Redstone Highlands December 2023

## The Window

## President's Council | Lisa Dormire, VP of Mission Support

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be gathering groups of employees to talk about some of the challenges that we face at Redstone. Aging services organizations are facing significant struggles with rapidly increasing expenses, critical workforce shortages, and flat or decreasing reimbursements. We believe it's important for everyone to understand the current challenges facing us as we work to find solutions. Employees are encouraged to participate in one of the focus groups to better understand these difficulties and offer their ideas and thoughts on how to address them. A schedule is available on stall notes. We are grateful to be part of the Redstone "family" that comes together to celebrate the good times and address challenges with imagination and hopefulness. We have a great team coming together to address these concerns! The holidays are a time for families to come together to celebrate all of our blessings, while also supporting each other. We're grateful for the Redstone "family" that connects us all in so many ways. Merry Christmas to you and yours!

## **2023 Holiday Love Trees**

Help trim our trees and fill resident hearts! With your support, we can continue Redstone's wonderful tradition of placing a Love Tree in a public area on each campus. Every ornament on these trees reflects a gift of support for Benevolent Care, Area of Greatest Need, Hospice Care, the Employee HOPE Program, or Dementia Care Programs. 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 special friend. 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 trees and adjacent honor boards. Residents may return their gift and completed form using the enclosed envelope to their Housing Assistant. Online gifts can be made by scanning the QR code or visiting https://redstone.org/make-a-donation. Happy holidays!



Congratulations to our Vice President & COO, Vicki Loucks. Vicki is a City & State 2023 Pennsylvania Impact recipient! Pennsylvania IMPACT honorees are celebrated for improving the lives of Pennsylvanians through their community service, volunteerism, diversity initiatives, advocacy efforts, and innovation. Vicki has also celebrated her 30th year at Redstone this past August. Congratulations on your award and thank you for your years of service at Redstone, Vicki!



## **Attention Adventure Seekers:**

Get out your calendars and start marking dates for the 2024 RedstoneGOES Trips & Tours 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. View our RedstoneGOES page at https://redstone.org/giving/redstonegoes for a complete travel brochure and itinerary!

**February**—Galentine's Day **March**—Ohio Land Cruise **April**—Springtime in the Smokies **June**—Horseshoe Curve, Altoona August—To be announced
September—Vision of the Seas Cruise
October—Magnificent Michigan
December—Ohio Christmas Trip



For detailed information on each trip, or to sign up, please visit www.redstone.org/giving/redstonegoes or call (724) 832-8401 ext. 3378.

## **Greensburg Gift Shop**

Our Greensburg gift shop is now new and improved! If you haven't yet been able to stop in and see the new look of our Greensburg gift shop...come take a visit. We have new and exciting happenings like Miller Coffee Roasters selling 'J'-Cups in a variety of tantalizing roasts and flavors in addition to gift bags and coffee bars to make a perfect holiday gift! We also began our 'Bakery Days' on Wednesdays featuring delicious and locally made bakery items (while supplies last). Currently, these specialties are only in our Greensburg gift shop, but will hopefully be offered in Murrysville and North Huntingdon in the near future. Our Greensburg gift shop is open 10-3 from Monday through Friday. We are always looking for volunteers, both internally and externally, of all ages (15-115!) to be able to extend both hours and days in our gift shops. If you, a family member, or friend are interested please contact Kim Darragh at (724) 787-2927 for more information.



Resident Spotlight: Helen Colclaser

The holiday season is all about the spirit of giving! For Helen Colclaser, Greensburg resident, giving back to her community has always been fundamental to her life story. Helen was a librarian at the Delmont Library for years. During her time there, Helen would organize classes and small events for members of the community to attend. Aside from her public service as a librarian, Helen has spent the last several decades crocheting hats to donate to the Salvation Army who gives warm winter coats to children in need. One day while at the library, someone had suggested to Helen that it would be a nice idea that the children receiving coats could also receive a cozy winter hat. Helen, along with a few other friends, then began crocheting hats for many seasons to come. Helen says one year she managed to make up to 38 hats to donate. Helen estimates making at least a couple hundred hats over her years involved. She says it makes her feel really good to be part of such a meaningful project. Helen has also been a part of the United Way Committee, a local Girl Scout Leader, and rang hand bells at two different churches. "I lived in the community and there are things that needed to be done," Helen says on the foundation of her work. Her best advice to everyone is to 'make other people happy'!

