



The Eugene Hotel View

Monthly Newsletter of Eugene's Premier Retirement Community

December 2023



It's hard to believe we are in the last chapter of 2023! Yet there's still so much to do before we welcome the New Year. We have our Holiday Bazaar, trips, parties, guest speakers, trees and cookies to decorate ... the list goes on.

Let us reflect on all of the joy this year has brought each one of us, and welcome those who have recently moved in and joined the Hotel family.

If you are interested in coming on any of the trips we will be taking or joining in on the activities we've planned, please sign up in the Activity Book next to the front desk. The more the merrier !!



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Meet your Neighbor, Alice Williams

Alice was born in Tacoma, Washington, the fourth of five children. Her English father and Finnish mother had moved from the East Coast to the “hamlet” of Rocklyn, WA, where Alice’s father worked in the coal mines and logging.

Shortly after Alice turned six, her parents divorced. Her mother, Helen, with five children in tow, moved to the small community of Hobart, WA. She purchased 10 acres, with plenty of space for cows, pigs, rabbits and other farm animals. However, to make a living, Helen took the bus to Seattle during the work week, returning home on the weekends. The siblings took care of each other, while their neighbors kept a close watch. Eight years later, Helen had saved enough to buy a home in Seattle. Moving from small town living to the big city changed their lives drastically! Alice enjoyed spending time at Lake Washington Beach with a lively boardwalk, beautiful vistas of the Cascades and the Olympic mountains, and a very handsome lifeguard, who soon became her first boyfriend.

After graduating from High School, Alice decided to attend a 3-year nursing program at Tacoma General Hospital Nursing

School. Part of her training was in Vancouver, British Columbia at the Children’s Hospital pediatric ward. Alice was awarded a full scholarship to complete her education. Once that task was accomplished, Alice began her nursing career at Seattle’s Swedish Hospital in Obstetrics. It was there that she met her husband, Charles, an Obstetrician and OBGYN. He had a thriving practice and Alice continued working at the hospital. Their daughter Tracy was born in 1960 and soon after her birth, Alice and Charles decided to move to Eugene, Oregon. Charles was looking for a simpler life and hoped to find it with the purchase of a 70-acre farm on Lorane Hwy. The farm included a house, barn and greenhouses. They purchased cattle, horses, and other livestock. Alice had a very special horse, that after training became a jumper and went on to compete. Fortunately, Alice knew about farming from her childhood years. She oversaw the farm and Charles started to practice in Eugene. Their second child, Steven, was born in 1967. Life on the farm went considerably well for 20 years.

Alice stayed on the farm after she and Charles divorced. Her daughter, Tracy, had a beautiful wedding there before the farm was sold and Alice moved to Eugene from Lorane. Alice purchased a cozy house by the fairgrounds and continued her nursing career at McKenzie Willamette Hospital in Springfield. Giving up the farm allowed Alice the freedom to travel. Her son was a great traveling partner. They traveled

around the United States touring the East Coast, the South, the Rust Belt and California. On their trips to Italy and England, Alice and Steven visited many museums and cathedrals, taking in as much art history as possible. A trip to Mexico for five weeks with Tracy and her husband was an adventure as well.

Retiring from McKenzie Willamette Hospital, Alice moved to Bend for a year with the plan of renovating a house she owned there. She enjoyed the beauty of the High Desert and in the winter loved to ski, even going to Canada to helicopter ski! When the Bend project was completed, Alice returned to Eugene and her cozy house by the fairgrounds. Thus began another renovation of both the house and yard. When she needed a break from the work, Alice loved to play tennis.

Alice’s daughter, Tracy, and her husband live on a 10-acre sheep farm on the outskirts of Eugene. Her son Steven lives in San Francisco with his husband and teaches Art History at the Academy of Art University.

When Covid took over in 2020, Alice disliked being alone and being forced to stay home. To make matters worse, she fell on an icy sidewalk, breaking her pelvis and injuring her elbow. The long, painful recovery included several surgeries on her elbow and weeks of rehab. Upon returning home, Alice decided to move to the Eugene Hotel, where she enjoys the company and companionship of the residents. Welcome Alice!



Activities & Special Events

Monthly Preview Friday, December 1 at 11:30 a.m.

- Lounge

We will come together to discuss updates, food service, and all the other events for the coming month. Bring your questions, this newsletter, and please join us for this meeting to get the latest news.

Ornament Making Friday, December 1 at 1:30 p.m.

- Resident Kitchen

Join Bre & Savanna to "bake" your christmas ornament. If you don't have a tree, come make one to give away or to put on the tree at the second floor tree decorating party. All supplies provided for this fun festive craft.

Ducks vs Huskies Championship Game Friday, December 1

at 5:00 p.m.

