January 2011 Edition

http://sites.google.com/site/thevillageexchange/

Pittsfield Village Communications Committee

# **Christmas Tree Removal Up To Residents This Year**

This year there will be no curb side collection of Christmas trees in the city of Ann Arbor, leaving many residents wondering what to do with their Christmas trees. Undecorated Christmas trees may be dropped off—free and 24/7—in the parking lot adjacent to the Drop-off Station at 2950 E. Ellsworth through Monday, Jan. 31, 2011. Beginning in February, Christmas trees must be delivered to the Drop-Off Station during normal operating hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 9AM to 5PM, (734)971-7400, for a small fee.

Residents should plan to dispose of their trees either at the Drop-off Station during the posted collection time frame, or cut and tie their trees into bundles and reserve for the beginning of compost-collection season, the first Monday in April.

The collected evergreen trees are chipped into mulch or composted. Any metal, glass or plastic ornaments left on the tree can ruin the processing equipment, harm the operators, and spoil the landscaping mulch. For these reasons, the trees must have all tree stands, nails, ornaments, tinsel,

and plastic bags removed.

Since wreaths and evergreen roping are generally made with wire or plastic backing, these items should be placed inside trash carts.

For 24-hour information on the city's solid waste services, please phone 734-99-GREEN or view the city's Web site at www.a2gov. org/compost.

### "Light Up The Village" Contest Winners

The winners of the 2010 Light Up The Village Contest have been chosen. And here are the results:

> 1st Place: 3410 Oakwood 2nd Place: 2305 Pittsfield Blvd. 3rd Place: 2259 Pittsfield Blvd.

Each winner will receive a cash prize of \$50. Thanks to all residents who helped Pittsfield Village shine this holiday season.



# **Calder Dairy Delivers in Pittsfield Village**

Lori Maddix

Whitewood

We can still see the door next to our kitchen windows where the milk man would leave his deliveries back in the 40s and 50s. While those doors are now sealed and part of our history, milk deliveries are still made in the Pittsfield Village.

My son and I recently discovered

Calder Dairy's wonderful products. Our family is aware that Michigan businesses need our support so were happy to find a family farm in SE Michigan that we could buy from. Calder Dairy and Farms has been a family owned and operat-

ed Michigan business since 1946. They don't use artificial hormones. Their milk is bottled in recyclable glass and has a wonderful, distinctive flavor (even the skim milk, which is saying something). You can

find their products at Hillers, Whole Foods and Morgan & York. If you like their products as much as my family does and want to take advantage of home delivery, it is available in our neighborhood on Tuesdays for \$2/week. Calder Dairy offers many other products for delivery in addition to milk. It's possible to have eggs, butter, bread, and orange juice delivered as well as many other goods. My son recommends their ice cream.



If you set up a standing order, you aren't "stuck" with it. You can change your order up to 10PM the evening before delivery. Not at home on Tuesdays? All you need to do is to leave a cooler outside if you're not home to accept

delivery. For questions or to arrange home delivery, phone 313-381-8858.

Order worksheet: http://www.calderdairy.com/home-delivery/order-worksheet Website: http://www.calderdairy.com/



#### **Board of Directors**

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#### **Committee Chairs**

Greg Witbeck
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**Jason Beckerleg Communications Committee** 

Mei Olson
Finance Committee

Elizabeth Hunsche Landscape Committee

Darleen Boynton

Modification & Maintenance

Committee

#### **Management Office**

Melissa Brown Community Manager

2220 Pittsfield Blvd. Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Phone: 734-971-0233 Fax: 734-971-3421

Mon.- Fri. 8:30AM - 5:00PM

# **Great Music and Fine Wine Join Forces in the Wine Gypsy**

**◄** he only thing better than great music and fine wine is when you get a chance to enjoy both of them together. And that's just what the "Wine Gypsy" is all about. The brainchild of Pittsfield Village resident and musician Kitty Donohoe, the concertwith-wine concept is perfect for the holidays, an office party, or any place where adults gather to have fun. An Emmy award-winning singer-songwriter with a national reputation, Donohoe is also something of a wine expert, and she recently decided to bring those two worlds together. The idea is simple - Donohoe comes to your home or business, bringing a selection of wines and a guitar. She then entertains your guests with songs, pouring tastings, pointing out the nuances of each wine. Last year Donohoe partnered with Jackson, Michigan winery Sandhill Crane Vineyards, a winery on the Pioneer Wine Trail that winds through southeast Michigan. "I have worked in the wine trade periodically for a decade," she said, "but I never really appreciated Michigan wines until I started getting to know the Sandhill Crane offerings. There is a perception that wines from the midwest states are somehow less sophisticated or appealing than those from other areas of the country. Or that they're very sweet. That isn't true at all."

One thing Donohoe likes about Sandhill Crane is their commitment to using all local produce in their wines. If the grapes aren't grown on their own estates, they are purchased from a radius of about 150 miles or so from Jackson, all in Michigan. Even the honey for their meads is local. "This local focus means that the Cabernet Sauvignon, for example, doesn't taste like one you'd find in California



- it tastes like a Michigan Cab. It's a complex wine with its own unique character." At a Wine Gypsy party Donohoe brings wines that cover the spectrum from bone-dry whites and reds, to semi-dry's and sweets, finishing with an award-winning raspberry dessert wine. And chocolate. "The combo of chocolate with the raspberry dessert wine is amazing." Donohoe has been a performing songwriter for decades with several CDs to her credit, and she notes that she enjoys finding songs to pair with the wines she's serving so that it all ties together. For more information about hosting a Wine Gypsy event, you can go to the website at www. thewinegypsy.com or call 877-351-2919.

# **Update: Village Social Groups 2011**

**Carol Ferguson** 

Edgewood

Happy Winter, Villagers!

