



From the Green



Winter, 2011

Special Points of Interest:

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- "A Winter Dawn" - a Winter Poem...Pg. 4

\$ TREASURE HUNT! \$

Somewhere inside this newsletter is the name of one of our Erie Station Village staff, spelled backwards. Find it and let the office know who it is and we will enter your name in a drawing for a **\$150 rent credit!**

- All entries must be received by 5:00PM on Friday, December 30, 2011.
- Drawing will be held on January 2, 2012 and the winner notified on the same day

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Hello, Neighbor!

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours the very best during this holiday season.

We hope that you have had a healthy, prosperous year and want to thank you for making Erie Station Village your home.

As the year comes to a close, its time for the Winter Edition of "From the Green". Grab a mug of something warm, your favorite chair, and a few minutes to relax.

While we love hearing ourselves type, we'd much rather hear from you. Have a business? Want to share a recipe? Looking

for a group to play cards or other games with? How about an editorial on current events? This is YOUR community and YOUR newsletter, so

please feel free to **email us or call us with content suggestions and contributions.**



From Your Erie Station Village Maintenance Team

The Maintenance Staff at Erie Station Village would like to thank you for your cooperation during this past year with our efforts to maintain the buildings and grounds. We have had a very quiet start to the winter, but rest assured that our efforts to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks, patios, and parking lots will be one of our main concerns once the white stuff begins to fly again. We kindly ask you to remove any personal belongings from your patios and or walkways

and place them in storage. Having unblocked access to these areas will help us remove snow as quickly as possible, and would be greatly appreciated. We also ask that you please alternate your parking spot choices during a storm, so that the lots may be plowed effectively.

Help keep our community safe and well-lit: if you notice any lights out around the community, please take a moment to notify the maintenance staff so we can replace them as promptly as possible.

Lastly, in our efforts to improve customer service, you may receive a follow-up call from us after performing work in your apartment. Each week we place several of these calls randomly to ensure that your needs are being met and that you are satisfied with the service you are receiving. If we happen to miss you and leave a message, please be sure to give us a quick call back and let us know how we did.

Happy Holidays!



Not Your Average Snowfort

Just the FAQ's...

“Dear Management: Am I allowed to have a live Christmas Tree in my apartment?”

Yes! However, please take the following precautions:

- 1) NEVER use real candles to decorate a Christmas Tree;
- 2) Make sure to keep your tree well watered to help reduce its flammability and to help keep it looking its best throughout the holiday season;
- 3) When it does come time to dispose of the tree, please use a tree disposal bag or other similar device to prevent pine needles from littering common areas. Trees may be thrown in the dumpsters.

“Dear Maintenance: I am going home to Brazil for the holidays and would like to keep my utility bills as low as possible. Is it OK to turn my thermostat to ‘Off’?”

No, no NO! PLEASE never turn off your thermostat during the winter; your water pipes may freeze and rupture, causing considerable damage to your and your neighbors' apartments. Please set your thermostat NO LOWER than 50 degrees while you are away.



“We were ready to hire you until we saw the photo of you on Facebook sliding on the ice at Rockefeller Center wearing only bowling shoes and a viking helmet.”

Looking for that perfect gift?

A Few Words from Erie Station Village Concierge:

The Art of Giving

If you're like most of my friends and family this holiday season, you may have had a difficult time coming up with ideas for meaningful or unique gifts. Below, we share several options for customized gifts to mark any number of special occasions...for instance, milestone anniversaries & birthdays, mother's/father's day, accomplishments, cherished memories, and of course, the holidays.

Pottery (www.artdep.com):

Write anything in big, bold and beautiful hand-cut clay letters

from the Vermont-based husband and wife team at The Art Department. Design your own phrase or word by picking your favorites from their selection (\$38 - \$48 each). Take customization a step further by having a single letter or phrase painted with the recipient's favorite color(s). You can splurge with a *Happy House*, which is a colorful handmade miniature model of a house or building. These range from \$250 to \$500, depending on size and architectural complexity, and are based entirely on photographs you send to the artists.

Ornaments (www.ngm-art.com): Manhattan-based artist, Nancy Gallagher-Michalson creates gorgeous hand-painted glass ornaments. Submit photographs of skylines, houses, pets and more for a special gift to commemorate any occasion (\$55 - \$115, depending on size and level of detail, plus \$10 shipping). Of course, holiday ornaments are part of her repertoire as well!

