



ECHOES

A PUBLICATION OF WALNUT HILLS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY · WALNUT CREEK, OHIO

NEW CAMPUS LEADERSHIP EXCITED FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Walnut Hills' vision is "To lead the way in providing retirement services in Ohio, by continually improving our services – offering choices, flexibility, and finding ways to say 'yes.'"

Rob Aneshansel, who was named Executive Director and Vice President of Operations in August, is looking forward to working toward that vision and the opportunities it provides.

Aneshansel was selected to lead Walnut Hills following an extensive regional search. He is only the fourth executive in Walnut Hills' 47-year history. He replaced Jeremy Kauffman, who relocated to Indiana.

Aneshansel's background includes 12 years as administrator at Shady Lawn in Dalton and 12 years of administrator experience with Altercare, including Millersburg and Canton. For the past several years, he has had his own consulting business.

"Rob's knowledge about the industry and particular experience in working in our county's unique culture were key components of our selecting him to come lead Walnut Hills," said Eric Miller, MD, Chair of the Walnut Hills Board of Directors. "With experience in Holmes and Wayne Counties, he is knowledgeable about Amish and Conservative Mennonite values, and he is excited to be leading and working with us."

Aneshansel holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Health Services Administration, both from Ohio University. He is licensed in Ohio as a nursing home administrator and a social worker, and he is a certified executive in assisted living administration.

"The staff and residents have been very warm and welcoming," said Aneshansel. "You can quickly see the care and compassion the team members have for the residents they care for. I'm also fortunate to have such a great Board of Directors. This group is knowledgeable, dedicated, and committed to the nonprofit mission, vision, and Christian values of Walnut Hills."

Aneshansel lives in Canal Fulton with his wife, Kelly. They have four children all living at home.

"What a great place to live, work, and connect with the local community," Aneshansel added. "The stunning views over the rolling hills of Amish Country and the home-cooked meals make Walnut Hills a perfect place to call home. I'm excited to be part of such an amazing friendly community, and I welcome the opportunity to share Walnut Hills with visitors to our community."



▲ Executive Director Rob Aneshansel and NH resident Kathryn Yoder admire a piece of pumpkin pie made by the Food and Dining Services team. The pies were made from fresh pie pumpkins that Aneshansel bought at a local farm.

CREATIVITY IS TIMELESS – 2018



▲ Bill Schultz of Sugarcreek received the Best of Show Award for his stone carving titled “Morgan Horse Head.”



▲ Jean Flinner of Walnut Creek received the People’s Choice Award, which was voted on by visitors to the exhibit, for her cross-stitch entry titled “Winter White Santa.”

Several of the top entries from this year’s exhibit will be featured in a 2019 “Creativity is Timeless” wall calendar being produced by Walnut Hills and Greencroft Communities. Family and friends can pick up a copy of the calendar in December at the Nursing Home or Retirement Home Business Office.

CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS



◀ A new roof was installed on the Retirement Home (assisted living building), so the building is ready for whatever the winter winds of Holmes County bring our way.



◀ New directional signs were installed around campus to help visitors find their destination. Another phase of the project will include new monument signs at our entrances along Olde Pump Street.

From the Executive Director...

ROB ANESHANSEL

Please join me in thanking all of our great team members who helped us achieve such good results with our 2018 annual survey completed by the Ohio Department of Health. The surveyors who visited the Nursing Home for four days in October were very complimentary about our team members and the services we deliver. What a great group of caring, empathetic, and compassionate people who work here at Walnut Hills! The good survey results are just one more affirmation of the quality care and attention to detail that our team provides.

This year’s “Creativity is Timeless” exhibit was a great success. What an amazingly talented group of people who came together to display such great works of art. It was very evident the countless hours that these artists dedicated to their pieces. We are very blessed to have such talented individuals producing first-class art in our community.

We have just finished the big project of putting a new roof on the Assisted Living building. It was nice to work with local contractors and to use locally provided products to complete this project in time for the cold weather heading our way.

Our goats, Nikki and Oreo, (*see page 4*) are headed to “Nikki’s House” to stay in a nice warm barn for the winter. We are already planning their arrival in the spring with a new and improved farm area which will provide more shade, structures to climb, and even some rocks to jump around on. The farm truly was the highlight of many of our residents’ days to have these fun animals be part of our lives here at Walnut Hills. We appreciate everyone who helped make this happen for our residents.

