
The Inverness "I"

Vol. 15. No. 1.

January 2024

From The Staff

I hope everyone had a blessed holiday and survived the hustle and bustle of the season. The holidays are filled with activities such as parties, concerts, and shopping for gifts; but most importantly, visiting with family and friends. These events can be fun and rewarding but also tiring, especially as we age. Now is a good time to relax and reflect on the past year and replenish your energy as we move forward into 2024. A new year always brings with itself the promise of hope.

Thanks to everyone who lit up our Village for Christmas. All of the decorations were beautiful! A big thank you to our decorating committee for doing an outstanding job with all of the seasonal decorations this year.

Each year we are glad to welcome new residents to Inverness, and we wish you much happiness in your new homes. Inverness will continue to thrive with the dedication of our current residents, as well as new ideas from our recent arrivals. We encourage everyone to participate in our activities and to join one of our committees. This is a great way to get to know your neighbors and to keep our Village as one of the most desired places to live in Hershey's Mill.

With the cold weather upon us, some residents will be leaving for warmer climates. While you're away, it's a comfort to know that we have 24-hour security, as well as the watchful eyes of our neighbors to keep a check on our houses. Those of us who stay will be content in our lovely Village, and will cheer on our beloved Eagles in the playoffs!

FLY EAGLES FLY !!!

Mary Lou Perry



From The Village President

The Greek philosopher Heraclitus is credited with the statement, "The only constant in life is change." In Inverness Village we have seen much change in 2023. If you attended the budget meeting in early December, you heard Richard Hammock, the council treasurer, give a detailed report on the financial status of the Village. In brief, our reserved funds are headed in the right direction and currently are at the highest amount ever. In addition, each of the committee chairs and project leads gave detailed reports on their work, which you can read in their respective articles in this edition. I wanted to take this time to address a few items that were not mentioned at the meeting or possibly not reported in the above-noted articles.

Landscape Contract

With the upcoming end of the Hershey's Mill Landscape Division (HMLD) contract with Inverness Village, council took on the task of researching other competing landscape contractors. After interviewing four other companies, walking the Village with each, and reviewing detailed contracts, council, along with advice from Barbara Crispin, landscape chair, made the decision to award the contract to Shearon Environmental Design located in Downingtown. This company came in with a significantly lower bid than HMLD and provides a staff with great referrals and well-trained (Longwood Gardens) personnel. We look forward to working with them to improve the landscape of Inverness.

Walkways

Our old asphalt walkways are a continuous concern to our residents and their guests. Because of this, council put out bids to three landscape/walkway contractors for bids on seven new walkways. After walking the areas with the contractors and receiving their bids,

(Cont'd on page 2)

From The Village President *(Cont'd)*

Council made the determination to award the contract to DiStefano landscape to install seven new concrete walkways. These walkways are wider than the asphalt and are stronger and give a more aesthetic appearance to the homes. In addition, the one walkway with wooden steps had some of the steps eliminated, and the remaining steps replaced with uniform height concrete steps. We intend to continue replacing walkways in this manner on an as-needed and funds available basis.

Water and Drainage

These two items are continuous issues in the Village. We have repaired leaking underground water supply lines; repaired and/or replaced crushed storm water lines (see Carl Griffin's article); and hired specialists to install new drainage lines and provide significant regrading. We have also contracted for substantial landscaping to help control and divert the water run-off. In addition, we have installed larger gutters and downspouts to specific areas as needed.

Rules and Regulations

Over the last year, Council has been working on a major revision to the Village of Inverness Rules and Regulations. This is a substantial project with a completion date near at hand. This edition of the Rules and Regs will be delivered electronically, and a printed version can be ordered. Forms will be able to be completed and sent electronically, which should speed communications among homeowners, committees, and Council. Council's goal is that all homeowners/residents read the new rules and regulations when they receive them and adhere to them in the spirit of this HOA community.

In closing, I'm going to move from the 6th century BC to the 20th century AD to end on a quote regarding change. Barack Obama said, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

Happy New Year!

Ed Isselmann

Food Drive

Inverness shines again!

