The Boards of Directors for the Beechwood Homes, Blocher Homes, Asbury Pointe and the Beechwood/Blocher Foundation are very pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel P. O’Neill as the new President and CEO of Beechwood Continuing Care.

Daniel succeeds Robert Meiss, who retired in early August. Bob Meiss has led Beechwood Continuing Care through tremendous growth over his twenty three years of service. His vision and leadership will forever be remembered and his heartfelt passion to bring person-centered care to Beechwood and WNY will forever be his legacy to the long-term care community.

Daniel comes to Beechwood at a time when senior community services are at the forefront of change in WNY. His extensive and varied experience in the long term care community will provide the strong leadership necessary to ensure a bright future for Beechwood Continuing Care and the residents we serve.

Daniel is the former Vice President of Health Care Services at Lutheran Social Services in Jamestown, New York. LSS provides youth services - both housing and on-campus foster care, an on-site school for behaviorally challenged children, and a wide range of senior living services. These include close to 400 independent living apartments, 96 assisted living units, and a 174 bed skilled nursing facility. In this role he was responsible for coordinating strategic planning, developing networks and all new programming, service delivery integration and health service delivery across the senior care continuum. This includes inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, a medical model adult day health care program, assisted living and skilled nursing care.

Prior to his Lutheran Social Services position, Daniel spent 14 years with ElderWood Senior Care. In his final position, Vice President of Administration, he was responsible for two independent living communities, six assisted living facilities, and ten skilled nursing facilities from Western to Central New York. He was also responsible for all marketing, human resources and Information Technology.

Daniel received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Canisius College and his Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo School of Law. He, his wife and children are natives of the Buffalo area.
A New Era

I’d like to thank everyone at Beechwood Continuing Care for the warm welcome I’ve received. After living the last two years in the Jamestown, NY area, my wife, Deborah, our two children and I are very excited about returning to our home town. It is truly an honor and privilege to return as part of the Beechwood family.

As a young man, I realized I wanted to pursue a career in senior care services. After attending Canisius College and graduating from the University at Buffalo School of Law, I became a licensed nursing home administrator and started in the long term care profession. For the last 15 years now, I’ve been fortunate to work in various capacities to serving seniors of Western New York. My personal and professional experiences have prepared me well for my new position.

Joining the team at Beechwood is an honor I have strived to achieve. I’ve long admired Beechwood’s person-centered approach to providing care and its unwavering commitment to quality. I promise to do my part to build upon the wonderful tradition and reputation of Beechwood, and to always support and adhere to the Beechwood core values as President and CEO.

As we all know, the health care delivery system seems to be changing all the time. Many in senior care services worry about the uncertainty of the times, but I look forward to the changes the future holds. As a provider of independent living services, assisted living services, outpatient and sub-acute rehabilitation, long-term care and continuing senior care services, Beechwood Continuing Care is positioned to serve a greater role than ever before in the health care continuum. The opportunity to further our mission and touch more lives in our community is very exciting.

Sincerely,

Daniel

Saving Smiles

Chelsea Wasson’s 3rd grade class in Island Creek Elementary School in Alexandria, Virginia wanted to raise money to help them create a project that would make people smile. Chelsea suggested the kids do something for the residents at Beechwood Homes where her husband’s grandmother, Mary Ann Mueller resides in Amherst, New York. They called their project, “Saving Smiles.” The kids decided that it would be fun to do paintings that were bright and cheerful. This way every time the residents looked at them . . . it would make them smile. They raised money by selling lemonade and bracelets which in turn enabled them to purchase paints and art materials.

Thank you to Stephanie Ramirez, Kayla Repuyan, Alesandra Santo and Skyler Vogelsinger! Your paintings have made all of us smile each and every day!
Beechwood Continuing Care staff members and volunteers were honored at the Western New York Association for Homes and Services for the Aging (WNYAHSA) annual recognition dinner held at Samuel's Grande Manor on May 12th. The following employees received the staff member of the year award. The following volunteers were honored for their dedication to serving our Homes’ residents.

**Asbury Pointe**

**Timothy Walters** has been a member of the housekeeping and facilities operations team since 2010. He does everything and anything that is needed including painting and building repairs. If Tim notices a fellow staff member in need, without hesitation he willing lends his assistance. He always has a smile for everyone and will share a joke or two to brighten the day. Tim’s positive attitude and genuine kindness make him an asset to the Asbury Pointe community.

