



Village News



Embrace the possibilities

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DECEMBER 2025

Featured Articles

Administrator Notes	P. 1
Office News	P. 2
Sales-Leasing News	P.3
Maintenance News	P. 4
Service News	P. 5
Wellness News	P. 6
Resident Council	P. 7
Sunrise & Sunset	P. 8
Monthly Calendar	P. 11

From the Desk of

Tracy Lathan Administrator

Hello Oakland Woods Residents,

To clarify any confusion from last month, the renovations are only for HUD Apartments, Oaklands Woods 1.

OW1 residents, I hope all your questions have been answered and that you feel fully prepared for the upcoming work in your apartment. I have also reached out to inquire about available resources that may assist you during this time.

As discussed in the meeting we do have an emergency fund that can be used by residents who qualify. If approved, Best Efforts will submit an invoice, and the check will be sent to them. Please reach out to your service coordinator if you need any assistance.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding. Once the renovations are complete, our campus will have a more modern look and improved energy efficiency.

*Thank you
Tracy*

From our family to yours



The Village of
Oakland
Woods

A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

A Mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

Look for PVM on:



Office News

Sharon Benton & Stephanie Daniel

Administrative/Receptionist

Social Security Administration (COLA)

The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that the Social Security Benefits, including Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (OASDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will increase 2.8 percent in 2026. On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by about \$56 per month starting in January. If you receive SSI will begin on December 31, 2025. (**Note:** Some people receive both Social Security Benefits and SSI)

Social Security begins notifying people about their new benefit amount by mail starting in early December 2025. When you receive your Social Security Letter in the mail, please bring it to the office so that we can copy it for your file. DO NOT Discard this letter, we will need it for your yearly recertification.

Individual who have my Social Security accounts can view their COLA notice online, which is secure, easy and faster than received a letter in the mail. Account holders can set up text and email alerts when they receive a new message, such as their COLA notice.

To receive a COLA notice online, individuals will need to create or sign in to their personal my Social Security account and opt out of paper notices by November 19, 2025. Go Digital! Create an account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. An online my Social Security account also gives individuals access to request a replacement Social Security card, view their claim status and benefits, and view their SSA-1099.

Resident Contact Information

If have changed your phone number, please let the office know. This will allow you to received informative information from the office. If we don't have a working number you will not get important information. The office is noticing that a lot of mailbox on your cell phone is full, not allowing us to leave messages

Sales and Leasing News

GREGORY BERGER

Hello everyone, My name is Gregg Berger, the new Sales and Leasing Specialist at “The Village of Oakland Woods. I joined Tracy & her phenomenal team in Mid-August of this year. At the end of August, I met several residents on the Detroit Princess River Boat excursion and look forward to meeting many more residences as we see one another in the community.

A little about me, I grew up in a small town in northern New Jersey, upon graduating College with a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Strategic Advertising Strategies, it led me to a Sales & Marketing Career in Mortgage Banking & Real-Estate for the last 39 years.

After College in the late 70’s I relocated to Michigan joining my mom, sister & Grandma and to pursue my career. Eventually for career growth & advancement I needed to relocate out of Michigan for career opportunities.

I have One Daughter who is married & lives in the Tampa Bay area in Florida with her husband. Both Melissa & Josh are in the medical field. Currently they have no children but I’m being told they will be starting a family in the near future.

I relocated back to Michigan this past April joining my Fiancée Dawn and we are enjoying the Beautiful 4 seasons Michigan is known for. Dawn is retired from the Medical Industry with an extensive background as an RN in the ER & OR.

She is a proud mom two children who are married and one Grandson who is 4.50, he’s smart, keeps us on our toes, busy playing & science projects when he periodically stays with us on the weekends.

I look forward in getting to know all residents over the next few months. If you are in the Community Center, please stop on by my office so we could get to know one another.

Thanks Greg



Maintenance News

*Rick Petrella/Maintenance Supervisor, Bryan Mathis Maintenance
& Randall Shannon/grounds keeper*

Well hello again to our dear residents,

Rick Petrella, your maintenance supervisor here, and it is now the most wonderful time of the year. Except for the cold temperatures, the ice and too much snow. But we will be positive won't we.

Speaking of ice let me talk a little bit about being cognizant of things to be aware of to prevent slip and falls or tripping. I think of this as I recently was spending time at one of my brothers' homes with the rest of my family as we all enjoyed a Lions game together. The game could have been better as they lost but our year is still looking good. So let me describe what was a not so good event that day. My brother is relatively new to the "walker" as a tool to let him get around due to a health issue. So, at some point during the game, he gets up to go to the door to meet another visitor, and the walker catches a carpet runner. I see firsthand as he falls and hits his noggin on the wall. Such a loud thud. He was dazed and confused like always. Yes, I would say that to him. He said he was ok. When I checked in on him the next morning his wrist and arm had swollen immensely but his head was ok thankfully. The point is that area rugs and runners can be a trip hazard.

