



Village Voice



Embrace the possibilities

Cottage Courier

32001 Cherry Hill Rd. • Westland, Michigan 48186 • www.pvm.org

December 2018

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The Village of
Westland
 A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY
 Managed by Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

2018

Look for PVM on:



Welcome December!

December is the 12th and final month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. December was once known as the tenth month of the year prior to January and February being added to the calendar.

In the Northern Hemisphere, December is the beginning of the cold winter season, and a time filled with holiday joy.

December is the ending of one year, with the excitement of a new beginning in the month of January. Because of this, winter is a time to reflect and repose.

Birthstone: Turquoise (symbolizes good fortune and success)

Flower: Holly or Narcissus (symbolizes sweetness, self-esteem, vanity)

Zodiac signs: Sagittarius or Capricorn

Did you know? Charles Dickens published "A Christmas Carol" on December 19, 1843.

Did you know? The winter solstice occurs in December, marking the sun's most southern declination in the Earth's revolution around it.

Did you know? That despite or perhaps because of its dark, short days December is the month of many bright festivals? Christmas, Kwanzaa, Chanukah, and New Year's Eve—all known as the "*Festival of Lights*"

Spirit of Christmas Week (Dec 17th – Dec 21st):

- Dress to impress according to the theme of the day
- Daily contests and weekly contests
- Days include:
 - Merry Morning Monday- Wear your Christmas PJs (Pant/Shirt Combo only)
 - Santa's Workshop Tuesday - Dress like Santa, Elves, Reindeers etc.
 - Winter wonderland Wednesday- Bring winter indoors, wear your favorite outdoor apparel (Jackets, sleeves, leg warmers, scarfs etc.)
 - Color Block Thursday - Wear your favorite Christmas colors (red, green, black or combination)
 - Festive Friday - Bring out the Tacky Sweaters/Skirt

All winners will be announced at the New Year's Party!

