

Reflections

Congratulations to Our Graduate

It was a very bittersweet day at Beechwood when we celebrated David Snider's ProjectSEARCH graduation. All his Beechwood friends wished him farewell and good luck as he moves on to the next chapter in his life. David Snider was a student and worked at Beechwood this past year. His experience included working in environmental services, the operations department and dining services.

"David really blossomed," said Erin Richeal, David's teacher from Erie 1 BOCES. "With a team devoted to his success, David was able to facilitate his employability meetings, complete tasks with mastery, manage his scheduled lunch and work breaks, dine with peers, locate his mentor 'on-site' and most importantly - gain the skills necessary to apply and maintain a position in the real work world. He was our brave Erie 1 BOCES student pioneering our return to Beechwood Homes (after a COVID pause) for ProjectSEARCH 2021-2022 graduating class."



David with Erin Richeal, his teacher from Erie 1 BOCES.



David's parents and grandparents joined us for David's graduation celebration.

Good luck David - We know you will do great things!

ProjectSEARCH invests in high school seniors with special needs and teaches entry level skills to obtain competitive employment. For years, ProjectSEARCH and Beechwood Continuing Care have partnered together to provide work training and employment for young adults with special needs. To learn more about ProjectSEARCH of WNY call John Pope at (716) 821-7017.

Beechwood's 1st Boppin at the Beech - What a Splash!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Daniel P. O'Neill
President/CEO

Congratulations to Beechwood Homes for receiving a 4 out of 5 star rating for Staffing in the new Care Compare report! This is proof positive that Beechwood Homes continues to invest in its most valuable asset – our exceptional staff. Well done!

As you may know, there has always been a significant amount of national and local media coverage regarding the strong correlation between staffing levels and the quality of care provided in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs). Earlier this year the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) increased the number of data measures used to determine the star rating score for Staffing at every SNF.

In addition to the original, existing measures of registered nurse (RN) and total nurse hours per resident day, the new Staffing rating methodology includes the following additional measures:

- ◆ Total nurse staffing hours per resident per day on weekends;
- ◆ Total nurse staff turnover within a given year;
- ◆ Registered nurse (RN) turnover within a given year; and
- ◆ Number of administrators who have left the nursing home within a given year.

These new data measures were included in the CMS Nursing Home Five Star Rating System methodology starting with the July 2022 Care Compare Report.

In addition to Staffing, the CMS Care Compare Five-Star Ratings for Nursing Homes report includes a star rating for the Overall Quality, Health Inspection results, and Quality Measures performance.

Again, congratulations to the Beechwood Homes team for earning 4 out of 5 stars in each and every category!

Thank you all!

Thank you to our dedicated staff for your years of service.

Beechwood Homes

35 YEARS OF SERVICE

Kameron Kontos
Diana Miller

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Lynn Johnson-Farley

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

April Clarkson
Deborah Heil
Donna Kleinhans
Leslie Misener
Alonzo Peete
Jeff Vrenna

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Kelly Giamberdino
Nora Janis
Jodie Jeffery
Holly Lange

15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Folasade Awolesi
Steven Bliss
Nitasha McAndrew
Tina McKerrow
Anne Miller
Seth Parton

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Crystal Glenn
Arielle Hall
Candace Harris-Officer
Frederick Isler
Heather Newman
Cash Sanders
Tia Maria Sawyer
Ella Wright

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Jennifer Bacon
Jacob Cronyn
Denise Cruz
Marzanna Dabek
Ahmed Dawood
Kristin Rae DiPasquale
Anthony Donahue-Bateau
Lanisa Fernandez
Harriet Haywood
Charity Iheke
Mary Keller
Jenna Morrison
Dawn Podkanowicz
Lauren Pomarzynski
Trevor Proy
Michael Smith
Cheri Lozina

Asbury Pointe

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Nicholas Chrites
Petrina Sciandra

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

JoAnn Bisesi
Brenda Klepser
Kate Rabinowitz
Daniel Saturnino
Donald Schmitter
Karen Wayne
Brett Isler
Megan Leczinsky

Ken-Ton Presbyterian Village

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Katherine Parsell
Jennifer Hooker



Thank you Diana Miller,
our Director of Administrative Services,
celebrating 35 years at Beechwood.

