

# The Pittsfield Villager July 2017

It's summer and most of us are getting outside more and more day after day. With that brings a couple of important reminders from your condominium Association

1. please pick up after your pets. Each pet owner must follow condominium rules as well as City ordinance.

2. Fire pits are not allowed!

3. Yard Waste — if you have yard waste, place it out for pick-up in a paper yard-waste bag, on Trash Day (Tuesdays) — within the painted outlines





POOL PARTY
Saturday, August 5th
5:00 pm — 8:00 pm



6:00 pm: Picnic-Style Supper: sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks



Face Painting





#### more than an apartment...

# A HOME – with a lot of extra community functions you'll enjoy

There's always something going on in Pittsfield Village. You'll find a garden contest under way this year with prizes being awarded to the most attractive flower display.

You'll find young mothers getting together in the morning with their youngsters, as you'll find these young ladies doing at right. They're reading a copy of the Pittsfield Village News — a monthly newspaper published especially for village residents.

And if you're a newcomer to the village, you'll-find that a special welcoming committee drops in to visit you—after you're settled, of course. They'll make themselves available to introduce you to the neighbors, to answer questions you might have concerning the village, and to give you a wealth of information on life in spacious, suburban Pittsfield Village.

It's fun to live in Pittsfield Village. Why don't you try it?

Picture yourself... in Spacious, suburban

# Pittsfield Village







#### MONARCH CATERPILLAR HOST PLANTS-MILKWEEDS

All of the acceptable food plants for monarch caterpillars are in the milkweed family (Apocynaceae). Ten milkweed species are native to Michigan. The most common species are common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca) below left, butterfly milkweed (A tuberosa) top right, and swamp milkweed (A. incarnata) below right. Common milkweed is the

most important for supporting monarch populations. For some gardeners, common milkweed

can become a problem because it produces long, underground rhizomes that produce more plants in unwanted places. Butterfly milkweed and swamp milkweed can be important hosts, and may be better choices for

most garden settings as they do not spread from rhizomes and are easier to manage. Common, butterfly and swamp milkweed are very cold hardy perennials when grown in suitable locations.





## ADULT MONARCH FOOD: NECTAR IN FLOWERING PLANTS

The adult monarch butterfly can feed on the nectar of many species of flowering plants. As they travel throughout Michigan from May through October, select flowers with a wide range of blooming times to support monarchs. You should have something blooming throughout the growing season. A series of blooming plants will also benefit many species of pollinating bees and natural enemies of pests.

Some Of the trees, shrubs and other plants monarch butter-flies visit for nectar include wild cherry, lilac, Labrador tea, blazing Star, red clover, dogbane, goldenrods, ironweeds, joe-pye Weed, marigolds, asters, rattlesnake-master, sunflowers, thistles, vetches and milkweeds.



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More information can be found at:

Monarch Joint Venture-WWW.MONARCHJOINTVENTURE.ORG

Monarch Watch - WWW.MONARCHWATCH.ORG

Journey North for monarch migration maps - WWW.LEARNING.ORG/JNORTH

Commission for Environmental Cooperation's "North American Monarch Conservation Plan" — HTTP://BIT.LY/NAMONARCHPLAN

USDA's "Conservation and Management of Monarch Butterflies: A Strategic Framework" — BIT.LY/  ${\tt CONSERVATIONMONARCHBUTTERFLIES}$ 

MSU's "How to protect and increase pollinators in your landscape" — HTTP://BIT.LY/IPMPOLLINATORS

Monarch caterpillars can also feed on tropical milkweed which can be grown as an annual plant in Michigan.

There is some concern over a disease organism that Monarch caterpillar on affects the health and survival of caterpillars on tropical milkweed where the plant can survive as a perennial.

