



# Village News



## Embrace the possibilities

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December 2020

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### Notes from the Administrator

I hope you are all ready for the holiday season, and boy did it come fast this year! Therefore, in advance, I would like to wish you all a VERY Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

I would like to take this time to introduce to you Miller Landscaping. Miller will be taking over services for BOTH the summer and winter months. In the winter months, they will be performing our snow removal services, and in the summer time will be performing all of our landscaping services. I am very pleased to bring them to the Oakland Woods community.

Speaking of winter months and snow removal, I would like to take this time and direct your attention to the next couple of pages where you will find the Snow Removal Policy AND the Smoking Policy on the Oakland Woods Campus. Both are very important to remember as we head into the winter months.

Finally, if you have not received the latest order from the MDHHS in regards to restrictions and tips please see the CLEAR newsletter boxes to collect your copy. There is very important information for all residents in that documentation.

It is very easy for me to get caught up and share village updates and announcements each month. However, this month I really want to do nothing other than express my appreciation and respect that I have for each of you! In 2020, we faced several challenges, roadblocks, and uncertain times. However these adversities were very easy to overcome with having the support of every Oakland Woods resident, family member, contractor, employee, and others alike. For that, I wish to send many thanks.

If I have learned one thing this year, it is that times are NOT always certain and there will always be challenges ahead. I want to thank you all for facing these challenges together, and with the Oakland Woods staff, during this past year. Furthermore, I will forever keep in my heart the ones whom we have lost this year, their friends, and their family. I invite you to keep them in your hearts as well.

This is the time of year for joy, peace, and blessings. I pray and hope that you and your families have a wonderful Holiday Season. Once again, I thank each of you for all the gifts and blessings you have shown me as well. I am looking forward to a successful and healthy 2021. Much love, many thanks, and Happy Holidays!



**Jon Hayes**



The Village of  
**Oakland  
Woods**

A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY  
A Mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

Look for PVM on:





# It's Your Life. Live It Well.

By Tom Wyllie,  
Director of Wellness

## The Winter Solstice – A Harbinger of Better Days to Come



As the saying goes, “it’s always darkest before the dawn.” On Monday, December 21, 2020 at 5:02 a.m., the Sun will be directly above the Tropic of Capricorn, the imaginary circle around the Earth south of the Equator that demarks the southernmost position at which the Sun can appear directly overhead. In the Northern Hemisphere, we refer to

this moment in time as the Winter Solstice.

From that point forward, when the day is the shortest and the night the longest, the hours of daylight begin to wax and the hours of darkness begin to wane. With each passing day, we experience more light and less dark. In ancient times, this “changing of the light” was celebrated as a rebirth of the Earth, a movement away from the dead of winter toward the fertility of spring. It was considered a harbinger of better days to come.

As the year 2020 draws to a close, we have indeed experienced some dark days. A once-in-a-lifetime pandemic hit our shores wreaking havoc as it spread across the land. As the year 2021 approaches, however, rather than expect the days ahead to darken further still, I choose to believe they will begin to brighten. One way or the other, we will defeat this pandemic.

Hence, on December 21<sup>st</sup>, I hope you will join me in celebrating “the changing of the light” when literally, and with hope and faith, figuratively the time we spend in the dark will shorten while the time we spend in the light lengthens. Better days are ahead!

# The Village of Oakland Woods

## Snow Removal Policy

1. Snow removal from roads and walkways should be completed by 11 A.M. on snow days when there is a 2-inch or more accumulation. There MAY be a delay on weekends and holidays.
2. Snow removal from the parking area will be as follows:
  - A. Residents MUST remove the snow from their vehicles and move their vehicles as directed by maintenance. This will allow the contractor ample space to maneuver equipment and efficiently clear away snow and spread salt.

All vehicles need to be moved to an area that has been cleaned out by 10:00 A.M.

If the resident is unable to remove his/her vehicle for MAJOR health reasons, he/she must make prior arrangements with someone to move his/her vehicle to another location during snow removal.

