

The Window

President’s Council | Lisa Dormire, VP for Mission Support

As we round the bend into August, we are already very focused on making this year’s Highlands Fling a success for Redstone. The Fall Ball and Bougie Bingo will be held on Saturday, October 21 at Stratigos Event Center in North Huntingdon. Why is the Fling important? This social fundraising event is very critical to us because it raises over \$100,000 annually to help support charitable care for residents in need. This provides a cornerstone for our fundraising efforts throughout the year. Just as important, however, the Fling provides us with an opportunity to build upon a movement that creates a strong positive identity for Redstone as a service provider in this region. We want people who come to the Fling not just to make a gift of financial support, but to walk away more engaged and committed to the work we do in caring for seniors. That’s the experience that we want to provide at the Fling, and that’s the experience that we hope you will participate in! The Fling is a celebration of Redstone, and a very special evening. Tickets for this year’s event are now on sale. A great dinner, wine, games, auctions, and bougie bingo will make for a fun and memorable evening. Residents, watch your mailbox for your invitation in the coming days! If you are unable to participate with your attendance, there are other ways you can support. You might want to consider making a monetary gift of support, participating in the 50/50 raffle leading up to the event, or even participate in the online raffles and auctions. We are also in need of donated items to help make the evening a great success: Art, jewelry, antiques, sports memorabilia, event tickets, restaurant gift cards, and more are all so very appreciated. To let us know you would like to make a donation, or to reserve your tickets, please call Alaina at 724-832-8401 Ex. 3307.

Humane Society of Westmoreland County: August Charity of Choice


It’s time for Redstone’s annual pet photo contest to raise money for the Humane Society of Westmoreland County! Submit photos of your pets (or even grand-pets) for the contest. There is a \$5 donation per pet photo entry. Photos need to be submitted to the front desk of your campus from August 1st—August 13th. Please include pet(s) name(s), their human’s name, campus, and contact phone number with your submission. Voting will take place August 16th—August 28th in campus gift shops. Voting ballots are \$1 each and there is no limit to voting. All proceeds will be donated to the Humane Society of Westmoreland County in honor of the winning pet on each campus! Donations can be cash or check, with checks made payable to “HSWC.” For questions, please contact Alaina at AlFisher@redstone.org or ext. 3307.


RedstoneGOES: Seeking Adventure

We've got exciting adventures lined up for the end of the 2023 travel season. Looking to take the stress out of planning a road trip? We organize all activities, food and hotels offered with our exciting one-day trips and overnight stays.

September 2023—Mystic, Mansions, and Mysterious
December 2023—Castles and Christmas
***NEW* September 2024**—Royal Caribbean’s Vision of the Seas Cruise

View our RedstoneGOES page at <https://redstone.org/giving/redstonegoes> or scan the QR code for a complete travel brochure and itinerary!






DOVE Employee Recognition Program at Redstone

The DOVE Recognition Program seeks to recognize the many wonderful things that employees in the Redstone Family do each and every day. 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.


5 Star Staffing Gains Licensure from DOH

We are pleased to announce that 5 Star Staffing has received formal licensure from the PA Department of Health to be registered as a temporary health care staffing agency!



COVID UPDATES

Seeing our residents visit with friends and family is an important aspect of life at Redstone, so we want to ensure that we are utilizing proper mitigation to keep our community safe and healthy. Visitors who have been exposed to or are exhibiting signs of COVID-19, the flu, or other communicable diseases are asked to postpone their visits until they are feeling well. Please review the visitor policies and guidelines prior to your visit, as they may be changed periodically to protect our community during an outbreak status. Visitors are also encouraged to practice good hand hygiene and sanitization. As always, we remain strong proponents for receiving vaccines and boosters when they are available. To learn more about our visitor guidelines, please visit our website at www.redstone.org. Thank you for helping to protect our community!





Resident Spotlight: Bonnie Mochan

For Murrys ville resident Bonnie Mochan, piano has always been an irresistible passion. Bonnie started in music as a violinist at age 7, encouraged by her mother to practice violin diligently. This eventually lead her to play in the orchestra and land a seat as a lead violinist, where she says she *really* learned music. After graduating from the eighth grade, Bonnie stopped playing violin in pursuit of her true passion for piano. She recollects a player piano her grandmother had in the house. She would sit at the piano as the music rolls turned, pretending that she was the one playing the song. Her mother, also a pianist, taught her the C scale which gave Bonnie the drive she needed to really start practicing substantial piano skills. Bonnie’s stepfather introduced a piano into the home, which she would find herself practicing on often. She even managed to make time for her piano while studying for both her Master's degree and Ph.D., saying it was her escape from some pretty intense study sessions. Bonnie took piano lessons, but her ability truly came from how much she loved music and practiced skills on her own. After suffering a stroke in 2018, Bonnie decided she needed an activity to exercise her brain. She decided she would return to taking piano lessons, joking that at the time she was her piano teacher’s oldest pupil. Bonnie currently practices once a week, after attending Sunday service. She dedicates up to three hours at a time of practicing musical scales and a few songs, with Opus 10 by Chopin being her favorite piece to recite. If you’re lucky, you may catch Bonnie with her keyboard headphones unplugged practicing her lifelong passion for piano!