Staff Extensions

Michele White ~ 28885
Executive Director

Mary Saffian ~ 0
Lead Receptionist

Josh Kephart ~ 28890
Maintenance Manager

Lisa Scott ~ 28893
Housekeeping Lead

Shana Brown ~ 28886
Wellness Manager

Melissa Newton ~ 28963
Wellness Coordinator

Shari Thompson ~ 28952
Billing

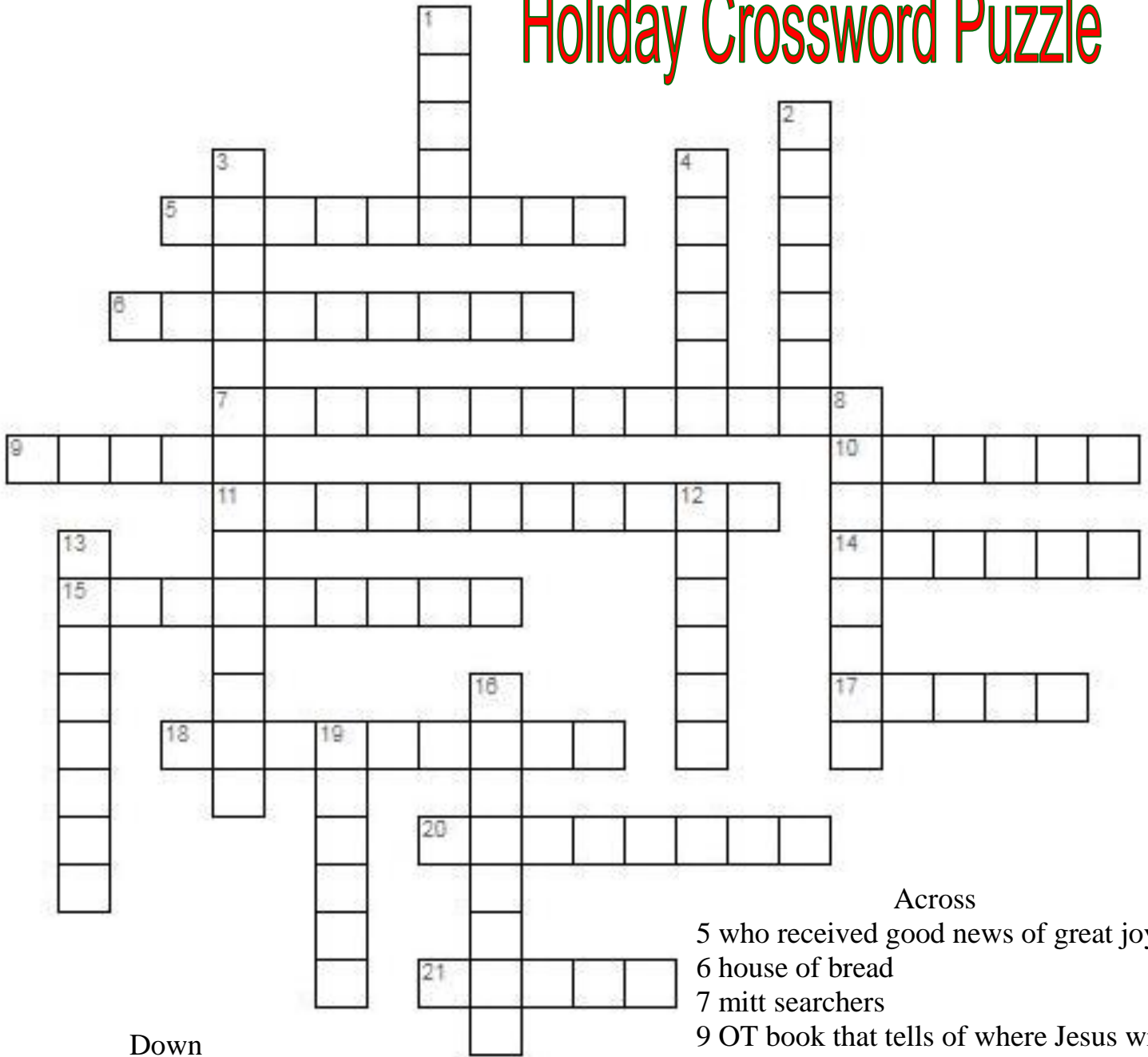
Jason Lovelly ~ 28927
Human Resources

Melissa Nestorovski ~ 28928
Marketing Manager

Jennifer Wolf ~ 28953
Wellness Instructor

Beauty Shop~28889

Holiday Crossword Puzzle



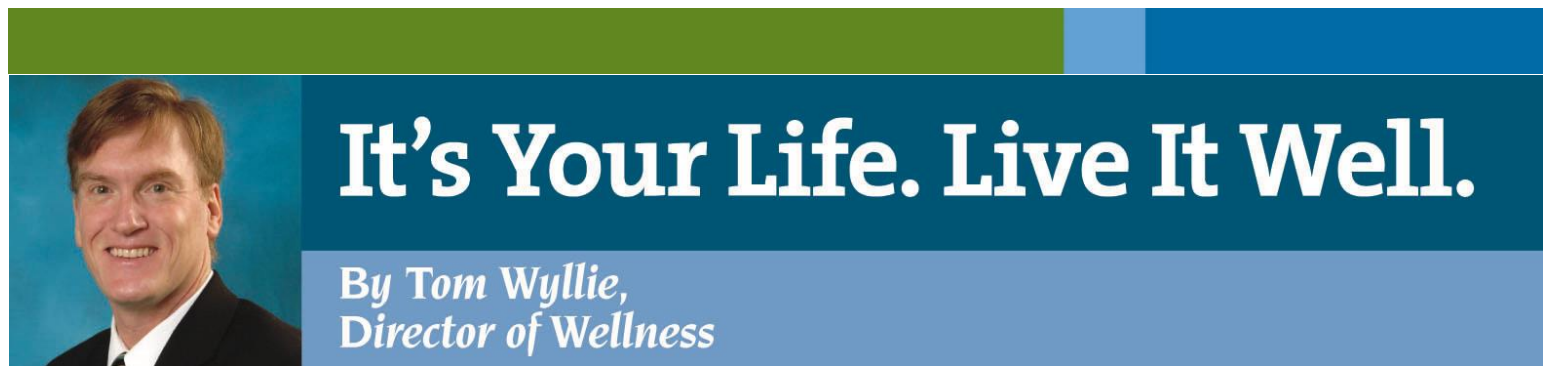
Down

- 1 you dream of one
- 2 Magi gift
- 3 bestselling Christmas hit
- 4 surname of famous actor born in 1889 on Christmas
- 8 scrooges Christian name
- 12 always winter never Christmas here
- 13 presents
- 16 New Year's Eve in Scotland
- 19 how many pipers played?

