



For Immediate Release

October 27, 2011

**“Northwesterly Pet Parade”**

Lakewood, OH- September was a busy month for residents of Northwesterly Assisted Living. Days were filled with outings to Mitchell’s Ice Cream, Lakewood and Edgewater Parks, restaurants and much more!

For those residents who did not want to leave the community, fun was brought to them. Laughter and happiness was brought to all who attended the Northwesterly Pet Parade. On September 15<sup>th</sup>, Northwesterly hosted more than a dozen dogs and even a few cats. Petland brought in 5 different breeds of dogs that cuddled up next to anyone interested and even a kitten that made lots of friends that day. Love A Stray brought a rescue Wheaten Terrier, named Bridgit who was all too eager to do tricks for treats! Residents and the Northwesterly team members brought their own furry friends to mingle and show off. “We had a great time, it made my day” Maggie Bukszar said of the afternoon.

It’s a known fact that animals can have a great impact on senior’s lives. Pets have been proven to reduce high blood pressure, relieve anxiety and promote longer lives. Pets naturally increase interest in life. Owning a pet, gives a senior something to care for, as well as providing an opportunity for exercise and socialization. Owning a pet is like having a built in alarm clock. For our senior population, caring for a pet helps to remind them to care for their own wellbeing too. In fact, animal companionship can dramatically improve the quality of life and may even have a positive impact on longevity. These facts are a big factor why the Northwesterly encourages residents to have their pet move in with them. Northwesterly is home to several dogs and cats, a bird and even a turtle! To animal lovers, pets are included as part of the family and at the Northwesterly, nobody gets left behind.

If you would like more information about Northwesterly Assisted Living, please call Annette Kelly at 216-228-2266.