Thank you to the many friends and neighbors who contributed so generously to the Food Drive for the West Chester Food Cupboard. Bags and bags of nutritious foods were delivered and many struggling families will be so grateful. I regret not doing an inventory of what was donated! Donations included cans of soups, meats, and tuna along with cereals, peanut butter, diapers, soaps and other items too numerous to mention. One generous Inverness resident donated a cash gift of \$500.00! We did not take top place, but Mike Ciunci called to thank us for being a huge part of the drive.



A special thank you to our Village Council for supporting this project and, pending approval, we look forward to participating again next year. Thank you one and all!

Mary Schreiner

New Year's Poem

Submitted by Carol Ellis

As we welcome 2024, the staff of the Inverness "I" sends you this blessing and wishes you a healthy, happy and prosperous new year.

At the sound of the tolling midnight bell
a brand new year will begin.
Let's raise our hopes in a confident toast
to the promise it ushers in.

May your battles be few, your pleasures many,
your wishes and dreams fulfilled.
May your confidence stand in the face of loss
and give you the strength to rebuild.

May peace of heart fill all your days
and serenity grace your soul.
May tranquil moments bless your life
and keep your spirit whole.

author unknown

Inverness Village Men's and Ladies' Luncheon

It happened at 12 noon on October 3, 2023. Inverness men and women combined their respective luncheons and met at Limoncello Restaurant in Chester Springs. Approximately 30 people attended. This is the first time in Village history that this fun event has occurred. There were lots of laughs and conversations and lots of excellent food. Since great interest was expressed, the social committee will be hosting another luncheon for men and women on January 17, this time at Toninos.

**Bev Cella and Mary Schreiner
Social Committee**

Photography by Mary Lou Perry



Shirley Joyce, Bev & Bob Cella, Pat Phillips,
Judy Klanderman, Kay Flynn



Bill & Mary Ann Henderson,
Penny Zimmerman, Chris & Barbara Harvey



Ed & Eileen Isselmann, Karen Hammock,
Mary Lou Perry, Marianne Pavlosky, BJ Rodgers



Marge Brolly, Tre Carrone, George Colby, John Brolly,
Joe Carrone, Barbara Colby



Tina & Joe Scaperotto



Chuck Atmore, John & Jean Sugg, Louise Davidson, Barbara Atmore, Susan McCormack, Mary Flanagan

Getting to Know You

Bruce and Karla Cook

(759) moved here from Andover, Massachusetts, where they lived for the past 36 years. When they were ready to downsize, they wanted to move closer to family and their children, and to a community that had an HOA. The HOA was so that when traveling, they would not have to worry about landscaping and snow removal. Since family and their children live in the Philadelphia area, Hershey's Mill seemed like a good choice. It only took them about six months to find the perfect home.



Bruce is a retired neurosurgeon. He trained in Pittsburgh. This is where he and Karla met. Karla was a pediatric anesthetist at Children's Hospital. They married. Karla left her career after 10 years to stay home with their three sons. All three sons live in Philly. Garrett, the oldest, is an artist. Geoffrey is in the marketing, advertising field, and Graham is an actor. Their family is rounded out with Xander, an Italian Greyhound and Coqui, a Siamese mix rescue.

Bruce began his practice as a neurosurgeon just northwest of Boston. He kept quite busy. He was Michael J. Fox's surgeon for his Parkinson's. In fact, Michael included a whole chapter about his experiences with Bruce in his book. Bruce also operated on Annette Funicello, and had an inquiry call from Robert DeNiro. He truly was a "surgeon to the stars."

Karla also leads quite an interesting life. She has several spinning wheels on which she spins her own yarns, which she then knits into amazing creations. Along with that she is a gourmet cook, accomplished gardener, paints with all different mediums and makes quilts. She has had some of her quilts published in quilting books. In Karla's words, she hates to be bored!

Bruce and Karla love to travel: Europe, Russia, Hawaii to mention a few destinations. They have vacationed for 15 years in Puerto Rico, and are currently building a vacation home in Vieques, an island off the coast of Puerto Rico.

Welcome Karla and Bruce!

Pat Aubry

Social Committee Report

We had three lovely Village events in the past three months. For the first time in Inverness Village history, a combined men's and women's luncheon was held at the Limoncello Restaurant on October 3 (see article on page 3). We also held a Ladies Luncheon at the Hershey's Mill Country Club on November 10 (see article on page 8).

