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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wesley Enhanced Living Pennypack Park and Greater Northeast Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce Host Gubernatorial Candidate Dan Onorato**

***First in the “Meet the Next Governor of Pennsylvania” series***

**Philadelphia, Pa., March 23, 2010** – Today, Wesley Enhanced Living (WEL) Pennypack Park- formerly known as WEL at Evangelical Manor- will host gubernatorial candidate Dan Onorato (D, Allegheny County) for a Q&A session that is convened by the Greater Northeast Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (GNPCC) and will take place from 8-9:30 am.

Onorato’s appearance is the first in a series of breakfast meetings dubbed ***Meet the Next Governor of Pennsylvania*** which will feature all four of the announced candidates for Governor of the Commonwealth. This series will give Northeast Philadelphia business leaders and WEL Pennypack Park employees and residents the chance to become familiar with the policies of all the four gubernatorial candidates and ask direct questions about what the candidates ideas are regarding key issues like small business development, healthcare and tax reform that will positively impact the Northeast. Other event sponsors include the Northeast Times, PECO, PA Manufacturers Association, Sandmeyer Steel Co., Keystone Mercy Health Plan, EBA Consulting, Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Comcast Business Class, Crown Holdings and WaWa.

“Wesley Enhanced Living is thrilled to partner with the Greater Northeast Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce to bring all of the Pennsylvania gubernatorial candidates to our WEL Pennypack Park retirement community and provide the residents and business owners of these great Northeast Philadelphia neighborhoods the opportunity to become incredibly familiar with the politicians who are vying to lead the Commonwealth,” said Dawn George, Vice President of Development and Government Relations at WEL. “The policies of the next governor will have a direct impact on the economic development and growth of this region and Northeast residents should be able to make an informed decision when they go to the primary polls on May 18. As a company that is committed to not only serving our senior adult residents, but to also benefitting the lives of the people in the neighborhoods where our communities reside, Wesley Enhanced Living hope’s that everyone takes advantage of this opportunity to become an integral part of the democratic process.”

Onorato will speak to the audience, take their questions and then will tour WEL Pennypack Park to meet the senior residents and view first-hand the significant renovation and modernization \$23 million project that is currently underway at the historic retirement community on Roosevelt Boulevard.

Onorato has been Allegheny County Executive since 2004 and is a former Pittsburgh City Councilman and Allegheny County Controller. He cites cleaning up Harrisburg, creating new 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs, strengthening the education system and investing in new energy solutions as his goals if he is to become Governor of the Commonwealth. Onorato and his wife Shelley reside in the Brighton Heights neighborhood of Pittsburgh with their children Kate (17), Emily (15) and Danny (12).

WEL is currently investing more than \$52 million in the Northeast Philadelphia through the renovation projects underway at WEL Pennypack Park and WEL Burholme- formerly known as WEL at Pilgrim Gardens. Both construction projects utilize organized labor. The projects are managed by the non-profit organization are aimed to improve the quality of life for low and middle-income seniors and families living in Northeast Philadelphia and will also bolster the local economy. Community improvements at WEL Pennypack Park include new personal care suites, completely renovated and updated 120-bed rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility, remodeled dining rooms, a bistro-style restaurant, entertainment center, meditation chapel, library, game room, fitness center and courtyard.

Onorato will be available for onsite press interviews and photographs. Questions about the ***Meet the Next Governor of Pennsylvania*** series and WEL Pennypack Park should be directed to Caroline Pennartz at 215-825-9644 / [cpennartz@levlane.com](mailto:cpennartz@levlane.com).

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#### **Wesley Enhanced Living**

Wesley Enhanced Living (WEL) continuing care retirement communities are non-profit and faith-based with a mission to deliver a purposeful life to residents. Serving over 1,000, with more than 600 employees throughout Pennsylvania, Wesley Enhanced Living in Doylestown, Hatboro, Pennypack Park, Burholme and Brodheadsville provide independent living, personal care, dementia care, and skilled nursing services. The organization also manages two HUD subsidized housing facilities for seniors, Meadow House and Manor Glen, in the Philadelphia region. Wesley Enhanced Living is headquartered in Southampton, Pennsylvania. For more information, call: 215.354.0565, or visit [www.wel.org](http://www.wel.org) or [www.facebook.com/wesleyenhancedliving](https://www.facebook.com/wesleyenhancedliving)

#### **Wesley Enhanced Living Foundation**

The Wesley Enhanced Living Foundation (WELF) seeks to advance the Wesley Enhanced Living continuing care retirement communities' vision and mission through philanthropy. Charitable gifts to the Foundation are directed to a variety of purposes: benevolent care for residents, community enrichment, innovation through technology, growth and expansion, capital improvements and endowment funds. [www.wel.org](http://www.wel.org)