

## Our House Clubhouse

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# Our House News

July Aug

2017

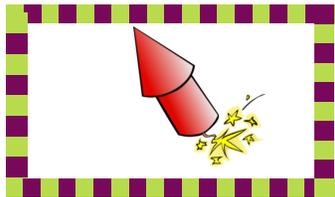
## Happy Birthday America! By Jordan W.

On July 4, 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed. This signified the 13 colonies of America as no longer being part of the British Empire.

off for each of the fifty states at noon on Independence Day at each military base around the country.

Your Land”, “Stars and Stripes Forever”, and regionally, “Yankee Doodle” in northeastern states and “Dixie” in southern states. Some of the lyrics re-

The legal separation actually occurred two days earlier on July 2, 1776.



This is called Salute to the Union.

Today Independence Day is celebrated with families and friends enjoying barbecues, sports, fireworks and other activities.

Independence Day fireworks are often accompanied by patriotic songs such as the national anthem “The Star-Spangled Banner”, “God Bless America”, “America the Beautiful”, “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”, “This Land Is



call images of the Revolutionary War or the War of 1812.

A salute of one gun is fired

## Representative Klint Kesto on C.A.R.E.S. Task Force

Did you know that our own District Representative, Klint Kesto, from Commerce Township is co chair of the C.A.R.E.S. task force? This is a bipartisan task force created to allow members to deeply explore a wide breadth of issues and hear from interested stakeholders before reporting recommendations to the legislature.

This task force’s priorities would center on improving mental health services, ensuring public safety, smarter expenditure of resources, satisfying the needs of crime victims and other vulnerable populations, preparing those who are incar-

cerated to safely and productively re enter society, breaking the cycle of crime, building our workforce, and encouraging coordination of state services. We are proud to say that Representative Kesto has actually visited Our House Clubhouse in the past! He

seems to have a genuine interest in understanding our system. We trust that his experience here will help him in understanding the benefits of the clubhouse and their journey in recovery. (Continue pg. 3)



## ART GROUP “RUG HOOKED” IT UP...

The Art Group had a meeting on Saturday, July 8, 2017 at the Clubhouse.

Erica, Elizabeth, Chris, Bill, Nicole, Lisa and Molly. Both Chris and Erica were work-

ing on their Latch Hook Projects. The rest of us were eating lunch



and watching the Movie that Bill brought, Paul Blart Mall Cop II, and we were all having a good time laughing and making comments about how funny the movie was.

## MY FAMILY BY Lisa H.

My sister Laurie and her husband Paul live in the Netherlands. The country has many windmills and in the Spring they countryside is filled with many colored tulips. My sister and her husband are instructors in the local school systems.

My brother-in-law is a Principal in the local High School.

My sister is a counselor.

My brother-in-law walks to school.

Many people ride bikes as a way to get around.

Sarah, their daughter is a recruiter. Jacob is a future student at MSU in

criminal justice



We see my sister once a year



when she visits Michigan.

## Our House Statistics: Jordan W.

Month of: June 2017

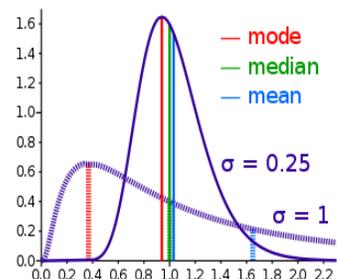
Last month we transported 810 members, for a total of 5,869 miles. the

The drivers drove 250 1/4 hours, and the staff drove 23 1/4 hours

This is a average of 33 1/4 members, and 244 1/2 miles.

The drivers drove an average of 10 1/2 hours, and the staff drove an average of 23 1/4 hours.

Total fuel cost was \$1,127.46. Total attendance was 544, which is an average of 25, which is down 1% from last year





Continued from page 1

Key points of discussion for the task force are outlined below. When possible, the task force recommendations should lead to legislative proposals but they could also result in revised regulations and departmental policies, new pilot programs, and /or work groups to continue developing policy proposals.

- ⇒ Improving the delivery of mental health services
- ⇒ Better utilizing substance abuse disorder (SUD) Treatments
- ⇒ Using Social Workers more effectively
- ⇒ Attracting and retaining more mental health professionals
- ⇒ Enhancing Coordination of Veterans Services
- ⇒ Bridging the Information Gap between state agencies
- ⇒ Expanding Mental Health Intervention Training
- ⇒ Allowing More Discretion in the Criminal Justice System
- ⇒ Incentivizing Offender Rehabilitation
- ⇒ Expanding Options for Alternative Sentencing
- ⇒ Extending Services to more Crime Victims

This task force will convene at:  
 Oakland Community Health Network  
 Tuesday, August 29 from 2:00—4:00  
 2011 Executive Hills Blvd., Auburn Hills, 48326

### **My Fireworks Adventure: Pam C.**

*A friend and I had plans to go to the Wixom fireworks on June 29th. But, the sky was dark and it looked like it was going to storm. We decided to take a chance and go anyways. There was a free concert in downtown Wixom before the fireworks. The band was Steve King and the Dittlies. They played classic rock music and hit songs from the past few decades.*

*The fireworks were very colorful. Some of the displays had shapes like smiley faces and hearts. The finale was spectacular.*



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**OUR HOUSE CLUBHOUSE**

*Our House is Your House*

**We are on the Web!**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Our mission is to promote the mental and physical health our out members and our community through programs that promote structure, build confidence and encourage team building skills of all members.*

## **Be My Eyes By: Nicole G.**

I am part of an organization called by my eyes which helps people who are blind or visually impaired “see” things with the help of sighted volunteers and the video cameras on their iPhone. Through a direct video call, the app gives blind people the opportunity to ask a sighted volunteer for help with tasks that require normal vision. The person who is blind “borrows” the helper’s eyes all through his or her smartphone. The sighted helper is able to see and describe what the blind

person is showing the sighted helper by filming with the video camera in the smartphone. That way, by working together they are able to solve the problem that the blind person is facing. The Be My Eyes app free and available in the AppStore for Google and iPhone. I really enjoy and have learned a lot from my work with this app.



I have a good friend who is visually impaired and it helps me realize that until I walk a mile in their shoes I can’t totally understand what they are dealing with, but through this app I am able to support them in their journey. Having a disability myself this app enables me to feel empowered to help others.