



# Village Voice



Embrace the possibilities

32001 Cherry Hill Rd. • Westland, Michigan 48186 • [www.pvm.org](http://www.pvm.org)

July 2020

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Look for PVM on:



The Village of  
**Westland**

A SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY



A Mission of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan

## **UPDATES AND REMINDERS**

**Common Areas are only for residents.  
This includes hallways.**

**All individuals must wear masks at all times in  
common areas. This includes the lobby,  
hallways, and laundry rooms.**

**All visitors on the Village of Westland property  
(inside and outside) must be screened at the  
front desk.**

**Love living at the Village of Westland?  
What to live near your friends and get money for it?  
Here's How!  
If you refer a resident who ends up living here for at  
least 90 days, you will receive a \$500 bonus!**

### **Village Westland Communication**

**An email address is the best way for us to send  
regular updates. Please call Shari Thompson at  
extension 28952 or call direct at 734.762.8952 to  
have a loved one's email address added to our list.**

**You may also send her an email at  
[sthompson@pvm.org](mailto:sthompson@pvm.org)**



# It's Your Life. Live It Well.

*By Tom Wyllie,  
Director of Wellness*

## Happy Interdependence Day!

July 4, 1776. This is the date on which the Continental Congress, representing the 13 original colonies officially declared its independence from Great Britain thus giving birth to a new nation. Traditionally, we call this day “Independence Day”. In the era of COVID-19, I propose we give it a new name. I suggest we instead call it “Interdependence Day”.

Collectively, if we are to remain healthy and well and mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, we need to rely on each other. When in public, we need to stay at least six feet away from one other and wear proper face coverings to keep from spreading the virus to our friends, neighbors and other fellow citizens. When we have symptoms, we need to stay home and contact our healthcare provider for further instructions. And we need to frequently wash our hands with soap and water. If neither is available, hand sanitizer is the next best option.

If we all do our part, we can beat COVID-19. It is only through effective interdependence that we can truly become independent and free of this virus. So this 4<sup>th</sup> of July, consider greeting each other with “Happy Interdependence Day!” If you get a funny look in reply

, after reading this column, you should be able to explain why.



# The Senior Advocate.

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

More than ever it will be important for all of us to be counted in the 2020 Census! I am sharing information we received from the federal government as to the Why and How of doing so. They have made it much easier to comply with this request to reply:

Census email to tenants:

Dear Resident:

The 2020 Census is here and you still have time to count you and your family. Every 10 years, the census counts everyone living in the United States. It is important to count every person living in your home to make sure your community and others across the nation are accurately funded and represented for the next decade

No matter who lives in your home, be sure to count them all in the 2020 Census. This includes grandparents, young children, foster children, and nonrelatives who are living with you. Information collected in the census will inform the allocation of more than \$675 billion in federal funding each year.

Health care, emergency response, schools and education program, such as SNAP are all impacted by the 2020 Census. The COVID-19 pandemic also underscores the importance of census data and census participation.

The 2020 Census is also easy, safe and important. Your personal information is kept confidential by law and your responses can only be used to produce statistics. They cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits.

It's never been easier to respond to the 2020 Census all without meeting a census taker at your door. Your response matters so be sure to get counted and respond online now to shape your future at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov), by phone at 844-330-2020, or by mail.



## A History of Independence Day

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical.

By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in the bestselling pamphlet “Common Sense,” published by Thomas Paine in early 1776.

On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies’ independence.

Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee’s resolution, but appointed a five-man committee—including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

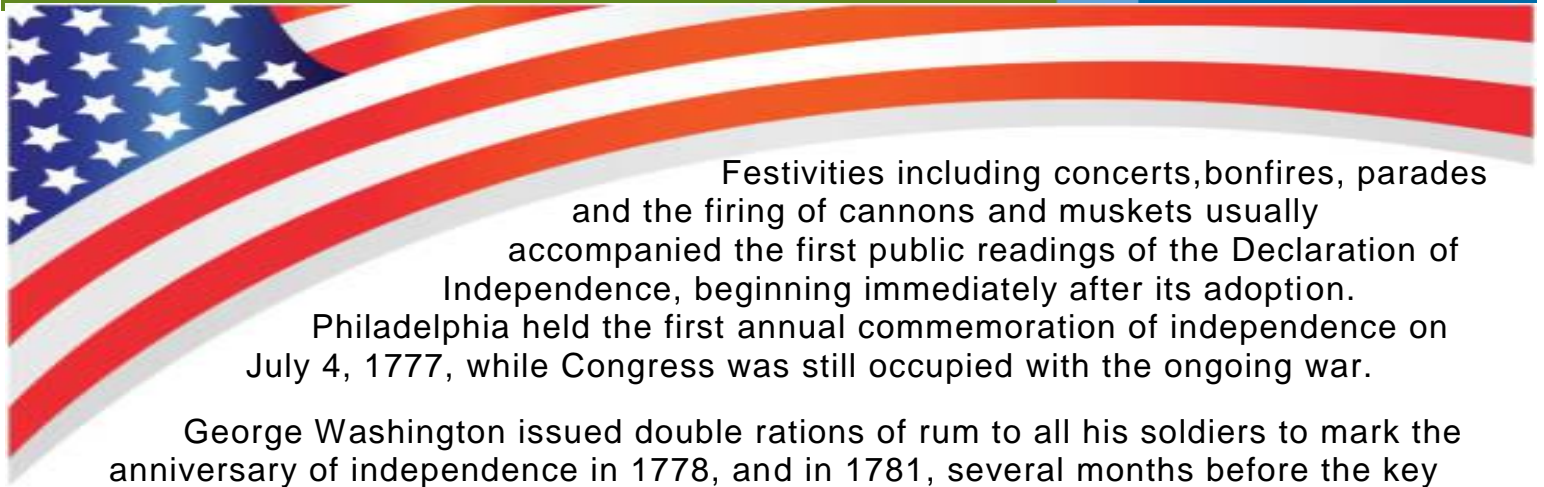
On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee’s resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the New York delegation abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2 “will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival” and that the celebration should include “Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other.”

