

Embrace the possibilities

700 North Pine Road • Bay City, Michigan 48708 • www.pvm.org

December 2018

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Look for PVM on:







Have a Fun Festive Holiday Season! Enjoy These Silly (but True) December Observances.

Antarctica Day: 1

*Clark Kent's Birthday (Superman): 1 (Note: Also June 18 in another Comic)

*World Pear Day: 1 (First Saturday)

*National Mutt Day: 2 (Also July 31

every year)

*Safety Razor Day: 2

*National Cookie Day: 4

*National Dice Day: 4

*National Sock Day: 4

*Bathtub Party Day: 5

*Gingerbread Decorating Day: 8 (2nd

Saturday)

*International Shareware Day: 8 (2nd

Saturday)

*National Day of Lard: 8

*Pretend To Be A Time Traveler Day: 8

*Cremation Day: 9

*World Choral Day: 9 (Always 2nd

Sunday)

*Dewey Decimal System Day: 10

*Nobel Prize Day: 10

*Kaleidoscope Day: 11

*National 12-hour Fresh Breath Day: 12

*National Cocoa Day: 12

*National Ding-a-Ling Day: 12

*National Lost Day: 12

*Poinsettia Day: 12

*Monkey Day: 14

*Official Lost & Found Day: 14 (2nd

Friday)

*Cat Herders Day: 15

*International Tea Day: 15

*National Cupcake Day: 15

*National Wear Your Pearls Day: 15

*National Wreaths Across America Day:

15 (Third Saturday)

*Barbie and Barney Backlash Day: 16

*National Chocolate-covered Anything

Day: 16

*Answer The Telephone Like Buddy The

Elf Day: 18

*Give A Wine Club Day: 18

*Games Day: 20

*National Re-gifting Day: 20 (3d

Thursday)

*National Sangria Day: 20

*Crossword Puzzle Day: 21

*Humbug Day: 21

*National Flashlight Day: 21

*Short Girl Appreciation Day: 21

*Underdog Day: 21 (3rd Friday)

*National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day:

21 (Friday of Third full week)

*Be A Lover of Silence Day: 22

*Festivus: 23

*National Thank-you Note Day: 26

*National Whiner's Day: 26

*Free Balloon Day: 27

*Howdy Doody Day: 27

*National Chocolate Day: 28 & 29

*Bacon Day: 30

*No Interruptions Day: 30

Activities

Maintenance Updates

- Your trash bags and pizza boxes should not be discarded onto the floor in the trash room. You need to put them down the chute (2nd floor) or into the trash barrels (1st floor). Your trash bags should be NO LARGER than 13 gallon kitchen bags.
- The dumpster goes out to be picked up on Wednesday night. Please make every effort to have your trash down BEFORE then. Lately, many of you are filling up the trash room after the dumpster has been placed to the lot for pick up. This means that your trash will now be sitting in the dumpster for 7 full days rotting before it will be picked up. Imagine the smell that makes...especially in the summertime. Remember that there are residents who live next to the trash rooms. Be courteous of your neighbors and try to get your trash down timely.
- Please be mindful of your used tissues. Please put them in the proper container. Getting a fresh tissue every time helps fight the spread of germs. Putting it in the trash instead of leaving it on the floor or in the parking lot also helps to prevent the spread of germs.
- If you have a health emergency, you or your family members should press your personal help button or call 911.
- If there is a fire emergency you should call 911.
- If your smoke detector is going off because of burned food and it is after hours, please call 911 to let them know. The fire dept. will still respond to reset your alarm but they won't need to send the big truck and a slew of volunteers. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

December Activities

Please join us in the month of December for:

- BINGO Every Wednesday @ 5:00 pm
- Administrator's Updates
 Meeting December 20th @
 11:00 am.
- Monthly Birthday Celebration Monday, December 10th @ 6:00 pm
- Bookmobile –December 13th from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm.
- Movie Day Monday,
 December 10th @ 2:00 pm.
- Wii Bowling Every Thursday at 9:00 am.
- Vickie Atchinson is a gospel singer and will be here to

- sing for us on Thursday, December 13th at 2:00 pm in the community room.
- Holiday Blues Presentation –
 Wednesday, December 12th
 2:00 pm
- The admin. office will be closed December 7th, 14th, 17th, 18th, 21st, 24th, 25th and 31st.
- Dave does NOT work in the office nor does he handle resident issues/questions in my absence. He is here to do maintenance ONLY. If there is something that you need my assistance with please see me on the days that I am in the office.

Announcements

Laundry Repair Contact Number: 1-800-521-9938

Please use this number when the washers or dryers are not working or if you've lost quarters in the machine.

Laundry Room Hours are: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 pm everyday

**Be courteous of your neighbors and wipe down the washers and empty the lint screens after each use.

**Please do not touch other people's laundry or remove them from the machines. **You should not be leaving your laundry for extended periods.

