
The Inverness "I"

Vol. 14. No. 3.

July 2023

From The Editor

You will read elsewhere in this issue that things are changing regarding the Inverness "I". First, we offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to Barbara and George Colby, Carol and Jim Ellis, and Mary Lou Perry for their many years of seeing that our Village was as best informed as it could be.

However, after these many years of dedication and service, the editorial and layout staff would like to pass the torch. Unfortunately, we had little response to our request for help. As a result, while we will work to continue to keep Inverness informed through a Village paper, the format of future editions will change dramatically. While we will continue to provide items like committee reports, council notes, and such things as local happenings, we will not be able to continue with the human-interest side of Inverness. Such articles as interesting hobbies of villagers, stories of our travels, along with photographs, will no longer be a part of this effort. While there will be stories regarding new residents, future such reports will provide much less detail than has been provided to date.

We will stay together as a team and make our best effort to continue with the "I", but without new volunteers, things will have to change. Over the years, we have been advised that our Village paper has been one of the best in Hershey's Mill. Interestingly, we have had more positive comments about our work from outside of Inverness than from our own residents.

So, we are not at this point folding up our tent and leaving camp, but we just want everyone to be aware that there are changes coming.

Jim Aubry

From The Village President

Summer is always a great time of year. Whether it's relaxing at the beach, meandering in the mountains, or just spending some quiet time with partners and friends. Hershey's Mill does not have a beach or mountains. But we do have a beautiful pool with many shady spots and lots of poolside activities without the need to even get wet. In addition, try to set aside some time to check out the new bocce and shuffleboard courts. They are beautiful! Inverness Village has one of the largest representations in the bocce league.

Specific to Inverness, there are only a few items I would like to mention. A new activity sponsored by the Social Committee is "Cocktails in the Cul-de-Sac." This is a gathering open to all residents of Inverness at a pre-determined cul-de-sac in the Village. Once it is announced - emailed to everyone, the only thing you need to do is show up with a chair, a beverage and maybe a snack. This is a great way to meet new people and say hello to old friends.

While you are walking about the village, take a look at the flagpole island. Barbara Harvey has done a super job of displaying the flags of the military branches. It really is a nice statement.

A few weeks ago we had our spring Village meeting and a good number of owners/residents were in attendance. I am happy to say that both Penny Zimmerman and Richard Hammock were reelected to Council for another two-year term. Their service is greatly appreciated. Additionally, there was discussion and some clarification regarding the insurance deductible amendment as well as the term limitation amendment. I was somewhat disappointed however, in that almost half of the owners did not cast a yes or no vote for the term limitation amendment. Finally, Dave DeNight gave an

Cont'd on page 2

From The Village President (Cont'd)

update on the siding project. The crew is moving forward and making good progress.

Harper Lee, the author of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, wrote...."Summer was our best season: it was sleeping on the back screened porch in cots, or trying to sleep in the tree house; summer was everything good to eat; it was a thousand colors in a parched landscape..." I agree with Ms. Lee. Summer is the best season. Get out and enjoy it!

Ed Isselmann



Ed Isselmann, Inverness Council President, giving presentation at Village Meeting on June 14, 2023

THANK YOU, INVERNESS NEIGHBORS

As we step down from editing the Inverness "I" these past fourteen years, we thank you for your support, and for the show of appreciation at the recent Village meeting. We thank all who have written for, distributed, or otherwise contributed to the "I", and trust you will continue to support it in the future.

Barbara and George Colby



Barbara and George Colby receiving a gift of appreciation for their many years of service as founders and editors of the Inverness "I".