This month, *happiness* has been our topic of conversation, and we have been talking about the quote “Happiness is a decision we make.” So, if happiness is a decision, I would have to say, when the team members at Walnut Hills wake up in the morning, they must decide to be happy. It is so nice to be surrounded by cheerful individuals with smiles and positive attitudes.

*Wishing you a
“Happy” Holiday season
and lasting happiness!*

NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK

Celebrating Life's Stories

Residents and staff enjoyed special menus, entertainment, and activities during this year's celebration of National Nursing Home Week, which centered around a theme of "Celebrating Life's Stories."

Some of the highlights of the week included barnyard fun, scrapbooking, Show and Tell, several music programs, a poetry reading, and a Snack-N-Chat.



◀ Life Enrichment Director, Sharla Rider, brought out the bubbles for a 'Snack-N-Chat.'



▲ Maxine Eiler enjoyed a cool treat on the screened in porch.



▲ Jay Rhodes took his turn at milking a cow.

The dietary staff also planned meals around favorites that were suggested by residents. Menu specials included chicken and dumplings, rivel soup, spaetzle (noodles), liver and onions, hot dogs in sauerkraut, grilled steak and chicken, dandelion gravy, Quaker Town Crumb Pie, and homemade ice cream.

NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

Back to School

This year's celebration of National Assisted Living Week activities revolved around a theme of "Back to School."

Some of the highlights of the week included nursery rhyme fun with kindergartners from Walnut Creek Elementary, a performance by the Garaway High School cheerleaders, 'B is for Big Screen Fun' movie, a Thomas and Mina Edison historical program, apple cider with school lessons and memories, Ohio Paper Folders lesson, and a parade featuring the Hiland High School Marching Band and the students and faculty from Walnut Creek Elementary School.



▲ The Hiland High School Marching Band led a parade through campus that included all the students from Walnut Creek Elementary School.



▲ The Garaway High School cheerleaders posed for a photo with residents Cathleen Stein and Wilma Gerber, who were both former cheerleaders.



▲ A kindergarten student from Walnut Creek Elementary School tells resident Irene Jackson which animals came from an egg.



Our "Walnut Hills" Facebook page features additional photos and information on activities and living options on our campus. Please find our page www.facebook.com/walnuthillsliving and "Like" it.

E-MAIL OPTION

Did you know you can receive your copy of the *Echoes* newsletter by email? If you would like to get this newsletter electronically, or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Paula Miller at Paula.Miller@WalnutHillsLiving.org



Mini Farm Brings New Life to Walnut Hills

Walnut Hills strives to provide memorable moments for individuals who live on our campus.

Many memorable moments were shared this summer and fall with the addition of a mini farm at the Nursing Home.

The idea had been floating around for some time, as team members JoEllen Mast and Wanda Schrock would often talk about how residents light up when baby animals born in the spring come to visit.

As the two teammates dreamed about the idea of having an actual farm on the Walnut Hills campus, they came to a point where they wanted to find a way to say “yes.”

Schrock shared the idea with a resident’s son, and he soon came on board with a donation from his family toward the purchase of a coop for chickens.

The team hatched one Silkie chicken from an egg, and Rick Timberlake, maintenance team member, brought in two light barama chicks and the mother of the Silkie to join the group.

Schrock knew pygmy goats would be entertaining and fun for residents to interact with, so she found a local family that raised them and sold Walnut Hills a female (named Nikki in memory of a past resident who had a stuffed goat named Nicodemus). Marion Coblentz, a local businessman, donated another goat (named Oreo after residents and team members brainstormed names).

“The support from everyone has been fantastic,” said Schrock. “This project has been rewarding in so many ways. The animals have brought many smiles and laughs to our residents and their families.”

Mast and her family have been a big part of the farm’s success. Her father built an extension for the front of the chicken coop, and her daughter and granddaughters come weekly to clean the pens and give the goats a bath, if needed.

“Many of our residents come from farming backgrounds,”



◀ Oreo, one of the farm’s pygmy goats, hammed it up for the camera.

Charitable Giving

▶ David Miller of Everence Charitable Services presented a charitable gift annuity remainder check from the estate of Les Reid to Rob Aneshansel, VP and Executive Director, and Mark King, Greencroft Communities CEO. The money will benefit the Resident Assistance Fund. Les’s careful financial estate planning ensured that his generosity will continue to bless his friends and neighbors at Walnut Hills.



