

The Window

President’s Council | John R. Dickson, President & CEO

As you may have noticed in recent articles in the Tribune Review, these are challenging days for senior care organizations in our area, and all around the country. Rising costs for providing care and services, rapidly increasing wage requirements, workforce shortages, and concerns about resident care are presenting devastating challenges for many care providers. While we have faced many challenges at Redstone, too, we are grateful for our dedicated team members, generous supporters, and experienced leaders who are helping us to weather these storms. We are also grateful for the connections that provide us with additional support and strength. Redstone is connected with LeadingAge, both at the national level and here in PA, a consortium of seniorcare providers. LeadingAge keeps us informed of best practices, changes in regulations and policies, provides education, and advocates politically for policy change and funding. LeadingAge elevates the richness that seniors bring to our lives and communities and celebrates the spirit of elders. Redstone is thrilled to be hosting a travelling art exhibit that is being sponsored by LeadingAge PA. We hope that you will have an opportunity to stop by the North Huntingdon campus to enjoy the exhibit. Redstone is also an active participant in the Faith Affiliate Insurance Program (FAIP). This insurance captive brings together seniorcare operators to help set a higher standard of care. Collaborating with 14 facilities throughout Pennsylvania allows Redstone to apply lessons learned to improving our policies and procedures for our residents and employees, helping to create the safest environment possible for all. In the fall skies, we often see groups of geese flying in formation and migrating south. The journey is safer and easier when they work together. We’re grateful for the connections that we have at Redstone that allow us to move forward purposefully, even in the midst of challenging times!

Westmoreland Food Bank Food Drive at Redstone!

We are collecting donations for the Westmoreland County Food Bank for our November Charity of Choice. Our theme this year is ‘ThankFULL Meals’ in hope that we can fill tables in Westmoreland County with holiday meals as we collect canned goods and non-perishable food items! Donations can be dropped off at the front reception desk on your campus from November 6th—November 19th. The food bank is able to maximize donated dollars through buying in bulk in order to feed more people in Westmoreland County, so monetary donations may also be given (in lieu of food items) as cash or checks made payable to ‘Westmoreland Food Bank’.

Items must be non-perishable, have original manufacturer’s label and be free from obvious defect or contamination. *Please check the expiration date on items.*

The campus who collects the most donations wins the first annual Golden Can Award!

Donation Ideas:

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| • Boxed Stuffing | • Canned Vegetables | • Beans (canned or dried) |
| • Canned Gravy | • Cake/Brownie Mix | • Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes |
| • Canned Cranberry Sauce | • Boxed Biscuit/Cornbread Mix | • Boxed Rice |
| • Canned Sweet Potatoes/Yams | • Canned Stews/Soups | • Broths/Stock |



Resident Spotlight: Wash Gjebre

Wash Gjebre, Greensburg resident, has a fascinating and fulfilling history in journalism. Journalism came to Wash on a whim around the end of high school, thinking it would make for an interesting career path and future. Wash graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a BA in Journalism in 1952. He landed his first reporting gig at a local newspaper in Homestead called the Daily Messenger. There, Wash would cover general reporting which was just about anything interesting, including a lot of feature writing. “It was all about the beat,” says Wash. He also had his own column called *The Monday’s Wash*, covering the day’s activities and light-hearted stories. After working there for a few years, Wash moved on to his reporting role at the Tribune Review. Among his reporting, he had a column called *I Was Just Thinking*. Wash also had a compelling and rare reporting milestone in his career while at the Trib. He interviewed one of the 706 survivors of the Titanic right in Greensburg! “A reporter covers all kinds of disasters...but nothing like the Titanic,” Wash says about the feeling of the interview. Wash left the Trib and moved on to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette where, among many things, he reported on the beat of city crimes, police and was in charge of covering the Westmoreland Bureau. “The Post Gazette was quite an accomplishment”, says Wash referring to it as a big city paper. He retired from there after 20 years. Wash also notes that he was at one time an editor of the Squirrel Hill News and also of the Forrest Hills News, both local papers. Out of his entire career, Wash prides himself on always being fair in his reporting in addition to the connections he would make with judges, politicians, representatives of Congress, and local authorities. Dorothy, his loving wife of 71 years, and Wash are active members of the United Church of Christ in Greensburg and outstanding members of the community!

Tidings of Comfort and Joy— 2023 Love Trees

With your support, we can continue Redstone's wonderful tradition of placing a Love Tree in a public area on each campus during the holiday season. Every ornament on our trees reflects a gift of support for Benevolent Care for residents in need of financial assistance, Area of Greatest Need, Hospice Care, the HOPE program, and Dementia Support. The following ornaments are available by donation for the trees: \$10-49 Snowflake, \$50-99 Heart, \$100-249 Star, \$250-499 Dove, \$500 and up Angel. With your gift, you may choose to dedicate your ornament in memory or in honor of someone special to you: a parent, grandparent, spouse, child, caregiver, or resident. You may also choose the community in which you want your ornament to be displayed. Gifts received on or before December 31st will be displayed on the tree. Residents may return their gift and completed form to their Housing Assistant using the return envelope provided—look for these items in your mailboxes this month!



Staff Appreciation Drive

It is a holiday tradition for residents at Redstone to say ‘thank you’ to staff once a year through our Staff Appreciation Drive. Since employees are not permitted to accept gratuities, this is the only time throughout the year that we are able to express our gratitude in the form of a monetary gift. All donations must be received by **Thursday, November 30th** to be included in this year’s gift giving. All checks must be made payable to **Redstone Residents Staff Appreciation Group or R.R.S.A.G.** since the money is not given through Redstone Highlands but rather from an account established by Resident Council. Place your gift in the envelope provided and return it to the Housing Assistant on your campus during normal office hours. Please write your name on the outside of the envelope before giving it to the Housing Assistant.



