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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Senior Citizens and Senior Students Meet Email Pen Pals**

*Wesley Enhanced Living residents have been communicating with senior high school students in the Earth Elders Project*

**Southampton, Pa., May 21, 2008** – Residents from Wesley Enhanced Living retirement communities will meet face-to-face for the first time with senior high school students from Hill Top Preparatory School in Bryn Mawr. The residents and students will meet today at Wesley Enhanced Living at Maple Village located in Hatboro.

Through out the school year, the senior residents and senior students have been participating in a program named the *Earth Elders Project* and communicating with each other via email about their life experiences. A national program, the *Earth Elders Project* encourages intergenerational dialogue to foster understanding and relationships between youth and senior citizens.

According to Wesley Enhanced Living President and CEO Jeff Petty, the program is a great example of the unique activities that are offered to Wesley Enhanced Living residents.

“At Wesley Enhanced Living, we are always looking to provide our residents with opportunities to participate in unique programs and develop new skills,” he said. “The *Earth Elders Project* has allowed residents from all of our communities to make new connections with a younger generation and improve their technology skills by using email to answer the students’ questions. The *Earth Elders Project* shows high school students that older generations are still very lively and they have a lot to teach us. We are

pleased that Hill Top Preparatory School chose Wesley Enhanced Living as their partner in this educational program.”

Hill Top Preparatory School, located in Bryn Mawr, private, co-educational college preparatory day school for students in grades six through 12 who have diagnosed learning disabilities. In September, each of the 12 senior students was paired with a resident from one of Wesley Enhanced Living’s four Philadelphia-region retirement communities.

Today, the residents and students will meet for the first time and talk about their experiences. Select students will give brief presentations about the project, and then the residents and students will share lunch together. Students will also be given a tour of Wesley Enhanced Living at Maple Village.

For more information about Wesley Enhanced Living, please visit [www.wel.org](http://www.wel.org).

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**Wesley Enhanced Living (WEL)**

Wesley Enhanced Living (WEL) continuing care retirement communities are non-profit, non-denominational living environments with a mission to deliver a purposeful life to residents. Serving over 1,000, with more than 600 employees throughout Pennsylvania, Wesley Enhanced Living communities at Heritage Towers, Maple Village, Pilgrim Gardens, Evangelical Manor and Chestnut Hill Manor provide various combinations of independent living, personal care services, 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).