

# Couple moves from the Big Apple to down on the farm

BY RICK GOULD

Record-Eagle staff writer

Christina and Andrew Pfeufer, proprietors of the new Field of Flowers Farm, are looking forward to spring even more than most of us.

The couple bought their Lake Leelanau farm six years ago and officially moved in last May. Andrew made trips from New York (where he and Christina

worked in the floral/wedding business for 17 years) and began renovations and landscaping.

This included upgrading the barn electrically, building a new roof, an addition and a new floor on the upper level. The barn is now comfortable for wedding guests and efficient for caterers and musicians.

Outside, he cleared trees and built a pond, a gazebo and a bridge as scenic spots

for wedding ceremonies and receptions.

Describing all of this, Andrew laughingly refers to himself as "the grunt" and Christina as the "marketing brains." But when they enthusiastically talk about their multiple goals for the farm, it's apparent both bring a strong work ethic and joy in what they do. Christina said Andrew's stage manager background

makes him extremely organized in pulling off events, while he joked that his German background plays a part in his organizational skills.

Christina Pfeufer grew up in Manistee, where her parents Mary Sue and Rick Benish ran The Colonial Flower Shop. Andrew Pfeufer grew up on a farm in upstate New York. So they have plenty of back-

ground in making plants and flowers grow.

They learned how to make business grow in New York, where Christina was the in-house floral designer at Tavern on the Green.

Andrew segued from modeling and acting to helping Christina with weddings to working alongside her.

With Tavern owner Warner LeRoy's blessing, they started their own business, averaging 300 weddings a year.

"The most we did was nine in one day," Andrew said.

Anyone who owns a business in northern Lower Michigan knows its good to have a backup plan to supplement their income, and the Pfeufer's seem to have a Plan B, C and D, as well.

Aside from running the barn and grounds as an event venue, they are growing and selling cut flowers, plus shrubs and Christmas

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Christina and Andrew Pfeufer, owners of Field of Flowers Farm in Lake Leelanau.