◆ Stewardship (community and personal)

To assist in the transition to an expanded Friends House community, we are making plans for welcoming new residents and integrating them into our community. A basic piece of our Friends House Seniors Association structure is having “wings”; smaller groups that help us know our neighbors, facilitate discussions, and select representatives to the standing committees.

While apartment residents have until spring to work on reorganization, the “cottagers” will be welcoming new neighbors soon and are making plans to get them integrated as members of our community. The current 40 or so cottagers are able to meet as one group or “wing”. With the addition of lodges and new cottages that number grows to 120, bringing a need to form smaller groups.

New Friends Cont'd.

Cottagers engaged as a group about ways to form new groups that would provide a reason for them to get out and become familiar with the whole of the “cottager” community. We decided to create three groups in a different, non-geographical, way. Each residence (current cottage, lodge apartment, new duplex) around the community has been numbered 1, 2, or 3. Each group has a convener and will select a representative to the Coordinating Committee and to other standing committees as needed. Our collective minds and hearts are searching for more creative names. Let us know if you have ideas!

Each “new wing” has selected a convenor, host(s), and a note taker for our meetings. The hosts are currently discussing ways to welcome and be present for our new neighbors. And, our intention is to invite new residents to “wing meetings” in January 2020 to welcome them to Friends House and the New Year. Stay tuned for more information on what, where, and when!

When residents in the new Homes on Quaker Lane (HQL) are ready, we can organize ourselves across the entire community. That can be facilitated through the Friends House Seniors Association where all voices can be heard.

We hope this will serve to start the process, maybe in a temporary way, of community building and welcoming our new neighbors.

The Host Committee

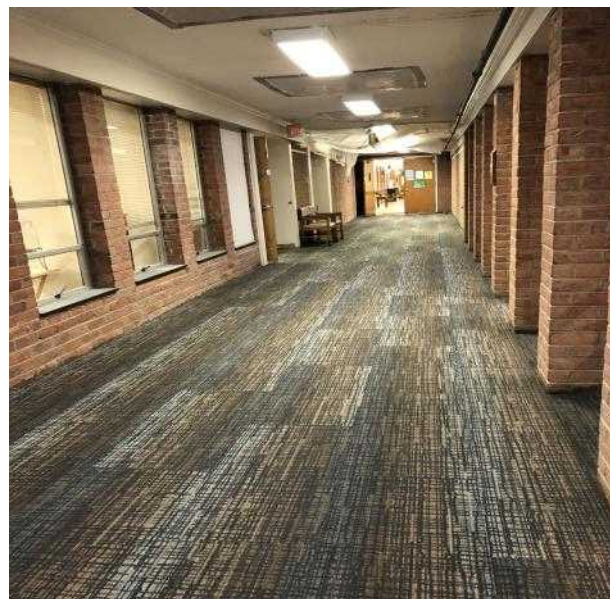
NEWEST RESIDENTS

Marly Davidson, D-4

MOVED

Alice Watt from B-19

Marie Mazur from B14



Flower Alley new carpet. Next is the roof and ceiling. Then we can bring back all our lovely plants that have been tended in the green house by our wonderful gardeners.

Transition Times PRODUCTION

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Transition Times

will replace Friends House Letter during our expansion and will be published every few months while our community undergoes transformation.

Please send requests for electronic copy to jrlivers@earthlink.net.

The Editorial Committee

Isn't it cute!?



The Gem (Global Electric Motorcar)

This is the proposed campus “people mover” that will carry residents to Building A (The Commons) and back. It is completely electric, comfortable, safe, and low speed.

Contribute to our fund raising campaign at <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/friendshouseElectricGEM>, or send a check to Friends House care of Anne Derby.