- B. If resident plans to be away from the property overnight or for a vacation and will be leaving his/her vehicle parked in front of their building, he/she must notify the office with the name and telephone number of the person who will be responsible in his/her absence in case of an emergency.
- C. If after snow removal has been completed your parking area is still icy, please let management know. We can order additional salting for your safety.
- D. Inoperable vehicles are not allowed on the property. If they are not removed, they will be towed at the car owner's expense.

Questions and concerns about snow removal should ALWAYS be brought to the attention of Management. Management does recommend that residents purchase a small amount of salt (that should be stored inside) for emergency use.

Resident safety is always a priority with Maintenance and Management. Residents need to take extra precautions during cold, icy, and wet weather. Please dress warmly and wear rubber-bottomed boots or shoes that grip the ground better. Remember to always report, "black ice", water puddles, or other slippery spots. We cannot be everywhere at once, but with your help, conditions will be much safer for all!

# The Village of Oakland Woods / Smoking Policy Rules

## Smoke Free Environment Policy

As a leader in Quality Senior Living and in support of our ongoing commitment to the safety, health and well-being of our residents, staff, and guests, PVM has implemented a new Smoke Free Environment Policy. **Effective July 1, 2010** indoor smoking is no longer allowed at The Village of Oakland Woods, including in individual apartments. Smoking will be permitted in designated outdoor smoking areas only. For purposes of this policy, the term “smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, breathing or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, or other tobacco product or similar lighted product in any manner or form.

Failure to observe this policy shall constitute material non-compliance with your Lease Agreement. A violation of this policy may result in the termination of your Lease.

Designated smoking areas are outside spaces not included in the common areas, i.e. Gazebo, events, community center. Smoking **is** allowed on your front porch and reach porch **with the caveat** that the smoke does not drift or invade your neighbor’s residence. This is a violation of the quiet and peaceful enjoyment requirements for every resident.

If you do smoke on the patio or porch be aware of where your smoke is blowing. Respect your neighbor’s rights and the Village rules by being mindful of your habits effecting others around you. Thank you.

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Resident Signature

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Date

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Witness



# The Senior Advocate.

By Lynn Alexander,  
Vice President of Public Affairs

## Be Smart - Be Prepared

One life lesson which will probably stay with all of us forever from these times is how important it is to be prepared. Now with cold weather coming at us I decided to remind us all of some good survival tips. I hope your power stays on for the entire Winter. Just in case here are important tips:

Keep a flashlight within reach with good batteries and test it.

Stock up on water and canned goods. Make sure you have a manual can opener. Or you can purchase pouches of tuna and chicken as well as individual fruit cups.

In the event of an upcoming storm fill your tub with water in case you need it to flush your toilet.

Make sure you have the emergency number for PVM handy and wear your emergency pendant all the time.

Check with the PVM team at your community and make sure they have the contact information for your family and friends to contact in an emergency.

One new idea which my mom and I just now realized is the importance of sharing contact information with the family of your friends. She has recently found out that one of her dear friends was admitted to a nursing home; and the staff rightfully so will not give out her information to a stranger over the phone. We are working with mutual friends and her fellow church members to find her son's contact information.

Finally, one of the best ways to get through the Winter is to get a flu shot and to follow the recommended safety protocols. As one person said it: I would rather have a Zoom holiday dinner so that my loved ones will be here next year to celebrate.

Wishing you joy, peace, comfort and safety throughout until we can welcome in a long-awaited new year in 2021.



# Maintenance News

*By Matthew Myers*

*Maintenance Lead*

Dear Cottage Residents,

As we transition to colder weather it's important that you don't lock yourself out. Please consider unlocking your door handles and only using the deadbolt as your lock. It's the more secure lock, and you won't accidentally forget that your handle can be turned from inside even though it's locked, but once you pull that door behind you you'll be stuck outside till we can come let you in.