Inverness Exterior Siding Project Update

As of 6/22/2023

We continue to make very good progress with the Inverness exterior siding work. The Braulio Construction Co. is making thorough and complete repair and replacement of rotted cedar and wood on our homes. Braulio has subcontracted the painting portion of the work to move the project along in a timely manner. To date, we have finished the construction repairs on 63 homes. Additionally, there are 2 partially repaired homes. We have completed painting 44 homes and are working on 4 homes which are partially painted. The pace of work has been very good to this point in the project. As long as the weather cooperates, we should continue to make similar progress and work towards successful completion of putting our homes in the best order moving forward in the future.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact either Dave DeNight at _____ or Ed Isselmann at _____. Just a reminder, Sam Crispin is away working hard on a major project for the US Government, so please direct your concerns to Dave or Ed.

We thank you, the residents of Inverness Village, for your patience and cooperation during this vital and much needed improvement project of our community.

The Inverness Siding Project Committee

Looking Back: Fourteen Years of the Inverness "I"

With a desire to help our fellow residents get to know each other better, Barbara and George Colby set out, in late 2009, to see if a Village newsletter were feasible, and to see if anyone would help us. Carol and Jim Ellis were quick to sign on to the idea, and Boyd Mackleer assured them of Council support to cover printing costs.

Our first issue, January 2010, was a mere six pages, but thanks to growing interest it was up to 12 pages by the fourth issue. The endeavor has benefitted greatly from contributions by our residents, whose names appear with their inputs.

Carol has made significant contributions to every issue. Her inputs have included editor's letters, articles, poems and collected inputs from residents on subjects such as books read and volunteer activities. She also edits each issue before it is sent to the printer. As a founding member of the staff, Carol has consistently suggested novel content. Jim Ellis provided adorable and humorous drawings during the first six years, and contributed articles as well. He also served as a member of the steering committee during that time.

Mary Lou Perry added important design and computerized production capabilities when she joined the staff in 2016. She took over the layout duties which George had been doing for the first seven years. Her contributions have significantly improved the newsletter visuals, readability, and interest with the identification of each person in group photographs, and the selection and inclusion of clip art. She has been the primary photographer for social events. Mary Lou also regularly contributes news of local events and posts each issue on the HM website.

Pat and Jim Aubry joined the staff in 2020 to provide fresh input and assistance in suggesting and creating content. Pat, who is also the Village Greeter, interviews new residents and contributes newcomer profiles, including photographs. As facilitator of the social committee, she has provided advance notice and reports of Village-wide events. Jim has contributed several articles describing residents' hobbies, complete with photographs. He serves as a free-lance writer for articles suggested during the planning session. Jim also solicits and coordinates committee reports for each issue. The Aubrys' support is invaluable.

The efforts of Terry Marran in maintaining an index of all issues has proved essential. This resource, which is posted on the Hershey's Mill website along with copies of all newsletters to date, is very useful in searching for specific material.

The central themes of each issue are determined in an executive staff meeting called together by Barbara. George provides an initial outline, and then Carol, Mary Lou, Pat and Jim, join them in proposing topics, agreeing on assignments and identifying other potential contributors. We wish to thank all these talented individuals for their contributions.

At the outset, a former resident predicted the project would not last six months. The staff was optimistic and kept moving forward. It has been especially fulfilling to have had the support of staff and resident contributors of articles. We wish success to those who continue to lead the Inverness "I" into the future. May their efforts be supported by all of our residents.

George & Barbara Colby

The Inverness "I" Staff



Barbara and George Colby



Carol and Jim Ellis



Mary Lou Perry



Pat and Jim Aubry

Interesting Articles in Past Inverness "I"'s

Editor's note: All past Inverness "I" newsletters are available online at: www.hersheysmill.org. Go to the *Villages* tab and click on *Inverness*. The twenty-page index lists the many articles that have appeared in print. The following list is just a small sample to whet your appetite for interesting reading from and about our residents.

Pets & Birds - 16 columns
Dear Gramps - 15 columns
Visiting Inverness Scotland
Touring Australia
Bucharest to Budapest
Tribute to our Veterans
Iceland
Asian Adventure
Mission to Malawi
India
Life in the Movie Business
Sailing the Chesapeake

Presidents Who Work
What Are You Reading?
Collections and Collectors
Marathon Man
Hyde Park
Inverness Volunteers
Holiday Traditions
Where Snowbirds Fly

In addition, there are profiles of over 140 residents and 10 columns reflecting on contemporary life.

