

## The Window

### Presidents Council— Lisa Dormire, VP of Mission Support

Most of us have not been able to find much to be joyful about in the long cold spell of winter that we have just come through. In the midst of the cold, our hearts were very warmed when we had an opportunity to make a resident's wish come true. During a visit with 93 year old Hope Forbes back in the fall, she mentioned that she misses sled riding and would love to go sled riding if the opportunity arose. Fortunately the weather cooperated with her wish, and on a slightly less cold day our Lifestyle Team and members of the Wishing Well Committee came together to make Hope's wish come true. The team assisted in transferring her to a safe double snow tube designed for adults, and then, using a rope, dragged the tube up to the top of a gentle hill adjacent to the Greensburg campus. Due to the deep powdery snow it was hard to get the tube to slide on its own, but undeterred, Redstone team members took turns dragging Hope in the tube down the hill. Squeals of delight echoed off the buildings, coming from Hope and the team members who made the experience possible. Through Redstone's Wishing Well Program, employees love to make residents wishes come true when such opportunities arise. While a trip to Paris isn't in the budget, past experiences have included a visit to a nail salon, a visit to the zoo, and now....sled riding. If you have a wish, or know of a resident who has a wish, reach out to any Lifestyle Team member and ask them about the Wishing Well Program. In March, a donation jar will be located on each campus where donors will be able to throw change (or dollars or checks!) to help make future wishes come true. Thank you to Hope for having a wish that brought the team together for such a fun day!



### Redstone Celebrates Nina Toomey's 10-Year Milestone

Nina Toomey remembers accompanying her grandmother to the beauty shop and enjoying the lively conversation among those gathered for a fresh 'do'. "I was always with her, and no matter what we did, it was so wonderful just to be with her. I get that same satisfaction here at Redstone," says Nina who is marking her 10-year service anniversary. Named Executive Director of the North Huntingdon and Murrysville campuses in 2025, Nina has been part of the Redstone family since joining the casual nursing pool in 2016, while also working in a Norwin medical outpatient setting as a registered nurse. The tuition assistance offered by Redstone has helped Nina build a healthcare career, as she earned her personal care home administrator's license in 2020 and completed her bachelor's degree in nursing through Carlow University in 2023. With each employment milestone, Nina accepted greater responsibility for the day-to-day operations at North Huntingdon and then Murrysville, with a focus on regulatory compliance and survey readiness. Nina appreciates the opportunity to mentor other staff through training and hands-on support. "I see myself helping to provide the path for individual and team success," she says. But Nina also looks forward to every interaction with campus residents. "I love caring for people, and it gives me great satisfaction to advocate for them." Nina's grandmother would be proud.



### Faith, Friendship, and Finding Home at Redstone

A common faith brought Ardi and Bill Hill together, and a common need brought the couple to Redstone. While rapidly declining health after a hospitalization in 2024 meant Bill didn't get to enjoy the benefits of older adult living in a continuing care community, his spouse of 34 years is grateful for Redstone's skilled care support in his final days and her welcome into independent living. Ardi calls their decision to come to Redstone two years ago a "holy nudge." She's had many of those over her 83 years, which is what led her to a career at Kennametal, where she spent 42 years, first in a clerical role and later as a technical services librarian, having enrolled in classes at the University of Pittsburgh to learn research methods and information literacy. "I loved this service position, doing research and hunting for answers," she said. Another "ah ha" moment came when she heeded a call to ministry, becoming a licensed local pastor in the United Methodist Church. "I knew I couldn't do it all," Ardi admitted. "So I left the corporate world. My strong faith was pointing me a new direction." Ardi's mother had benefited from the services of Redstone in the late 1980s, and Ardi visited Redstone frequently after becoming clergy offering spiritual care to members of her own congregations and other residents attending chapel services. "I knew what a gem Redstone is and always felt welcome. It matters to me that Redstone is a faith-based care community and it was so easy to make the decision to move here at this stage of my life," she explained. "I still have my car and the freedom to come and go as I please, and if I don't want to drive, Redstone provides transportation, so I can enjoy nighttime activities like a dinner out or the symphony or longer distance trips." Ardi also has found companionship and friendship among her Redstone peers, so she need never travel alone. "When you are used to doing things with a spouse or family member, it can be quite an adjustment to be on your own," she admitted. "I have strengthened longtime relationships with people I knew before coming here, and made new friends. I can be by myself if I choose, or socialize with someone different at mealtimes or activities. I love to cook and entertain, and coming to the dining room and being with others is so fulfilling. It's just like living in a neighborhood." Now retired from her pastoral work, Ardi affiliated with Latrobe Presbyterian Church and occasionally helps with chapel services or gathers a group in prayer. "It's not trite to acknowledge that people need other people in their lives and that is especially true as we age. There is no place I'd rather be. This is who I am, and Redstone is where I belong."



