

The Window

President’s Council | Vicki Loucks, Vice President & COO

Did you hear the news? The federal Public Health Emergency related to Covid-19 is over as of May 11th. Covid is transitioning from being a pandemic to an endemic. Though an endemic is a constant presence in a community, it differs from a pandemic because the virus is somewhat contained and not spreading out of control and not stressing the healthcare infrastructure, therefore we can more easily prevent and treat it. But what does the end of this federal emergency mean for us? For those in need of nursing home care, one change is that the required 3-day hospital stay before admission to a nursing home will go back into effect. This waiver was put in place to help free up space in acute care hospitals. Now that hospitals are back to more normal capacity levels, this waiver has not been extended. We will also notice that home test kits for Covid will no longer be available for free. Covid vaccines and treatment will continue to be covered by Medicare/Medicaid services and most health insurers. Covid vaccines will continue to be required for those working in senior care facilities. Here at Redstone, employees will continue to screen using Workforce EQ, at least for now, to help maintain the safest environment possible for our residents. Regularly scheduled testing for Covid has ended, but when a team member or resident tests positive in a clinical level of care, the testing protocol must be followed, contact tracing still occurs, and masks are once again required during an outbreak. When a unit is not in outbreak status, team members and visitors are no longer required to wear masks. As always, we want to practice good common sense, including thorough handwashing and mask-wearing if you are feeling unwell. For elders and those with fragile immune systems, the wearing of masks when in a crowded or public space may remain desirable. After three long years it is good to see everyone’s smile, isn’t it? As Covid levels rise and fall, there may be changes to our policies and procedures as required by state and federal guidelines, and we will continue to communicate that information to you when we receive it.



Rocky Bleier’s Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs
May Charity of Choice

Purchase a \$5 American flag to honor a hero who served or is serving our country, starting Monday, May 8th. The flags will be displayed out front of each campus and names will be displayed on the honor boards in the main lobbies during Memorial Day weekend. The flags will be displayed beginning on Friday, May 26th. All proceeds support the Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, a Rocky Bleier Foundation providing service dogs to veterans in need. Please return all order forms to the Front Desk by **Monday, May 22nd**. Cash or check donations are accepted with checks made payable to “Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs.” Flags stand 2-feet tall by 1-foot wide. For questions or to place your order, contact Kim at (724) 832-8401 ext. 3378.



Resident Spotlight: Mary Ann Hazen

Each spring, we invite those who care about Redstone’s mission to support our “Garden of Love.” A white tree is placed on each campus and is soon full of symbols of spring. All gifts given from now until July 1, 2023 will be recognized on these trees. As a symbol of your gift, a spring-themed ornament will be placed on the tree in the Redstone community of your choice. Your gift will also be acknowledged on a signboard in the adjacent area. Gifts may be made in honor or in memory of someone special and we will be happy to notify someone of your gift if you wish. Gifts of financial support help us to provide Benevolent Care to elders who have depleted their financial resources, improve our facilities, provide scholarships to employees, extend hospice support to families and their loved ones, and so much more. Gifts, like flowers in the spring, provide so much hope. For more information or to make an online gift, visit http://weblink.donorperfect.com/GOL_2023 or scan the QR code.



Spring has sprung and so have all of our favorite activities like gardening, birdwatching, and biking! Mary Ann Hazen, Murrysville resident, has her own spin on biking as she enjoys warm days around campus on her adult tricycle. Before joining us at Redstone with her beloved cat Mitzi, Mary Ann lived in another retirement community where she began to regularly ride a tricycle, borrowed from the community, in the giant resident parking garage. Mary Ann thought it to be new and fun hobby to pick up. Enjoying it so much, she decided it was time to have her very own. She placed an order, but at the time they were very hard to come by. One day, Mary Ann’s son and daughter-in-law surprised her with her very own bright red Schwinn adult tricycle! Mary Ann was so excited to receive it, especially since she was secretly hoping to get one in bright red. Now, Mary Ann rides her tricycle in the back of Murrysville campus. Currently, she completes 12 laps. She starts at her garage, turns around in the loop at the back entrance and then makes a return to her starting point. Her goal is to eventually make it to 15 laps! Mary Ann’s tricycle is fully equipped with gadgets like a speedometer that even tracks her distance during rides and a device to keep count of how many laps she has completed. Mary Ann estimates that she has tracked thousands of miles since she picked up her new hobby. She prides herself on such an active life at 95 years old, close to turning 96 in July. If you see Mary Ann riding her tricycle outside, cheer her on!