Wine and Cheese Party

On April 29th, 46 Inverness neighbors gathered at the Community Center for a Wine and Cheese party. There was definitely more than just wine and cheese. Many of the social committee members donated appetizers, ranging from shrimp, kielbasa, meatballs, bologna and cream cheese rolls, fiesta rolls and carrots with hummus. Yumm! We enjoyed a variety of wines selected by Marney Roia. Background music was provided by Silver Wind, a flute and guitar duo. In addition to all of that, three wine and cheese baskets and one beer basket were raffled off to the delight of four happy winners! But the best part of the evening was getting to spend time with our Inverness Village friends...

Thank you to Bev Cella and Mary Flanagan, who chaired the event, and to the social committee. Without all of these people, the evening could not have happened.

Photography by Pat Aubry



Landscape Committee Report

Spring Landscaping Committee work focused on trees. Harlan Tree Service returned to prune and shape trees in front and back of houses from the entrance straight up the hill to the back block. Several diseased trees were removed. Then HMLD went to work adding trees. We directed them to plant trees in areas where stormwater management has been a problem. Ten trees were planted now and the next round of planting will happen in October.

The limited budget for foundation regrading means we prioritize homes with wet basements. We have finished 2 problem walls and 3 more should be completed by the time this publication is distributed.

We broke some records with our lack of rain throughout May. Chances are good that the rest of the summer will also be dry.

HMLD has announced that mowing is suspended during this excessive dryness to prevent damage to the dry, brittle grass. If you have a shady patch of lawn that is shaggy, notify me and I will request a crew.

Please take the time to water any recently planted trees or shrubs. The first 3 years after transplanting are critical in root development. Deep watering once a week is better for the roots than daily spraying with a hose. I suppose whatever we saved in the snow removal budget we will spend on the water bill, but watering must be done to protect our investment in landscape beautification.

New members to the Landscaping Committee are always welcome. Contact Barbara Crispin if you are interested in knowing more about joining us.

Barbara Crispin, Chair



The declining red oak came from the back of 739. Anyone want to take the place of the guy hanging on to the hook?



Harlan Tree Service crew did an efficient job getting it out in sections. They do an excellent job every time they come.

Social Committee Report

Several weeks ago, Roger Schreiner sent out a survey of possible social functions for our Village. At our last meeting, Roger shared the results. What a job he did! He put all the results in a variety of formats – seven pages of formats! Space prevents us from sharing all of them in this article.

The chart accompanying this report gives a run-down of the voting. In addition to the voting results, Roger compiled a list of other suggestions you all suggested for socials. Some were more doable than others, but all are being looked at. The Village has spoken! We know what is wanted. We have the enthusiasm. Now we just need the manpower to be able to run these activities. The social committee is on hiatus for the summer, but we hope to reconvene in mid-August. Please consider jumping on board. Information will be sent out before the meeting. We need more help if we hope to meet the desires of the Village.

Lower SCORE is Better		
Social Event	Rank	SCORE
Holiday Gala	1	90
Wine & Cheese	2	177
Ice Cream Social	3	243
Chili & Soup	4	256
Beer Fest	5	259
Trivia Night	6	270
Kentucky Derby	7	312
Pool Party	8	328
Casino Night	9	330
Night @ Races	10	350
Street Fair	11	363
Karaoke	12	450
Number of Responses: 49		

Thanks for your consideration,
The Social Committee

Architectural Committee Report

I look forward to serving Inverness Village, as new Chair of the Architectural committee, along with Barbara Atmore and Judy Klanderman. As a self-employed residential interior decorator since 1995, I feel that I can bring valuable experience to our community.