-Lounge

The Ducks made it to the Pac-12 Championships! Come to the Lounge to watch them battle the Huskies! Don't forget your quarters.

Old Time Fiddlers Jam Session Friday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.

- Dining Room

The Old Time Fiddlers will meet for an informal jam session. Come enjoy their knee-slappin' toe-tappin' music. It's also a nice way to end your week.

Holiday Bazaar & Treasures from the Attic w/High Tea Saturday, December 2 From 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

- Lobby/Dining Room

Join us for the Annual Holiday Bazaar! The Lobby will be full of holiday crafts, homemade goodies and festive music. Be sure to not miss the Treasures from the Attic and High Tea in the Dining Room. Don't forget to let the Front Desk know if you would like a table for the Bazaar.

Philip Bayles on Piano Monday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m.

- Lounge

Philip Bayles, noted conductor and founder of the Eugene Opera in 1977, returns to share his masterful piano stylings. Come to the Lounge to hear him on the piano on the first Monday of every month.

Christmas Tree Decorating Party Monday, December 4 at 2:30 p.m.

- Lounge

It's time to trim the tree!! Every year at the Eugene Hotel we decorate the grand Christmas tree in the 2nd floor Lounge. Join your neighbors, together we will dress the tree in all of the beautiful decorations. We will provide an assortment of ornaments and trimmings to embellish the tree. Holiday music, eggnog and cookies will add to this festive occasion.

Monday Night Football Mondays, December 4 & 18 at 5:15 p.m.

- Lounge

Are you ready for some football? Join Glenn and Karen on Monday, December 4th for the Bengals vs. the Jets. On the 18th the Chiefs take on the Patriots. Soda, beer and snacks provided. Don't forget your quarters to place your bets!

Sock and Mitten Tree Tuesday, December 5 - Located in the Lobby

If you would like to participate in the season's commitment to giving we will have a tree in the Lobby for you to hang donations of warm clothing items. These will be donated to the Eugene Mission and other organizations in need. Winter is always a difficult season for those who don't have homes.

Holiday Fika Tuesday, December 5 at 2:00 p.m.

- Lounge

Fika (pronounced "feekah") is a Swedish noun and verb that translates to "take a coffee break," usually accompanied by something to eat. Fika is code for "heart to heart." While most Americans

take their coffee to go, fika is an important daily Swedish ritual to accompany conversations with family, friends, and colleagues. Coffee is served. Join us in the Lounge for a festive holiday twist on this pleasant Swedish custom.

Men's Group Wednesdays, December 6 & 20 at 10:30 a.m.

- Lounge

The Men's Group (Lounge Lizards) will meet in the Lounge to catch up and share insights. Topics up for discussion this month are, on the 6th: Lagniappe; on the 20th: Peacemaking.

Bus to Eugene Library Wednesdays, December 6 & 27 at 12:00 p.m.

- Meet in Lobby

Join our bus trip to the Eugene Public Library. You will be dropped off for an hour to browse a wide selection of books and check out whatever you would like to take home to read. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

Christmas Ball Wreaths w/Bre & McKenzie Wednesday, December 6 at 1:30 p.m.

- Resident Kitchen

Would you like to make a custom Christmas ball wreath? Join Bre and McKenzie in the Resident Kitchen where we will have all of the trimmings to make a festive door wreath. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

Hanukkah Begins Friday, December 7 at 4:15 p.m.

- Lobby

Special guest, Rabbi Ruhi Sophia will join us in the Lobby to light the first candle of the Menorah. We will also have prayer with those who would like to participate.

Holiday Music by Buck Mueller and Michael Pace Friday, December 8 at 4:00p.m.

- Lobby

Local musicians, Buck Mueller and Michael Pace, will entertain as a guitar and flute duo. They will play a wide variety of music that will include favorite holiday songs and carols for you to sing-along with. Be sure to come early and get a good seat down in the Lobby.

Elderberries Folk Bluegrass Music

**Saturday, December 9
at 4:00 p.m.**

- Lobby

The Elderberries, an offshoot of the much loved Old Time Fiddlers, will be sharing with us a bluegrass holiday concert. Join us in the Lobby for this toe-tapping holiday treat!

**Resident Holiday Party Brunch
Sunday December 10
at 11:30**

- Dining Room

Please join us in the Dining Room for our Annual Resident Holiday Brunch. Chef Mookie will prepare his delicious signature dishes. The bar will be in full swing with champagne, mimosas and a Bloody Mary bar. Enjoy beautiful music by John Polese and Diane. This is a perfect occasion to show off your holiday sweater!