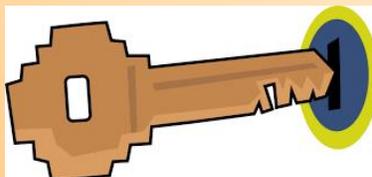
Dear Apartment Residents,

As our parking lots fill with younger residents that have vehicles it's important that you and your guests remain respectful of your fellow residents and emergency personnel. If you or your guests need to park in a place that is not a spot, please move your vehicle within 5 minutes. Do not allow your guests to park inappropriately in handicap spots, along the street, or in any other place that is not a spot for a visit. This should be quick, temporary, and you should have that vehicle moved as soon as possible. Emergency personnel are counting on every second to get to someone that needs them, do not be whom delayed life-saving treatment because your family would have had to walk across the parking lot.

All Residents,

Please be mindful that all of our units are on slabs here at the Village of Oakland Woods. Your plumbing runs through the ground, and so when the ground gets extremely cold so do your pipes. On very cold days (10 or less Fahrenheit) it's a good idea to run your faucets at a slight trickle to keep the water flowing especially in the bathrooms and especially overnight.

**Please make sure to respect our maintenance team by maintaining a 6 Feet Social Distance AND wearing masks when the maintenance team is in your unit. Our Maintenance Staff may ask you to do so if you are not. We thank you for your cooperation in this.**



# Service News

*By Sue Carney*

*Service Coordinator*

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Hope all is well with everyone. We all need to hang in there and do the best that we can and ask for help when we need it.

Just wanted to bring to your attention that there are a lot of scam telephone calls these days and you need to beware. If you have caller ID and do not recognize the number, you don't have to answer. Let it go to your voice mail and if it is important they will leave a message.

Some of the most recent scams are calls that claim to be from Social Security Administration, your utility company and even Amazon, supposedly about a recent order. These places will not be calling you and demanding payment or your personal information. If there is a problem they will contact you by the U.S. mail. If you choose to answer your phone, please do not give out any of your personal information. If they threaten to have you arrested, hang up and call your local police. Don't allow yourself to become a victim.

Just a reminder that Medicare Open Enrollment ends December 7. If you need help or information, you can call Debbie Stroup, a Medicare Specialist at 248-227-0347. Debbie has been helping residents for the past 2 years here. The deadline is December 7, no later.

May you all have a Blessed, Healthy and Merry Christmas.

MAY WE ALL COUNT ALL OF OUR BLESSINGS! .....SUE



## Wellness News

*Joelle Baughman*  
*Wellness Coordinator*

It's the holiday season, my favorite time of year. I love all the decorations, spending time with family and loved one's, and the scent of a Christmas tree. And, I almost forgot about the upcoming new year. I am definitely ready for 2020 to get lost, but what was your favorite memory of 2020?

We just had our Thanksgiving Brunch and it went great! It wasn't the way we would have liked to celebrate and say thank you, but everyone made it all work and we thank you for that. Things are starting to slow down this time of year and the weather doesn't help much, so I just wanted to give you a heads up of what to expect moving forward. Currently, we are unable to host any group exercise or group events until December 9th. Beginning after that date, throughout each week, there will be 1-2 major events. I am working towards taking things to a virtual level, so that those who wish to stay home are able to, but still able to participate in events at the same time.

Coming up, we still have extra DIA Build Kits that need to be built by you, so please call me or stop by the community center to pick one up. There will be sugar cookie decorating while wearing an ugly Christmas sweater. And lastly, we will be serving hot chocolate and playing the Christmas classic: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. Don't forget to sign up for any or all events at the community center and in the binder on the front table labeled 'December Events Sign Up'.

One last thing I wanted to mention is our coat drive. The coat drive is a way to give back to those in need during the season of giving. We will be supporting the One Warm Coat Organization, they give free coats to those in need. The coats can be new or gently used. Please be considerate of those receiving the coats and no coats with stains or holes. Otherwise, you are all awesome and I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



# December Events

## Christmas Event:

Check out the flier on the next page for more information. Dinner invitations were sent out via mail, so check your mailboxes until you receive yours. It is a take home meal that is catered by Boston's Market. There is a \$5 fee per resident that must be paid at the time of your RSVP, December 11th.