Meet Our Staff: Justin Anderson

Justin Anderson joined Redstone’s Mission Support team in August of 2023 as an Administrative Assistant. Some of Justin's duties include taking reservations for RedstoneGOES trips, assisting in fundraising efforts, updating and maintaining our databases, and offering administrative assistance to Mission Support. Justin attended Seton Hill University to study commercial music, where guitar was his major instrument. When he isn’t at Redstone, Justin is assisting Charter Oak Church as the Worship Arts Technologies Manager. Justin runs the audio, video presentation, and livestream setups. Depending on the week, Justin is the Audio Engineer for Front Of House (in-service), Livestream Camera Operator, Front Of House Video Presenter, or Livestream Audio Mixer. He also occasionally plays bass guitar on the Worship Team, which he loves. If you have questions about making a donation or would like to sign up for a trip, Justin can be reached at jusanderson@redstone.org or at (724) 832-8401 ext. 3378.



Meet Our Volunteer: Dee Malone

Dee Malone, Murrys ville resident, has been a volunteer in our community for the past nine months. Dee volunteers as a mentor at the Murrys ville campus as well as assists with Sunday Protestant services. Dee’s welcoming mentor was so involved that it inspired her to be involved in the same capacity. She loves it! Dee enjoys getting to know others in the community by spending time with them. Being a mentor is the perfect fit for her. Dee says, “It is rewarding to be able to help others. Volunteering is being here to help.” Dee is part of the spiritual committee and plays the organ for Sunday services. She also assists with helping plan dinner outings on Thursday and is on the Murrys ville campus Resident Council. She says, “People here are fantastic.” Dee was married for 72 years and has two daughters, nine grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren. Dee loves spending time with her family, crocheting, and playing the piano and organ outside of her volunteer work!

**Redstone and LeadingAge PA
Present an Art Exhibit in November**

Redstone is honored to be hosting a traveling art exhibit, sponsored by LeadingAge PA. The exhibit features the work of artists who reside on LeadingAge PA senior living communities from across the state. Sunday's opening reception will include light refreshments and an opportunity to meet some of the artists. The exhibit will be open in the Clubhouse for viewing through November 27—November 30 from 12 pm to 7 pm daily. The exhibit celebrates the impact that art has on creativity and community. All are welcome to enjoy this incredible exhibit!

Opening Reception at our Villas Clubhouse
Sunday, November 26th from 3 pm to 5 pm
772 Frontier Drive North Huntingdon, PA 15642
Free and open to the public

Holiday Light Up Nights

‘Tis the season for campus light up nights! Residents are encouraged join us on the dates below for a festive celebration of the upcoming holidays. Pictures with Santa are also available at the events! Keep an eye out for flyers on your campus for more details.



Murrysville—November 30th @ 6:30p, Chapel
Greensburg—December 4th @ 6:30p, Chapel
North Huntingdon—December 5th @ 6:30p, Chapel



Resident Fling 50/50 & Bougie Bingo Wrap-Up

Saturday, October 21st was a spectacular fall evening to celebrate the 2023 Highlands Fling! We have uploaded pictures to our Facebook page from the evening to show you just how much fun we had. We couldn’t have done it without you—the residents— though! Our campus Bougie Bingo events and campus 50/50 raffle sale contributed greatly to proceeds raised for the Fling. In total, our campus bingo events raised \$431.00 and our campus 50/50 sale collected \$507.00 in proceeds for Benevolent Care—wow! The winner of the 50/50 raffle was an attendee from the Fling. We are still wrapping up totals for the event. Stay tuned!



In loving memory of Kazuko 'Kaz' Werner

*.....
“In the hearts of those who loved you,
you will always be there.”*



DOVE

You can recognize employees by completing a card located at the DOVE cases at any of the campuses, by using the following link www.surveymonkey.com/r/RPSDove, or scanning the QR code.



Congratulations to Kate Oden, Care Partner on our North Huntingdon campus, for welcoming Atlas James Oden to the world on August 29th, 2023 at 8lbs 7oz!



Second Chance Raffle

Although we have wrapped up the Fling, festivities still continue. We are running a Second Chance Raffle for select items from the Fling! Each item has a limited number of tickets. When ALL of the tickets are sold from an individual item, we will have the site randomly pull a winner for the item. **All tickets must be sold for an item before we draw for a winner.** See an item you really love? Buy all the tickets available to be the winner! We also have some cute fall party supplies for sale for those planning a wedding or other fun fall festivities! Feel free to share the link with family and friends, everyone is welcome to join. You can visit <http://bidpal.net/fallball23> to buy tickets for items now. Remember, all proceeds go to benefit Benevolent Care, helping seniors in need at Redstone. So, even if you don’t win, you are still part of a really great mission. Good Luck!



Dementia Friends at Redstone

We had a successful informational session of Dementia Friends on Friday, October 20th! We had 20 residents and two staff attend to learn more about how to improve the lives of those around us living with dementia. Deb Nicolosi, Dementia Care Coordinator and Dementia Friends Champion, leads the group information sessions. The next meeting will be held in the chapel on the North Huntingdon campus on November 14th at 1 pm. If you are interested in becoming a Dementia Friend, learning more about the sessions, or to RSVP, please contact Deb Nicolosi at dnicolosi@redstone.org or 724-832-8401 ext. 3398.