A charitable gift annuity is a great way to invest a sum of money and receive regular income from it during an individual’s lifetime while also benefiting a charitable organization. When the investor passes away, the remaining money is gifted to a charitable organization. There are some immediate tax benefits for charitable gift annuities which make them a wise investment in both a donor’s financial well being and that of the charitable organization.

If you would like to know more about charitable gift annuities, contact Missy Kauffman Schrock, Director of Giving, at missy.k.schrock@greencroftcommunities.org or 574-537-4708, or your trusted financial adviser.

said Mast, “so these animals bring back memories. They provide a great conversation topic for families who are visiting their loved ones.”

Mary Beth Morrow, one of our regular volunteers, who visits the Nursing Home with therapy dogs, told her veterinarian husband, Luke, about the farm project, and he was excited to get involved. He donates his time, and his workplace, Sugarcreek Veterinary Clinic, donates anything he needs.

Many others made donations to help make the farm a reality. Team members held a bake sale to help fund the project.

Nikki and Oreo are going to spend the winter at Oreo’s house (farm), and then the plan is for them to return in the spring to be part of our Walnut Hills Mini Farm again.

Anyone with ideas or who is interested in donating funds or supplies to help make the farm area even better for next spring is encouraged to contact the Life Enrichment (Activities) Team at the Nursing Home at extension 1323.

HAPPENINGS ON CAMPUS



▲ Ron Lower, Director of Maintenance, brought in his race car for residents and team members to enjoy.



▲ Face painting is always popular with young visitors to our Summer Picnics.



▲ Bob, our resident cat, tried to make himself part of the fall décor.



▲ A beautiful day spent with our Independent Living residents in the Community Park for a Hot Dog Roast.



▲ Sharla Rider, Director of Life Enrichment, and NH resident Leroy Schlabach got an up close look at some homing pigeons before they were released. After release from the Walnut Hills campus, the pigeons returned to the farm of their owner, one of our Amish volunteers.



▲ Rebecca Miller of Rebecca's Bistro in Walnut Creek shared about her business at one of our Community Spotlight programs.



▲ John and Lydia Schmid provided entertainment for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch.



▲ Kelly Engstrom, curator of the Alpine Hills Museum, demonstrated the alphorn during a celebration of the Ohio Swiss Festival at the Nursing Home.



▲ Ocean Week was filled with fun activities, including silly ocean-themed hats, as modeled by residents Angie George and Dan Yoder and Director of Life Enrichment, Mindy Miller.

Walnut Hills ECHOES • November 2018

CEO, Mark King • Executive Director, Rob Aneshansel • Editor, Paula S. Miller

Board of Directors: Eric Miller, Paul A. Miller, Garrett Roach, Marvin Wengerd, Ellis Miller, Bill Jennings

Walnut Hills Retirement Community, Inc. P.O. Box 127 • 4748 Olde Pump St. • Walnut Creek, OH 44687 • 330-852-2457 or 330-893-3200 • info@WalnutHillsLiving.org • WalnutHillsLiving.org

Walnut Hills is a not-for-profit organization and an Affiliate of Greencroft Communities, Goshen, Indiana (greencroft.org)

Walnut Hills does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or age in admission, treatment, or participation in its program, service and activities, or in employment.

Care-Free Living

We take care of the snow removal, lawn mowing, and other home maintenance, while you do the things you enjoy.

We have a cozy one-bedroom, one bath home with a den available in The Commons for immediate occupancy!

Or place your name on our Waiting List for a Commons home in the future.

We also have one-bedroom Catered Living apartments available for immediate occupancy. Make a move before winter! Monthly rent for the apartments includes housekeeping, laundry, one meal per day, most utilities, emergency call system, and more.



CAMPUS LIVING OPTIONS

- Independent Living
- Catered Living & Assisted Living
- Memory Support Household
- Rehabilitation/Transitional Care
- Long-Term Skilled Nursing Care

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
visit our website
WalnutHillsLiving.org

*For Independent Living, Catered & Assisted Living—
Call Teresa Yoder, 330-893-3200 ext. 1351*

*For Rehabilitation/Long-Term Nursing Care—
Call Merle Miller, 330-893-3200 ext. 1310*