Bay City Happenings in December

Bay City is host to several festivals and events each year. There are many different activities throughout our beautiful little town and the surrounding areas. Here are a few:

DOWNTOWN BAY CITY

Beginning Sunday, November 25th•Sundays in the City • The four Sundays leading up to Christmas showcase all of the "one-of-a-kind" shops and eateries that Downtown has to offer. Enjoy Holiday decorations, free horse-drawn carriage rides, strolling carolers, and holiday movies at the historic State Theatre.

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Service Coordinator Corner

Elizabeth Brinker 989-892-6906
Service Coordinator's office is located on the 2nd floor inside the theater

The HOLIDAYS are upon us! I love the cheerful holiday music in the stores and on the radio and my tree is up, decorated and SPARKLY! I love the Christmas lights. This year when I hung up my icicle collection (glass icicle-shaped ornaments), I realized that I have been collecting them for a lot of years! My daughter reminded me (again!) that she gets them when I'm gone.... Last year I gave her some of them as part of her Christmas gift. I hope that you are sharing smiles and memories with others and that you are blessed by smiles and kindness in return!

On December 13th at 1pm (different time) & December 27th at 2:15p – 2:45p we will have our Blood Pressure Clinics. *Please consider doing this one quick check on an area that can affect your life without you knowing...* Thank you to all that have taken advantage of having their blood pressure checked by a trained professional: it is good preventative care. Remember, *there is no cost and you don't even need to show your insurance information!* There's always lots of fun conversation and laughter while we wait. On top of that, you get a ticket for coming down and doing something good for yourself!

Mel from SouthernCare will be presenting on "The Holidays – Do they make you sad???" on December 12th at 2pm in the Community Room. For those of you who have inquired, I am working on a Resource Binder which will be placed in the Library so that any of you might be able to look up contact information and resources when I am not available. I hope to have it in the Library before the first of the year!

I will be in the office all day on December 11th (9a – 4p). I will be out of the office all day December 10th, 24th and 31st. Also, remember that the Offices are closed for Christmas Day and New Year's Day



(12/25 & January 1st, 2019). You can always refer to the calendars posted on my office door, outside the Theater Room in the hall, and on the bulletin board near the cubbies downstairs.

Remember, you get a "ticket" for each activity or presentation that you attend that Stephanie or I organize. When you gather 10 tickets, come up to the Service Coordinator office and choose from the "Goodie Shelf" – there will be a variety of items, both male and female, and from practical like laundry soap, hand soap, toilet paper, or canned goods to fun like candy, nuts, or 'doo dads'. I'm continuing to get new and different items so don't "assume" that you know what's there. © Thanks for your participation!

You can always call (989) 892-6906 and request an appointment at any time – if I'm not here, leave a message and I will return your call as soon as I return. You can also leave me a message in the mail slot outside the Theater Room door; I will contact you as soon as I am able.

Remember to be kind - we don't always know how the Holidays are affecting another - we don't know the memories that they might be re-living. Sometimes the holidays can be a very difficult time. Give everyone a smile when you see them - it's a free gift!

Elizabeth

Programs (continued)

Celebrating December Birthdays

We will be celebrating December Birthdays in the community room on **Monday**, **December 10**th **at 6:00 pm**. Spencer Skorupski from Skorupski Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services has graciously agreed to host all of our birthday celebrations. His staff will bring the cake and some balloons! Please come by and celebrate with us!

Rose L	12/02
Marilyn M	12/03
Pat L	12/17
Carol W	12/19
MaryAnn G	12/19
Diane B	12/21



Continued from pg. 2

December 14th 11:00 am - 12:30 pm •Second Friday City Hall Tour• The Historical Museum offers guided tours of Bay City's City Hall on the second Friday of each month. Tours begin from the lobby of the Historical Museum at 11:00am.

Space is limited to first 20 individuals.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Bay County Division on Aging

The Bay County Division on Aging provides services to Bay County residents age 60 and older. Many programs are funded through senior millage funds, donations, cost-share contributions and fees from seniors, as well as grants from the State and

Federal Government. Some programs are:

- Case Coordination and Support
- Home Delivered Meals
- · Senior Dining Centers
- Homemaking
- · Caregiver Training
- Personal Care
- Information and Referral

For more details, contact Debbie Keyes at 989-893-7070



The Holidays Aren't Happy For Everyone



Loneliness kills. Donors save lives.

Tim's holidays used to be filled with shopping trips, family outings and more. But time has created a void — especially around the holidays.

Each year Tim and his wife, Mary, would spend the evenings before Christmas shopping together and enjoying meals out while looking for the perfect gifts for their family. Since Mary's death four years ago, Tim spends most of his time alone. His children are grown and live miles away.

Without the help of donors, Tim would be extremely lonely.