Snow Globes (www.snowgloberepair.com)

: Co-owners Bob & Toby not only handle snow globe repairs (as their URL suggests), but also custom snow globes. As long as a trinket or piece of memorabilia is waterproof, a snow globe is a fun and unique way to keep it on display year-round. “Snow” is another way to personalize this special gift – in instead of glitter, try miniature confetti shaped like music notes, hearts, stars, or other symbols that tie into the item or occasion. Projects are individually quoted by the owners.

Pet Portraits (www.cliffbullstudio.com): A pet portrait is the perfect gift for someone whose canine or feline friend has become a member of the family. Local artist, Cliff Bull, creates fine art pastel drawings of cats and dogs, and expertly captures the personality of these beautiful creatures on paper (prices are based on size; starting at \$200 for 11” x 11”). Portraits are based on multiple photographs and descriptions of the pet's personality.

Pet Portraits (www.theanimalportrait.com): For another take on pet portraits, work with local photographer, Wal

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“NEIGHBOR 2 NEIGHBOR: Be a Good Neighbor”

Somewhere along the line you’ve probably seen our slogan, “Welcome to the Neighborhood”. It is intended to evoke the architectural features of our “traditional neighborhood design”, but more importantly, it is also meant to promote the feeling of community that we hope our residents and staff will experience—as well as foster—while living here. So if you’re feeling a bit

disconnected or frazzled from the holiday crush, your job, or some other reason, tap into the wonderful support network that is all around you here at Erie Station Village.

- **Socializing:** With our busy schedules, we don’t always see friends as often as we’d like. For a bit of socializing that takes only minutes out of your day, it’s nice to

stop and chat with people for a few minutes on your way out to your car, or stop in and see us in the Leasing Office for a hot cup of coffee and a warm smile.

- **Pooled Resources:** Some people in well-established neighborhoods will share dinners, minimizing the effort it takes to cook. Others trade fruit or vegetables from their gardens. A neighbor

who borrows a few eggs may come back with a plate of cookies that the eggs helped create. Knowing your neighbors increases everyone’s ability to share.

- **Security:** Knowing the people around you can bring a sense of security. If you need something—whether it’s a cup of something critical when you’re cook-



ing, or someone to call the police if they see someone lurking in the parking lot--it’s nice to know you can depend on those around you and they can depend on you.

- **Home Pride:** Knowing the people who live around you provides a strengthened sense of pride in your home and neighborhood, and coming home to a place where you feel you belong just feels nicer.

Be a good neighbor and a positive force for your community by getting more involved with those around you and taking pride in the area in which you live:

- **Get Out More:** Take advantage of our wide sidewalks and walking trails. It’s a great stress reliever that also allows you to get to know many of your neighbors, get an understanding of who lives where, and feel more at home in

your surroundings.

- **Smile:** It’s simple enough, but if you’re not in the habit of smiling and giving a friendly hello to the people you encounter in your neighborhood, it’s a good habit to start. While not everyone will return the friendliness immediately, it’s a quick way to get to know people and build relationships, even if you’ve lived close for years and haven’t really said much to one an-

other.

- **Talk To Your Elders:** The more veteran members of the community often have the inside scoop on the neighborhood. You may be surprised at how much you can learn if you stop to take the time to talk to the sweet old lady at the end of the block.

- **Stop and See Us:** We adore visitors!

-N2N

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The Art of Giving, continued...

ter Colley, who captures beautiful photographs of pets and animals of all sizes. In addition to dogs and cats, birds, hamsters, goats, and horses are included in his portfolio (sitting fees range from \$315 for birds & bunnies to \$850 for farm animals).

Flower Preservation

(www.agelessflowerpreservation.com): To preserve and artistically arrange flowers from a special occasion – like a wedding, prom, graduation, or even funeral – contact Laurie at Ageless Flower Preservation in Rochester. Through freeze drying, you can preserve a single flower or even an entire bridal bouquet. Photographs or other memorabilia can

also be incorporated into the display (prices range from \$35 to \$350+, depending on the number of flowers being preserved, intricacy of the arrangement, and selected display case).

Given the price ranges for some of these gifts, we don't suggest that they're perfect for everyone or every occasion. However, when something "off the rack" just doesn't cut it, we hope you'll be inspired by these options! Sille Divad

For other gift ideas, contact the Erie Station Village Concierge at esvconci-erge@gmail.com or 244.2040

A Winter Dawn by Lucy Maud Montgomery

*Above the marge of night a star still shines,
And on the frosty hills the sombre pines
Harbor an eerie wind that crooneth low
Over the glimmering wastes of virgin snow.*

*Through the pale arch of orient the morn
Comes in a milk-white splendor newly-born,
A sword of crimson cuts in twain the gray
Banners of shadow hosts, and lo, the day!*



May all the joys of this holiday season be yours...