**Evan Switzer** has worked in dining services since 2010. He is a hard worker that takes the lead where needed. He always volunteers for extra shifts. Evan works well with all staff and his interactions with residents are enjoyed by all. Asbury is fortunate to have Evan as a member on our team.

**Blocher Homes**

**Kevin Chambers** has been a cook at Blocher Homes for over 12 years. His smiling and friendly demeanor is a pleasure in the kitchen. Kevin has a “can do” attitude no matter what the challenge. His dedication to Blocher Homes and its residents is clear each and every day.

**Lillian “Swanee” Graves** joined the Blocher Service Guild in 2007 and has been a valuable asset ever since. Swanee is one of our “Magnificent Menders.” She works countless hours in the boutique and is often on hand to assist with the many resident parties held at our Home.

**Beechwood**

**Linda Morgan** has been a housekeeper for the past 23 years. Her love and care for the residents is an excellent example for all of us to follow. In 2007, she was awarded the NYAHSA 2007 Long Term Care Employee of Distinction Award. Once a week she and her co-worker take time out of their busy schedule to visit with the residents on the dementia unit and play games, sing songs or have a show n’ tell program. Linda will go out of her way to lend a hand whether it is to deliver a package to a unit, give a comforting hug or share a funny story.

**Bill and Dawn Kieser** have been dedicated volunteers for four years. They became familiar with Beechwood when Dawn’s mother was a patient in Beechwood’s Wesley Rehabilitation Center. In appreciation for the care Dawn’s mother received, they decided to share their time with the Beechwood community. Every Thursday morning you will find Dawn and Bill at the bistro, cheerful as can be, greeting residents, families and staff. Their outgoing personalities and sense of humor make a trip for that cup of coffee or donut a bright spot in everyone’s morning. We are fortunate to have Dawn and Bill as members of the Beechwood family!
On Tuesday, July 31, Beechwood Continuing Care bid a fond farewell to Bob Meiss, retiring president/CEO. Over 125 of his BCC friends, board members, family and peers came to help Bob celebrate his 23 years of distinguished service at Templeton Landing restaurant. Bob has led Beechwood Continuing Care through tremendous growth over his last twenty three years including the addition of Wesley Rehabilitation Center and Asbury Pointe Retirement Community. His vision and leadership will forever be remembered and his heart felt passion to bring person-centered-care and household living to Beechwood and WNY will forever be his legacy to the long-term care community.

During the evening program, Tom Holt, CEO/President of Lutheran Services in Jamestown and former Chairman of New York State Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (NYAHSA) served as Master of Ceremonies. He expertly hosted a night full of love, laughter and best wishes. Recognitions included a proclamation from the Town of Amherst read by Rev. Jim Pollard, Homes board chairman. Robert Montgomery, chairman of the Beechwood/Blocher Foundation made a very special announcement. He announced the renaming of Beechwood’s Education Center to “The Robert R. Meiss Education Center.” As Bob Montgomery so aptly stated, “This honor is to recognize the true “father” of ‘Welcome Home’ whose dream was to create an incubator of learning for all who choose the path of person-centered care.”

After the conclusion of the program, guests strolled outside to the patio with ice cream sundaes in hand to enjoy an outstanding summer evening on Buffalo’s waterfront.

Congratulations!
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS TO THE BEECHWOOD/BLOCHER FOUNDATION

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WELCOME HOME

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Check us out at www.facebook.com/BeechwoodContinuingCare or go to our web site www.beechwoodcare.org and click on

* Deceased
Blocher Homes
Annual Summerfest Picnic
had an Hawaiian theme complete with a hula dancer as part of the entertainment.

Fun was had by all!

Beechwood’s Root Beer Float Car Cruise
has become a favorite for local car enthusiasts.
Over 60 cars were on display for residents, families and staff to enjoy!
Beechwood Administrator Receives LeadingAge Award

On Wednesday, May 23 in Saratoga Springs Kathy U. Nyquist, Administrator of Beechwood Homes, was recognized for her outstanding leadership and service by LeadingAge (formerly New York State Association of Homes and Services for the Aging).

Kathy was chosen the recipient of the James W. Sanderson Memorial Award for Leadership which is presented to health care professionals who have demonstrated extraordinary personal leadership and commitment to the field of long term care. This award honors the late James Sanderson, a longtime counsel and friend of LeadingAge.

Over 200 of her peers and healthcare professionals across New York State gathered to honor Kathy and other award winners at the LeadingAge Annual Spring Institute Luncheon.