Let's talk about other safety issues related to trip and fall.

Stay physically active – Staying active helps to improve your balance.

Clear pathways – keep floors clear of clutter like shoes, books, cords etc. All those items can be the cause of trip and fall events. And yes, they can catch your walker or cane.

Proper lighting – Ensure good lighting in all areas of your apartment. Certainly, call the office if you need brighter bulbs in our light fixtures and we will be happy to accommodate.

Use appropriate footwear – Avoid walking in slippers, socks or shoes without good grip.

When you see me out and about let me know what you think of this article. I do hope everyone has an awesome Thanksgiving and an amazing Christmas!

Rick Petrella
Maintenance Supervisor
Village of Oakland Woods



Service News

Terri Price & Angela Morton-Beavers
Service Coordinators



Mark your calendar and plan to attend the events noted below. Please sign up in the activities book.

Monday December 1st at 12pm join us for a Medicare update presentation and Q&A session conducted by Mr. Wayne Westfield, SHIP Medicare Counselor

Wednesday, December 3rd & Tuesday, December 9th Wayne Westfield will be here in the Community Center to assist residents with Medicare & Medicaid questions/concerns. Please be sure to sign up for an appointment and inform your Service Coordinator. Contact Angela with any questions 248-334-4379- Ext. 3

Important: Count Your Blessings and Your Benefits (Not Just Your Pennies)

According to AARP, “The standard monthly premium for Medicare Part B, which covers doctor visits and other outpatient treatment, is projected to climb 11.6 percent, from \$185 to \$206.50, in January. The final premium hike will be announced later this fall.” Please be aware that Michigan residents can get help paying for Medicare Part B through the Medicare Savings Program (MSP), which has several levels based on income and assets. You can also get help with prescription drug costs through the Extra Help program. To see if you qualify, use an online benefits calculator like BenefitsCheckUp or see your local Service Coordinator if you are fortunate enough to have one at your Village

Beyond the Holidays: Everyday Cheer in December

Dec 1: Eat a Red Apple Day

Dec 3: Let's Hug Day

Dec 4: National Cookie Day

Dec 9: National Llama Day

Dec 12: National Poinsettia Day

Dec 15: National Re-Gifting Day

Dec 17: Ugly Sweater Day

Dec 20: National Sangria Day

Dec 24: National Eggnog Day

Dec 28: Card Playing Day

Dec 31: National Champagne Day

Blessings to all from your Service Coordinators:

Angela Morton-Beavers, 248-334-4379 Ext. 3 and Terri Price 248-334-4379 Ext. 4

Wellness News

Anita Norwood/Wellness Coordinator

Welcoming December: Embracing the Festive Season Together

As December arrives, it brings with it a sense of celebration, reflection, and community. For seniors, this time of year offers many opportunities to connect with loved ones, revisit cherished traditions, and create new memories. Whether you are spending the holidays with family, friends, or your community, let's explore ways to make this season bright and meaningful.

Staying Connected During the Holidays

Consider a holiday gathering or a cozy meal

Stay in touch with video calls and handwritten cards

Join us for The Village festive Christmas Celebration Saturday, December 20, 2025 starting at 4:00pm

Check your calendar for activities

Health and Wellness Tips for Winter

Stay Active: Short walks, gentle stretching, or chair exercises can help keep your body moving

Eat Well: Enjoy seasonal fruits and vegetables and remember to stay hydrated. Soups and stews are comforting and nutritious options for winter meals.

Get Sunlight: Try to spend some time outdoors during daylight hours to boost your mood and vitamin D levels.

Restful Sleep: Keep a regular sleep schedule and create a relaxing bedtime routine to ensure you feel rested.

Safety Reminders

Wear shoes with good traction

Bundle up with layers to stay warm when outdoors

Keep your home warm and well-lit

Beginning in January – Stay tuned for \$2 Bingo – Planning for Activities & The Victory Cup