Thankfully, he lives at a PVM Village where he can participate in holiday parties, social outings, shopping trips and more—all made possible by caring donors.

You're needed to keep older adults like Tim from extreme loneliness!

<u>Loneliness kills</u>. Studies suggest it's even deadlier than smoking.* Here's why:

- Around 30% increased risk of heart disease & stroke
 - 64% increase in developing dementia
 - 26% increased likelihood of death

*Data from IBM Institute for Business Value

You can make your gift by calling 248-281-2040 or by visiting <u>GiveToPVMF.org</u> today! Thank you for helping an older adult like Tim.

Happy holidays!

Paul J. Miller, CFRE



Life Without a Car, Part 2

In last month's column I shared that due to some minor repair work I spent a little over a week without a car, yet still had things to do and places to be. Heeding the advice of my daughter's boyfriend, I decided to look for apps I could download onto my smartphone that would help address this dilemma.

Starting with transportation, I essentially had two options: Lyft and Uber. Both connect you to people who - for a small fee – use their personal cars to take you places. Because I was a first time user, Lyft offered me \$5 off my first eleven rides so logically I chose them. I went to Apple's online App Store and within seconds had the free app downloaded on to my iPhone. After entering my contact information - and of course a valid credit card - I was all set to start using the app.

The next morning, when I was ready for work I launched the app, entered the address of where I needed to go and in less than a minute was notified that a driver was on his way to pick me up. I was provided with the driver's name and photograph, along with the make and model - and picture - of the car he was driving and its license plate number. He arrived in just under six minutes. Through the app, through use of an avatar I could actually watch his car make its way to my home.

The car was clean and in good condition and the driver was friendly. The ride to work took no longer than usual and cost a little over a \$1 per mile. When I factored in my car payment, the cost of gas and insurance, and the cost of repairs and depreciation I discovered that if I took 1 to 2 short rides per day (6 – 10 miles) the cost was only slightly more than what I pay to use my own car. It was definitely cheaper than a taxi or renting a car and it was extremely convenient. I used Lyft the rest of the week and the longest I had to wait for a ride was 9 minutes.

Next month I'll share how I was able to go grocery shopping without leaving the comfort of my couch.







Help Us Spread The Word

Almost everyone I know has embraced social media. With the upcoming holidays it will help families stay in touch with each other even if they cannot be with each other in person. For me, nothing compares to a tea party with my granddaughter on FaceTime to tide me over until our next visit.

The same holds true with our PVM family. With so many locations we have been able to share good news, celebrations and special events with each other. One advantage of the Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Facebook page which you may not be aware of is that it allows us to get the word out to the rest of the world. Others can see how unique we are in terms of resident engagement, service excellence and vitality.

We have now surpassed the 3,000 mark for Likes on our page; and almost all of our Likes have transitioned into followers. This is triple the number we had just a few short months ago. You can help us reach even more people. And the more Likes we have the more clout we have with social media. This helps us keep our Villages strong with high occupancy. Please Like us if you have not yet done so; and ask your family and friends to join in on the fun as well. An added bonus is that you will all be in the know when it comes to PVM and also be privy to information on Wellness and other age related issues and opportunities.

Speaking of keeping in touch with family and friends, we wish our readers a joyful holiday season and all the best in the coming year!



SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Just a reminder that the Service Excellence recognition slips are located to the right of the cubbies on the first floor. If you feel that any Hampton Meadows' employee has done something noteworthy for you or our community, please fill out a recognition slip for them. You can either put it in the suggestion box where they are located, in the drop box or you can give it to the Administrator directly.

It will then be forwarded along to a monthly drawing where we can be entered to win a prize. Thank you again for your continued support and assistance. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to make your experience here at The Village of Hampton Meadows the best that it can be.

Congratulations! You are being recognized because "What you did mattered!" what

Thank you for what you did! Employee Name:

Person Recognizing Employee:

Date:

** Please turn a copy of this card into Village Administrator or HR, for a drawing

ACCOUNTABILITY ● LISTENING ● RELATIONSHIPS ● RESPECT

Friendly Reminders:

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Bay County Toys for Tots program! This year we even received bicycles! What an amazing year we had to help the community! Hopefully the many toys that we donated will help to put a smile on the faces of some of our local children this holiday season.

Remember to always be kind to one another. One simple act of kindness can go a long way. Help your neighbors and your friends if you see that they could use a helping hand. Offer some kind words of encouragement if you know that they are struggling with something in their lives.