“Kathy truly ‘walks the walk’ without any interest in fanfare and glory,” said former Beechwood CEO Bob Meiss. I had the privilege to know Jim Sanderson and believe he would be proud to recognize Kathy with an award in his honor.”

Leading Age, headquartered in Albany, represents nearly 600 not for profit and public continuing care providers in New York State including nursing homes, senior housing, adult care facilities, continuing care retirement communities, assisted living and community service providers.

Former Board Member Creates Photo Gallery at Beechwood

Dr. Ross Markello, well known local amateur photographer and former board member, came to Kathy Nyquist, administrator at Beechwood, offering to create a photo gallery for our residents to enjoy within the Beechwood commons area. He wanted this gift to be in honor of Bob Meiss, former CEO. Together with photos from Ross, Ian Webber, another photographer and printing, matting and framing by Nova Photo... the commons have been transformed into a fabulous gallery.
In honor of Robert R. Meiss
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Auction and Food Extravaganza
Saturday, October 20th – 6:30 P.M.
— Beechwood Homes Atrium —

The Beechwood/Blocher Auxiliary Board is gearing up for its 17th Annual Auction and Food Extravaganza. This year’s theme is “Welcome Aboard” featuring luxurious cruise decor with an international flair. Guests are encouraged to attend in their favorite cruise attire fit for the captain’s table!

As always, there will be lots of fabulous food and auction items to bid on! Co-chairs for this event are Auxiliary Board members Dorothy Quatraro and Diane Sippel.

Each year hundreds of gifts are donated to ensure that this fundraiser is a great success. This event has raised well over $1M that have benefited our residents and Homes. Proceeds this year are dedicated to the Beechwood/Blocher Foundation which assists our Homes in providing a “true home” for our residents and patients by supplementing our ever increasing costs of care, capital improvements to maintain our commitment to excellence, and development of innovative “quality of life” programs and projects such as “Welcome Home!”

NEW SPONSORS AND ADVERTISERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO COME ON BOARD!
Many levels include admission to the auction as well as recognition on all promotional materials, web site and at the event!

Gifts Welcome!
Popular gifts include gift certificates for restaurants, gas, stores or services; vacation homes or condos in resort areas, furniture, gift baskets, jewelry, artwork, home appliances, tickets for entertainment or sporting events . . . and anything else you think would be exciting and fun!

CALL THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TODAY AT (716) 810-7370 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN HELP.
17TH ANNUAL AUCTION & FOOD EXTRAVAGANZA

OPTION ONE

Auction Item(s)

The item(s) we would like to donate to the Auction is: ________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Value: ____________________________________

Name to be listed in program book:________________________________________________

Contact Name: __________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________City __________________State __________Zip ____

E-mail: ______________________________Phone # ________________________________

OPTION TWO

Cruise Patrons

Listing to appear in Auction Program Book

Anchor $500 __________

Two complimentary reservations offered to $500 Level Patrons and a half page ad/listing in our program book. Please send the ad in JPG format to elew@beechwoodcare.org

Commodore $250 ________ Captain $100 __________

First Officer $50__________ Steward $25 __________

Enclosed is our payment of $__________ for a Cruise Patron Listing

Send Auction Gifts and Patrons to:

THE BEECHWOOD/BLOCHER FOUNDATION
2235 Millersport Highway • Getzville, NY  14068
(716) 810-7371
Our Mission:

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.

Lily Tomlin Wows the Crowd

On Saturday evening, April 28, a petite 73 year old “ball of fire” in a black flowing pantsuit took the stage for Beechwood Continuing Care’s Laughter is Ageless Concert Series at UB Center for the Arts.

Ms. Tomlin has not slowed down one bit. A comedienne, star of screen, stage and television, gallivanted over the stage with endless energy. Her performance to a near sell-out crowd, conjured up the cast of her timeless characters – including Ernestine, Sister Boogie Woman, Mrs. Beasley and Edith Ann. Her one-woman concert was filled with comical insights and wildly, witty observations about the human condition. But, what was most enjoyable were her personal stories growing up including her crush on her second grade teacher and her relationship with her parents as a teenager.

Proceeds exceeding $41,000 benefitted Beechwood’s Welcome Home program, an initiative that promotes person-centered care practices into all aspects of our senior care organization.

A special thank you to our key sponsors

- The Voelkl Family of Buffalo Pharmacies
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