## DIA Build Kits:

The Village of Oakland Woods has partnered with the DIA to launch a pilot art making experience. We NEED YOU to try out and create their product and give your feedback. The kits can be done at the community center or brought to your place. For more information or have a kit brought to you call Joelle.

## Ugly Sweater Contest and Cookie Decorating:

Come show your Christmas spirit while wearing the ugliest Christmas Sweater you can make or find. But, at the same time decorate some Christmas cookies that will fill your belly.

## How Bout Lunch?:

Check out [howboutlunch.weebly.com](http://howboutlunch.weebly.com) to view cooking demonstration videos that Joelle releases each week. All meals are less than \$2 per serving and most of the meals make 2-3 servings. Look at the flier on the next page for more information.

## Hot Chocolate and Christmas Movie:

Warm up with some hot cocoa while watching a Christmas classic: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation.

## Plant and Book Sale:

Feel free to stop into the library to check out all the books and plants for sale. Any and all donations are excepted and go towards the PVM Foundation 2021 PPE. Give the money to Hillary at the front desk. Please masks are required.

# What's Happening for Christmas?

## **Starting at 4:00pm:**

Dinner will be catered by Boston's Market. You should have or should be receiving an invitation via mail with more information on that. **All RSVPs must be done by December 11th.** The dinner is \$5 per resident and must be paid before the RSVP can be completed. The menu consists of roasted turkey breast, steamed broccoli, mashed potatoes and gravy, and dessert. All food will be picked up from each resident who signed up for the dinner in a ToGo box and is to be taken back home to consume.

## **Starting at 5:00pm:**

The staff of Oakland Woods will be coming around the village via Christmas parade to hand out goodies to every resident. We will have the bus decorated to the max, while blaring loud Christmas music with Santa on board. Don't be afraid to come out and join the fun when we are in your area or even join in on the parade with your own vehicle. The parade will continue until the bus is back at the community center.

**\*\*If there are any questions about the event please contact Joelle. RSVPs can be done by calling the front office, but before the RSVP can be completed you must come into the community to pay the fee or have a staff member pick up the money from you. You DO NOT need to sign up for the parade.**

# Sugar Cookies

## Ingredients:

- 2 3/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

## Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. In a small bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and baking powder. Mix and set aside.
3. In a large bowl, cream together butter and sugar until smooth. Add in vanilla and egg, mix. Slowly, add in the ingredients from the small bowl and mix.
4. On an ungreased cookie sheet, place rounded teaspoon size dough balls, 2 inches apart.
5. Bake for 8-10 minutes or until golden brown. You can leave the cookies plain or top with your favorite frosting, enjoy!

## Birthday Celebration!

Happy Birthday to all of our  
December Babies!

Sharon Dahl 12/2/1943  
Shellie Houston 12/4/1940  
Troy Richardson 12/6/1952  
Betty Satterwhite 12/7/1939  
Linda Hondo 12/8/1956  
Dianne Sennett 12/11/1933  
Jerrelyn Brain 12/11/1950  
David Proper 12/13/1946  
Janet DeVold 12/17/1942  
Josephine Keat 12/17/1949  
Bethann Ross 12/17/1952  
Bessie Page 12/18/1951  
Marie Richter 12/19/1936  
Mildred Jones 12/19/1941  
Debra Esters 12/21/1950  
Gail Holmes 12/23/1932  
Edith Gutowski 12/24/1931  
Gloria McConner 12/25/1941  
Mary Wilburn 12/26/1949  
Carolyn Jones 12/28/1954  
Charlene Woods 12/29/1960  
Garrett Douglas Jr. 12/29/1961  
David Piotrowski 12/30/1955



# Resident Council News

By *Philena Holdridge*

*Resident Council President*

## Resident Council Board

**Philena Holdridge**, *President*

(248)977-3038

**Becky Bolden**, *Vice President*

(248)766-3684

**Vernice Harper**, *Secretary*

(248)622-4470

**Joyce Parlor**, *Treasurer*

(248)210-5678

### *December Resident Council News*

We want to wish all our Residents at Oakland Woods a very Merry Christmas! Here is a poem that captures the true meaning of Christmas:

“If our greatest need had been information,

God would have sent us an educator.