And for the last event, the holiday season was escorted in with the ever popular Holiday Gala, held on December 9 at the Community Center (see article on pages 10-11). Decorations by Barb Harvey made the ambience extra special along with the detailed planning of Judy Klanderman and Barb Harvey. Thank you to those who attended! We hope you enjoyed the evening.

Looking forward, mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- Wednesday, January 17, men's and women's luncheon at Toninos
- Saturday, February 17, Chili and Soup Supper at the Community Center
- Saturday, March 16, Wine and Cheese party at the Community Center
- "Pop up" Cocktails in the cul-de-sacs

The Social Committee hopes that you have enjoyed the gatherings we sponsored and look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events! Blessings to you and your loved ones for a special holiday season and a happy healthy new year.

Bev Cella and Mary Schreiner
Co-chairs

Maintenance Committee Report

Compared to four years ago, the maintenance requests have been greatly reduced, largely due to the siding project. However, there are still the occasional woodpecker holes and clogged gutter problems. The Village has two major problems going forward. The first one is sidewalks. The macadam over time shrinks, and develops crazes. The worst of the sidewalk problems have been with the 19 homes that have steps with a 6" x 6" wooden transition. Some of the wooden steps have loosened and rock when stepped on. Currently they have been repaired, but some of them have severe rotting and should probably be replaced. Many of them could have their life extended by repainting. This year, the steps in the 705 -714 cul-de-sac were painted and had a traction strip added. It improved their look and safety. I recommend that we do the same for the remaining steps.



The second major problem that the Village has is our drainage system. The pipes that carry rainwater away from the homes are starting to fail. This problem has caused water in basements and flooding in yards. In prior years we have removed pipes that have been crushed. This year we have put a camera through some of the pipes where we know that there are problems. We found a location where the pipe was broken and separated. The area was excavated and repaired. Further assessment of that pipe would uncover two more breaks. While on another drainage line, as soon as the camera went into the line, we noticed that the pipe was filled with water. We ran the camera as far as possible but we couldn't find what was blocking the pipe.

Happy holidays and a happy new year.

Carl Griffin
Chair

Inverness Exterior Siding Project Update 12/2023

I am pleased to report that we made significant progress this year with the Inverness exterior siding project. Braulio and his workers are to be commended on the job they have done to this point. We have 81 homes with completed construction repair and painting. Our remaining work is to do construction repair on 12 homes and complete the painting on 16 homes. I am confident that we will complete this exterior project ahead of the contract completion date of July 2024.



We will again cease working on this project due to the coldest weather months and the upcoming holidays. The pause will start at the end of Friday, December 15th and work will commence on Monday, February 19th. Our homes have been renewed and the community has a great look! I want to thank everyone for their cooperation and patience during this vital project. We are certainly in a better position as a community moving forward!

Dave DeNight and
The Inverness Siding Project Committee

Architecture Committee Report

The front doors to our homes will be painted in the spring, after the siding project is complete. There will be three color choices to choose from.

If you are planning to have any exterior work done, you will need approval from the architectural committee before starting the project. Paperwork must be completed, which will be submitted to both CSK and Council. Please feel free to contact Mary Cairns at 708 if you have any questions.

The architectural committee is looking for new members. If you have an interest, the committee needs your support.

Mary Cairns
Chair



Landscaping Committee Report

The Landscaping Committee reports a successful year. We spent our budget. A few highlights include the first street tree pruning by Harlan Tree Service and completion of improvements at the adjoining backyards at 753/754/755 where multiple design flows led to water in a basement. The foundation regrading around individual houses is underway. We finished four this year. You may have noticed new trees in a few front yards. Tree replanting will be a focus as we work through removing declining ornamental trees. This will take a few years to accomplish, but we plan to give each section some new trees each year instead of working from the front to the back of the Village.

Our biggest disappointment this year was not locating an experienced pruner willing to come out and clean up our azaleas, rhododendrons and hydrangeas.



Next year will be a continuation of our plan. Harlan will be out in late January or February to prune again. We are taking advantage of the slow season to get the best price. Our first landscaping priority is the dead tree disaster at 697. That second tree has died and mulch volcanos are erupting. Once this front yard has fresh curb appeal we will move to drainage issues at 709 and 739 which will be resolved with foundation regrading. Additional work will be planned as the budget allows.

