



Colin inspecting a chimney

Reflections of Thanksgiving for Pittsfield Village

With the holidays coming there are a lot of to do lists to fill. I always like to start off with a list of reflections of the good things in life. Pittsfield Village certainly offers a lot to be thankful for.

First, I give thanks that we have a top notch maintenance team- Colin Breed, Tim Clarkston and Dave Walke. They lift so many problems off our shoulders. A partial list of fall chores that they see to completion:

- Hire a contractor to pick up the fall leaves
- Mulch the fall leaves
- Clean up the flower beds
- Buy Ice Melt
- Interview and hire a snow removal contractor
- Inspect the roof
- Interview and hire roofing contractor
- Inspect the chimney for cracks
- Interview and hire a mason for chimney repairs
- Talk to the city about footing drain disconnection
- Cut down dead trees
- Manage all these projects!

I am grateful that I have not given much thought about all these projects.

Next, I give thanks for Terri Lierstein, Wanda Buster and Tracy Vincent capably manage the business end of the office for us. No big bills to check over and pay, no need for those pesky phone calls to contractors that may or may not be returned or returned at those inconvenient times. These are only a small part of there jobs but it is a relief that I do not have to do them myself.

Praise and thanksgiving are also offered for our board of directors and committees who do so much work to develop and maintain a vision of our community. I appreciate the hours of dedication everyone puts in so that we can have a viable, financially well run attractive place to call home.

Thank you to all of you for being my neighbor.

Sincerely,

Darleen Boynton

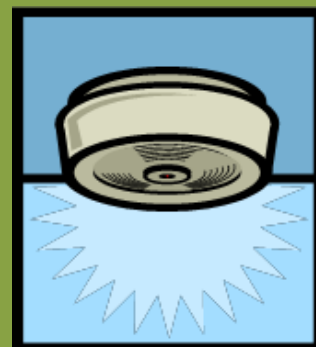
Sunday November 2nd

“Fall Back” one hour
starting at 2:00 am



CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

The end of daylight savings is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and replace your furnace filters!





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Margarita Garcia-Roberts

Finance Committee

OPEN

Landscape Committee

Ellen Johnson

Modification &

Maintenance Committee

Management Office

Terri Leirstein

Community Manager

Tracy Vincent

Administrative Manager

Wanda Buster

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Karen Tuttle of klizaDESIGN.com

THE PLANT NURSERY

As many are aware we have a Baby Tree Nursery in the courtyard between Pittsfield-Fernwood, and Parkwood-Jeanne (the old volleyball court). This little nursery is filled with our "baby trees." They are planted and cared for waiting to find a new home within the Village when mature. These little trees require gentle care. In the past few months adults, children and dogs have been noticed within its boundaries. It is understood we all love to frolic and play within a woods; however this area is to be left undisturbed. Parents and children have been seen tearing off branches of our baby trees to play with. This is totally unacceptable! Please stop! As for those that walk their dogs through the nursery, if you must, please remove your dog's droppings when deposited. Left feces is unacceptable and against the Village Rules.

For all those that have helped maintain our Baby Tree Nursery, we thank you, and please feel free to continue. Pittsfield Village has 65 acres to maintain and it will take a lot of hard work and trees. Please be respectful of our efforts as we are of your's and find a suitable pathway around the exterior of the Tree Nursery. Your thoughts and comments are always appreciated. Thank you from The Landscape Committee.

What's New at the Maintenance Shed?

The Board approved the purchase of a new "Gator" in the 2014-2015 budget year



Colin, Tim, and Dave pictured here with the newest piece of equipment.

PUBLIC HEARING

To: Property Owners, Occupants and Registered Neighborhood Associations Within 300 Feet of this Proposal

From: Planning and Development Services

Hearing Date: November 5, 2014

A public hearing will be held by the Ann Arbor City Planning Commission in the council Chamber, Second Floor, Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Municipal Building (City Hall), 301 E. Huron Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan on Wednesday, November 5, 2014. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm and the following petition will be one of the items on the agenda:

Pittsfield Retail Site Plan for City Council Approval—A proposal to construct one-story retail additions totaling 18,800 square feet to connect 4 existing retail buildings on this 5.5 acre site. An existing bank building on the west end of the site will be demolished. The five tax parcels will be combined into a single tax parcel. The existing parking lots and rear alley will be reconfigured, and stormwater detention facilities will be added. Ward 3.

At this hearing, the City Planning Commission will consider all comments before making its advisory recommendation on this request to the City Council. The City Council will hold its public hearing at a later date and make the final decision on this request.

