



The Villager



Quarterly Newsletter

220 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, AB Telephone: (403) 270-0631/Fax: (403) 270-0205
8318 Fairmount Drive SE, Calgary, AB Telephone: (403) 255-0553/Fax: (403) 255-1913
Website: <http://www.tenthousandvillages.ca>



Relief in Haiti

The recent earthquake that has devastated Haiti has taken a staggering toll in human lives, homes and infrastructure. Fair Trade relationships are of vital importance in the face of such tragedy because they allow us to support in lasting ways the meaningful work that our partners are doing to restore and rebuild their communities. Your support is valued now more than ever.

Comité Artisanal Haïtien (CAH) director Gisèle Fleurant is in the process of contacting the group's artisans. She has been able to get in touch with the majority of those living outside of Port-au-Prince, but has only heard from roughly a quarter of those living in the capital city, all of whom have lost their homes but are otherwise okay. Outside of Port-au-Prince, CAH's cut metal artisans in Croix des Bouquets were not severely hit by the earthquake – all are okay, and none have lost houses. Artisans near Jacmel report that most of their workshops and homes have collapsed, while in the Leogane/Gressier area, all homes have fallen. No lives have been lost. Fleurant thanks all Ten Thousand Villages customers, volunteers and staff for their support and prayers.

Ten Thousand Villages is accepting donations on behalf of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). MCC is responding to the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti late Tuesday afternoon by committing an initial \$103,420 Cdn, and a total \$1.03 million Cdn in aid over multiple years.

Donations to MCC will be accepted at both Calgary Ten Thousand Villages locations. Please make cheques payable to MCC, and designate 'Haiti Earthquake.'

Organic, earthy and teeming with energy, this cut metal tree of life wall hanging is firmly rooted in the vitality and soul of the Haitian people. To learn more about Comité Artisanal Haïtien and the new, beautiful products from Haiti, turn to page 6.



Calendar of Events

Now until Feb.13: **25% off necklaces \$50 up**

See page 3 for details.

February 13: **Shop for Valentine's Day**

See page 3 for details.

February 14: **Valentine's Day**

February 15: **Family Day**

Both stores closed.

February 22: **Inventory Closure**

Crowchild store only.

February 24: **Inventory Closure**

Heritage store only.

March 6: **Shop for International Women's Day**

See page 4 for details.

March 8: **International Women's Day**

April 2: **Good Friday**

Both stores closed.

April 3: **Shop for Easter**

See page 5 for details.

April 18 – 24: **National Volunteer Week**

Details below.

April 22: **Earth Day**

See page 5 for details.

Hours of Operation

Crowchild Location:

Monday – Wednesday, Friday & Saturday:

10:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Thursday: 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Fairmount Location:

Monday – Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Thursday & Friday: 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Special Note: *This local newsletter is now available at the beginning of the months of February, May, September and November on our website:*

www.TenThousandVillages.ca.

Look for the reminder in your monthly Ten Thousand Villages Canada newsletter.

What's Up South?

The south store has a new name. We are still the fabulous south store in the same location, but we are now called **Ten Thousand Villages HERITAGE**. As we border on the corner of Heritage & Fairmount in the Southeast of Calgary, we thought changing our name to Heritage would bring association that there is a Ten Thousand Villages location in the south of Calgary. Calgary.heritage@villages.ca is our new email address. Please note that the old email address (Calgary.fairmount@villages.ca) will still forward to the new one. Phone & fax numbers are still the same, as are the amazing volunteers, staff & Management. Drop by to say hello!

The Heritage location will no longer carry rugs, or have a yearly rug event in spring. We may have a rug event in a couple years, but that is not confirmed. We are moving towards home Décor items and furniture amongst the regular handicrafts carried within our store. We are expanding our horizons in order to compliment the diverse tastes of our customers. We encourage customers to keep dropping by to see what is new at the Heritage store. Change is good. Fair Trade is great!

We LOVE Our Volunteers!

At Ten Thousand Villages, our volunteers are the best! Our mission of selling the products and telling the stories of the artisans and their families could not happen without each and every one of them. We welcome all our new volunteers and cherish those who are still with us. The Heritage store is in need of new volunteers, so if you can help, call 403-255-0553.

