

the Hills Connection

Spring/Summer 2019

Inspiring Hope. Celebrating Life.



As I reflect on the last 19 years, I have been so blessed to have had the opportunity to serve here at Echoing Hills.

I have had the good fortune of working alongside a leadership team with shared values...

to serve God and to serve others in the best way we know how. A team that is committed to our corporate values... to serve people with disabilities, to insure their opportunity to live a life of purpose and meaning, and to always focus on ways to create opportunities for them to know and experience Jesus Christ.

As I leave my role here, I know I am leaving it in good hands! I have known Tim Neville for several years

and I have seen how he interacts with individuals throughout our ministry, and all of our constituents around the state. He is a true servant leader, and possesses the compassion and wisdom needed to lead this ministry into the future.

And, most importantly, I know I leave this ministry in God's hands. For over 50 years He has led and guided us through many circumstances, some that we could not see our way through with our human eyes. But because of His faithfulness and our listening for His guidance, He always provided a way! I say 'Thank you' to Him, and to all of you who have helped make the past 19 years successful for our ministry, and a joy for me to be a part of!

Sincerely,

Buddy Busch

Buddy Busch



The Board of Directors of Echoing Hills Village, Inc. is pleased to announce that Timothy D. Neville, has been promoted to President and Chief Executive Officer effective April 1, 2019. Tim has been with Echoing Hills since October of 2011 and served as Vice President of Operations prior to assuming the role of President and CEO.

The Ohio native realized early in life that his calling was to serve individuals with disabilities and their families.

"My history with the organization began in the summers of 1991 and 1992 when I worked for Camp Echoing Hills as a summer camp counselor," he recalls, adding "It was through those experiences that I accepted my calling in life to serve people with intellectual/developmental disabilities."

"Experience has taught me the importance of leading with a servant's heart and compassion, inspiring a shared vision, how to be a collaborative team player and striving to be an outstanding representative of Echoing Hills to the individuals and families we serve, as well as external stakeholders."

- The Echoing Hills Board of Directors

COSI TRIPS LEAD TO DISCOVERY AND FUN

There’s so much to do and so much to learn at Cosi in Columbus, Ohio.

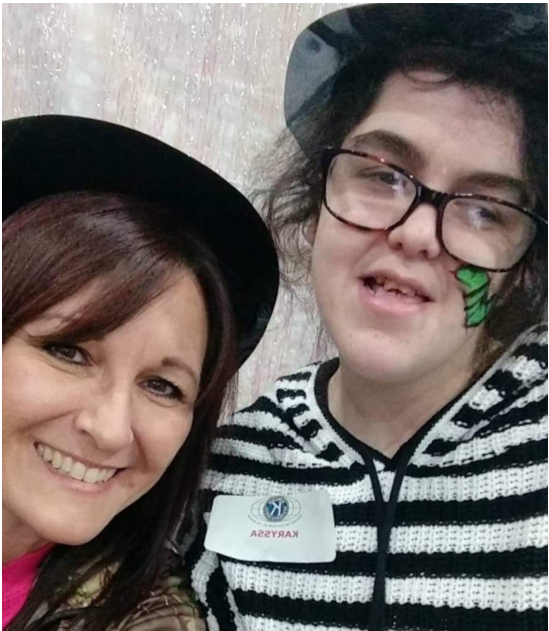


Perhaps that’s why it was a favorite stop for both Camp Echoing Hills and Echoing Hills of Southeast Ohio!

Experiencing new adventures is all part of a fulfilled life. Those who took this trip to Cosi told their travel companions that it was so much fun and they experienced things they had never done before but want to do again.



TRACK AND FIELD DAY AT KIDS AMERICA



It was an event that focused on “ability” and “I can” for those at Echoing Hills of Central Ohio. Not only was it a time for fun and exercise, but it was an opportunity to meet up with some old friends.

Familiar faces and friendly hugs made the event that much more special.

The best moment of all... the lap around the track with everyone clapping and cheering them on. It was like finishing a marathon!



A DAY AT THE SHOW

Richard loves cars and trucks. He spent a day checking out cool vehicles at the 10th Chazziz Car Show in Wilmington, Ohio.

The big smile on his face says it all. Happiness comes from experiencing things that are important to us, leading to a life with value and purpose.



HELPING OTHERS MAKES ME FEEL GOOD TOO

Hailey recently spent some of her time volunteering at the Dayton Food Bank.