See answers on page 9

Across

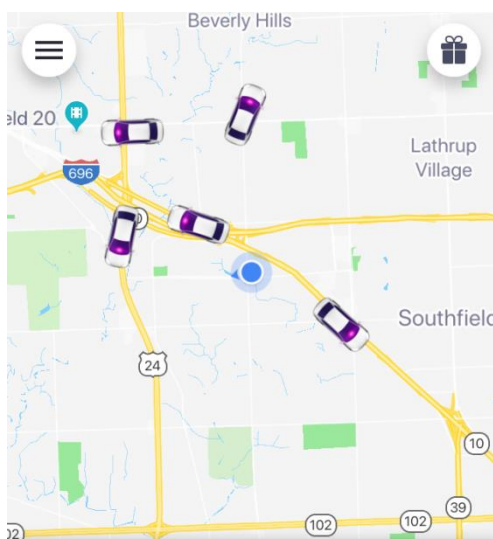
- 5 who received good news of great joy
- 6 house of bread
- 7 mitt searchers
- 9 OT book that tells of where Jesus will be born
- 10 made from distilled wine
- 11 he penned Auld lange Syne
- 14 London gets a wooden one each year from here
- 15 Mary's cousin
- 17 Joseph fled here with his family
- 18 Traditional Italian cake eaten at Christmas
- 20 God with us
- 21 Christmas hymn



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.

Hey, Tom
Where are you going?

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



The Senior Advocate.

*By Lynn Alexander,
Senior VP & Chief Marketing Officer*

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. In addition, 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!

Happy Birthday to our Wonderful Residents...



Following are the residents who celebrate a birthday in December!

Frances Webb ~ 12/5/1920

George Claxton ~ 12/6/1932

Patrica Vollans ~ 12/21/1934

Vernon Kuehn ~ 12/25/1928

Welcome New Residents!

Willie Mae Wheatley- Rose Cottage

Carolyn German- Rose Cottage

Pat Schooley- Ivy Cottage

Welcome New Employees!

Monique Griffin – Resident Assistant

Charde Straughter – Resident Assistant

Holiday Past and Present

Holiday Past

In 1828, the US ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett was the first person to introduce Poinsettias into their country

Holiday Present

Poinsettias are now grown in all 50 states and represent over 85 percent of potted plant sales during the holidays. Over \$220 million worth of poinsettias are sold during holiday season!

Holiday Past

In 1949, the tree at Rockefeller Center was strung with 7,500 bulbs.

Holiday Present

Now more than 25,000 bulbs are strung on the tree - that is more than 5 miles of lights!

Holiday Past

The first American mention of a Christmas tree was in 1747, and, strictly speaking, it was not a tree at all but a wooden pyramid covered with evergreen boughs and decorated with apples.

Holiday Present

Once the tree idea caught on, it grew rapidly. More than 34 to 36 million Christmas trees are now produced each year in the U.S. The industry employs over 100,000 people, and over 1 million acres of land have been planted with Christmas trees.

Holiday Past

Artificial Christmas trees were on the market by 1900. They were available by mail from Sears, Roebuck and Company, and cost 50 cents for 33 limbs, or a dollar for 55 limbs.

Holiday Present

Most artificial trees are now manufactured in Korea, Taiwan, or Hong Kong and contain non-biodegradable plastics and metals. They usually range in price from \$200 to \$2,000.

<https://www.familyeducation.com/fun/history-christmas/seasonal-fun-facts>

Activities in the Cottages



Thank You!
To all the family and friends that helped make our Harvest Potluck dinner a success!

UPDATES

Sunday December 23rd we will be having Christmas carolers visiting Rose and Ivy Cottage!