Heritage welcomes: Jennifer, Renee, Kate, Helene, Shannon, Joanne, Sandra, Elena & Marion.

Crowchild welcomes: Miranda, Catherine, Sally, Betty & Skye.



FEBRUARY - Fair Trade for the Heart

“The heart is not simply suspended in a body but in a culture, a place, a time.”

- Mimi Guarneri



Zatoun’s high quality olive oil is the ‘heart’ of Palestinian culture, a healthy part of a responsible lifestyle, and a tool for improving lives in Palestine. Bring home a taste of delicious Fair Trade extra virgin olive oil. As the primary source of income for over 75,000 Palestinian farmers, olive oil is an exceedingly important commodity throughout the region. It is perfect for cooking or dipping with pita bread and baguette.

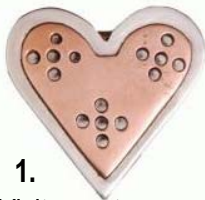
As a staple spice of Palestine, Za’atar (pictured right) is gaining a following in North America for its fresh herb taste and inspiring “zing”! Add Za’atar to breads, dressings, soups, vegetables, meats, marinades...anything!



Zatoun is a registered nonprofit group selling fair trade, extra virgin olive oil, za’atar and soap products from the West Bank. Founded in 2003, most of its products are sold through grassroots networks and alternative retailers across North America. As of the month of February, ten thousand bottles of Zafoun olive oil will have been sold at Ten Thousand Villages.



Celebrate Valentine’s Day at Ten Thousand Villages!



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

Visit our stores on February 13th (We are closed on Sundays.) to find beautiful gifts that are truly from the heart; not only in shape and colour, but in all of the ways that fairly traded gifts can join our hearts with those around the world to make it a better place for everyone. The products pictured above and so many more will take you right to the heart of the matter. Be sure to indulge in “limited edition” Divine white chocolate with strawberry and dark chocolate with raspberry. **1.** Silver & copper heart pin \$68. **2.** Burma teak heart paperweight \$10. **3.** Candleholder with hearts \$14. **4.** 6 piece soap set in heart shapes \$24. **5.** River rock heart paperweight from Haiti \$7.

25% off All Necklaces Priced at \$50 or More Now Until February 13th!

Lovely and unique pieces such as this Mother of Pearl heart-shaped sterling silver necklace are on sale now. Enjoy a great bargain knowing that our artisans have been paid in full.





MARCH - Fair Trade for the body

“What soap is to the body, laughter is to the soul.” - Yiddish Proverb



Treat yourself to a Fair Trade face mask! This aloe face mask from the Natyr Aloe Vera line at CTM Altromercato uses Fair Trade ingredients from different producer groups all around the globe. Combining the nourishing properties of aloe with the soothing effects of other natural ingredients, this face mask – great for dry and sensitive skin – is sure to leave you feeling refreshed. Allergen free. Not tested on animals. \$18.00

This delightfully cucumber-scented soap is handmade by the artisans of the Palam Rural Centre in Tamilnadu, India. Palam employs members of the ‘untouchables’ caste and works to provide health care and schooling for artisan families. This soap comes in a variety of scents. \$5.00- \$5.50



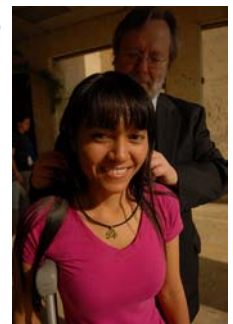
This delicate coconut and shea butter scrub will evoke the natural wonder of south-central Burkina Faso. This pure butter is made into quality cosmetic products in Quebec and marketed exclusively through Ten Thousand Villages. It's a wonderful scrub that will leave your skin feeling soft, new and refreshed! Look for it in cocoa as well. \$22.00



Celebrate International Women’s Day at Ten Thousand Villages!

On Saturday, March 6th, come visit us at Ten Thousand Villages for an opportunity to see and test our unique selection of personal care products. From soaps to skin and hair care to loofahs and massagers, our products refresh and pamper you. Even more importantly, they are kind to the environment and provide vital, fair income to women around the world who are hoping to look after their families and contribute to their households. Buying Fair Trade brings dignity to all!