We thank villagers who sent in landscape change forms and worked with us to plan their improvements to their yards. Anyone interested in making changes can send an email to CSK to request a copy of the form. They forward all completed requests to our committee.

As always, new committee members are welcome. We meet several times each year to plan spring work then fall work. Plant knowledge is not required, simply a willingness to discuss and decide how best to use the funds set aside for landscaping improvements.

Barbara Crispin
Chair

Decorating Committee Report

Our committee thanks our Inverness neighbors for their support throughout this year! We have been thrilled to receive so much positive feedback. It makes us want to continue to please you.

Our Christmas decorations are now up. Our committee braved the freezing cold the week after Thanksgiving to get finished! We hope everyone is enjoying them. We were able to acquire some new items and they have 'upped' our game!

Happy New Year to all.

We continue to brainstorm amongst ourselves for new ideas; we welcome thoughts from everyone! And we would welcome anyone who wants to become a part of our enthusiastic dynamic committee!

Barbara Harvey
Decorations Committee Chair

Photography by Barbara Harvey



Flagpole Circle



Inverness Entrance



Inverness Entrance



Inverness Entrance

Inverness Village Ladies Luncheon

The rainy weather did nothing to dampen the spirits of 32 Inverness ladies who gathered for the annual fall ladies' luncheon on November 10. A private dining room at the Hershey's Mill Country Club was the site of the luncheon. Each guest had the choice of one of three entrees: broccoli quiche, a fruit plate with tuna salad and tea sandwiches, or a Waldorf chicken salad on a croissant. Mushroom soup and warm rolls led off the lunch, followed by the entrée of choice and an ice cream dessert.

Besides the delicious lunch and excellent service, new residents were introduced, and several of our guests went home with some extra cash - a result of a winning ticket from our 50/50! It was a lovely afternoon!

Theresa Carrone
Chairperson

Photography by Mary Lou Perry



Mary Schreiner and Bev Cella
Social Committee Co-Chairs



Maureen Cullen, Marilyn Foley, Dodie Galbusera,
Sandy Yeager, Louise DeNight, Lydia Voigt,
Marney Roia, Debbie Wallace



Karla Cook, Bev Cella, Terry Marran, Jeanne Sugg,
Mary Schreiner, Louise Davidson, Pat Phillips,
Barbara Podgorski



Tre Carrone, Theresa DeCosta, Marge Brolly,
Jean Norsworthy, Carol Ellis, Joyce Cadwallader
(Missing from photo: Pat Aubry, Dorothy Dinehart)



Eileen Isselmann, Mary Flanagan, Susan McCormack,
Mary Lou Perry, Nancy Schwab, Marianne Pavlosky,
Cheryl Shelderfer, Jini Pettijohn

Our Own Willy Wonka

If you live anywhere near the DeNights' at 722, you more than likely detect the whiff of chocolate around this time of year. **Louise DeNight** has been making a wide variety of chocolate treats for almost 40 years. Imagine peanut butter cups, chocolate bark, chocolate covered pretzels—as a chocolate lover myself, I felt like I had died and gone to heaven!

While most of Louise's candies are what I would refer to as traditional, she has recently added English Toffee to her repertoire, based on a recipe she received from her mother. Although most of the Louise's candy-making is done around Christmas time, she has in the past created favors for showers and other special occasions.

As I mentioned, Louise has been making candy for nearly 40 years. The hobby began as she started making favors for an at-home chocolate making party. She left the party with the tools, and the rest is history.

Louise's current product mix includes 14 different products, and she does occasionally experiment with new items. Her work is strictly a hobby, and she has no interest in "going professional." Once the Christmas candy making season begins, Louise works for about two weeks. For about 30 years, she worked with a friend. Her friend moved from Glen Mills to Maryland, and once her friend became a grandmother, it was more difficult for the two of them to work together. In the "glory days" of these efforts, they used 100 to 150 pounds of bulk chocolate per season!

The lucky recipients of Louise's efforts are mostly family and friends. In the past, her candy has been given as gifts to teachers, bus drivers, co-workers and other fortunate people.

As we parted after my interview, Louise handed me a chocolate covered pretzel. I realized at that point just how fortunate the regular beneficiaries of Louise's efforts really are!

Jim Aubry



Inverness Holiday Gala

Judy Klanderman and Barbara Harvey chaired the 2023 Inverness Village Holiday Gala on Saturday, December 9, and received many compliments about it.