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We welcome Alex Malandra to our Redstone community! Alex started at Redstone in July of 2023 as the Veranda Lifestyle Coordinator on the North Huntingdon campus. Alex coordinates activities like trips, games, entertainment and other fun things



that our wonderful residents get to enjoy. Her favorite activity is trivia because she finds it fun to see how much everyone knows. Alex's favorite part of her job is getting to interact and make connections with residents in addition to making them smile! What makes Alex smile is when she sees how the residents help each other out and take care of each other everyday. Alex's favorite memory at Redstone so far would have to be her first day at the campus when everyone welcomed her with open arms. Alex describes herself as silly and crafty and can even speak Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese. Alex says, "I was very fortunate to have grandmothers and great aunts growing up that knew all different languages and were happy to teach me." Alex is always happy when she meets someone and is able to speak any of the

Meet Our Staff: Alex Malandra

languages with them. Outside of work, Alex enjoys crafting and spending time with her family. We're excited to see all of the fun activities Alex plans for North Huntingdon!



Rebecca has been volunteering at Redstone since August of 2023. Rebecca speaks on her motivation by saying, "I have always had a soft spot for seniors and the beauty that they hold so tenderly. Further, I wanted to experience working with them through the art-making process of self-expression." She says that Redstone was the best fit to pursue the opportunity to apply her understanding of art facilitating with seniors. "By this, I have a deeper understanding of this population's ability to express themselves through art and the space it provides to meet each individual where they are mentally and physically," she says. Outside of Redstone, Rebecca volunteers at 4 The City Church as a Sunday school teacher. She also enjoys creating mix media art, hiking, biking, and will be finishing up her senior year at Seton Hill in the Art Therapy Program. Good luck, Rebecca!

Meet Our Volunteer: Rebecca Tice

# 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 while serving our community. 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 scanning the QR code.

#### **K4 Connect**

we are excited to announce a system that will enhance our resident community engagement and streamline communication for residents and their family members. Over the next few months, we will transition from our CATIE system to K4 Connect. This system will make it easier for loved ones to keep updated on their resident, featuring a new friends and family mobile app. Our staff is currently being trained on the new system as well as the replacement of our check-in system to ensure resident safety and well-being within our Veranda living areas. We will continue to update our community and their loved ones on this transition. We are excited to introduce this technology to our community and anticipate great success!

## **Food Bank Wrap-Up**

In November, the Redstone community held a food drive to support the Westmoreland Food Bank in the effort to end hunger in Westmoreland County. In total, we collected \$1,160.00 in monetary donations in addition to 225 pounds of food! The campus who collected the most in donations received the first annual Golden Can Award. Congratulations



to Murrysville campus who collected \$437.00 and 79 items. Thank you to our entire community for assisting us in this charitable cause!

Pictured left: Amanda Wagner, MV Housing Assistant with the first annual Golden Can Award!



## **Great Place to Work**

We are excited and proud to announce Redstone Presbyterian SeniorCare is a Great Place to Work Certified™ Organization! Thanks to all of our Employees. This prestigious certification is based entirely on what was said about employee work experience at Redstone.





## **Holiday Chapel Events**

Join us on the dates listed below for holiday chapel services & events! More events can be found on your campus activity calendars.

#### Greensburg:

Christmas Eve Service—Sunday, December 24 @ 2:30p New Year's Eve Service—Sunday, December 31 @ 2:30p

### Murrysville:

Christmas Eve Service— Sunday, December 24 @ 2:30p

#### North Huntingdon:

Christmas Caroling—Monday, December 12 @ 7:00p Christmas Eve Service—Sunday, December 24 @ 2:30p

## **Stay Connected With Us!**

Do you love Redstone and want to see more? We share pictures, updates, events and more with the Redstone Community through our social media pages! Give us a like and follow to enjoy more Redstone content.