Gifts of Kindness and Comfort

For Marion Johns, making handmade items for Beechwood residents has been both a source of joy and a life saver.

It all began when Mrs. Johns was a member of the Maryvale Home Bureau. Sadly, there were several Bureau members who were fighting breast cancer. So it became the Bureau's mission to sew pillows for their fellow members. These beautiful pillows were such an incredible source of comfort, they started making and donating them to the hospitals.

Upon retirement and the passing away of her husband, Donald, Mrs. Johns found that her handiwork, which included the pillows and lap robes, became her salvation but began to pile up. She was in search of a good home where these lovingly made items could be used.

Her good friend, Kay Andres, who is a Beechwood Auxiliary Board member, suggested that Beechwood Homes would gladly welcome her beautifully made items. So Mrs. Johns became acquainted with Rose Kusmierczyk, former director of recreation and activities at Beechwood. Rose explained how the pillows would comfort the residents and the lap robes would keep them warm.

So in 2016, Marion's deliveries to Beechwood began, usually a carload of pillows and lap robes. All were beautiful and meticulously made. To-date, Marion has gifted Beechwood residents with hundreds of pillows and enumerable lap robes. Residents love



Mrs. Johns delivers another bundle of pillows and blankets to Beechwood.

their gifts of love and warmth!

Now another one of Mrs. Johns' good friends, Hosea Sharp, has pitched into this mission of kindness. Mrs. Sharp at the age of 98 has made 18 lap robes just this year too!

Mrs. Johns is a member of the Faith United Methodist Church in Lancaster where she has participated in a prayer shawl ministry, knitting and crocheting shawls, which were paired with color coordinated pillows; all home-made for parishioners and friends.

Luckily, Marion counts on many friends who donate material for this project. She hopes to continue sewing and crocheting as long as possible - and we do too!

The Grace Flanagan Memorial Fund

Asbury Pointe Retirement Community recently received a generous donation from the Flanagan Family & Friends in memory of their wife/mother/grandmother Grace Flanagan. Grace was a resident at Asbury Pointe from 2017 to 2022. The donation was developed as the "Grace Flanagan Memorial Fund" to help supply new books for the resident library and to bring in guest speakers.

While a resident at Asbury Pointe, Grace Flanagan took over the position as head librarian; a volunteer position, to keep order in the two in-house libraries. She had such a passion for



Grace Flanagan

reading. Grace always tried to find new ways to encourage the residents to read and be involved within the libraries.

Before coming to Asbury, Grace was married to Tom Flanagan (still an Asbury Pointe resident) for 67 years. They have five children, fourteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Grace worked as a Reading Specialist at Mill Middle School for 25 years. She was a wonderful teacher and friend to all and will be greatly missed. However, she will always be remembered with every book that is read.



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of my mother, Caroline

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Beechwood's 1st Hooray for Heroes
a special event for our residents and their families





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*Guided by Christian values,
we are committed to nurturing each
individual's quality of living and
aging by honoring personal values
in a supportive environment.*

If you wish to have your name taken off our mailing list call the Development/Marketing Department at 716-810-7370 or e-mail: kscholz@beechwoodcare.org



Autumn...a time of change and preparation and looking toward what lies ahead while celebrating what has passed. Are you ready to explore your future? Are you ready to “Fall in Love with Asbury?”

You are cordially invited to attend a new premiere event called “Fall in Love with Asbury,” featuring delicious hors d’oeuvres prepared by our chef; vendor displays showcasing special services for you; plenty of giveaways; and of course a presentation about life at Asbury as well as a tour of our campus.

If you’re contemplating a new beginning, now’s your chance to come see what kind of lifestyle we offer and relax and enjoy yourself in the process.

For your convenience, we will offer this event on two different days with two time slots:

♦ **September 10, 11am—12:30pm**

♦ **September 10, 1pm—2:30pm**



♦ **September 24, 11am—12:30pm**

♦ **September 24, 1pm—2:30pm**

Space is limited so please call Marilyn today at 716-810-7522 to reserve your place.

Editor: Kristin Scholz

Foundation information contributed by Brenda Schwamborn and Kristin Scholz

For corrections, comments, or topic suggestions regarding **Reflections**, please contact Kristin Scholz at 716-810-7370 or e-mail kscholz@beechwoodcare.org



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