WESBURY WINDOW

Fall 2024
Volume 29 · Issue 3

Joining the Waitlist Creates the Perfect Opportunity

l. to r.: Sarah and Wesbury Life Enrichment Coordinator Danielle Hiles releasing butterflies in the rose garden.

"When is it the right time to move?", and "How do I know I've made the right decision?" are familiar questions asked when prospects or their loved ones inquire about living at Wesbury. For Sarah Schwegler it was Wesbury's continuum of care, and reputation that made Sarah and her husband, Herb, want to move here, and they started planning early.

The Schwegler's were no strangers to Wesbury. As members of Sugarcreek Grace Church, they've supported Wesbury over the last 50 years by raising funds for Santa's Helpers and hosting monthly birthday parties, but Sarah wanted to learn more.

In the Fall of 2018, they made reservations to attend a musical event followed by a tour of the campus to understand what services Wesbury provides. During the tour they discovered they could join the waitlist, even if they were looking to move years down the road.

After some follow-up appointments, they completed the paperwork and joined the Independent Living waitlist in 2019 to have a future plan in place. They lived in their home for over 50 years, and knew one day that the home maintenance, lawn care, and basement laundry room would be too much to manage. "Plus, there is no fee or obligation to get on the waitlist and it is a great way for someone to get their foot in the door," says Sarah.

Sarah and her friends from Cribbs Residential Center enjoying lunch out at a local restaurant.

While on the waitlist Herb and Sarah received calls for openings and declined with no penalty, as they were not ready yet. Then in 2022 their health needs changed, and they switched from the Independent Living to the Personal Care Waitlist. A two-room suite opened in the Summer of 2023, and they decided to take advantage of a trial stay.

"I'd highly recommend taking advantage of the trial stay opportunity", stated Sarah, "We're very thankful that the apartment was available when we needed it. We did a one-month trial stay which allowed us to try out the lifestyle and make sure we wanted to make this type of move".

The suite was fully furnished, the only thing they needed to bring was their suitcases. Throughout the month, they attended worship services,

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Downsizing or Decluttering; a Daunting Task Simplified.

When you think about moving, one of the first thoughts that comes to mind is "I have so much stuff! How will I get through this?" After years of guiding people through this process, we have some tips that will help.

The first step as you plan to move is deciding where to go. At Wesbury, it's important to join the waitlist in advance. Then, start getting things in order so that you are less overwhelmed when the time comes. Starting early will minimize stress and improve your experience. But how?

Most of us move into our homes and begin accumulating. Over time we build up unwanted gifts, outdated or outgrown clothes, tools and gadgets. Drawers, closets, basements and attics begin to fill…Can you relate?

Reducing the stuff in your home has benefits whether planning a move or not. Living a cluttered life is stressful and causes anxiety. Resolving this makes it easier to clean. It also makes your surroundings safer, minimizing the risk of falls and lost items. It allows you to be in charge of your decisions about your stuff. And it can eliminate potential burdens to family.

So, let's break it down. **Whether you are moving or just decluttering, where do you begin?**

Here are five basic steps:

1. Decide what you want to keep and or move with you.
   - What will fit? Keep things that make you feel at home and ensure a comfortable living, sleeping and hobby space.
   - Be creative with furniture. Use your favorite sideboard as a TV stand, a dresser might fit in a walk-in closet.
   - Do not move items that you will no longer need such as tools, a sweeper or kitchenware if you won't be cooking, cleaning, or doing maintenance.
   - Bring items that support your hobbies as you will have more time to enjoy them!
2. Consider what you want to give to family or loved ones.
   - This is a great time to pass things down and preserve heirlooms.
   - Plan a day to sort letters, photographs, and other memorabilia with loved ones.
   - Ask your family to pick up things they left behind when they moved out.
3. What has value and should be sold?
   - Consider an auction, household sale or liquidator.
   - Contact consignment and antique shops.
   - Sell things online through Craigs List, eBay, and Facebook Market Place.
4. What is worth donating?
   - Consider charities, area churches, shelters, and playhouses.
   - Some charities will even come to you for pick up.

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Unlock Your Creativity at Cribbs Residential Center

"I have always been a tinkerer," states Cribbs resident, Alvin Landers. "Goes back to taking Industrial Arts in school. I loved that class, working with the wood and all the equipment, it has stuck with me my whole life."

Alvin was born and raised in Cambridge Springs, PA. After graduating high school, he served in the Navy for six years. Upon leaving the Navy, Alvin assembled a personal woodshop at his home. "I had some of the basics like a drill press and table saw to work on projects," he says. He also attended two trade schools. Alvin first became an Electronic Technician and later, a Certified Electrician, which was his career when he retired and became a snowbird. He and his wife would spend part of the year in Pennsylvania and the winters in Florida.

