



Twenty Years of Exceptional Senior Living

With music from Top Brass and a dinner featuring lobster tail, beef tenderloin and more, residents recently celebrated the 20th anniversary of the



opening of Ferris Hills at West Lake and its adjacent, enriched living community of Clark Meadows.

The occasion was also an opportunity to see pictures from the groundbreaking, construction and grand opening as well as one of a 2006 visit from President George W. Bush, who was in town promoting a new Medicare prescription drug program.

“While there have been a number of updates to the apartments, common areas and grounds over the past two decades,” Executive Director Aimee Ward said, “one thing remains the same at Ferris Hills and that’s the vibrant atmosphere, fueled by fun, friendly and fascinating people. It truly is a special place and one worth celebrating.”

FERRIS HILLS & CLARK MEADOWS

Independent and Enriched Senior Living
One Ferris Hills, Canandaigua, NY 14424

A New Home, with New Friends to Boot

It's been said that unexpected friendships are often the best friendships of all, with the new connections bringing a new energy to our lives, as well as new adventures.

In fact, writer F. Scott Fitzgerald once said, "New friends can often have a better time together than old friends."



Ferris Hills at West Lake – where all residents were fully vaccinated by February – was where two couples who arrived six weeks apart became fast friends. Left to right are Marvin Wolff, George Galen, Jacquie Degnan and Janet Galen.

Two couples who are among the most recent move-ins to Ferris Hills at West Lake are having fun finding out for themselves. Arriving six weeks apart, they soon discovered common interests and have been enjoying time together ever since.

Jacquie Degnan and Marvin Wolff were the first to move in, in early November. They'd lived in Pittsford and Fairport, respectively, for many years and decided to sell their homes and move to Ferris Hills together. Wolff had visited years earlier, and he'd always felt it was somewhere he'd like to be. After Degnan took a tour, she was all for it. As luck would have it, an apartment soon became available. "All of our kids just thought it was the greatest thing ever," she said.

Then, in mid-December, Janet and George Galen moved

into Ferris Hills after selling their homes in Webster and Florida. Their oldest daughter and son-in-law own a home on Canandaigua Lake, and they also liked the idea of convenient medical care at nearby Thompson Hospital.

It was in the dining room that the Galens first met Degnan and Wolff.

"They sat us together one night and we just clicked," Janet Galen said.

As it turned out, the two men share a love of golf while the two women enjoy shopping together. The couples frequently get together for dinner as well.

"The four of them have developed a great friendship and it is lovely to see," said Resident Services Manager Claire Watson. "Their experience highlights one of the best things about Ferris Hills – the opportunity to meet wonderful people!"

For more information visit www.FerrisHills.com or call (585) 393-0410

Bridging the Digital Divide

Having retired from industry and having served as a grant writer for various organizations since, Claire Hauenstein is well versed in computer use.

Still, she knew that as with most things, there is always more to learn.

That's why Hauenstein has been among those at Ferris Hills at West Lake taking on-site seminars from Daniel Jones, a Rochester-based independent consultant and instructor who specializes in providing older adults with a greater understanding of the technology available to them.

At Ferris Hills, his twice-monthly seminars started in late April and continue through mid-July, with topics ranging from security, to video chats, to apps and beyond.

Hauenstein is finding the 90-minute

seminars to be "excellent."

"I'm very impressed. Not only is he knowledgeable, but he's got a very good way of presenting," she said. "Everything he explains is very understandable, from people who only have the basics to people who've been doing it for years."

The seminars are the result of Wi-Fi being installed throughout the community and an interest expressed by residents, many of whom took a crash course in Zoom and other virtual options for keeping in touch with friends and family during the pandemic.

Ray Hasenauer, a longtime Canandaigua resident who moved to Ferris Hills last fall, was a consulting engineer and noted



that for many older adults, widespread computer use came along at a time many were beginning to eye retirement and may have not had the time, nor

the interest, to stay up to speed.

"There are probably a lot of people here who are whizzes but also a lot of people like me who just missed the whole deal," he said.

Hasenauer said Jones has an effective teaching style that keeps students engaged and ensures they feel comfortable asking anything.

The seminars are appreciated, he added, because more than ever, computers seem to be intertwined with everyone's daily lives. "It's a must," he said.