Ten Thousand Villages’ Peace Dove Campaign has sold 881 necklaces across Canada, raising \$4,405. The dove necklaces, hand-cut from shell casings littering the countryside and hand-stamped with messages of peace in both Khmer and English, are created by the artisans of Rajana, a Cambodian Fair Trade group. Ten Thousand Villages has donated \$5 to Mines Action Canada from each necklace sold. ***“This money will make a huge difference in the lives of our friends and colleagues,” said Song Kosal, Cambodian landmine survivor and Youth Ambassador with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. “It will allow our program to purchase bicycles and wheelchairs to help disabled kids get back to school. We thank you, Canada!”***





APRIL - Fair Trade for the Garden

"I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders." – Thoreau

Birds will be lining up for a spot at this charming bird house! Handcrafted by skilled artisans from Much in Little – formerly known as Philippine Alternative Trade & Supply. This quaint bird house features a vibrant yellow colour, double windows and two perches for a lucky pair of birds. A bright and cheery addition to your outdoor garden and a cozy place for a nest. Much in Little works with 12 artisan groups, representing some 60 artisans, to introduce their wonderful handicrafts to the international scene. Through this organization, disabled Filipino artisans are able to create and sell their art in a way that provides them with sustainable employment.



The birdhouse left is crafted from aromatic vetiver and vines. It is a product from the artisans at Comité Artisanal Haitien.

The birdhouse right is handmade by talented Much in Little artisans, and features multiple windows and numerous perches for lots of birds!



Celebrate Earth Day! Visit Ten Thousand Villages on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22nd. We have an amazing collection of all things earth-friendly. If you spend \$50 (not including GST) at one of our stores, you will receive a free "green" gift. One of the principles of Fair Trade is to make products which do not harm the environment. Pictured here are examples of such items: recycled glass and jute pitcher and glasses from Bangladesh.



Celebrate Easter! Come in before April 4th to find beautiful and appropriate gifts for the Easter season. Both locations will be featuring a unique collection of crosses as well as fairly traded chocolate mini eggs and much more. Ten Thousand Villages is the perfect place to create an Easter basket for family and friends. Below are a few suggestions you might consider:



Terra cotta bunny above made by Bangladeshi artisans at HEED, is a unique candle holder.



Recycled oil drum cross cut manually by skilled Haitian artisans in Croix de Bouquet.



COMITÉ ARTISANAL HAITIEN

Comité Artisanal Haitien is a nonprofit marketing co-operative representing more than 800 Haitian artisans in some 170 workshops. Since 1972, they have exported crafts from individual artisans, co-operatives, groups and family businesses. The economic situation in Haiti is bleak, and the need for income generation is great. For many, the money earned is not just supplemental income, but often the sole source of support for the artisans and their families.

Although education is technically compulsory and free in Haiti, only about 40 percent of children can actually afford to go to school. Product sales through Ten Thousand Villages help make schooling possible. Besides fair wages and advances on orders, artisans also receive financial assistance in case of health emergencies.

Originally founded by several church groups to help rural craftspeople sell their wares in Port-au-Prince and to help reduce the flow of migration from the countryside to the city, Comité Artisanal Haitien (CAH) didn't begin to flourish until Gisele Fleurant became director in 1980. With outside funding, they now offer free programs where literacy, basic accounting, product costing and business management are taught. They are also hoping to establish a design centre. CAH artisans sell their work through local tourist sales and for export through the fair trade market.

The resourceful artisans of Comité Artisanal Haitien are as unique as their inspired creations. This nonprofit organization is helping to make fair wages, steady employment, financial assistance for healthcare, and education a reality in the lives of more than 800 artisans. In addition to providing the much-needed source of income for artisans and their families, Comité Artisanal Haitien is also involved in many substantial initiatives, providing free literacy, accounting, product costing, and business management training.



Mother and Child

A sculpture with a uniquely Haitian look, portraying the nurturing bond.



Leafy Cut Metal Candleholder

Your candles will glow brightly in this organic cut metal candleholder.



Sitting Woman Sculpture

A dynamic sculpture, hand-carved from black river rock, depicting a woman resting.