After his wife passed away, Alvin moved to Florida full-time. He lived there for 15 years before deciding to move back to Pennsylvania. He was already familiar with Wesbury as his parents had lived here, and his sister is currently living here. Additionally, Wesbury is located close to other family members living in the area.

Recently, Alvin finished a toy train set (pictured below) to send to his great-granddaughter at Wesbury's on-campus Woodshop for resident use. Upon receiving the photo back with the happy child holding the red caboose, the accompanying text said that she had asked where Alvin made such great toys, and her mother told her that he worked in Santa's Workshop. Alvin finds this to be wonderful "It's nice to live in a place where I can be close to family and friends, while also have access to the interests I truly love."

If you have a variety of interests and want to learn more about the active lifestyle Cribbs Residential Center and the Wesbury Community can offer you or your family member, give us a call at 814-332-9009 or email us at info@wesbury.com.

Joining the Waitlist *(continued from page 1)*

l. to r.: Sarah and Sandy enjoying a pontoon boat ride on Pymatuning Lake.

outdoor concerts, and choir practices; and by the end, Sarah and Herb decided to make their trial suite their new home. All they had to do was swap out Wesbury's furniture for theirs. "That was easy too", shared Sarah. "T. Lee (Wesbury's Director of Environmental Services) and the housekeeping staff were such a support with moving furniture. In fact, all the Wesbury Staff are exceptional. You can tell everyone is well trained. We were very impressed by the staff".

They personalized the space and made it their own by hanging pictures, decorations, and even sheep and mountain goat mounts from Herb's hunting trips. Paraphrasing a neighbor whom Sarah thought said it best, "We moved here because there was no other place like Wesbury in the area. This is the place to be."

Shortly after their move, Herb became ill and transitioned to Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center. Sarah says the continuum of care that Herb received at Grace reinforced that this had been the best decision for them. She was grateful to be living at Cribbs where she was right next door and easily able to spend valuable time with him. When Herb passed away, it was a great comfort to Sarah and her family that she didn't have to worry about managing the house or adjusting to her loss alone. She was relieved that they had been able to make important decisions, get their house sold and downsize their belongings together. She feels secure in her home at Cribbs, has built friendships and is able to be engaged in outings, activities and new opportunities. She visits her children and family often and is only a short drive away from those she stays in touch with from Sugarcreek. Most of all, she and her family have peace of mind knowing she is thriving and secure in the right place.

If you are interested in learning more about Wesbury, joining the waitlist or thinking about a respite/trial stay call Melissa today at 814-332-9009.

Downsizing *(continued from page 2)*

5. <u>What needs thrown away?</u>
    - Plan a "clean up day" with family. Choose a project like the basement, attic, garage, or outdoor junk.
    - Take advantage of area spring/fall "Clean Up Days".
    - Look in area papers for "We take junk" ads.
    - Take items to scrap yards.
    - Consider renting a dumpster.

As the season changes and you spend days inside, it's a great time to get started. Take one step - one room, closet, and drawer at a time. Use a spare room to collect items that might be sold or donated. De-clutter during everyday tasks. When cooking, cleaning, getting dressed, or doing your holiday decorating, pause and consider the items in your path that you no longer use or wear and put them in a box to sell or donate. Use clear labeled storage bins to organize and sort your items. This saves you from going through things again when you're ready to move. If you are tempted to keep things you don't use, ask yourself "Why am I keeping this? What purpose will it serve and when?" Remember, if you have not used it in a year, you usually don't need it. Whether planning a move or simply getting your house in order, taking these steps can reduce stress and make the process more manageable.

And if your next move brings you to Wesbury, we can make that less stressful, too. Call us today at 814-332-9009 and we'll talk about what your next steps should be, the importance of being on our waitlist, and arrange a tour for you to experience the Wesbury lifestyle.

Explore the Canadian Rockies featuring the Rocky Mountaineer!

Travel dates: July 6-13, 2025

Travel with Wesbury

Seating is limited.
Call 814-332-9712 or email travel@wesbury.com

A Nice Day for a Picnic

We certainly enjoyed a beautiful summer day for Wesbury's 2024 Resident and Family Picnic. During the picnic, we served over 700 meals in just a couple of hours. From the delicious food to the music, games, vintage tractors and classic cars, therapy dogs, and more, our residents and their guests experienced a wonderful time together.