Meet Our Staff:
Julie Smith

We welcome Julie Smith to our Redstone community! Julie joined Redstone as the Greensburg Chaplain & Employee Support Specialist in early July. Growing up in Erie County, she is a native Western Pennsylvanian. Julie received her BA from Thiel College and also a Ph.D. in History from Carnegie Mellon, which led her to teach at small colleges in South Dakota, North Carolina, and Mount Aloysius College in her home state of Pennsylvania. Eventually, Julie felt it was time to follow her call to ministry and attend the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. In 2018, Julie was ordained as a priest for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. The following year, Julie left teaching to be a hospice chaplain, preparing her for a role at Redstone! Julie says her call to ministry is a long story, but deeply seeded in getting lost in the Mojave Desert 14 years ago for 27 hours. “Going into the desert, I had attended church but was a bit of a skeptic, coming out I believed and needed to figure out what to do with that belief. I figured out God had a plan for me and all I needed to do was follow the next right step for me,” she says. In her new role at Redstone, she most looks forward to connecting with people and hearing their personal stories through her chaplaincy, in addition to seeking and learning local resources to help make connections for staff. When Julie isn't at Redstone, she loves to play rugby, garden, travel, and vacation at national parks to try and fill their national park passport.



Intern Spotlight:
Jackie Eckenrod

Jackie Eckenrod completes her internship at Redstone this August! Since June, Jackie has spent time at Redstone interning with the goal of completing her Master’s degree in Pastoral Counseling and Crisis Intervention from Liberty University. During her time with us, Jackie has shadowed the nurses, volunteer coordinator, social workers, and chaplains, and provided support for the patients by visiting and offering prayers and discussions about their lives in faith. Jackie was inspired to pursue this career path saying, “The world needs more helpers!” She says that the most meaningful use of her time has been listening to the stories residents tell about their lives. She chose Redstone as her place of internship saying, “Redstone has such beautiful facilities and I have found that their mission and workers are equally wonderful!” Outside of her educational journey, Jackie likes to play the saxophone, read, and write. Jackie’s words of advice would be to others, “Practice active listening. You can learn a lot about life by being present.” We wish you great luck in your future endeavors, Jackie!

Redstone Celebrity Pickleball Scoreboard

We took advantage of the summer weather, and our newly painted pickleball court at our Villas Clubhouse, by holding pickleball tournaments. The tournaments featured ‘celebrity’ faces of Redstone. None of the players have pickleball experience, but caught on pretty fast! Spectators were invited to sit courtside and cheer on the players as they took on their opponents.

June 23: John Dickson vs. Jessica Glesk
Final score (11—8)

June 26: Nina Toomey
Cancelled due to inclement weather

July 7: Pam Williams vs. Lisa Dormire
Final scores (11-8) and (11-6)

July 10: Pam Williams vs. Jim Miller
Final score (14-15)

July 31: Vicki Loucks
Cancelled



Robotic Dining Services Team Members

We would like to formally introduce the new robotic Dining Services team members in our Veranda dining rooms! Our dining robots will assist (not replace) our human staff to serve food, clear dishes from tables, and even sing a tune of Happy Birthday to residents on their special day! We held a vote on each of our campuses to name the three robotic staff members. Our residents have voted on Robbie (the Robot) at Greensburg, Oscar at Murrysville, and Rita (the Robot) at North Huntingdon. We had a blast naming our new team members!



Chef G Visits Greensburg Campus



You may recognize Greg Nemchick as one of Redstone’s awesome volunteers or as a present Redstone Board Member. Greg is also known as Chef G, a culinary artisan who recently brought his skills to the Greensburg campus. In July, Chef G presented a live cooking demo of Lomo Saltado, a rich cultural mixture of South American and Asian cuisine. Lomo, Spanish for loin, and Saltado, Spanish for stir-fry, is a recipe that Chef G happened upon completely by accident, but is now one of his signature dishes. Residents got to enjoy Chef G’s bountiful meal of beef tenderloin, peppers, and tomatoes served alongside a helping of steak fries and Spanish rice, an absolute hit with the crowd of resident taste testers. Chef G says, “As a chef, to watch people enjoy your work...there is no greater feeling than that.” His love for culinary can be traced back to age 5, cooking alongside his mother. He describes the tantalizing aromas emanating from the kitchen as a child. Although his career took a route in business, Chef G never lost his passion for food. He practiced his passion for cooking while preparing meals for friends who often told him that he ‘missed the boat on becoming a chef’. Eventually retiring from his executive career in 2017, Chef G took some time to enjoy his personal hobbies which definitely included cooking and preparing delicious spreads. When the pandemic hit, Chef G and his wife Dianne remained inside for 11 months. Looking at Dianne, he said, “When COVID is over, I’m going to school to become a chef.” He did exactly that. When WCCC opened doors back up to students, he enrolled at age 65. Nervous at first about the age gap between him and his younger fellow students, he soon found himself amongst those with the same great passion for food. He has been excelling ever since. Chef G is expected to graduate in May, at age 67, holding his Associate's degree...his first college degree ever! During his journey, Chef G received a scholarship from Yum-o!, a Rachel Ray organization. He plans to apply this scholarship to his next goal, which is to become a Certified Personal Chef. Chef G has no limit to his achievements. With a nickname like the ‘Emeril Lagasse of Westmoreland County’, we couldn’t be more proud to have him in our community!