**Redstone’s Greensburg Campus Welcomes Executive Director Sheryl Byerly**

“It’s great to be home,” is how Sheryl Byerly, NHA/PCHA, describes her return to Redstone as Executive Director of the Greensburg campus. Sheryl had left Redstone in 2022 after 17 years of service to pursue an opportunity with Affinity Healthcare as a regional director. While she gained new experience in that role that will benefit Redstone, the travel was tiring and the culture was a stark contrast to what she knew and valued. “There really is no place like home,” said Sheryl, as she talked about her admiration for Redstone’s continuing care model and the sense of belonging she missed during her time away. “I really missed the interaction with residents on a daily basis. That brings me such joy. It was a no brainer to return.” As Redstone embarks on the next phase of its master plan, Sheryl will bring a wealth of knowledge of what has made the organization so highly regarded to those discussions. Coming to Redstone in 2005 as food service manager of the Murrysville campus, Sheryl had studied dietetics in college but wasn’t interested in becoming a dietitian, preferring the operational side that focused on quality control. She pursued her nursing home administrator degree and license as a personal care home administrator, both of which contributed to her career advancement at Redstone. But she wanted to explore other options. During the four years she was away from Redstone, Sheryl observed first-hand the wide disparities that exist within this segment of healthcare. “Redstone is so different,” reports Sheryl. “The commitment to Benevolent Care, the dedication to fund-raising to assure resources will be there, the model of personal care with nurses as part of the team, not just on-site. You don’t see that elsewhere.” The married mother of two grown children, Sheryl also appreciates that she lives within 5 minutes of the Greensburg campus, rather than in her car traversing the state. “Being accessible to staff and residents is important to me, and I’m really glad you can come home again.”



**A Bridge to Nursing Careers**

Bed, bath and beyond is more than the name of a retail outlet -- it’s also an apropos description of what the inaugural class of students enrolled in Westmoreland County Community College’s new practical nursing program will be experiencing during its first rotation with Redstone Skilled Nursing. For five Wednesdays starting February 4, the 11 students ranging in age from 19 to 60, will be developing their skills as they conduct head to toe assessments, check vitals. assist with personal hygiene and engage in conversation with residents and Redstone staff to enhance interprofessional communication. Hailing from Westmoreland, Fayette and Allegheny counties, the students also come from varied backgrounds. For some, this will be their first foray into healthcare having previously worked in retail. For others, prior experience as either a technical partner at a hospital or a certified nurse aide in long-term care served as the springboard for enrollment. A few have chosen a shorter nursing education track. And one of the two men in the program is part of the monastic community at Saint Vincent Archabbey and is looking to serve his infirm brethren. These same students will return to Redstone in late fall as they near graduation from the one-year program and their licensure exam. By then they will have participated in hospital and medical office rotations alongside a number of medical professionals, and be closer to settling into a career – hopefully with Redstone where they also can continue their education with tuition assistance should they desire. Summer Ricketts, BSN, RN, PCHA, Redstone’s Assistant Nursing Home Administrator, speaks enthusiastically about the possibilities, recalling how she began her career as an LPN, and later completed her bachelor’s degree in nursing. She’s also eager to orient Redstone staff who will be working closely with course instructors accompanying students to encourage success within the Redstone community. “We want our nursing team to think back to when they were students and how they benefited from mentorship. It’s an opportunity to provide encouragement and support along with hands-on learning,” Summer explained. “Given the ongoing relationship with Seton Hill University’s nursing program, our team is already used to having students present, and acting as advocates with our patients to invite them into their care routine.” Sue W. Snyder, MSN, RN, Director of WCCC’s Practical Nursing Program, is also excited about the opportunities to fast track continuing education. “Students who complete this program and state licensure are automatically eligible for the last two semesters of the RN program, if that is their goal. We built the program to be a bridge, both to education and employment. Everybody wins.”



**Puzzle Pit Stop:**

Start at **1** and follow the numbers in order to **30**. Trace the path with your pencil. Numbers will only go left to right, never diagonal!

5	1	1	2	3	6	7	6	8
3	2	4	6	4	5	8	7	4
8	4	15	14	13	8	9	14	12
9	14	16	14	12	11	10	11	13
12	15	17	18	19	18	11	12	14
14	16	18	17	20	21	22	23	24
15	28	19	30	29	28	27	26	25
24	29	30	20	28	27	26	25	29

Please join us as we kick off our newest social club  
**COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS**

Each week, we’ll gather over a warm cup of coffee (or tea) to connect, share stories, and enjoy meaningful discussions on a variety of topics, including life experiences, wellness, hobbies, traditions—and plenty of laughter.

**Every Monday at 9:30am**  
**All 3 Redstone Locations!**



Call for further details

6 Garden Center Drive, Greensburg: (724) 972-4574  
 12921 Redstone Drive, North Huntingdon: (724) 216-0935  
 4951 Cline Hollow Road, Murrysville: (724) 216-0936

**Come for coffee, stay for the connections!**