

Pittsfield Village News

July 2010 Edition

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

Pittsfield Village Communications Committee

The Annual Village Community Party – at the Pool! August 20th

Carol Ferguson
Edgewood

Join us again this year, to celebrate our community at the Pool Party! Our Pool Party includes fun for all ages, so grab the family and check out this year's event!

At 5 p.m., we'll start the festivities with Twist & Shout, the clown. Kids have enjoyed the magic and animal balloons of Twist & Shout the Clown at our community party for a number of years now. She's friendly, playful, and very talented with those balloons. After the show there will be plenty of time for a dip in the pool.

New this year, the Village committees will be available to talk with you about the amazing things they do for our community. If you have ever thought about joining a committee, and making a difference in our community, plan to join us at 5 p.m. You'll meet some new neighbors and learn how your talents, ideas and hands would make a welcome addition to the work that the committees do. The Landscape, Communications, Modification & Maintenance, Finance, and Governance Committees, as well as the Board of Directors can't wait to meet you, and find a match that will work for your schedule and interests.



Former Village Co-owner George Bedard will be playing the event with his band The Kingpins starting around 6:30PM.

You'll also have the opportunity to create connections with neighbors on a

See Party, Page 3

New Condo Association = New Logo

Justin Ferguson
Edgewood

Be on the lookout for the new Pittsfield Village logo in the mail and around the Community. On May 25th, at the Pittsfield

Village Community Meeting, residents selected the new logo for our new Condominium Association. This has been a lengthy process starting with a Board Directive spanning back to 2008. Since then, the now disbanded Community Outreach and Promotions Committee worked with Crisp Marketing to create a logo and make branding/advertising recommendations. The process in-



cluded a Community meeting at Pittsfield Elementary where draft options were presented, which were later developed into a final scheme, and chosen by ballot last October. At the May meeting, members voted on the color scheme, and we now have our new logo, which can be seen above. Letterhead has been delivered, and the three existing signs at the entrances to the Community will be replaced. Currently, Management is working on developing branded items for residents such as magnets, t-shirts, key chains, etc. in a consistent manner from year to year.



Tales From The Flood

Widespread flooding hits many residents of Pittsfield Village

As a result of the storms on the evening of June 5, 2010 the City's storm and sewer drains were overwhelmed by rain water. Packard was closed due to water over the road, and manhole covers had actually been lifted off by the surge in water. A majority of Pittsfield Village was affected from one end to the other with a spectrum from small puddles in basements to basements being completely flooded.

Colin, our on-site Maintenance Manager, has the following suggestions for what we residents can do in case of another flood:

- 1) Be careful of electrical devices in water** - TVs, radios, etc. that got wet and were plugged require appropriate precautions.
- 2) Sanitize everything** - since the storm and sewer lines are so interconnected, there could be a chance that there was some sewer contamination of the water in your basement.
- 3) Turn off your furnace** - if the water reached your furnace, and soaked the filter, running the furnace could blow the wet air/filter into the furnace.
- 4) Air it out** - use fans to circulate the air in order to help dry out the area; this will cut down on the chances of mold forming.

Here is one residents experience:

Sewer backup report from Lisa Lemble 2328 and 2330 Fernwood

Water backed up into both of my basements; one appeared to have significantly more water than the other. I was out of town the weekend it happened, but the evidence—water heater pilot out, furnace filter wet, and carpet wet to within 3 feet of the far wall—suggests that water was 3-4 inches deep in one basement. That probably lasted for only a very short period of time.

I have lived here almost 20 years, and have had similar experiences three times before, so I don't put valuable things on the floor, and I use area rugs that can be taken out for cleaning or drying in the sun or very inexpensive carpet pieces.

I very much appreciated having the dumpster for the carpet I threw away. After a couple weeks of running fans and dehumidifiers, washing down the floors, replacing two carpets, and rolling out 2 cleaned and dried area rugs, all is back in order. My thanks to the Staff and Board for their help!



HEALTHWISE

Sizzle It Up!

The kids are out of school and they have the long lazy days of July and August ahead. They could spend their summer days in front of the TV/computer or using their sizzling imaginations to create family projects that are a reflection of their own unique talents.

Talents fused with creativity can be used in planning healthy meals and developing fun activities. Here are some ideas for healthy eating – for trail mix allow the children to select their favorite cereal, add nuts, dried fruit and animal crackers, store in a large plastic container or Zip lock bags and you have snacks for anytime. Allow older children to cook i.e., making muffin recipes using whole-grain cereal and whole wheat-flour.

Family members can take turns planning the meal each week. Keep a running grocery list and take the children grocery shopping, have them to compare prices, and buy only items on the grocery list, this helps to maintain the budget and prevent the “in-store discussion” about what is needed. Remember to take coupons!! Try to have one or two family sit-down-together dinners each week.

Activities – make a sizzlin’ first-aid kit (decorate a shoe box or a plastic container) attach a list of the items in the first-aid kit to the outside of the kit. Recycle last year’s summer clothes with colorful decorations using markers, glue & glitter, etc.