Back at our annual pool party, a large group of you were interested in forming various social groups. These groups are intended to help us get to know one another better, accomplish something interesting and do fun things. Groups many Villagers were interested in were Walking, Movies, Games, and Books.

We've had a bit of a slow start, but it's time to see if there is still interest out there!

Please check out our new page on the Village Exchange at https://sites.google.com/site/thevillageexchange/Welcome/social-groups.

Let's form our groups, schedule some meetings and get going! If you're interesting in being a part of a social group, please email me at socialgroups@pittsfieldvillage.com.

I am looking forward to getting to know our neighbors better!!!

# We Need Your Help to Plant Trees in Pittsfield Village!



The City of Ann Arbor is piloting a new volunteer based street tree planting program and Pittsfield Village has been selected as our second pilot neighborhood.

In 2003, the emerald ash borer (EAB), an exotic wood boring beetle, was discovered infesting and killing ash trees in the City Ann Arbor. EAB killed the ash trees by boring under the bark and disrupting the movement of water and nutrients throughout the tree. Ash tree removals began in 2003, and when the City completed them in 2008, over 10,000 ash trees had been removed along city streets and in parks.

With the loss of thousands of Ash trees, the City has not been able to plant the number of street trees needed to replace those lost to EAB plus the other trees that die each year. In response to this, the City developed a pilot volunteer street tree planting program in 2009. The first pilot neighborhood was the Virginia Park neighborhood where neighborhood volunteers planted 50 street trees in the fall of 2009. The program was a success. To ensure the program design is sustainable and able to be replicated in other neighborhoods, the City chose to undertake another pilot volunteer planting project and Pittsfield Village was selected to be our second pilot neighborhood.

#### **How Does the Program Work?**

The City of Ann Arbor will provide the trees, tools (if needed). The residents of Pittsfield Village will provide the labor to plant the trees.

#### **How Many and What Types of Trees?**

Volunteers will plant approximately 25 bare root trees. Due to the site constraints caused by underground utilities, the majority of the trees that will be planted will be small ornamentals (ex: Eastern Redbud, Japanese Tree Lilac). In sites that may accommodate larger trees, we may plant shade trees (ex: White Oak, Sycamore).

#### When?

A Saturday or Sunday during early May 2011 for 3 hours. Interested volunteers who sign up through Melissa Brown will be notified of the tree planting date and time.

#### Where?

Fernwood and Parkwood but exact locations have not been selected.

#### **How Can You Volunteer?**

Contact Melissa Brown, Pittsfield Village Community Manager at 734.971.0233 or mbrown@kramertriad.com by April 15, 2011.

#### **Questions?**

Kerry Gray, Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner, City of Ann Arbor - 734.794.6430 x 43703 or kgray@a2gov.org

Jason Frenzel, Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator, City of Ann Arbor, Natural Area Preservation Program- 734.794.6627 or jfrenzel@a2gov.org



#### **C2 Committee Seeking Volunteers**

The Pittsfield Village Communications Committee is seeking volunteers to help us in our mission of keeping all Pittsfield Village residents informed and updated on what's going on in the community. We are especially in need of someone with web experience. We are currently in the process of planning a new community web site from the ground up, that will reflect our community in a positive way and help establish us as a condominium community. Any level of expertise or experience would be of great value. If interested please email pittsfieldvillage@gmail.com.

#### **E-Communication Effort Continues**

In our last newsletter we called on residents to help our community reduce waste and save money by signing up to receive non-urgent communications, such as general communications from the Board and Management and newsletters, by email rather than having a hard copy delivered. We have received as large number of responses from residents who wish to be added to this list. We are continuing this effort so if you are interested please send an email to pittsfieldvillage@ gmail.com to let us know. During this transition you may receive communications via mail and home delivery. We hope to have these changes implemented for those residents who sign up within the next couple of months.

#### **Newsletter Contributors Wanted**

Pittsfield Village News is a true community effort and we want to hear from you. We are always looking for residents to contribute articles, take photographs, or suggest ideas for future editions. We also post classified ads free of charge for all Village residents. If you are interested please email pittsfieldvillage@gmail.com.

# January 2011 Community Calendar

# **January 4**

**Modification & Maintenance Committee Meeting** 6:30PM - 8:30PM @ The Community Building

# **January 13**

**Communications Committee Meeting** 7:00PM - 9:00PM @ The Community Building

# **January 18**

**Landscape Committee Meeting**6:30PM - 8:30PM @ The Community Building

# **January 27**

Finance Committee Meeting
6:00PM - 9:00PM @ The Community Building

## **January 28**

**Board of Directors Meeting & Open Forum** 6:15PM – Open Forum, 6:45PM – Meeting

@ The Community Building

# A Friendly Reminder to Village Pet Owners

The Village is a great place to walk around the community with or without dogs. However, we need to keep the safety of people and dogs in mind. Please check to make sure your cats and dogs have tags so if they get lost someone will know how to contact you. Another important thing to do is to make sure your walking equipment (leashes, collars, harnesses) are still in working condition. If you notice tears in your dog's equipment, please replace it out of courtesy to your dog (so it doesn't get hurt) and also to the community. If you have a dog that is not particularly friendly, is aggressive, or has hurt other dogs in the past, it is especially important to

have good gear when walking your dog and also to keep your dog away from others. You should let others know, if they ask, that your dog can't be approached for the safety of everyone. If for any reason your dog gets loose and is dangerous, please let others out in the area know this. As a general courtesy, ask before approaching dogs whether you have one with you or not. Finally, just a reminder, for cat and dog owners to clean up after your dog (and cats too)! Otherwise, the rest of us in The Village end up cleaning up after your animal. We all enjoy our pets and lets work together to keep The Village a great place to live with our pets.