We wish to thank our staff and volunteers who helped make the day special for the residents and their families. Whether they worked directly at the event or continued to provide care and services while the picnic took place, they all made the event successful.

Specifically, Wesbury events like this couldn't happen without Grounds and Maintenance setting things up and keeping things going. Thank you to our Dietary staff. You are essential from start to finish and we know it's a lot of work to feed that many people. Thank you to our Life Enrichment staff. From scheduling the entertainment to bringing in volunteers, you ensure the residents and guests have fun.

We also wish to thank our sponsors: The Johnson Trust & Johnson-Shaw Stereoscopic Museum, RE Johnson Electric, Inc., Sodexo Senior Services, USI Insurance Services, First National Bank, PNC, Dean's Dairy, DeSantis Solutions, Maplevale Farms, Inc., and Schwebel's Baking Co.

It is with gratitude to all our staff, volunteers, and sponsors who come together to keep this wonderful annual tradition going!

Recognized Excellence for Over 30 Years

Wesbury received its first EAGLE accreditation by the United Methodist Association (UMA) in 1992 and has consecutively maintained their accreditation through the intensive self-assessment and peer review EAGLE process every five years since. Recently, the UMA changed its name to Methodist Ministries Network. While the name has changed, the mission has remained the same as a national association of more than 65 member organizations providing services in over 450 locations across the country. Methodist Ministries Network's faith-based member ministries serve children, youth and families, seniors, and persons with disabilities and share a commitment to excellence in human service ministries. Together, they touch the lives of 4.4 million people each year and Wesbury is an honored member.

Methodist Ministries Network continues to be our accreditation provider and recently, the EAGLE Accreditation Commission congratulated Wesbury for maintaining EAGLE Accreditation. The Commission approved the organization's 2023 EAGLE Annual Report and commends the governing board, management, and staff members for their dedication to its faith-based mission. Specifically noted in the Commissioner's review:

"In addition to earning EAGLE reaccreditation for the seventh time, Wesbury received several notable awards including 2023 Best Nursing/Personal Care Home & Best Home Health Care by the Meadville Tribune; five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid and a top 20 best nursing home in Pennsylvania by Newsweek. They increased communications about the purpose and meaning of EAGLE, have a partnership with Crawford Tech for LPN and CNA designations that includes a scholarship program, are tracking and honoring the services of Wesbury volunteers, placing an emphasis on church partnerships, and made improvements in Barco Chapel."

EAGLE's standards of excellence are demonstrated daily and show anyone who turns to Wesbury that as an organization, we continue to lead the way among faith-based human service ministries and they can find peace of mind in knowing when they choose Wesbury, they are choosing among the very best.

Thank You Wesbury Supporters!

Thank you Crawford Heritage Community Foundation and its great philanthropists! Together, you helped Wesbury raise over $38,000 in donations during 2024 Crawford Gives Days. We are beyond proud and grateful to be part of such a giving, caring community.

What a Summer It Was!

We can get cabin fever in NWPA but when the weather changes, the Wesbury Community takes advantage of warm weather for fun in the sun! This season, residents from throughout Wesbury came together for the summer staples of making delicious s'mores and relishing in the camaraderie and fellowship around a campfire. Throughout the season, they enjoyed programs and entertainers including the annual outdoor summer concert series! They also explored what the region has to offer. During the summer of 2024, residents headed out on many day trips to experience the fine cuisine of area restaurants, learned about our region's role in history at our local museums, spent an afternoon trying to catch the big one at the ole fishin' hole, sought out interesting items at boutiques and stores, hit the water on a boat ride…and more. When it comes to summer for Wesbury residents, it boils down to being as active or relaxed as they wish with lots of opportunities to have lots of fun.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

l. to r.: Pat Rose, Ceil Marsteller, Sally Frank, Florence Crowl, Marie Carroll, and Sharon Stollings

Residents of the Wesbury community are always looking for ways to contribute to our greater community through a variety of service projects. These projects happen in different ways in different subgroups of the community. In the villas, members of the Good Neighbors are responsible for welcoming new residents to their section of Thoburn Village as well as being a point person for other issues that may arise. At their recent group meeting, the members decided that Thoburn Village needed a new service project. They decided to support Women's Services of Meadville with a project they called "Shoebox Junk Drawer."

"It's kind of an odd name for a service project," says Good Neighbors coordinator and point person, Sally Frank. "But the intent is helping women who are transitioning out of the Women's Shelter to their new living space by giving them the household maintenance items they might need when they move and are living on their own."

