



Yardley Village News



April 2014

Message from the President

It seems that we cannot get through a week without having something drop out of the sky. So far, we have not had any Space Junk landing close by. Thankfully, the cold is gone and we are only experiencing rain. We certainly have had our fill of snow for a long while.

As you are probably aware by now, Council has found it necessary to institute a special assessment of \$500 per household in Yardley Village in order to cover the snow removal expense incurred to date and also generate a sufficient amount necessary to cover the winter months ahead. You will be receiving or may have already received a letter from CSK Mgmt. informing you of the assessment and the payment dates involved.

Snow removal expense incurred by Yardley Village in December, 2013, amounted to approximately \$34,000 which was covered by the 2013 budget. During the months of January through March, 2014, we incurred over \$105,000 for snow removal expenses. To summarize the winter of 2013-14, or "the winter of our discontent", we incurred a total expense of \$139,000 for snow removal which is by far the worst expense incurred for any comparable period of time in the past.

This amount incurred in 2014 to date is approximately \$45,000 more than the entire amount of our 2014 budget of \$60,000. The special assessment will cover this amount and provide approximately \$24,000 for the November/December timeframe. Let's hope

that this amount will prove to be more than necessary.

The Yardley Village Annual Meeting and Election will be held on April 16 at 7 pm in the Hershey's Mill Community Center. Please mark this on your calendars and try to attend. While Art DiGiuseppe and I have reluctantly agreed to run for re-election to council for an additional term, Joane McNamara will not be doing so. This will require at least one additional resident to come forward as a candidate to serve on council for a two year term. I am hopeful that someone or more of our residents will realize that a Homeowners Association can only function when its members are willing to play a role in serving the needs of the association. This holds true for not only the Village Council but also for the chairs of the various committees - which leads me to another need for resident participation.

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There are six groups of volunteers that function as standing committees to assist Council. Each of these committees is chaired by one or two individuals. Some of these individuals have done so, thankfully, for many years but as can be expected all good things must come to an end. Unfortunately, one of those good things, Mary Ellen Marra, has informed Council that she will no longer be able to chair the Landscape Committee.

Mary Ellen has served effectively and conscientiously for the past six years in this capacity. I personally want to express my thanks and appreciation and also that of all of the Council members for her very significant contribution and personal dedication to making Yardley Village a better place to live. I know that she will be available to help make the transition to a new chairperson as smooth as possible.

This means that there are now two extremely important positions that must be filled by others within the Yardley Village community. Now it is time for some other members of our community of 138 households to fill these roles. To those residents who have felt that they could contribute if the opportunity presented itself - that opportunity is here and needs your involvement now. Please stand up and be a contributing part of the solution.

*Joe Ciasullo,
Council President*

Architecture Committee

No report this month.

Tony Bruno, Chairman

Landscape Committee

We are still waiting for those Spring-like temperatures and burst of color after the very long winter.

For newcomers to Yardley Village, and a reminder to all of us, the following is the usual sequence of events when weather and appropriate conditions exist:

- A. Winter/Spring pruning: selected shrubs i.e. ornamental grasses, butterfly bush, and ground covers pruned to improve shape and control growth. Included in this year's pruning will be the 2nd Fall cleanup that usually takes place in December (snow covered ground in 2013). Workers have been in our village this week despite some snow, strong winds and bitter cold doing this cleanup.
- B. Spring Clean-up: Debris, i.e. broken limbs, dead plants, leaves, and dead wood are being picked up from lawns and beds and disposed of properly. Although there were a few down trees and broken limbs, the winter damage was not too bad.
- C. Soil tests will be taken in beds and turf areas where needed.
- D. Bed Fertilization of Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Andromeda, Hollies, Yews, etc. is scheduled when appropriate.
- E. Turf fertilization and crabgrass control of all maintained areas.
- F. Mulching: Full village mulching takes place every other year. The unusually long, harsh winter requires evaluation of existing conditions, throughout the Mill, and a new calendar of anticipated dates is being considered.

New mailboxes will be installed, followed by full village mulching. These are two major activities that will begin when Hershey's Mill Landscape Division determines the time is right to begin and complete these activities.

Additional pruning of several overgrown deciduous trees along Yardley Drive and

rejuvenation of shrubs along Greenhill Rd. are being rescheduled.

