



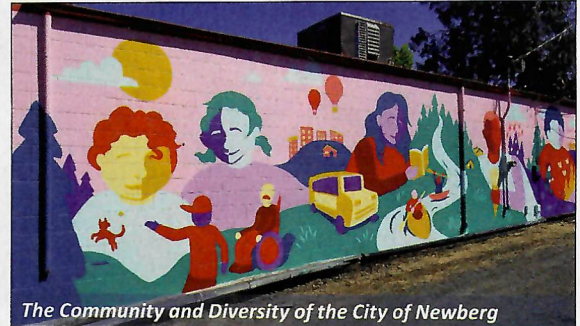
## NEWBERG ROTARIANS: BEAUTIFYING THE COMMUNITY



Community with One Another



The Art of Newberg



The Community and Diversity of the City of Newberg



Community, Music, History and Environmental Stewardship



Flowing Connection

In the summer of 2018, a partnership between the George Fox University (GFU) Arts Department and the Newberg Noon Rotary Club was formed with a mission of creating the first of many welcoming and eye-catching murals that celebrated community and captured the spirit of Newberg and the surrounding area. This summer, GFU and the Newberg Noon Rotary Club have wrapped up their 5th installment with a new mural titled "Flowing Connection." The space for the mural was generously provided by the owners of Ixtapa Restaurant on East First Street in downtown Newberg. The GFU Arts Professor who guided the project, Seth Van Der Eems, noted that this year's mural is about community connection and how we are supporting and are supported by the land and the local ecology. Looking to capture the Rotarian emphasis on care, they saw it as an extension on how we take care of the landscape. He noted that the pot depicted in the art is of Kalapuyan design, giving recognition to the native tribes of the Willamette valley region. The river flowing out of it represents the Willamette River along with our beautiful, natural landscapes. Geoff Gilmore, the rotarian representative involved in leading the project, said of the mural "I'm particularly excited about this 2024 mural as in addition to its attractiveness it includes a viewer interactive "grape arbor" space which was designed for two people to take a selfie picture showing them as part of the mural!"

This Mural partnership was first conceived by Newberg Rotarian Geoff Gilmore, who spent 2 years working with the City of Newberg Planning Department to create a new municipal code which would allow for murals to be created in Newberg. Once the code was amended, Geoff and the Newberg Noon Rotary Club forged a partnership with the GFU Arts Department to begin creating a series of vibrant, colorful murals around Newberg. The murals each tell a story and celebrate the culture, community and history of Newberg. The program also allows for Art students to gain real, paid, hands on professional experience and each

earn a credit for participation in the project. This year they had seven paid art interns involved in the design and painting phases. The painting took place over 3 days of work between April 29 and May 4, with some final touches and protective coating to be wrapped by the first week of June.

Special thanks for the creation of this project goes out to the Newberg Noon Rotary Club, the GFU Arts Department and artists, Ixtapa Restaurant for providing the space, JK Paint and Sherwin Williams for donations of paint, Reid Rental for donation of scaffolding, and Newberg Ace Hardware for donations of tools and materials.

All five beautiful murals created by the GFU Arts department and the Newberg Noon Rotary Club, listed in chronological order from when they were completed, are as follows:

**Mural 1: "Community with One Another"**

Located on Steve's Auto Service  
112 N Meridian St, Newberg

**Mural 2: "The Art of Newberg"**

Located on the Newberg Public Library Annex  
211 N Howard St, Newberg

**Mural 3: "The Community and Diversity of the City of Newberg"**

Located on the Mini Market El Tala  
1012 E 1st St, Newberg

**Mural 4: "Community, Music, History, and Environmental Stewardship"**

Located on Lewis Audio Visual  
2112 Portland Rd, Newberg

**Mural 5: "Flowing Connection"**

Located on Ixtapa Restaurant  
307 E 1st St, Newberg