Money was raised from donations throughout Thoburn Village; the largest single donation coming from the Men's Coffee Group that meets at the Thoburn Village Clubhouse every Monday morning. With their funds, they went shopping at local stores and on Amazon for items like hammers, pliers, screwdrivers, extension cords, flashlights, small umbrellas, rulers, notecards, stamps, pens, pencils, paperclips…All necessities you would find in your junk drawer.

The volunteers who boxed up the goods all met at Sally's villa and made 13 boxes that were donated to Women's Services. The value of each box was $60.

Sally says, "It's a real community building project. At Wesbury, is there a better way for neighbors to get to know each other than with a group goal? And for the women heading out on their own from the shelter, it is a way of helping them get on their feet again as they become a part of the greater community."

From Co-workers to Lifelong Friends

Thank you for close to a century of service!

It was a bittersweet end to the summer season as Wesbury celebrated the retirement of two long-time staff members with a collective 97 years of dedication, compassion and service from the Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center Dietary Department. Janice Drake and Jeanette Wilhelm, who are also lifelong friends, started about two years apart, Janice's first day was August 27, 1974, and Jeanette's first day was June 6, 1977; 50 years for Janice and 47 years for Jeanette. Together, they have experienced many changes at Wesbury and have more stories to share than we can imagine.

According to Janice, they have worked for six different Dietary supervisors and too many co-workers to count. When they started the dress code was white uniforms, which they both said were the worst. But times change, and they like the Wesbury polo shirts they wear today. They also like the Grace kitchen renovations from a few years back as compared to the original area which was much smaller with dated equipment.

When reminiscing, they talk about working on the Wesbury floats for the Halloween Parade. Jeanette says, "It was so much fun to get together with co-workers from different areas and some of their family members." "Plus, we won a lot of trophies for our hard work!" says Janice.

Janice retired at the end of August and Jeanette followed in September. It's fitting their retirement dates were close together because working side-by-side they became lifelong friends. To the point where when talking about the years they spent at Grace, they ended up talking about the amount of traveling they have done together over the years since they met in Grace Dietary. Janice and Jeanette have vacationed together in Jamaica, Hawaii, and even took a road trip out west where to bide the time on their journey, they made up a game of listing all the residents at Wesbury and what their room numbers were. Proving no matter where they went, Wesbury went with them.

l. to r.: Janice Drake and Jeanette Wilhelm having a little fun at work

"The residents are the real highlight to working at Wesbury, their smiles make all the work worth it." says Jeanette. Janice adds, "There are so many special residents, and I will miss them." Wesbury is really going to miss Jeanette and Janice too.

When asked about their future plans, they say a little rest and relaxation is on the horizon, and they are looking forward to more travel adventures. They added that this won't be the last Wesbury sees of them as they are going together with the Wesbury Travelers to New York City in December.

We cannot begin to express our gratitude to these dedicated and compassionate individuals who gave Wesbury and the residents so many years of care and service. They take with them a wealth of knowledge, memories and a shared history that most at Wesbury will never experience. Wesbury has grown and evolved immensely over the past 50 years, and they were there through it all. We wish them health and every happiness in the years ahead!

Janice & Jeanette Through the Years

1st Place Pumpkin Patch Halloween Parade Float 1991

Mount Rushmore 1992

Out West 1994

Wall Street, New York City 2007

Shine a Light on a Loved One

As we head into Winter, our thoughts turn to holiday festivities and the gifts we plan to share with our loved ones. At Wesbury, our annual gift-giving tradition is the Luminary Fundraiser. This beautiful tradition allows families and friends to make a gift to our community while also remembering or honoring a loved one.

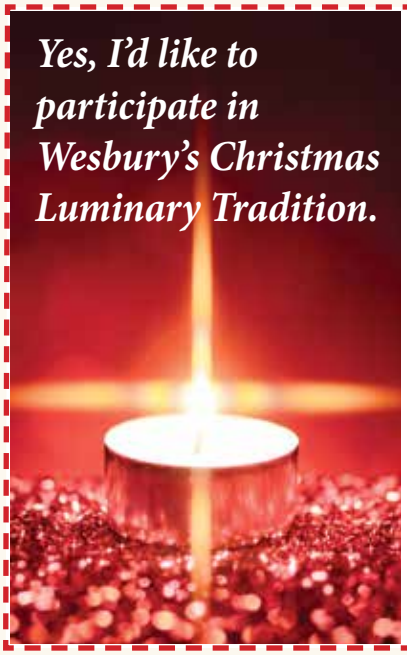
Gifts given during this annual fundraiser are directed to our Benevolent Care Fund; this fund directly supports Wesbury residents that have exhausted their financial resources and depend upon this aid to cover the costs of their care.