Wellness
happens at
**THE VILLAGE OF
OAKLAND WOODS**

2025 Highlights



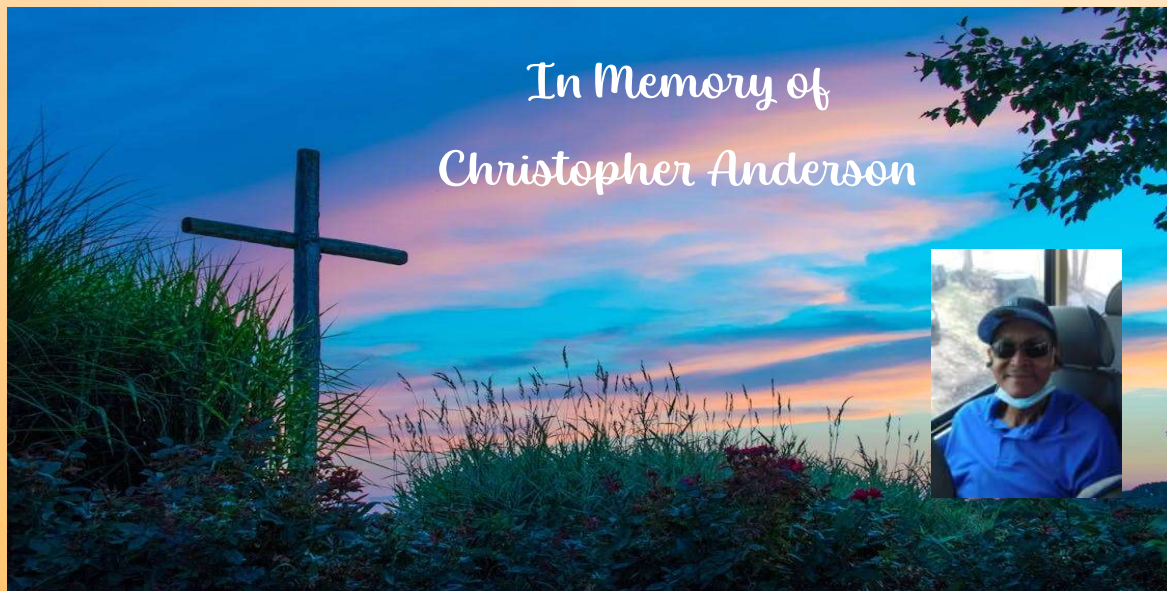
Birthday Celebration!

The Birthday party will be held on Thursday, December 18 @ 1:00pm. Join us in the Community Room for refreshments, bingo and prizes.

Troy Richardson 12/6
Jerry Brain 12/11
Bethann Ross 12/17
Mildred Jones 12/19
Gloria McConner 12/25
David Piotrowski 12/30

Linda Hondo 12/8
Linda Wyatt 12/14
Janet Devold 12/17
Gail Holmes 12/23
Charlene Woods 12/29
Minnie Fortner 12/30

Mamie Wiggins 12/9
Mardia Bothuel 12/16
Donna Patton 12/18
Steve Robbins 12/24
Garrett Douglas 12/29



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December 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 12:00 Medicare update with Mr. Westfield	2 10:00 God's Word and Prayer - 1:00 Lunch With Amy	3 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 3:7 Oakland County Parks Holiday Market	4 12:00 Meet up to eat up at Leo Coney	5 9:00 Kroger - 2:00 B & W movie	6
7	8 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 2:00 Sewing Angel Pillows	9 10:00 God's Word and Prayer - 2:00 Cardio Drumming	10 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 2:00 Meadowbrook/A Christmas Carol	11 1:00 Birthday & Bingo	12 9:00 Walmart	13
14	15 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 2:00 Pillow drop off	16 10:00 God's Word and Prayer - Ugly Sweater Day	17 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda 12:00 Focus Hope Drop off	18 1:30 Catholic Service Food Distribution	19 9:00 Aldi	20 4:00 - 8:00 Annual Christmas Party
21	22 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 2:00 Movie/A Merry Little Ex-Mus	23 10:00 God's Word and Prayer	24 Office Closed	25 Office Closed for Christmas	26 Office Closed	27
28	29 10:30 Fitness Class with Rhonda - 2:00 Card Games	30 10:00 God's Word & Prayer - 2:00 Sound Therapy	31 10:30 Fitness with Rhonda 2:00 New Years Eve Happy Hour	1 Office Closed	2	3
4	5	Notes	Large Calendars are Available at the Activities Table			

**Presbyterian Villages
of Michigan
Mission Statement**

Guided by our
Christian heritage,
we serve seniors of
all faiths and create
new possibilities for
quality living.

www.pvm.org

Office Number (248) 334-4379

Village Staff

Tracy Lathan
Administrator

Sharon Benton
Administrative Assistant

Stephanie Daniel
Administrative Receptionist

Terri Price
Service Coordinator

Angela Morton-Beaver
Service Coordinator

Anita Norwood
Wellness Coordinator

Rick Petrella
Maintenance Supervisor

Randall Shannon
Grounds Keeper

Bryan Mathis
Maintenance Tech.

Gregory Berger
Sales & Leasing

EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE (248) 330-0213 (1st)

Please call after 6:30 M-F & 24 hours Sat & Sun

Mon—Friday 4:30-6:30pm (248) 248-575-6518



**Presbyterian
Villages**

OF MICHIGAN

THE FOUNDATION

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation serves Michigan seniors of all faiths by raising essential funds to support the mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan for the greatest needs of our residents. A gift to Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation is truly an investment in our residents. For more information on how you can help Michigan seniors, call Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation at **248-281-2040** or visit www.pvmfoundation.org

Embrace the possibilities

Pontiac, MI 48341-3145

420 S. Opdyke Rd

A Mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

Oakland Woods
The Village of