Rose Cottage 3:30 pm
Ivy Cottage 4:00 pm

Wayne County Light Fest

Rose Cottage Wednesday
December 5th

Ivy Cottage Wednesday
December 12th

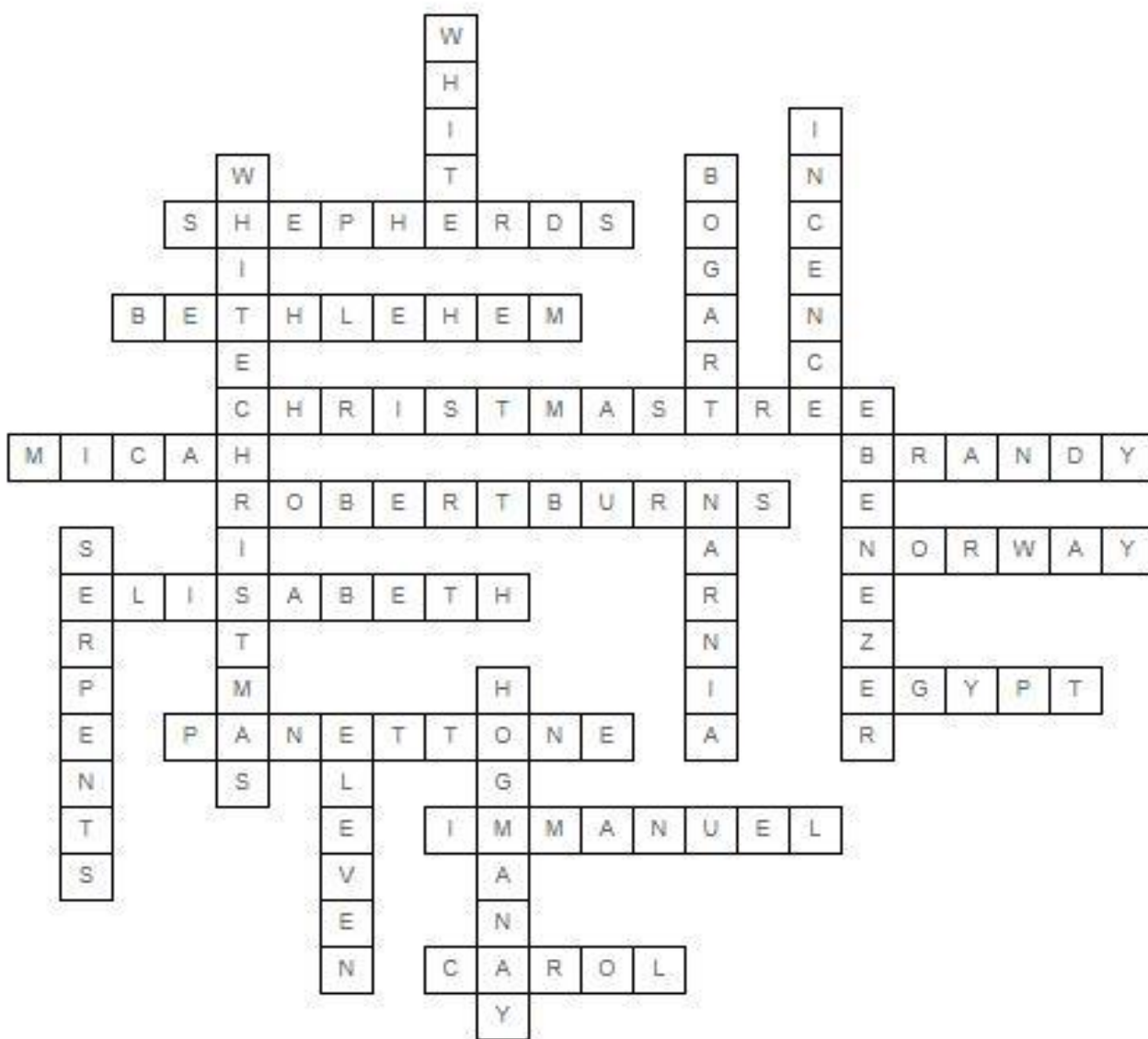


Like and Join the Village on Facebook!

We now have a Facebook page titled
Presbyterian Village of Westland!



You can see our monthly newsletters, monthly calendars, weekly updates, flyers, and photos from the many activities at the village on the Facebook page! This is also a great way to let your family and friends know what is going on at the Village!



**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 Numbers (734) 728-5222

Village Staff

Michele White
Executive Director

Jason Lovelly
Human Resources

Josh Kephart
Maintenance Supervisor

Melissa Nestorovski
Marketing Manager

Jan Smith
Nurse Manager

Shana Brown
Wellness Manager

Austin Jackson
Dietary Services Director

Shari Thompson
Billing

Kara Otto
Social Worker

Lisa Scott
Housekeeping

EMERGENCY NUMBER

(734) 728-5222



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 at **248-281-2040** or visit www.pvm.org



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