Throughout the holiday season, luminary posters will be displayed in Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center, in Cribbs Residential Center, and/or broadcast on Wesbury Channel 950. During this time, residents, guests, volunteers and staff can enjoy the messages that remember and honor people who are or have been part of the Wesbury community.

If you wish to participate, please return the included Luminary form with your tax-deductible, charitable contribution to the **Wesbury Foundation, 31 North Park Avenue, Meadville, PA 16335.**

Donations are also being accepted at the Grace Rehabilitation and Health Center reception desk or the drop box outside the main entrance of Cribbs Residential Center.

In recognition of your generosity, you will be invited to our drive-thru luminary display. On an evening in early December, our luminaries will be on display outside along Wesbury's main thoroughfare. The luminaries glowing against the backdrop of a dusky sky are truly breathtaking. Additional details will be provided in your gift acknowledgment letter.



❑ $1,000 ❑ $500 ❑ $250 ❑ $100
❑ $50 ❑ $25 ❑ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please light luminary: (please print)

❑ In Honor of _____

❑ In Memory of _____

Make checks payable to The Wesbury Foundation.

Yes, I'd like to learn more about Wesbury.

Please send me information about:

- ❑ Independent Living
- ❑ Enhanced Living & Personal Care
- ❑ Skilled Nursing
- ❑ Short-term Rehabilitation
- ❑ Vernon Square Apartments
- ❑ Wesbury at Home
- ❑ Care Cottages
- ❑ The Wesbury Foundation/Making a Donation
- ❑ Other Areas of Interest

_____

❑ Send information via ❑ e-mail ❑ mail

❑ Contact me to schedule an appointment

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

2024 FW

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please clip out and mail this completed form to:
Wesbury - 31 N. Park Ave., Meadville, PA 16335 - Attn: Marketing Dept.

Now Is a Good Time to Start a Nursing Career

In the healthcare arena, there are a variety of professional positions. Among them, Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), and Certified Nurse Aides (CNA) continue to be in high demand and play crucial roles in the sphere of long and short-term care, personal care, and in-home care. And there has never been a better time to be a nurse or nurse aide.

Why is 2024 a great time to begin a career in nursing… especially at Wesbury? With recent changes to Department of Health regulations related to staffing, the required nursing ratios have gone down, meaning the number of patients/residents permitted to be assigned under the care of each nurse or nurse aide, has decreased. While we have always strived to staff above the requirements, these recent staffing mandates have improved ratios for nurses and CNAs making workloads even more manageable.

While other organizations are ignoring current regulations, at Wesbury that is not the case. To ensure quality of care, we have always strived to staff at higher levels than the regulations require. Being employed at non-compliant organizations could potentially put nursing licensure at risk…but not at Wesbury. At Wesbury, not only is your license safe but staying within the parameters of regulations creates a less stressful work environment leaving our staff feeling fulfilled.

Within the spectrum of nursing careers lie meaningful opportunities and rewarding experiences where one can make a positive difference in the lives of those patients or residents they care for each and every day. Additionally, nursing is a career that values lifelong learning and development. With advanced degrees, certifications, and leadership roles that pass along knowledge and expertise to the new recruits, the possibilities for personal growth and advancement can be endless.

To find out more or join our team, contact Wesbury HR Recruiter, Michelle Sciallo, at 814-795-2808.

Wesbury United Methodist Community
31 N. Park Ave. · Meadville, PA 16335
814-332-9000 Toll Free 1-877-937-2879
www.wesbury.com

Upcoming Events

Bridges Memory Loss Support Group
3rd Wednesday of every month at 2:30 p.m. in Wesbury's Cribbs Residential Center Lingo Dining Room.
For more information, call 814-332-9238.

Veterans Coffee Hour
1st Friday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in Wesbury's Cribbs Residential Center Lingo Dining Room.
For more information and to RSVP, call 814-332-9280.

Sunset Auxiliary Holiday Sale
November 14th and 15th
Wesbury Campus Community Center
More details will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Oktoberfest Lunch and Tour

- Enjoy an Oktoberfest themed lunch
- Live entertainment
- Trivia games
- The fun history of Octoberfest
- Tours of Cribbs Residential Center

Wednesday, October 23rd
Noon - 2:00 p.m.
Call 814-332-9009 to RSVP

Wesbury provides individualized proactive health care and life enrichment services to assist mature adults in maintaining their independence, dignity and spiritual wholeness in a secure, Christian environment.
- Mission Statement -