Our Village looks absolutely wonderful, as the siding project continues and houses are being painted, creating an updated and most attractive community. After the siding and painting are completed, our front doors will be repainted. There are 3 paint options, which include Sherwin Williams colors to choose from. They include: Sun Dried Tomato(SW7585), Keystone Gray(SW7504) and Marea Baja(SW9185). I will have samples on my front porch for residents to see after July 11.



The exterior window trim color is still being reviewed. Residents will have the option to have the trim on the exterior of the window frame itself painted, which will freshen up faded paint, and provide uniformity for frames that vary in color due to replacement of some windows over the years. New window replacement will continue to need to be brown.

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions or concerns regarding exterior architecture. If anyone is interested in joining our committee, I look forward to hearing from you.

Mary Cairns, Chair
 708 Inverness

Inverness Pet Profiles

Carol Ellis

Rally M. M., a poodle/terrier mix, was given his name by Mary Lanciano (772) when she adopted him in April. The Ms represent Maxie and Mani, two of Mary's previous dogs. Rally was found abandoned in the backyard of a home in central Pennsylvania and rescued by Justice Rescue in Malvern. He is an adorable seven-month-old bundle of energy whose love and affection is matched by Mary's joy at finding him. Rally can be seen accompanying Mary as she gardens and as she takes him for walks in the Village.



Pat Phillips (762) recently adopted Bella Leigh from 4 Paws in Malvern. Bella, who is named for Pat's granddaughters, is half shih tzu and half poodle. She has become the playmate and best friend of Pat's rescue Buddy, a 35 lb. beagle/boxer mix. According to Pat, Bella and Buddy play constantly and when at the dog park chase each other until they're exhausted. At home, even baby gates can't keep them apart. Although active playmates, Bella and Buddy adore Pat and enjoy cuddling with her.



JOSEPH STELLA: VISIONARY NATURE

Carol Ellis

The new summer exhibition at the Brandywine Museum of Art, *Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature*, explores the work of modernist Joseph Stella. In over 80 paintings and works on paper, the exhibition presents Stella's emotional response to what he believed were the spiritual qualities of nature.

For over three decades, Stella depicted plants and birds, religious works with elaborate floral motifs, and tropical fantasies. He closely observed nature and combined realism and fantasy in his paintings.

Born in southern Italy in 1877, Stella immigrated to New York in 1896. Over the ensuing decades, he returned to Italy and traveled to North Africa and Barbados for inspiration. He frequently visited the New York Botanical Gardens when he created dramatic floral compositions. "My devout wish," Stella wrote, is "that my every working day might begin and end - on a good omen - with the light, gay painting of a flower." Stella died in New York in 1946.

Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature is on display at the Brandywine Museum of Art until September 24.



Joseph Stella

Flowers, Italy,

Ca. 1930

Oil on canvas



Joseph Stella

Dance of Spring
(Song of the Birds)

1924

Oil on Canvas

"The Good Life"

In what is likely to be my last column for the Village newsletter, I have chosen to reflect on what I have observed about Inverness Village over the sixteen years we have been here. Life here is in such sharp contrast to the turmoil and unrest rampant throughout our nation, generated by politicians, and which the media is only too happy to amplify. Bear with me as I reflect a bit.

Life here is free of many of the demands of everyday life, especially for those of us fortunate enough to be retired. We live in a secure gated environment with our own security team readily available. Many amenities are available to us for various levels of activity, whether it be pounding a pickleball, quietly tending a garden, or just perusing the latest newspaper in the library.

The friendliness level in our village ranks high. Dog walkers stop to talk, drivers often wave a greeting, and social events are jovial and lively. We are blessed with a Council composed of caring individuals intent on ensuring an ongoing high standard of quality throughout Inverness.

So we have a comfortable living condition in a pleasant environment, which one quickly appreciates when observing alternative living situations. The beauty of nature helps to calm the restless soul. Its value is too often underestimated. Hershey's Mill layout, with its walking paths, trees and plantings, and generous open space, is indeed a gift of potential serenity. We need only to enjoy it.

