**PRESS RELEASE: HOPE AND GLORY INN AND VINEYARD**

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**HOPE AND GLORY’S LOBBY PIANO BAR WELCOMES KEN SPARKS**

The Hope and Glory, earlier this season, initiated weekend piano music in its lobby featuring David Graham. On occasions, Graham has a weekend off; and, the Hope and Glory is excited to announce that one weekend each month, as a change of pace, the lobby piano bar will feature noted composer and entertainer Ken Sparks  as Guest Artist. Ken brings a jazz oriented piano style to the venue, performing songs from the Great American Songbook. The inn invites everyone to join in at his debut on Friday and Saturday August 2nd and 3rd as Ken plays and sings the songs of Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Johnny Mercer and Sammy Cahn as well as a few original compositions. Reminisce with music from Broadway, the movies, the speakeasies, jazz clubs and Tin Pan Alley. In addition, to the great standards, he will be performing a few original compositions, a number of which celebrate life here in our community on the Chesapeake Bay.

Ken minored in music at Syracuse University where he earned his undergraduate degree and later a Ph.D.  He also holds a law degree from the George Washington University and studied music composition and jazz theory at both the Catholic University and the Berklee School.

A distinguished business leader in Washington, D.C., Ken directed the influential Federal City Council from 1970 until his retirement in 2004.  During his tenure, the Council played an important role in such diverse efforts as the development of the Metro Rapid Rail system, the Union Station's redevelopment, the Capital One Arena, the Washington Convention Center, the Economic Club of Washington and

education reform.  He is a Laureate of the Washington Business Hall of Fame and a Washingtonian of the Year. From 2004-9, he served as a director of the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank and has taught communications law at the American University, Virginia Commonwealth

University, and the William and Mary College of Law.

Ken and his family are long-time weekend residents of our community and began spending more time here after his retirement. He currently heads Ken Sparks Associates, a management consulting company, specializing in public affairs and economic development."