Beef and Bean Taco Casserole



Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil, plus more for greasing dish
- 1½ lbs ground beef
- 3 tablespoons chili powder
- 1½ ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 medium onion, finely diced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- One 15-ounce can pinto beans, strained and rinsed
- 2 cups jarred tomato salsa, plus more for serving
- 6 cups yellow corn tortilla chips (about 5 ounces), plus more for serving
- 3 cups shredded cheddar and Monterey jack blend

Directions

- Preheat the oven to 375°F. Lightly oil a 9x13 inch casserole dish.
- Heat the oil in a large skillet over high heat. When the oil is shimmering, add the beef and sprinkle with the chili powder, cumin, oregano, 1 teaspoon salt and a few grinds of pepper. Cook, breaking up the meat into smaller pieces, until browned, about 5 minutes. Add the onions and garlic and cook until the onions are soft, about 5 minutes more. Add the beans, salsa and ½ cup water and bring to a simmer; cook until the sauce thickens and coats the meat, about 5 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste. (This beef and bean mixture can be made up to a day ahead of time.)
- Lay ½ of the tortilla chips on the bottom of the oiled casserole dish. Spread half of the meat mixture on top. Sprinkle half the cheese blend over the meat. Repeat with the remaining chips, meat and cheese. Bake uncovered until the cheese melts and the casserole is hot; about 20 minutes.
- Top with sour cream, lettuce, tomato, avocado and pickled jalapenos if desired. Serve with more salsa and tortilla chips on the side.
- Suggested Toppings:
 - o 1 cup sour cream, stirred well for easy dolloping
 - o 1 cup shredded iceberg lettuce
 - o 2 plum tomatoes, diced
 - o ½ avocado, diced
 - o 1/4 cup pickled jalapenos, chopped

December Word Search



December Bonus Puzzle



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Chicken Scratch NY

The Christmas Song

Winter Wonderland

Silver Bells

The First Noel

Laughter is the Best Medicine

96-year-old Bank Note

The following is an actual letter that was sent to a bank by a 96 year-old woman. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the New York Times.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my check with which I endeavored to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his depositing the check and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honor it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly transfer of funds from my modest savings account, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only thirty-one years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account \$30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has recently become. From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan repayments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank, by check, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offense under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status form which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Notary Public, and the

mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income,

debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof. In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modeled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Please allow me to level the playing field even further. When you call me, you will now have a menu of options on my new voice mail system to choose from.

Please press the buttons as follows:

To make an appointment to see me.

To query a missing payment.

To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.

To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.

To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.

To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.

To leave a message on my computer, a password to access my computer is required. Password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorized Contact.

To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 7.

To make a general complaint or inquiry. The contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call. Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee of \$50 to cover the setting up of this new arrangement. Please credit my account after each occasion.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client...

Administrator Column

Resident Updates



Wii Tournament Update

The Village of Hampton Meadows came in 2nd Place! ☺

What an amazing time we had this year competing in the Wii Tournament again. We had a lot of fun, a lot of laughs and best of all.....we came in **SECOND PLACE** this year!

There were 6 villages who competed overall. Hampton Meadows was able to knock out four other villages to become the second place winners for the 3rd Annual PVM Wii Tournament!

This year we were able to get the silver. Next year we're going for GOLD! ©

Thank you to our team for all of the practice and the effort that they put in each year for this competition. This year's team was:

Pat M. Maryanne N. Rose L. Fran P.

And even Glenn M. had a great time coming down with them and practicing his throw on practice day too.

Thank you to everyone who participated and for everyone who stopped down to cheer them on. It meant a lot and it was great to see residents come together as a team to accomplish a goal. Way to go!

During this holiday season, enjoy spending time with those you love. Time is precious. We never know how much time we have on this earth so make every moment count.

Enjoy laughing, singing, dancing or anything else that truly makes your heart smile. Those are the moments to treasure for ourselves and the moments that others will have fond memories of us too.

No matter what holiday you celebrate this year make it a joyous one.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone.

Stephanie Cooper Administrator The Village of Hampton Meadows

Don't Miss the Bay County Library Bookmobile on Thursday, December 13th from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Commodities are now being distributed at the Essexville Baptist Community Church, located at 1001 Main St., Essexville, MI 48732. Please contact the Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency if you have any questions or concerns.

Distribution time is from 1:30 pm until 2:30 pm.

Distributions dates are:

10/10/18, 3/13/19,

8/14/19,

11/14/18, 4/10/19,

9/11/19

12/12/18, 5/8/19, 1/9/19, 6/12/19, 2/13/19, 7/10/19,

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Mission Statement

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

Office Numbers

Village Staff

Stephanie Cooper 989-892-1912

Administrator

Elizabeth Brinker 989-892-6906

Service Coordinator

David Short Maintenance

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE 989-415-7974

NUMBER

www.pvm.org







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



Our Mission: Motivated by Christ's love, we engage people as they

experience and embrace their God-given potential.

Our Vision: Changed Lives. Strong Families. Transformed Communities.

Our Values: Christ-centered. Excellence. Integrity. Life.



700 North Pine Road **Bay City, MI 48708**

Embrace the possibilities