City staff are reviewing this request in relation to City plans/ordinances and will provide comments prior to the public hearing. After 3:00pm on the Friday prior to the public hearing, the staff report will be available at the Planning and Development Services office or you can view the electronic staff report at <http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

If you would like additional information, or would like to provide comments or suggestions to the staff, please call us at (734) 794-6265, email at planning@a2gov.org, prior to noon of the day of the public hearing, or visit our office on the first floor of the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Municipal Building (8-5 weekdays).

DID YOU KNOW?!

by Barb DeLongchamp

There are always concerns regarding Dog Droppings. So many whys. Why do they have to be picked up; won't they just sink into the soil and be fertilizer; my dog is very small and they will just drop in between the grass; or they are in an out-of-the-way area. Here are a few little facts you may or may not know. This information has been gained from veterinarians.

First let us address the real why. Any dog dropping can contaminate a clean area. If not the dropping itself, the bacteria, fungus, or eggs left on the blades of grass. If your dog is healthy the dropping unfortunately will not remain that way. After a period of a few days a white coating (a type of fungus) will cover the dropping. This fungus if handled or stepped on by a dog or human will transmit ringworm. This is a fungus that will form a scabby round area on the body and will require medical treatment.

If your dog is unhealthy and possibly has worms these (depending on which kind) can be transmitted to humans or dogs. Dogs can host four (4) types of worms. They are tapeworms, round worms, hook worms, and whip worms. Tapeworms are caught from a diseased flea. Possible signs would be a

thin dog with a protruding belly. The round worms can be transmitted through the mother dog's milk or ingestion. Many puppies are found with these and they can be easily eliminated. Hook worms can be transmitted by ingestion or coming in contact with the feces. Black or tar stools or white gums are a good sign that your dog is infected. These can be transmitted to humans easily by stepping on the feces in bare feet with an open wound, and they will lodge within the intestines. Children are easy victims. Whip worms are difficult to irradiate and can be contracted by ingestion. White gums from loss of blood is noticeable. Hook worms and Whip worms can kill a puppy!

What's the solution? First by all means, have your dog's droppings checked annually by your veterinarian. Just because your dog was pest free last year doesn't mean he/she hasn't picked something up. Secondly, and most important, please pick up your dog's droppings. This is an unpleasant task, as we all know, but very necessary to the cleanliness, health, and well being of our little community. Protect your dog and please protect our children. Be a good doggie parent.

Now you know the total story!



Pittsfield Village
Communications
Committee

Bulletin

CONDO OWNERS: STILL WRITING CHECKS?

If you are still writing checks each and every month, worrying about getting the payment in on time, using ever-increasing postage stamps, well, we have a solution for you! Perhaps you are interested in safe, easy, convenient and reliable method for paying your monthly Association Fees. If so, we urge you to consider signing up for Direct Debit from your checking or savings account! All you have to do is complete the short form and return it with a voided check to Wanda Buster at the Pittsfield Village office. The monthly fee will be automatically withdrawn at the beginning of the month and you'll NEVER have a late fee!



Terri Peterson

Attention: Village Condo Residents

Contact your **Xfinity** Rep

at

(734)827-4951

For all of your Cable, Internet, Phone and Home Security Needs!

In the Garden

Lisa Joseph, Master Gardener
Pittsfield Village Staff Horticulturist

Guess what time it is? Time to plant the spring-flowering bulbs! I love to plan different combinations of bulbs that will bloom together. Like my journal of annual plants, I also keep a bulb journal and have a list of favorite pairings. My all-time favorite, failure-proof combinations include the following:

Tulipa Tinka and Narcissus Hawera- Tinka is a small species tulip that has red outer petals and primrose yellow inner petals. It stands about 10" tall; Hawera is a pale yellow miniature daffodil with swept back petals that is 6" tall. They bloom together beautifully in late spring.

Tulipa Lilliput and Narcissus Little Gem- Lilliput is another small species tulip that is striking red with a violet purple base. It stands at just 6" tall; Little Gem is a golden yellow 5" tall miniature daffodil. When they bloom in early April, the display draws the eye and many compliments! Another choice minor bulb to add to this pairing is **Puschkinia (Striped Squill)**, a 6" plant with a light blue flower with darker blue stripes. This little bloomer has a big fabulous scent for such a tiny treasure. You do have to get down on your hands and knees to sniff it, but it is well worth the effort!

