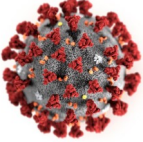


**President's Council: Lisa Dormire, VP for Mission Support**

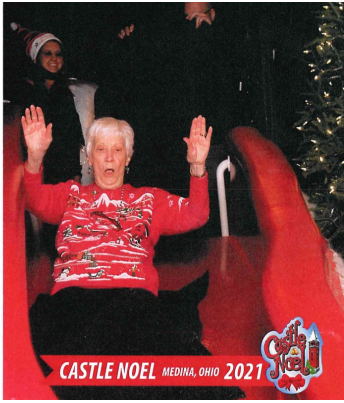
As December 31 approaches every year, often we find ourselves saying, "I am so ready for the new year. This year has been full of challenges and I'm ready to be done with it." Lots of us certainly felt that way about 2020, we couldn't wait for that year to be over. In hindsight, 2021 presented us with just as many -- perhaps even more -- challenges to face. I saw a "meme" the other day that said, "Nobody claim 2022 as 'your year'. We're all going to walk in real slow. Be good. Be quiet. Be cautious and respectful. Don't touch anything." While meant in fun, there's some truth to this isn't there? How will we approach 2022? We wonder what will come next. As we welcome the new year, let us try to focus on the good things and blessings that surround us. Our Redstone communities. Dedicated caregivers. Our families and friends. Laughter. Faith. No matter what 2022 brings our way, we'll still have all of these good things. We hope for brighter days ahead in 2022...but whatever comes our way, we'll face it together. There is grace and comfort in that. Happy New Year!

**COVID Corner**


The ever-changing nature about a pandemic can certainly be unsettling. Hospitals remain above capacity with shortages of staff, creating longer wait times for those needing to be seen. However, at Redstone, we are doing everything we can to protect our population against the threat of COVID. Your safety and health remain our #1 priority during these times. Vaccinations and boosters are an important weapon to stop the spread and keep everyone healthy. We know that unvaccinated individuals are contagious longer, even when they have no symptoms. If you have not yet been vaccinated or received a booster, please consult with your doctor and make arrangements to do so if you can. You may also speak with your campus director about opportunities to be vaccinated or boosted at Redstone. We are also adjusting our staff PPE as we navigate through the ebb and flow of rising cases. As we observe the holiday season, it is important to remember safe practices for keeping you and others healthy. Here are some helpful tips to prevent the spread of COVID: Wear your mask in public spaces or around those unvaccinated, wash/sanitize your hands frequently and thoroughly, practice 6 feet social distancing, be mindful of those with COVID symptoms and encourage them to visit when they are feeling well. There is a lot to be thankful for this season. Of the many things, safely navigating through a pandemic is one. Thank you for keeping others and yourself safe & healthy.

**Fundraising Event: Holiday Food Bank Collection**

We are extending collection for the Westmoreland County Food Bank through January 3rd. All donations will be collected in baskets at the campus gift shops or can be dropped off at the Housing Assistant's desks. Our spotlight item is **pasta & sauce**—a staple of Italy's amore! We are also asking for items like peanut butter, cereal, canned or pouched tuna, boxed meals (like Mac 'N Cheese or Hamburger Helper), chicken or salmon, and heavier soups or stews. **\*Items must be non-perishable, have original manufacturer's label and be free from obvious defect or contamination.\*** For convenience, you can purchase donations through the Greensburg gift store **for \$1** to be placed directly into the collection basket. We are also accepting monetary donations in lieu of food items, every ounce of kindness helps. Redstone is a large community of people. If each person within the Redstone family donates **ONE** item, we can make a significant impact in Westmoreland County this holiday season. Please contact Kim Darragh with any questions at Ext. 3378 or [kdarragh@redstone.org](mailto:kdarragh@redstone.org). Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