Let us examine why life in Inverness Village is so pleasant. We live peacefully here while the rest of the nation experiences division and rancor. I suggest there are two traits prevalent here that contribute substantially to our happiness: namely **Respect** and **Privacy**.

We live in friendliness but are not intrusive. We know we may not agree with our neighbors on

political or other issues, but we respect their right to their beliefs and preferences. Such respect is key to peaceful living.

While we are friendly, and care about the welfare of everyone, we are careful to not intrude on anyone's privacy. While we may hear expressions of concern and well wishes, we do not hear or pass on gossip about others.

These two qualities make our Village the best place to live. Sadly, the next two years will likely yield a national political scene of hitherto unseen intensity and unpleasantness. While each of us will form her/his own opinions and support of the preferred political party, let us remember those two qualities that make our lives so nice. And may we keep them in mind as we are bombarded with incendiary rhetoric.

May **Respect** and **Privacy** continue to flourish here, in what is unquestionably the best place to live in Hershey's Mill.

May it always be so.

George Colby

Decorating Committee Report

We had a lot of positive comments about our spring decorations -- thank you!

We did put out flags for Memorial Day at the main entrance; however, we noted that other villages had some additional areas as well. So we placed flags at the entrances of all of our cul-de-sacs and flags for all of our armed forces around our flagpole.

These will all be removed right after July 4th.

We will be meeting during the summer to plan our fall decorations! We have acquired some great additions!

Barbara Harvey, Chair

A Farewell Poem

The following poem appropriately describes the feelings of the Inverness "I" staff as we say farewell to the original newsletter and look forward to a new beginning.

Carol Ellis

New Beginnings by Hamsa Elfarash

It's only the beginning now,
A pathway yet unknown,
At times the sound of other steps,
Sometimes we walk alone.

The best beginnings of our lives,
May sometimes end in sorrow,
But even on our darkest days,
The sun will shine tomorrow

So we must do our very best,
Whatever life may bring,
And look to the winter as a guest,
To smell the breath of spring.

Into each life will always come,
A time to start a new,
A new beginning in each heart,
As fresh as morning dew.

The past has its secrets, but the present does too,
In order to establish the future, we must do what we do,
In time we will find it and make happiness flow,
We just need patience in the beginning and in time we'll grow.

The years will never take away,
Our chance to start a new,
It's only the beginning now,
So dreams can still come true.



Upcoming Events - Hershey's Mill

Concert - HM Golf Club parking lot
 Sunday, July 9 (rain date July 23)
 Band: The Left Edge
 Time: 7:00 PM

Concert - HM Golf Club parking lot
 Sunday, August 6 (rain date August 13)
 Band: GoodFoot
 Time: 7:00 PM

HM Library Used Book Sale
 HM Community Center
 Sat. Sept. 9 and Sun. Sept. 10
 Note: Friends of the Library Preview Night,
 Friday Sept. 8 (See librarian to join
 Friends of the Library)
 Look for details in Sept. HM Guide

Local Area Events of Interest

Chester County Concert Band
 East Goshen Township Park
 Thursday, July 6
 Time: 7:00 PM

West Chester Open Air Market
 Gay Street closed to traffic
 Friday through Sunday
 Now until October 29

For more events happening in the borough of
 West Chester, visit:

downtownwestchester.com

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

*An update of the Inverness directory is being
 distributed with this issue of the newsletter.
 Please contact Mary Lou Perry if you have any
 changes to your listing.*

In Memoriam

Dusty Whitman
 (Formerly 754)

Our sincere condolences to her family.

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

The Inverness "I" Staff

Co-Editors	Barbara & George Colby
Associate Editor	Carol Ellis
Associates	Pat & Jim Aubry
Design & Layout	Mary Lou Perry



*With one kind gesture you can change a life.
 One person at a time you can change the world.
 One day at a time we can change everything.*

Steve Maraboli, *The Power of One*

(Artwork by Jim Ellis)