COVID UPDATES

It is still highly encouraged to self-monitor symptoms related to Covid. Visitors who are exhibiting symptoms of Covid are encouraged to seek testing and delay visits until they are feeling well. **For more information or to keep current on Covid visitor status, please visit our website at www.redstone.org/news/coronavirus-visitors.**

Happy Retirement to Monica Massari, LPN!

Monica started at Redstone on May 7th, 2001...just a day after her birthday! For the past 22 years, Monica has contributed to exceptional care within our community. Monica says, “I will miss the residents. I met some really nice family members of the residents that I became close with. Most of all, I have been blessed with the best coworkers ever!” Monica’s favorite memories of her time at Redstone are the years that Tyler, the campus dog, sat under her desk and kept her company. Monica is looking forward to spending time with her family, especially her 88 year old mother, and traveling. Her dream is to take piano lessons and to learn Italian. Monica leaves us with the advice, “Live like you were dying, because you never know.” Congratulations on this exciting new chapter, Monica! We wish you many blessings and lots of joy.



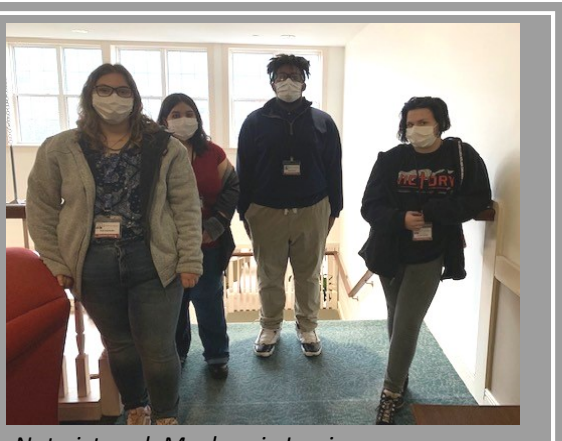


Meet Our Staff: Deanna Duffey

Congratulations to Deanna Duffey who is the first Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in Pennsylvania to become a Director of Nursing Assistants (DNA)! Deanna started with Redstone in March of 2018 as a full-time CNA in the Greensburg Skilled Nursing Facility. A year into her career, Deanna was asked to be a part of the Care Program and became a Coach for new hires. In the summer of 2022, Redstone partnered with the National Association of Health Care Assistants (NAHCA), a CNA-ran company, who supplied Preceptor training to replace the Coach position. When the open position for Director of Nursing Assistants became available, Deanna interviewed for the position. She has been filling the DNA role since December of 2022. Lori Porter, Co-founder and CEO of NAHCA, has become Deanna’s consultant in her new role and introduced Deanna to the Moving Forward Coalition in February of 2023. LeadingAge acts as the coalition’s convener. “Our mission is to make vital changes in policy and practices to make an empowering impact for our residents and for the people who work in nursing homes,” says, Deanna, “I hope the tools that we come up with in the next couple years will help empower our current CNA team and on-board and retain the future CNAs of Redstone.”

Bargain Basement

Join our online auction site to bid on gently used furniture and home goods! Bargain Basement is a location on all three campuses where donated furnishings are held on a temporary basis until they go up for bid on our user-friendly auction site. Just like eBay, items are bid on and then sold to the highest bidder. Money raised through Bargain Basement is used to support the HOPE Fund which benefits staff in times of crisis and emergency situations. To join, visit **one.bidpal.net/bb72122/welcome** or scan the QR code. A calendar of available auction dates are listed on the site!