The female monarch is rather picky about what plants she will lay eggs on, almost always choosing plants in the genus Asclepias. However, eggs are sometimes laid on black swallow-wort (Cynanchum Iouiseae) or pale swallow-wort (C. rossicum), which are unable to support caterpillars. Both are invasive species that should be removed so monarchs do not lay eggs on "dead end" hosts where the resulting caterpillars will not thrive.



#### IN THE GARDEN- July 2017

### By Lisa Joseph

Invasion of pest insects is underway! First to arrive on the scene were the Four-lined Plant Bugs whose nymphs caused brown ugly patches on the leaves of many plants. Now that they are finally wrapping up, enter the Japanese Beetles and Rose Slugs. The formerly gorgeous Knockout Roses full of cherry red blooms appear to be dead, with paper bag brown foliage from the Rose Slugs feeding on leaf tissue. Plus the blossoms are torn up with chew holes made by the Japanese Beetles. I've been going out every morning and evening to pick off beetles and drop them into my bucket of soapy water. I'm to the point, however, that the short time that these plants actually look good is not worth the effort of fighting all the damage-causing insects.

I have an acute sense of smell. Odors evoke memories for me unlike any of the other senses. The scent of Privet and Linden flowers wafting by on the breeze takes me back to childhood. These aromas are among my very favorites. I call the scent a green floral with honey undertones. I would love to capture that scent in a perfume or lotion.

#### LISA'S FEATURED PLANT:

#### Spirea 'Neon Flash'

mature size 3 x 3'; full sun This long-blooming shrub gets its name from the gorgeous bright hot pink flowers. Spirea makes an excellent hedge or mass planting and is very lowmaintenance. Not only does it bloom from spring to fall, but it also turns a striking burgundy in the cooler autumn months. I like to prune Spirea down to 1 foot in early spring to encourage vigorous new growth. Also, I lightly prune when the first flush of flowers are mostly all spent to keep a



tidy appearance and to encourage many more blooms.

#### CREATURE FEATURE: Ichneumon Wasp

This beneficial wasp with a threadlike waist and very long antennae and legs looks scary, but it does



not sting and is actually a garden helper. The adult female, using her long ovipositor which looks like a stinger but is not, lays eggs inside caterpillars that may be feeding on your plants. The wasp larvae develop inside the body of the host, feeding on it and eventually killing it. I know this sounds like a scene in a gory hor-



ror movie, but Mother Nature is not always kind. The adult wasps drink nectar and water.

I have started a new project at home. I am making a charming little fairy garden in a hyper tufa trough I bought from a vendor at the Ann Arbor Garden Walk. I found a tiny birdbath, a miniature blue watering can, and an itty-bitty garden snail. Next, I want to find a little house and make a



teensy stepping stone path up to it. If you don't have the space in your garden bed, making a fairy garden in a pot is an excellent idea. I find this project so engrossing that I'm ready to buy a large trough and make a village! I need more room!

A person you may have seen working around the community is Katy Ley, my Horticultural Assistant. She takes care of the grounds on a daily basis, weeding and watering. What a huge asset she is to me and to the community!

when you're out and about, be sure to say hello to Katy!

# MAINTENANCE AND MODIFICATION NEWS

The Maintenance & Modification committee conducted a walk of the community to address aesthetic (construction/maintenance) issues to ensure the compliance of specifications & policies. The committee will be working diligently in the coming weeks and months to address these issues and communicate proper procedure to the entire community

# POOL NOW HEATEDHA Grab your RED pool pass & head down to the pool 11am to 9pm daily



We love babies! Babies love water! Please be sure to use SWIM DIAPERS if you have your infant, baby, or toddler in the pool. Thank You!

#### **JULY 2017**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4 OFFICE CLOSED	<u>5 Maintenance &amp; Modification Committee—6pm</u>	<u>6</u>	7	<u>8</u>
9	<u>10</u>	11 Landscape Committee— 6pm	12	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
23	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	26 6:15 OPEN FORUM 6:30 BOARD MEETING	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>
30	<u>31</u>					