Tulipa Ballerina, Camassia Blue Danube, and Allium Purple Sensation- Ballerina is a 24" tall lily-flowered tulip that is brilliant orange with scarlet and yellow flames; Camassia stands at 3' tall with starry blossoms of gorgeous dark cobalt blue; the Allium is a 24" tall ornamental onion with tiny violet purple blooms shaped into a ball the size of a baseball. This trio blooms together in early May.

Tulipa Lilac Wonder and Narcissus Quail- Lilac Wonder is yet another species tulip (can you tell how much I love them?) that is lilac pink on the outside with a sunny yellow interior. It is a short little cutie at 6" tall; Quail is a daffodil in the Jonquilla division which means that it has a heavenly, fruity fragrance. It is golden yellow and stands 12" tall. This pairing blooms in mid April. Tulipa Lilac Wonder also looks gorgeous when planted next to the perennial plant, Lamb's Ear.

Tulipa Marilyn and Narcissus Dreamlight- Marilyn is a 20" tall lily-flowered tulip that looks good enough to eat. It blooms in late

April in all its glory, and I find that I can't take my eyes off of it. It is bright white with these incredible raspberry streaks. My clients always thank me profusely for introducing them to this beauty. I've paired it with the Dreamlight daffodil in the past with great success. This wonderfully fragrant daffodil has bright white petals and a small light yellow, red-rimmed cup. It stands at 18" tall.

My featured plant for November is **EUPATORIUM DUBIUM 'LITTLE JOE'** (Dwarf Joe-Pye Weed).

This carefree, native perennial grows to 3-4' tall and wide. It is covered with big mauve purple flowers in late summer, attracting so many butterflies that it will knock your socks off! This plant shows excellent mildew resistance and is very tolerant of various soil conditions. It does, however, demand to be given supplemental water when rain is scarce for many days. You will know when it is time to water because the tall stems will bow their heads and pout. In the fall, I like to leave the stems standing for winter interest. I cut them back during my spring clean up in March.

If you're short on garden space, a smaller variety has recently been introduced called 'Baby Joe'. This variety matures at just 30" tall by 24 to 36" wide. The flower heads are huge! It looks sensational in the photo, though I haven't yet tested it in the garden. This spring? I think I will.

At this time of year, I'm busy raking leaves into rows and mowing over them with my Grandpa's old riding mower he left me in his will. I make a pass over the piles, collecting the chopped up leaves in the leaf collector attached to the back of my mower. Once the collection basket is full, I dump it out then mow over the pile once more. This ensures that the leaves are the perfect small size to use as a soil conditioner or as mulch the following spring. I empty the basket in a slatted bin I bought and placed at the edge of the wood line in my backyard. The nicely shredded leaves will sit for the winter months, composting down to the perfect consistency for me to use in the spring. Exhausting hard work, yes! But the resulting product is oh so worth it. The earthworms love composted leaves, pulling them down into the soil, improving the soil texture and adding organic matter. While I drive around

on my mower and work, I daydream about memories with my Grandpa and thank him for the precious gift he left for me. I can hear him tell me what a beautiful, smart granddaughter I am. That is what he has told me ever since I can remember.

Enjoy your time outdoors in this beautiful fall weather. The colors are absolutely dynamite this year! Anyone want to help me rake?



Tulipa Tinka and Narcissus Hawera-Tinka



Tulipa Ballerina



Tulipa Lilac Wonder with Narcissus Hawera



Eupatorium 'Little Joe'

2 Daylight Savings Ends: set clocks back one hour	3	4 6pm M&M Committee meeting Election Day Remember to Vote!	5	6 6pm Landscape Committee meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 6pm Finance Committee meeting	21 Newsletter articles due	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Office Closed No Board Meeting	28 Office Closed	29

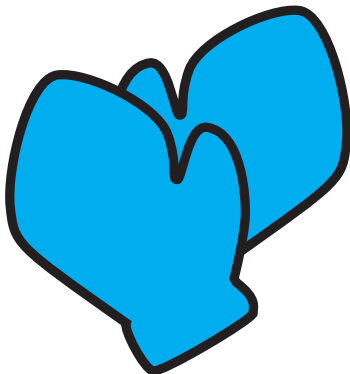
Save the Date!

Donate mittens and get a treat!

Monday, December 8, 3pm to 5pm

Bring a new pair of mittens to the Pittsfield Village office and receive a holiday treat!

Mittens will be given to a local charity.



*Sponsored by Terri Peterson,
our Pittsfield Village Comcast representative*



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