Mall Walking at Valley River Center

**Monday, December 11
at 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

- Meet in the Lobby

With the weather being unpredictable, it can be difficult to get outside to walk for exercise. The bus will drop us off for about an hour at Valley River. Use this time to walk at your own pace inside the dry, comfortable mall. Seating is located throughout the mall for you to stop and rest. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

**The Norsmen Singers
Monday, December 11
at 7:00 p.m.**

- Lounge

The Norsemen are an all-male chorus who come from the Eugene chapter of the Pacific Coast Norwegian Singers Association. They will sing Norwegian and Scandinavian holiday songs for our enjoyment. Whether you are an enthusiastic music lover or appreciative listener, we invite you to join us for this special treat.

**University of Oregon
International Student from Azerbaijan**

**Tuesday, December 12
at 1:00 p.m.**

- Lounge

Today Murad Mikayilzade will come and share with us about Azerbaijan. We will enjoy a typical national beverage called Sherbet.

**Women's Group
Wednesday, December 13
at 10:30 a.m.**

- Private Dining Room

Grab a cup of coffee and head to the private dining room for a casual round-table discussion and an opportunity to get to know ourselves better, as well as each other! In the month of December we will enjoy a holiday meet and greet.

**Nifty 90's
Thursday, December 14
at 2:00 p.m.**

- Lounge

Are you one of the Elite 90's here at the Eugene Hotel? If so you are cordially invited to the Lounge to gather and enjoy light appetizers, drinks and good company.

**Gingerbread Cookie Decorating
Friday, December 15
at 1:30 p.m.**

- Resident Kitchen

Join Bre to decorate (and eat) some seasonal Gingerbread men and women. We will have all kinds of goodies to spark your creativity or just add some extra sweetness to your cookies. All supplies will be provided, along with milk to help wash them down.

**Gleemen Choir
Friday, December 15
at 6:00 p.m.**

- Lounge

What do Yogi Berra, Dick Van Dyke, Malcolm X, the Eugene Hotel and the Eugene Gleemen have in common? If you answered, "They were all born in 1925," then you'd be right! The Eugene Gleemen are proud to be the longest continuing performing choral group in the state of Oregon. And we have the honor of hosting them as they perform their Christmas program.

**Snowfall Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 17
at 3:00 p.m.**

- The Shedd

The Shedd is delighted to announce its 18th annual family Christmas concert, *Snowfall Christmas*. This is sure to be a festive afternoon filled with the most beloved Christmas standards of all time, as well as a wintery mix of newly inspired tunes. If you would like to go, please sign up at the front desk for free tickets and enjoy a cozy afternoon of Christmas spirit.

**Hot Chocolate Bar
Tuesday, December 19
at 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

- Dining Room

Let McKenzie pour you the perfect cup of cocoa! She will have a full bar of toppings from peppermint sprinkles to marshmallows and everything in between!!

**Tea and Poetry w/ Dandelion
Thursday, December 21
at 1:00 p.m.**

- Lounge

If you enjoy listening to the reading of poetry or writing it, we hope you'll join us for an hour of delightful verse and tea. Participants are welcome to bring a favorite poem or one they have written. You're among friends who like to share their poetry and the stories that go with them.

**Melted Crayon Pendant Making
Thursday, December 21
at 2:30 p.m.**

- Resident Kitchen

Let's melt crayons to make a work of art. Once again we will melt crayons to make beautiful pendants that can be worn as necklaces or used for a keychain. All supplies will be provided

**Beverages on Broadway w/ Gus Russell
Friday, December 22
at 1:30 p.m.**

- Lobby

The one and only Gus Russell is back for our Holiday Beverages on Broadway with drinks and tunes of the season on the piano. Join us in the Lobby for his festive performance.

**Christmas Eve Evening Film: A Christmas Story w/ Egg Nog and Cookies
Sunday, December 24
at 6:30 p.m.**

- Lounge

Join us in the Lounge for a true Christmas classic, *A Christmas Story*. Eggnog and cookies will be served to enjoy while you watch this seasonal favorite.

**Resident Birthday Lunch
Thursday, December 28
at 12:00 p.m.**

- Dining Room

For those of you born in the month of December, come enjoy a delightful lunch in the company of the other residents who share this birthday month. Chef Ricky will prepare a special meal.

Breakfast Brigade at the Pump Cafe**Thursday, December 28
at 8:30 a.m.****- Meet in the Lobby**

Join Ray for a breakfast adventure to the Pump Cafe. They offer all the breakfast favorites, along with a variety of french toasts, including their famous raspberry cream cheese, nutella, and a savory option. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

**New Year's Eve New York Style
Sunday, December 31
at 7:00-9:00 p.m.****- Lounge**

Come ring in the New Year! The Lounge will be converted into the party place of the year on New Year's Eve. We will celebrate the coming of the New Year with entertainment provided by the Donna Courtell Trio, dancing, poker, appetizers, an open bar and plenty of noisemakers. At 9:00 p.m. we will watch the ball drop in New York and welcome 2024.