**Redstone Goes...Down the Slide!**


Sharon Scimio, Murrys ville resident, found a very creative way to ring in this holiday season. On December 9th, Sharon joined her Redstone Goes friends to visit Ohio for a wondrous Christmas display. On their voyage to visit The Christmas Story House, the group watched none other than..."The Christmas Story", of course! Next stop was Molly's Tea Room where Sharon described the food as *delicious* and the serving as *eclectic*; "You had your own tea pot, saucer, and cup. And they were all different!" Sharon had a bit of everything—the pretzel salad (made with nuts, she noted), a cheese sandwich, tuna sandwich, and chicken salad sandwich that were all cut into scrumptious hearts. She said it was so filling that they all ended up with containers for the ride home. Now, you're probably wondering why we mentioned the slide, right? During their stop at the Castle Noel, a destination that stores displays from famous Christmas movies, the group had the chance to glide down the slide from the Christmas Story movie! How scary was it? Sharon says, "Well, I debated about going down. Then, I thought, 'what the heck, I'm 87!'" And that's all Sharon needed to convince herself. Well, that and everyone over 80 got a free picture, which was an added bonus for Sharon to show all of her friends her bravery. She placed her feet within the burlap sack, took a deep breath, and yelled 'HO! HO! HO!' the whole way down. "I would have gone down again!" Sharon says. The trip was a very fun success, noting that they watched Elf on the way home. It was Sharon's first time seeing the classic holiday film and joked about how funny it was. Sharon has been to New York, Amish Country, and even on a mystery trip with Redstone Goes. If there's one thing Sharon would like you to know, it's how much fun they have traveling together and trying new things together.

**REDUCE. REUSE. RETHINK.**

In an effort to reduce single use waste products, Redstone has transitioned from the consumption of Styrofoam to its more environmentally conscious use of reusable cups. Employees and residents are encouraged to bring their own cup to fill **or** use a provided ceramic Redstone mug. Ceramic Redstone mugs can be found at each coffee station on all campuses. A courtesy 'dirty bin' is also available to place used mugs in for wash and reuse. If you have any mugs not being used, or that need cleaned, please return them to the bins at the coffee stations so that we may continue keeping our use of Styrofoam and single use products at a minimum. Plus you get to rock a Redstone Dove mug—who wouldn't love that?

**Fundraising Event: Snowball Fight!**

In the spirit of (hopefully) the first snowfall of the season, we will be having a Build a Snowman and Snowball Fight! This event will run from February 21st through February 25th. Snowballs are \$1 per entry and snowmen are \$5 per entry. All will be displayed on the campuses. You choose who you'd like to "hit" with your snowball and/or who you'd like to honor with a snowman and we will display them for you. It's a great way to show someone you appreciate them or honor someone AND donate to help residents in need. Purchase yours at the front desk in Greensburg, receptionist desk at North Huntingdon and Murrys ville or from Amber at Chapel Hill at ext. 3307. All proceeds go to Benevolent Care!



**Employee Spotlight! Summer Ricketts, 5 Star**

We love seeing members of our staff set and achieve their goals. Summer Ricketts always dreamed of helping others, and her dedication to education has allowed her to pursue a career doing it! Summer Ricketts graduated with her BSN on December 11, 2021 from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Summer started with us in 2015 as a weekend LPN in North Huntingdon and soon began to grow her goals to strengthen our team at Redstone. After Summer graduated with her LPN, she knew her next move would be to complete the BSN program. Summer has always held education as a pillar for her character, stating that her pride runs deep in being a role model for her kids, “The proudest moment of my college career was my children attending and watching me walk across the stage. My oldest son has been to two of my graduations now and I want them to know the importance of education.” That same feeling is mirrored onto Summer’s parents, being *her* true role models. She remembers her dad working extremely hard to provide anything they could need and her mom attending every school event, party, concert, and field trip while she was in school. Summer also reflects her moms selflessness and dedication to helping others in her work ethic. Her mother Marsha, CNA in Greensburg, has dedicated her career to taking care of others at Redstone for the past 15 years. For Summer, it wasn’t an easy journey working, attending classes, and being a mom simultaneously, but she was dedicated to her goals. “If you have a small thought of ‘should I do this?’ - DO IT!” says Summer, “You can do whatever you put your mind to no matter your age or situation. Is it hard? Yes. But, is it work it? Absolutely!” Summer would like to thank her fiancé, family, friends, and Redstone who have all supported her throughout her journey to her success. Summer is making an impact on both the healthcare industry and others’ lives. **Redstone is proud of you!**



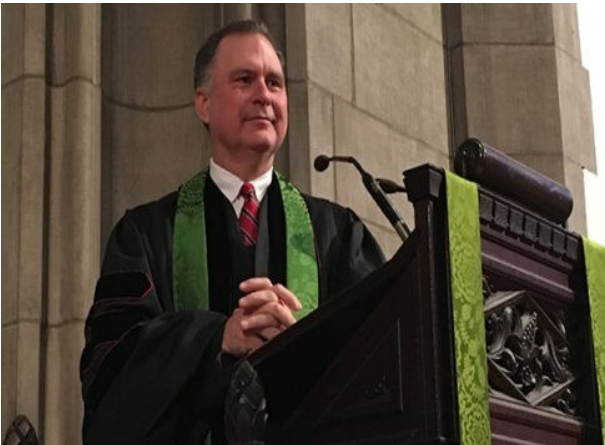
**Resident Spotlight! Joe Rusinko “Goghs’ to Pittsburgh**