On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

### Early Fourth of July Celebrations

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king’s birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy’s hold on America and the triumph of liberty.

*Continued of Page 7...*



Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war.

George Washington issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778, and in 1781, several months before the key American victory at the Battle of Yorktown, Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4th an official state holiday.

After the Revolutionary War, Americans continued to commemorate Independence Day every year, in celebrations that allowed the new nation's emerging political leaders to address citizens and create a feeling of unity. By the last decade of the 18th century, the two major political parties—the Federalist Party and Democratic-Republicans—that had arisen began holding separate Fourth of July celebrations in many large cities.

### Fourth of July Fireworks

The first fireworks were used as early as 200 BC. The tradition of setting off fireworks on the 4 of July began in Philadelphia on July 4, 1777, during the first organized celebration of Independence Day. Ship's cannon fired a 13-gun salute in honor of the 13 colonies. The *Pennsylvania Evening Post* reported: "at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and concluded with thirteen rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated." That same night, the Sons of Liberty set off fireworks over Boston Common.

### Fourth of July Becomes a Federal Holiday

The tradition of patriotic celebration became even more widespread after the War of 1812, in which the United States again faced Great Britain. In 1870, the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday; in 1941, the provision was expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal employees.

Over the years, the political importance of the holiday would decline, but Independence Day remained an important national holiday and a symbol of patriotism. Falling in mid-summer, the Fourth of July has since the late 19th century become a major focus of leisure activities and a common occasion for family get-togethers, often involving fireworks and outdoor barbecues. The most common symbol of the holiday is the American flag, and a common musical accompaniment is "The Star-Spangled Banner," the national anthem of the United States.

# JULY FACTS

- July was named in honor of Julius Caesar in 44bc. Previously it had been called Quintilis, which means fifth month in Latin
- July starts on the same weekday as April every year
- The Anglo-Saxon names for the month included Heymonath (hay month) or Maed monath(meadow month)
- The birth flowers for July are the Larkspur (Delphinium) or the Water Lily (Nymphaea 'Marliacea Chromatella)
- On Average it is the coldest month in much of the Southern hemisphere
- In America it is Baked Beans Month, Ice Cream Month, Hot Dog Month and Blueberries Month
- July is the seventh month of the year according to the Gregorian calendar. It is one of seven months with 31 days
- In the Southern Hemisphere, February is the seasonal equivalent of August in the Northern Hemisphere
- On average it is the warmest month in most of the Northern hemisphere
- Was traditionally the fifth month of the year before it was changed to seventh by the Roman Republic in about 450 BC





# Welcome To The Village!

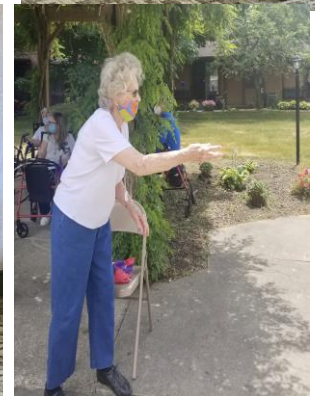


Joyce Polston  
Joan Carr

Residents  
Brian Pisarski  
Jeremiah Mueller

Opal Marquis  
Helen Wilson

## June Activities!





# Happy Birthday to our Wonderful Residents...



**Helen Patton..... July 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Sandy Taylor..... July 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Margaret Etherington... July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Marilyn Amann..... July 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Janice Wilson..... July 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Geri Hnidy..... July 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sue Kurginaki..... July 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Beverly Benjamin..... July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Austin Patterson... July 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mary Glass..... July 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Roger Makowiec... July 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Esther Doletzky..... July 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Dorothy Smiley..... July 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mike Linihan..... July 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Johanna Schoel..... July 28<sup>th</sup>**

**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 Numbers**

**(734) 728-5222**

**Village Staff**

**Michele White – Ext. 28885**  
*Executive Director*

**Kara Otto – Ext. 28810**  
*Social Worker*

**Jason Lovelly – Ext. 28927**  
*Human Resources*

**Shari Thompson – Ext. 28952**  
*Billing*

**Jan Smith – Ext. 23179**  
*Nurse Case Manager*

**Walter Grantham – Ext. 28897**  
*Dietary Manager*

**Breana Wallace – Ext. 28896**  
*Marketing Manager*

**Brenda Seifert – Ext. 28893**  
*Housekeeping Lead*

**Shana Brown – Ext. 28886**  
*Wellness Manager*

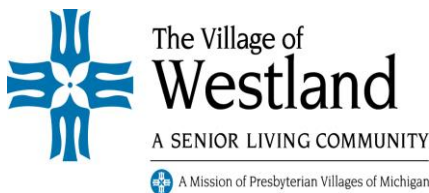
**Ed Fletcher – Ext. 28890**  
*Environmental Service Manager*

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



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