

Innisfree

VILLAGE VOICE
WINTER-SPRING 2007

The Innisfree World Artisan's Store *New Look, New Location*

"It's beautiful. It's lighter. It's roomier." Customers were delighted and full of enthusiasm when they shopped at our new store for our grand reopening. **Innisfree World Artisans** has moved to 508 East Main Street and we're excited to have you visit. We moved to the opposite end of the downtown mall in Charlottesville and opened in time for Valentine's Day.

Our former building was sold in 2006 and those owners worked with us to help in our transition. Fortunately, we found an empty storefront at the other end of the mall and were able to make the move during January, a cold winter month when retail sales are at their lowest. We assembled a talented team of workers and designers, mostly from our own Innisfree community to work the magic.

Various groups met; store staff, village volunteers, board members and workstation heads, to plan the key elements that we wanted to keep and new touches we wanted to add. Inge, a post Peace Corps volunteer living in



Katie B. winds a shuttle for the store loom.

Meadow, has a degree in Interior Design that hasn't gotten much use in the past 30 years. She became our leader and was clever and creative in her design. Bart, Susan, Arvin, Denny, Carolyn and Nancy all added their skills, ideas and muscles to this venture. Astrid Bailey, our store manager, had the help of her

husband Butch, in disassembling and re-assembling the computer and cash register system. We enhanced the display of Innisfree products with wonderful close ups of our coworker artisans and increased our stock of very special pottery. We brought a weavery loom onto the floor space as a way to show off our

artisans and to introduce the public to one of our favorite crafts.

Many thanks to all the hands that pulled together our new venture. It's an exciting time for the World Artisan's Store and we are happy to remain on the downtown mall. Come to see for yourself.



Our weaving and woodworking products have a prime space in the new store.

Newest Community Member makes a Speedy Entrance

We welcomed Alexander Carel Nankman to the world and especially to Laurel on the evening of Friday, February 9th. Volunteers Lisa Gerlits and Michiel Nankman became proud parents after a short labor and home birth (the midwife didn't even have time to get here on time) in Laurel. Lisa's mother Linda was a delighted assistant to the great event. Jean and Mitch are the most excited housemates to have a newborn baby in Laurel.

Congratulations Lisa and Michiel!



*Welcome to
Innisfree,
Alexander!*

Special Opportunities

These positions are currently available at Innisfree

- Herb Garden Intern
- Store Assistant
- House Caregiver
- Veggie Garden (CSA) Intern

All positions are residential with room and board and a stipend.

If you or someone you know, would like to live and serve in our lifesharing community, contact Nancy Chappell for more information at info@innisfreevillage.org or 434 823-5400.

This January we received our new Chevrolet van, modified to accommodate both passengers and recycling for our twice weekly trips. This gift assures both Tom and Pete, pictured standing beside the van, will be able to continue to provide this wonderful work opportunity and service for our community.



Kim is enjoying her new home in Meadow.

Mark your Calendars

INNISFREE 2007 CALENDAR

Mayfair
Saturday, May 5

Family Day
Saturday, November 17

Winter Vacation
Thursday, December 20 - Wednesday, January 2
(please note this is not a full 2 weeks)

Wish List

(New or good condition, please)

Sewing machine

Wheel barrows

Barbeque grills

Garden gloves

Roasting pans

New sheets – double, twin, queen

Lawn chairs

*If you need us to provide transportation
for any donations, please let us know.*

Thanks

My Friend, James

By Denny Gobert

The newest coworker to join the Innisfree Village family is also the youngest.

James Lewis is a lean and lanky young man who now hangs his hat and coat at Sunflower. James combines the folksiness of the “great communicator”, Ronald Reagan, with the preaching mannerisms of Billy Graham. Add an equal dose of Ricky Skaggs and you get one James Lewis. James hails from suburban Baltimore where his parents Kim and Keith live. James’s older sister Lara Winn resides in Boston. James is privileged to enjoy quality time with his grandfather (and name sake) James Lewis and grandmother Mabel. The bond between James and his grandparents illustrates why James is such a special young man.

Besides his interest in supervising, preaching and music, James revels in the Innisfree woodshop. James is especially proud of his role in creating cutting boards. James and his good friend Mark Kitchens wowed the Village with their performance at a talent show in the summer of '06. Their dual air mandolin act of a Ricky Skaggs favorite brought the crowd to their feet. This was during James’ 2-week visit to the Village. The words shy and reserved would not be used to describe James. His

enthusiasm is quite refreshing.

James is also an honorary volunteer firefighter. The Cascade Community Volunteer

Fire Dept. serves the area in southern Virginia where James and his family own and operate Rawhide Ridge Farm. Will, the farm manager, is a volunteer firefighter and has taken James under his wing to help familiarize James with some of the responsibilities of being a firefighter. The relationship between the two men is one of mentor and student. Will’s calm, patient demeanor serves his apprentice’s needs well.

Innisfree Village is fortunate to have James Lewis amongst us. We’re also grateful to the Lewis family for choosing to share James with us. James is fortunate to have such a loving and caring family.

Denny and his partner Laura, joined us from Ohio last May. They have brought many talents and great kindness to our community and especially to their home, Laurel.





Innisfree Village Voice
a newsletter of

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*Charlotte and Matthias,
German volunteers through
ARSP enjoy a snowy day.*



Newsflash! **Virginia's Governor visits Innisfree**

On a warm and sunny day in January, before our real winter set in, we had the pleasure of hosting Governor Tim Kaine and Anne Holton for a tour of our village. What a treat for us to have people we normally know only through news reports come to see what we do and how we live at Innisfree.

For about an hour, Governor Kaine and his wife visited our weavery and woodshop, the new green building that houses our herb greenhouse and drying shed, our community

center, gym and bakery. They had insightful questions about funding (as we receive no state or federal money) and about how a lifesharing community works.

Innisfree folk from Laurel welcomed the entourage, introducing themselves and showing the

Governor one of our homes. It was an exciting weekend and as Jean says Governor Kaine looks "just like he does on television, only better." Our thanks to Governor Kaine for his interest and support in recognizing Innisfree as

a valuable asset in the commonwealth.



Governor Tim Kaine and Philip share smiles.

Please see our web site at www.innisfreevillage.org

INNISFREE VILLAGE

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In 2006 we said thank you to Mark Fried for more than three decades on our Board of Directors, good bye to Judith after more than twenty years with us, and welcome to Sally and James, our newest coworkers. Now with huge gratitude, we say thanks to *you* for your continuing support in pursuit of our lifesharing mission. We are so grateful to our donors, long term contributors *and* first time givers for being a part of sustaining this remarkable community.

—Carolyn Ohle

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