

Remembering a New Memory Care Facility

Senior care - Arbor Oaks Terrace accepting residents; daily stays also available

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Published: 4/21/2010, *The Newberg Graphic*



Helping those who've forgotten

Opening this week at 317 Werth Boulevard, Arbor Oaks Terrace will specialize in caring for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia.

Photo By: Gary Allen

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While Newberg has a large senior community, and many care centers dedicated to their needs, it has not had a dedicated memory care center — until now.

Opening this week at 317 Werth Boulevard (off Providence Drive), Arbor Oaks Terrace will specialize in caring for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia in what administrator Janie Kellett describes as "a homelike environment."

"It's designed to be a barrier-free environment where residents can walk around or visit the courtyard," she said. "Staff helps with bathing and meals, and provide activities, and we have a registered nurse on staff."

The care center is run by Durham-based Frontier Management and Kellett, a McMinnville resident has worked in senior care for the past decade as a caregiver and activities director prior to becoming a site administrator three years ago.

"Our company is a sponsor of the Memory Walk in Portland each September and I'm hoping to put together a local team," she said.

The care home can hold 48 residents in four "suites" of 12 rooms each, with either a shared or private bath, all opening onto a common room, lounge and kitchen (the stove and microwave can be deactivated with a key by staff).

"We also have a beauty salon for residents and visitors," Kellett said.

Activities for residents include music, creative arts such as memory boxes and scrapbooks, and exercise programs including stretching, walking and balance. "We like to do things with a sensory component," she added.

Also uniquely for Newberg, Arbor Oaks accepts hourly, half-day or overnight bookings, allowing those caring for family members at home to take a breather. "We have day rooms for our part-time visitors, to give them a private space to relax — though we hope they join in activities with the other residents," she said.

Arbor Oaks is accepting resident applications and will hold an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. May 2. For more information, call 503-538-2288.