While she was there bagging potatoes, Sean, a foodbank worker, explained to Hailey that the potatoes she was working on bagging would help to feed a

family who might not otherwise have enough to eat.

When Hailey was finished, she asked to speak to Sean before she left. She didn’t have a question, but instead she had a comment. Hailey wanted Sean to know that volunteering so others would have enough to eat made her feel good.

She was so happy she could help someone else.

MY MOM – MY WEDDING – AMAZING LOVE!

Imagine this, on the cusp of your 12th birthday, you leave your mother, and with your step siblings move to a different land, for a better opportunity. Imagine further that after 13 years of being away, you, a male child who was so close to your mother have not been able to see her. Then one day she says, "Jonah you won't believe it. I'm coming to America for training for my job!"

I remember when my mom got the job with Echoing Hills. It was good news we all waited long to receive. I've seen her dedicate her entire self, day & night to take care of those who couldn't care for themselves. She would say to me, "these are your brothers and sisters. The only thing is they don't have anyone to care for them the way I care for you." With the news that this same job thought her worthy of further training made me very happy!

I arrived in Ohio. My dream come true! When I arrived, I saw my mother. Nothing but happiness & utter joy filled my heart.



In 2016 I've met the love of my life. There was no way I could get married without having my mom at the wedding. After trying almost everything to get my mom here, I get a phone call. "Guess what!?" She said with excitement, "it just so happens that my job has yet again invited me to come to the states for the summer and on my break I'll be able to make your wedding!" What a blessing! Echoing Hills brought us back together. Thank you so much for going above and beyond not just for those you serve, but also for those who work with you to serve others.
- Jonah

PASSION WORKS ART CELEBRATES OUR DIFFERENCES

Tom, Carolyn, Bonnie and Mary Alice attended opening night at Kennedy Museum of Art to celebrate 20 Years of Passion Works in Athens. They are four of the original Passion Works artists.

Passion Works Studio was founded by Patty Mitchell with the purpose of showcasing artists with and without perceived differences.



GETTING EXERCISE WITH TEAM HEART AND SOUL

Team Heart and Soul believes in making it possible for individuals with disabilities to participate in many physical events, including running, riding, walking and supporting! Eli was one of the first participants from Athens County and Echoing Hills of Southeast Ohio.

Echoing Hill of Southeast Ohio participates in 5+ events each year. Inclusion and participation adds fulfillment and value to every life. We are grateful for this program that brings so much more than just exercise to the lives of those with disabilities.



A LIFE OF HOPE AND PEACE

Every person has times when they feel something is missing from their life. The struggle to find that missing piece to make you whole can be a challenge.



Jason Mothersbaugh, from Echoing Ridge, had been missing a big piece of his life, a relationship with God. He was a man struggling with grief. Jason was spiritually lost.

Early July, Jason, escorted by his family and DSP Kevin McGarvey, went to the grave site of a family member who had a profound impact on Jason's life, more than anyone had realized.

Over the weeks and months, Jason's outlook on life began to change. He began asking questions about God and faith while reading his Bible. In time, Jason's heart changed and he began to grow a strong relationship with God.

On September 23rd, Jason took the biggest step in his faith by getting baptized. In front of thirty family members and friends, Jason was made new in Christ (Colossians 2).

Jason is proud of this change in his life, and while he knows that faith is a journey with hills and valleys, for the first time in a long time he has hope and peace in Christ Jesus.



CELEBRATING A NIGHT TO SHINE

It was another great time at the Night to Shine celebrations across the state of Ohio.

Night to Shine is made possible by the Tim Tebow Foundation. It is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love for people with special needs ages 14 and older.

THE PURR-FECT COMBINATION

Becky loves the Gem City Catfe' because not only does she enjoy coffee and a pastry, but she also enjoys the company of the furry friends that come to visit.

That particular day, Becky loved on 18 adoptable cats and kittens in the cat lounge. Not only does Becky go to the Catfe' to be social, so do the cats! The cats provide her with unconditional love and she helps them to become more adoptable.



Around the State of Ohio, many who live at the Echoing Hills locations celebrated, danced, socialized and had an amazing time.

Dressed in their best, and with smiles to match, they lived the dream of every young and young at heart person, to be included, to be happy and to live a fulfilled life! Inclusion and exploring help break the cycle of isolation.