An important part of being healthy is activity. Exercising actually gives us more energy and reduces stress. Be physically active yourself and your kids will be active with you. Do you remember the fun you had with the old fashioned jump-rope and hopscotch. Kids are not looking at the competitive aspect, but having fun with their parents. Omit TV at dinner time and use the time to have relaxing family discussions. Don’t burden your child with adult worries. Look for free activities at the Y-center, on-line or in your local newspaper.

Eating and playing together makes for the best mental health for everyone. A walk after dinner is a way of sharing the day’s events and gives everyone support and relieves stress.

Have a Sizzlin’ Summer.

To your best health,

Brenda Webster

Party, From Page 1

social level. Have you ever wanted to create a kids playgroup at the Village, connect with other vegetarians to swap recipes, join a gardening club, or wanted to find a tennis partner? Look for the social connections table, and share your interests with us. There’s bound to be a neighbor who is looking to connect with you.

Some other items that you don’t want to miss: A raffle for exciting prizes to beautify your home! Submarine sandwiches and drinks starting at 6 p.m. And ... the band!

This is not your average neighborhood party. Most years since this event started we’ve been fortunate to have former Village co-owner George Bedard with his band, and this is another one of those years. George Be-

dard & The Kingpins facebook page describes their sound as rhythm and bluesy swing, surf, cheap garage thrill music, blues, rock and roll. With a wide appeal like that, you won’t want to miss it!

The Kingpins, featuring Randy Tessier on bass and Rich Dishman on drums, have developed a reputation as one of Michigan’s best bands since their formation in the early ’90s. And they’ll be right here at the pool, starting about 6:30 PM. Come early to get a poolside chair, or bring your own blanket or lawn chair to listen from the grass outside the pool area; the music sounds just as grand there.

Join us for a wonderful evening of getting to know your community better!

The Pittsfield Village Bulletin

brought to you by your. . . .



Pittsfield Village
Communications
Committee

Our Amazing Neighbors!

Based on a resident’s suggestion, the Board of Directors would like to invite you to participate in our new resident recognition program.

We all have neighbors who make Pittsfield Village a truly wonderful place to live. Don’t let their actions go unnoticed!

Does your neighbor have a beautiful garden?

Do they make a difference in the lives of their neighbors? Are they an unsung hero?

Share your nomination with the Board of Directors and recognize your neighbor. If your neighbor approves, their accomplishments will be shared with our community in a future newsletter article.

To nominate your neighbor,

send your email with RESIDENT RECOGNITION in the subject line to condoard@pittsfieldvillage.com. Include your neighbor’s name, contact information and description of what they do to contribute to our community. Don’t forget to include your contact information as well.

We look forward to hearing from YOU!

New Day For Recycling

The Pittsfield Village recycling service day will change to Friday’s starting on July 9th 2010. All recycling single stream materials must be at the curb by 7:00 am on Friday 7/9/10. If you have any questions contact Caroline Mitchell or Kendra Pile at 734-662-6288 Recycle Ann Arbor.

Around the Community . . .

by Lisa Lemble
Fernwood

In last year's May and June newsletters, walks to two interesting destinations near our neighborhood were described. This is the third and final article of that series.

Though we walk or drive through Pittsfield Village every day, most of us rarely venture even a few hundred yards into the surrounding neighborhoods. Descriptions of walks to Pioneer Cemetery and Chalmers Drive in 2009 issues of the newsletter unveiled a couple of hidden gems in our immediate area. The subject of this article is even closer to us. It's a piece of Mallett's Creek that forms the northwest border of Pittsfield Village. It runs almost essentially parallel to Huron Parkway, with a line of trees running on either side of it, extending from Sheffler Park on Platt Road all the way to Denny's Restaurant on Washtenaw Avenue. Despite bordering on our neighborhood, only a small portion of Pittsfield Village drains into the Malletts creekshed.

Getting to the creek is easy. To walk the entire length of this section of it, start at the back of the ballpark in Sheffler Park. Or from within Pittsfield Village, head down Jeanne Avenue, keep going across Parkwood Avenue into Redbud Park, and follow the path down the hill. The south bank has a very walkable path most of the way toward Washtenaw.

Ecologically, the creek is considered to be in poor condition due to the large amount of runoff into it (30% of the creekshed has been paved over with residential and commercial development), high levels of phosphorus, and a variety of other problems caused by urbanization. A restoration plan developed by the Washtenaw County Drain Office can be viewed at http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/drain_commissioner/dc_webWaterQuality/malletts_creek/dc_mc_mcrp.html.

There is still enough natural habitat

July 2010 Calendar

July 6

Modification & Maintenance Committee Meeting

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING

July 8

Communications Committee Meeting

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING

July 13

Landscape Committee Meeting

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING

July 22

Finance Committee Meeting

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING

July 23

Board of Directors Open Forum / Meeting

6:15 PM - Open Forum / 6:45 PM Meeting



in this area, however, to support a variety of wildlife, including small fish, woodchucks, ducks, and heron. Once the creek reaches the commercial strip at Washtenaw, it is "tubed," or sent underground through a culvert until it emerges on the north side of Washtenaw between Collex

Collison and Comerica Bank. From there it winds its way north, crossing under Huron Parkway twice before running under Chalmers Drive (see the article from June, 2009) and out to Sound Pond, then to the Huron River.

Enjoy your walk!