The annual village survey by Mike Neale and the landscape committee members will result in a report submitted to council for consideration. Turf issues will also be evaluated at this time.

Any resident of Yardley Village is invited to join the landscape committee. Prior knowledge and experience is not required, only a sincere willingness to meet and attempt to problem-solve ways to maintain our village and work on any future problems that may develop. We try to look at all aspects of a particular problem and submit possible solutions to your elected council who have the final decision as to how your funds will be spent. Your help is needed.

Important notice: Any homeowner having a landscape need should call CSK directly. CSK will issue a work order to HMLD to evaluate the need. Contractual issues are automatically taken care of. Cost will be forwarded to CSK for determination of financial responsibility by council or homeowner.

Early Spring bulbs, Crocus and Daffodil, are starting to push through the soil. Good News! Nature needs time to restore itself. A "wait and see" attitude is our best recourse while this is taking place.

*Mary Ellen Marra,
Landscape Chair*

Maintenance Committee

No report this month.

Jim DiCarlo, Maintenance Committee Co-Chair

Social Committee

No report this month.

*Joane McNamara, Social
Committee Co-Chair*

Yardley Activity Corner

Yardley Village ROMEO Club

The *ROMEO Club* meets for breakfast the first Monday of the month except on Holidays.

Gentlemen:

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 7th.

Look forward to seeing you all.

Same place-Nudy's.....9:00AM.

Jim Swalm

Neighborhood News

The annual Easter flower sale by the Goshen Fire Company will be held at Station 56 at Boot and Greenhill Roads on Friday, 4/18, and Saturday, 4/19, from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. and on Sunday, 4/20, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Proceeds benefit the Goshen Fire Company which provides emergency services (fire, ambulance, etc.) to Hershey's Mill.

*Ralph Verno
1618 Yardley Dr*

Obituary

Marone, Anthony J., age 82, of 1620 Yardley, husband of Lynn Braun-Marone and the late Paula Marone. Father of six and grandfather of 11 passed away recently. Services were held on March 8th at St. Dorothy's Church, in Drexel Hill, and interment was in S.S. Peter & Paul Cemetery. Donations to Crohns & Colitis Foundation of America (www.ccfa.org) were requested.

Yardley Village Web Site

Send your data and suggestions in an email to webmaster@yardleyvillage.com

Letters to the Editor

Please submit questions or comments to Lgamma1937@aol.com.

Yardley Village Council and Committee Members

Yardley Village Council

Joe Ciasullo, President
Joane McNamara, Vice President
Al Zuccarello, Secretary
Art DiGiuseppe, Treasurer
Rex Cassel, Member at Large

www.yardleyvillage.com

CSK Management, Inc.

1012 West 9th Avenue, Suite 10
King of Prussia, PA 19406
Janet Burgess, Manager
610-337-3500
Fax: 610-337-0900

Jburgess@cskmgmt.com
cdecray@cskmgmt.com

K Hovnanian Homes

110 W. Front Street
Red Bank, New Jersey 07701
phone: 609-570-4700

Architecture Committee

Anthony Bruno, Chair
Jim Alexander
Connie Campbell
Annette Coleman
Katie Worhacz

Decoration Committee

Katie Worhacz, Chair
Nancy Hansen
Judy Molt
Marian Sweeney
Edward Sweeney
Lucy Watt
Tom Watt

Finance Committee

Bob Moyer, Chair
John Babiec
Art DiGiuseppe
Frank Merenda
Jim Swalm

Maintenance Committee

Ed Sweeney, Chairman
Jim DiCarlo, Co-Chair
John Babiec
Rex Cassel
Tom Day
Ben Ellis
Roger Fleming
Dave Woodley
Al Zuccarello

Social Committee

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Joane McNamara, Co-Chair
Edwina Brennan
Susan Bronner
Joyce Cassel
Barbara Clancy
Jean Duncan
Jana Richey
Kathee Schmit
Judy Smeltzer

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Al Gamma
Leslie Kirsch

Landscape Committee

Mary Ellen Marra, Chair
Janet Day
Bob Moyer
Barbara Reeves-Cohen
Judy Smeltzer
Lynn Trump
Val Woodley

Web Manager

Roger Fleming