

GOLF COURSE SALE DEAD

The long rumored purchase of the Frog Hollow Golf Course by the Town of Middletown is dead. On June 24, the Town notified Frog Hollow LLC on Thursday that it was exercising its option to terminate the Agreement to acquire Frog Hollow's remaining interest. Pending the bargain/sale Frog Hollow was operating the pool, grill and hall on a short staff basis with the expectation that the Town would take over or find others to run the operations. For the remainder of this golf season Frog Hollow plans to continue to arrange hall rentals and operate the Grill and Pool under Dick Whittington's supervision. The short term plans for the clubhouse and pool are to supply more services for the golfers while they attempt to hire a clubhouse manager and provide discount golf materials – hats, balls, etc.

COMMUNITY WATCH PROPOSED

In response to a series of acts of vandalism, a group of Legends homeowners formed a Community Watch in early June. Members took nightly turns walking the neighborhood after 11 PM. On June 9, a meeting was held with New Castle County Police Lieutenant Hank Tobin.

Lt Tobin advised the group that the New Castle County Police were responsible for all residential areas in Middletown; the State Police handle businesses. He acknowledged that vandalism can be a problem and emphasized that complaints need to be called into Police Headquarters. There have been 7 criminal mischief complaints made for The Legends since January, but Lt Tobin expects that there have been 2 to 3 times that many incidents that have not been reported. If someone observes a problem happening, a call should be made to 9-1-1. If damage is found after the fact, a call can be made to 573-2800. One of the ways to discourage vandalism or pranks is to leave your front and rear outside lights on all night.

If there is sufficient interest from the community your Civic Association will consider sponsoring a formal Community Watch program. The program is designed to increase the quality of life in a community by promoting citizen involvement. When residents become involved in a plan from which they will receive a direct benefit, a sense of pride and ownership takes root.

The Community Watch program makes use of the residents' knowledge. They know which persons or vehicles belong in the community and those that do not. The active patrols help residents identify problems or potential problems, which can be addressed. The program is not meant to be a police force. Members act as the "eyes and ears" of the New Castle County Police patrol division. Participants will be trained in patrol, observation and reporting techniques. They will be given the skills to maximize the potential of the "9-1-1" center. Volunteers will be trained to call the police when incidents occur, but not to intervene. The Department will provide coordinators of certified programs with monthly

police activity reports in their community.

If the program is to be successful in The Legends, a substantial number of volunteers are required. Representatives from the west side, the east side and The Villas of Augusta are needed. If you are concerned and interested, contact Paul Kilroy at 376-0126 or Jim Townsend at 378-0637 by August 13. The next step will be to set up a training session with the New Castle County Police.

LANDSCAPING

By the time this newsletter goes to press the landscaping project will be completed. Some design changes were initiated, such as the combined use of Eastern Shore stone and triple processed mulch. Double-S Builders contributed \$500 toward the clean up of the rotary on the west side. Frog Hollow LLC contributed \$1150, the amount they had budgeted for the cleanup of the monument at Cedar Lane and East Whittington Way.

In the future, plans include the mulching of the treed areas in the rotary on the East Whittington Way, the installation of a sign at the entrance to The Villas of Augusta and possibly at Cedar Lane and West Whittington Way.

The net cost to the Civic Association was approximately \$14,000, which had a major impact on the treasury. We need a significant influx of new members to build the treasury back up.

ELECTIONS

At the Annual Meeting four new Board members were elected: Jennifer Ferguson, Len Gratter, Chuck McCausland and Jim Townsend.

At a subsequent Board of Directors meeting, the following officers were elected: President, Ed Colaprete; Vice President, Don Loesch; Secretary, Len Gratter; and Treasurer, Jim Townsend.

SOFTBALL PLAYERS WANTED

The Annual MOT Big Ball (Softball) Tournament is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend. The game typically begins on Friday evening and runs until Saturday evening. A group of marathon players generally take on all comers. The game raises in excess of \$30,000 to benefit local charities.

Typically teams play one hour games. The Legends has been participating for four years. Last year two closely fought games, featuring teams from the east side vs. the west side were contested. The east players took the first game while the westsiders won the second.

Cost to players is a \$25 donation, approximately \$10 for a shirt and a couple of cans of non-perishable food. East side residents who want to play can call Don Loesch at 376-7955; west side residents can call Ivan Jackson at 376-4355. Villas residents can call either Don or Ivan – if we have enough participation from the Villas

we might be able to field a third team. Women are encouraged to play.

RETENTION PONDS

In a recent communication from The Mayor and Council, Middletown asked for assistance in protecting the environment by "controlling the amount of oil and grease that is entering our sewer system and waterways". In a June meeting with several Legends resident, Mike Holmes, Director of Golf for Frog Hollow Golf Club pointed out that whatever goes into the storm sewers ultimately ends up in the retention ponds. So, we need to be careful what goes into the storm sewers as well as the sanitary sewers. For example, golf course employees have observed residents picking up after their dogs with plastic bags (a good thing) and then throwing the bags into the sewers (not so good).

SERVICES LISTING

At the suggestion of several members, beginning with the next issue, the newsletter will include a listing of services provided by the community's young people. So if there are baby sitters, dog walkers, or lawn cutters in your household have them contact Don Loesch. Email showing name, address, phone number and the service available would be the preferred media. There will be no charge for the listing.

COMMUNITY PICNIC OCTOBER 9

We have a committee actively working on the Community Picnic. Current plans are somewhat different than reported in the last newsletter. The picnic will be held on Saturday, October 9 at Lums Pond. Harvey and Nikki Stryker, Paul and Michaelene Whelton, Karen Delissio, John Witzke, Julie Ehmman, Holly Shoemaker, Chris Vonlindenberg, Jeff Sidell and Don and Vicki Loesch are part of the planning. Final details will go out in a flyer in the next month or so.

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