Not pictured: Mackenzie Lewis

Meet Our Interns: Jaron Poole, Arwen Daniels, Kili Schmader, Nevaeh Laine-Taylor & Mackenzie Lewis

Since the middle of March, you may have seen five teenagers working on our Greensburg campus. We applied to and received a grant from WIB (Workforce Investment Board) Westmoreland and Fayette. This grant provided funding for the interns to be with us for a period of time. They are currently in the process of completing a 12 to 13 week internship program, exploring the opportunities of working in the healthcare field. You may have seen them as they have been serving as Unit Assistants, Maintenance Assistants and Activity Assistants. They learned more about the ins and outs of long-term care and helped team members, also building rapport with our residents. They will have the opportunity to further their experience by applying to different positions that are available. We wanted to thank them for their assistance throughout the last few months and wish them well on their future endeavors!

DOVE Employee Recognition Program at Redstone

The DOVE Recognition Program seeks to recognize the many wonderful things that employees do each and every day while serving our residents, their family members, friends of Redstone, and each other. Have you witnessed an employee going above and beyond while serving our residents, their families, or fellow staff members? Submit their name for DOVE Recognition. You can recognize employees by completing a card located at the DOVE cases at any of the campuses, by using the following link **https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPSDove**, or by scanning the QR code.



Walk a Mile in HER Shoes Results

Each year, we hold a walk on all of our campuses supporting Blackburn Center’s ‘Walk a Mile in HER Shoes’ as part of our Charities of Choice Program. We recruit the men of Redstone to catwalk in red high heels to raise proceeds to support Blackburn’s mission. New this year, we offered a Golden Heel Trophy for the walker who received the most donations in their name. The encouragement and support for our walkers and event was astounding. As a community, we managed to raise almost **\$3,000** in donations for the Blackburn Center! The winner of the Golden Heel Trophy was Ron Sekerka from our North Huntingdon campus who raised \$590 in donations. To watch the video montage of our walkers’ big day, visit our Facebook page (Redstone Highlands Communities) or **https://youtu.be/z3H9WHdN17g**. Thank you to everyone who participated in or supported this event and congratulations to Ron for this highly coveted award!



Parkinson’s Support Groups

Our groups are open to anyone in the Redstone community and to the general public who have been impacted by Parkinson’s Disease. We meet once a month in a safe space where people can speak their mind, compare notes with peers, and meet movement disorder experts who can help your quality of life while living with Parkinson’s. We hope you will join us for a sweet treat, fellowship, and support in your walk with Parkinson’s. If you have questions or would like more information on the groups, please contact Jessica Glesk at 412-874-6453.



North Huntingdon

Parkinson Support Group

Please RSVP by the Tuesday before the meeting to ensure seating. If you miss the deadline, still feel free to come!

Parkinson Support Group

2nd Wednesday of the Month
1:30pm to 3:00pm
Redstone Villas Clubhouse
772 Frontier Drive
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
Wednesday, May 10
Wednesday, June 14

Caregivers Support Group

3rd Wednesday of the Month
1:30pm to 3:00pm
Redstone
12921 Redstone Drive, Apt. 223
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
Wednesday, May 17
Wednesday, June 21

Murrysville

Parkinson Support Group

Please RSVP by the Wednesday before the meeting to ensure enough seating. If you miss the deadline, still feel free to come!

Parkinson Support Group

2nd Thursday of the Month
1:30pm to 3:00pm
Redstone, Arts & Crafts Room
4951 Cline Hollow Road
Murrysville, PA 15668
Thursday, May 11
Thursday, June 8

Caregivers Support Group

3rd Thursday of the Month
1:30pm to 3:00pm
Redstone, Arts & Crafts Room
4951 Cline Hollow Road
Murrysville, PA 15668
Thursday, May 18 - 2pm to 3:30pm
Thursday, June 15