TRIPS FOR DECEMBER

Tour of the Shelton McMurphy House**Tuesday, December 5
at 10:00 a.m.****- Meet in the Lobby**

Join us for a Christmas tour of the Shelton McMurphy House here in Eugene. "The Castle on the Hill" sits on the south slope of Skinner's Butte, where it was originally built in 1887. Thomas Winthrop Shelton and his wife, Adah, had it built after buying the 320 acres in downtown Eugene, that included Skinner's Butte, from pioneer Mary Cook Skinner Packard. Dr. Shelton hired architect Walter Pugh to design a home to sit on the slope of the butte overlooking downtown and the train station. After its completion there was a fire set by one of the workmen and the house had to be rebuilt in 1888. Join us on a tour through this Queen Anne Revival style Victorian home. Please sign up in the Activity book!

**Christmas Lights Bus Tour
Tuesday, December 12
at 6:15 p.m.****- Meet in the Lobby**

It's that time of year when houses and buildings are festively and brilliantly lit! Join Ray and enjoy a drive through the tinkling sights of the city and then come back to the

Hotel to warm up with some hot cocoa and cookies. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

Live Nativity at Friendly Street Church**Sunday, December 17
at 7:00 p.m.****- Meet in the Lobby**

Join us for a quick bus ride to the Friendly Street Neighborhood where we will get out and walk through a traditional live nativity. Hot cider will warm us up upon our return to the hotel. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

**Applegate Regional Theater w/
Lunch at Hole in the Wall BBQ
Tuesday, November 19
at 11:00 a.m.****- Meet in the Lobby**

On this outing we will go out to lunch first at the Hole in the Wall BBQ here in Eugene. Then we will head towards Veneta to the Applegate Regional Theater. The old elementary school was converted to a theater. Here we will have the opportunity to see the readers theater perform some Holiday Classics. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

**Small Town Tour of Yachats
Tuesday, November 26
at 10:00****- Meet in the Lobby**

The day after Christmas we will load the bus and head to the coast. We will see the highlights of the town and enjoy lunch along the way at Drift Inn Restaurant. Sign up in the Activity book and come along for the ride!

WEEKLY EVENTS

**Exercise Class with
Phyli and Erica
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
at 9:00 a.m.****- Exercise Room**

Join Phyli on Mondays and Fridays and Erica on Wednesdays for a fun and stimulating hour of movement to enhance your ability to maneuver in your day-to-day lives. Classes are held in the Exercise Room at 9:00 a.m. sharp. Everybody is welcome.

**Bingo
Wednesdays
at 3:00 p.m.****- Game Room**

Come join your neighbors every Wednesday afternoon in the Game Room for Bingo. Each week there is a different incentive for winning: prizes; store bucks; and/or money. It's only \$.75 to play.

**Pool Sharks
Thursdays, December 5 & 19
at 2:30 p.m.****- Billiard Room**

Come and shoot pool with fellow resident pool sharks. There are stools to sit on if you would rather just watch. The Billiard Room is on the 2nd floor across from the Resident Kitchen.

**Chair Massage
Monday, December 11
at 12:00-2:00 p.m.****- Exercise Room**

Licensed massage therapist Lawrence Roper returns to provide therapeutic neck, shoulder, and back massages. The cost is \$10 for 10 minutes. Please sign up in the Activity Book.

**Qigong
Thursdays
at 9:30 a.m.****- Lounge**

Qigong is the skill of attracting vital energy and self-healing. It combines movement, meditation and visualization, which are employed to enhance the mind/body connection and assist healing. Join Roberta Roth during this quiet exercise time.

**Creative Writing
Thursday, December 7
at 2:00 p.m.****- Lounge**

Join Dandelion for quick and playful writing activities. Exercise your brain, share your creativity, and find expression in pen and paper. "Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on." -Louis L'Amour

**Play Poker with Glenn or Alan
Saturdays
at 2:30 p.m.****- Billiard Room**

Get ready to lose your money or win big! Join Glenn or Alan in the Billiard Room for a friendly game of poker. Don't forget to bring your quarters.



~On Your Own~

The Holiday Market is continuing through the month of December, at The Lane Events Center. They will have a huge variety of gifts and artisan crafts; you'll be sure to find a little something for everyone on your gift giving list. They will be open Saturdays and Sundays through the 24th from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and Friday the 22nd. Christmas Eve they will close early at 4:00 p.m.



Come and ring in the New Year with all of your neighbors, New York-Style!! Sunday, December 31st from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Lounge. We are proud to announce the return of the harmonious Donna Cortell Trio! Let's eat, drink, and count down to the New Year together!!!