We started with appetizers of various meats, shrimp, cheese, and other mouthwatering bites made by the committee. We chatted for about an hour, with soft, live piano music in the background.

Then, at 6 o'clock, a delicious hot dinner was served by Lia's Catering. The beans were al dente, the tortellini with Rose Sauce was succulent, the Chicken Apricot was tender and tasty, and the Roast Beef just right. Caesar Salad was lovely and the dessert delightful: a Cherry Cheesecake Parfait, made by Marge Brolly.

After dinner we sang Christmas songs, accompanied by Sam Crispin and the pianist, Dale McCauley --- talk about raising spirits!!! And then the funniest part: The 12 Days of Christmas, sung with body and soul, popping from table to table, with Ed Isselmann leading. What a great job! And, finally, we filled the Toys For Tots boxes with gifts, now ready for distribution by the Marine Corps. Thank you, Inverness Social Committee, for a wonderful party.

Judy Klanderman

Photography by Mary Flanagan



Brooke & Phil Hamilton



Pat & Jim Aubry, Bill & Dorothy Dinehart



Chris & Barb Harvey



Judy Klanderman, Mary & Roger Schreiner



Pat Tunnell, Gale Markey



Marge & John Brolly, Joe & Tre Carrone



Bruce & Sandy Yeager

Holiday Gala (Cont'd)



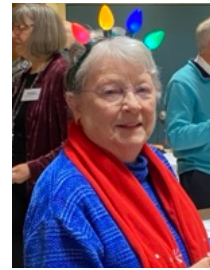
Barbara & George
Colby



Lydia Voigt, Penny Zimmerman,
Lydia's son John



Jim Seastone &
daughter Karen



Eileen Isselmann



Ed Isselmann



Marianne Pavlosky, Dodie Galbusera, BJ Rodgers



John & Jeanne Sugg



Bev Cella



Pat Phillips, Kay Flynn



Bud & Lorna Kauffman



Bruce Cook, Marilyn Foley, Terry Marran



Karla Cook, Barbara & Sam Crispin



Tina & Joe Scaperotto, Bob & Cheryl Shelderfer



Chuck Atmore, Marney Roia,
Barbara Atmore



Nancy Schwab



Barbara Podgorski



Susan McCormack,
Mary Flanagan

Upcoming Events - Inverness*Luncheon at Tonino's in Malvern*

Men & Women
Wednesday, January 17

Chili and Soup Supper

Community Center
Saturday, February 17

Wine and Cheese party

Community Center
Saturday, March 16

*"Pop up" Cocktails in the cul-de-sacs***Local Area Events of Interest***West Chester Area Community Chorus*

Saturday, January 20, 2:00 PM
East High School

West Chester University Annual Jazz Festival

March 20-23, 2024
Madeline Wing Adler Theater
817 S High St, West Chester, PA 19383

The Jazz Festival includes a variety of day and evening performances with students and faculty. All are free and open to the public (except the High School Jazz Festival on March 23). For more information, go to: <https://www.wcupa.edu/music/jazzFest.aspx>

Note: The design and layout of this issue of the newsletter was done by Mary Lou Perry as Louise Davidson was not available to do it. We hope you are feeling better Louise!

Past issues of *The Inverness "I"* can be accessed from the Hershey's Mill website:

www.hersheysmill.org

Go to the "Villages" tab and click on "Inverness" Scroll down and you will see a link to previous issues of the newsletter.

The online newsletter is in full color.

Inverness Directory Updates

Please welcome our new residents.

Dorothy & Bill Dinehart - #750

Home phone:

Dorothy cell:

Email:

Bill cell:

Email:

Shirley Baker - #751

Cell:

Email:

Karla & Bruce Cook - #759

Karla cell:

Email:

Bruce cell:

Email:

JoAnn & John Carey - #786

JoAnn cell:

John cell:

Email:

An updated directory is being distributed with this issue of *The Inverness "I"*. If you have any changes to your listing, contact Mary Lou Perry.

Inverness Village Council Members

President	Ed Isselmann
Vice President	Penny Zimmerman
Secretary	Terry Marran
Treasurer	Richard Hammock
Council Coordinator	Marilyn Foley
Managing Agent	Janet Burgess
	Caroline DeCray

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