If you don’t know about our Wishing Well Program, let us fill you in. Residents can be nominated to check off an item on their bucket list or to fulfill a dream of theirs. We have granted so many wishes since 2005 like ride in the sidecar of a motorcycle and even the completion of a GED test. Our most recent wish, granted to North Huntingdon’s Joe Rusinko, was a very unique experience. If you visit Joe’s apartment, you will see so many recreations of Van Gogh’s work done in puzzles. “At present I absolutely want to paint a starry sky,” says Joe, “It often seems to me that night is still more richly colored than the day; having hues of the most intense violets, blues and greens.” The essence of Van Gogh’s works live within Joe’s spirit! Kate Oden, Care Partner in North Huntingdon, nominated Joe for a visit at the Original Immersive Van Gogh Exhibit. This exhibit contains over 500,000 cubic feet of Vincent Van Gogh’s artwork that is projected in a 360 degree fully immersive interaction. One of Joe’s favorites parts of the exhibit was being completely submerged in Van Gogh quotes—it made him feel closer to the artist he so highly thinks of. Joe and Kate left a permanent mark on the exhibit by writing their names on gold tags and tying them to the Pittsburgh bridge, a true homage to Van Gogh’s use of golden hues in his works. If that isn't amazing enough, this exhibit has been seen by over 2 million people in Paris, and Joe was lucky enough to see it for himself right in Pittsburgh. For a huge fan of Van Gogh, this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Thank you to our Wishing Well Team and Kate Oden for making this happen for Joe. We hope that you had an amazing time and made unforgettable memories, Joe.

**Volunteer Spotlight! Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Ankrum may look like a familiar face around Redstone to a lot of us, volunteering his time at Redstone for just over twenty years. He began by preaching once a month on Thursday mornings, conducting daily worship services. During his time here, he also led chapel service once a month on the third Sunday. The first half of his decade was also spent as a member of the Board of Directors. Rev. Dr. Ankrum has a very close connection to our Redstone family, many of his church members being residents at Redstone. Rev. Dr. Ankrum says, “I have always found it very meaningful due primarily to the response of the residents who have been most supportive and appreciative of the time spent on the campus.” He has also served locally on the Greensburg Ministerium in past years as well as other committees and task forces within his denomination at different levels. When he isn't volunteering, his hobbies include reading and playing golf—”not that unusual for a minister!” he jokes. Rev. Dr. Ankrum leaves words of wisdom to other volunteers by saying, “Take the time to appreciate all those with whom you work at Redstone. I have lived in three different communities over my nearly forty years of ministry and I have found nothing to compare to the people, administration, and staff of Redstone...it is a unique place of caring and mutual concern.” Rev. Dr. Ankrum is the proud husband of Dr. Julie Ankrum, professor in the education department of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and proud father of Hadley Ankrum, graduate of Fordham University and current Master’s student in the Public Health School of Columbia University of NYC.



**Redstone Goes to Southern Shore | Wednesday, March 23, 2022—Monday, March 28, 2022**



Just the idea of this trip is warming us up from Winter! Although this trip is two years later than planned, we are more excited than ever for this springtime travel. Our journey will take us to the Southern cities of Charleston, SC and Savannah, GA. We will depart Redstone, traveling to Columbia, SC for our first night. On Thursday morning we will enjoy breakfast at the hotel and then make our way to Charleston, SC. Our bus will drop us in the historic central market area to enjoy lunch on your own and some shopping time. Mid-afternoon we will be back on the bus to be joined by a step-on guide who will give us a tour of this charming city. We will check in at our hotel for the night at Patriot’s Point across the river, and then return downtown for dinner at Hyman’s Seafood. Friday morning we’ll have breakfast at the hotel before heading to lovely Savannah, Georgia, staying right in the city. Our first stop will be right on the water to enjoy lunch at Paula Dean’s Creek House. On Saturday, a step on guide will meet us at 9 am for a city tour via our bus. The rest of the day is on your own to enjoy. We will walk as a group to our dinner at the River House Seafood Restaurant. On Sunday morning we will depart the hotel at 10 am. Our first stop will be lunch and a tour at the Charleston Tea Plantation, then we will drive the rest of the way to Mt. Airy, aka Mayberry, the real life home of Andy Griffith. Monday morning we will have some time to visit the Andy Griffith Museum and downtown Mt. Airy, with lunch on your own, before heading for home at 1 pm. Rest stops will be made en route and we anticipate an arrival of about 9 pm. For questions or interest, please contact Amber at (724) 832-8402 ext. 3370.