If our greatest need had been technology,

God would have sent us a scientist or computer programmer.

If our greatest need had been money,

God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure,

God would have sent an entertainer.

But our greatest need was forgiveness,

**So God sent us a Savior named Jesus, a babe in the manger,**

**Who would one day go to the cross to provide**

**A bridge to heaven...the forgiveness of our sins.**

### *New Area Representative*

We welcome Georgina Fontana, 1279 Heatherwood, (Phone #248-622-4502) to join our Executive Board as an area representative for cottages 1271-1295 on Upper Heatherwood Lane. Her kind and friendly spirit have already been an encouragement to her neighbors! Just a reminder to all of our representatives, reach out to your neighbors during this Christmas season, by a phone call or kind deed.

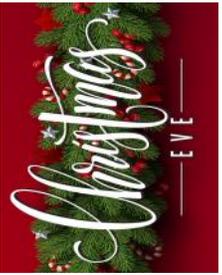
### *No November and December Resident Council Meetings*

These months are pretty busy for many of the residents, and now with COVID restrictions, we will be waiting until the end of January to start up again. Hopefully things will be looking up by the then.

***Merry Christmas and God Bless You in the New Year!***

Philena, President of Resident Council

# December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>ONE WARM COAT DRIVE: DECEMBER 1st—21st</b>	1 ALL DAY: Plant and Book Sale	2 1:00 How Bout Lunch ALL DAY: Plant and Book Sale	3 ALL DAY: Plant and Book Sale	4 ALL DAY: Plant and Book Sale	5
	7	8	9 10:30 Exercise Class 11:00 Village Chorus	10 9:00 Coffee and Bowling 1:00 –3:30 Fruits and Veggies	11 10:30 Exercise Class 1:00 Ugly Sweater Contest and Cookie Decorating	12
	14 9:00 Coffee and Bowling 10:30 Exercise Class	15 10:00 Gods Word and Prayer 1:00 Calendar Planning Meeting	16 10:30 Exercise Class 11:00 Village Chorus 1:00 Adult Coloring	17 9:00 Coffee and Bowling Focus Hope	18 4:00 Christmas Dinner Pick Up 5:00 Christmas Parade and Goodies	19
	21 9:00 Coffee and Bowling 10:30 Exercise Class 12:00 Hot Chocolate and Christmas Movie	22 10:00 Gods Word and Prayer	23 10:30 Exercise Class 11:00 Village Chorus			26
	28 9:00 Coffee and Bowling 10:30 Exercise Class	29 10:00 Gods Word and Prayer 1:00 Birthdays and Bingo	30 10:30 Exercise Class 11:00 Village Chorus		Holiday Events Village Activities Virtual Events	<b>Due to COVID-19 all events are subject to change.</b>

**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](http://www.pvm.org)

## Office Number

**(248) 334-4379**

### Village Staff

**Jon Hayes**

*Housing Administrator*

**Sharon Benton**

*Administrative Assistant*

**Hillary Vandenberg**

*Administrative Assistant*

**Joelle Baughman**

*Wellness Coordinator*

**Sue Carney**

*Service Coordinator*

**Matthew Myers**

*Maintenance Supervisor*

**Charles Williams**

*Maintenance Technician*

**EMERGENCY MAINTENANCE** (248) 330-0213

**ON-SITE SECURITY** (586) 596-8185



**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](http://www.pvmfoundation.org)

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420 S. Opdyke Rd  
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