



The Linksletter

Volume XIII, Edition III

November 2016

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, Nov. 19: Links Wine Club will present California wines at the Community Center (4-6 pm).
- Wednesday, Nov. 30: Links Red Hat Ladies trip to the Pennsylvania Christmas Craft Show in Harrisburg.
- Thursday, Dec. 8: Links Red Hat Ladies Christmas Tea at the Victorian Parlor in Spring Grove, PA.
- Sunday, Dec. 11: The Links Holiday House Tour is scheduled to begin around 5 pm. (Contact Betsey Dougherty or Cynde Vance for details.)
- Tuesday, Dec. 13: Second Tuesday Group is sponsoring a Holiday Cookie Exchange. (Contact Cynde Vance for details.)
- Thursday, Dec. 15: Links Ladies and Men's Breakfast.
- Saturday, Dec. 17: 2016 Links Holiday Party will be held at the Premier Clubhouse at 6 pm.

HOA CORNER

Master Association Updates

The Annual Meeting of the Master Association for the Links at Gettysburg was held on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm. The meeting reviewed the 2016 balance sheet, the 2016 year-to-date financials, and the proposed 2017 budget, which was approved. There is no proposed increase for 2017 and current fees will remain in effect.

In addition to the annual budget, the Master Association meeting also updated Links residents on budgetary planning, Mount Joy Township information, and the current status of Links development.

Prior to the annual meeting, a Gettysburg, PA Comcast team spoke to Links residents on the possibility of changing from the current Comcast service — receiving Baltimore/Washington broadcasts via the Westminster Comcast provider — to Harrisburg/Lancaster/Lebanon/York broadcasts via the Gettysburg Comcast provider, along with other Comcast product upgrades. Residents had lots of questions. Further information was requested so that this issue can be appropriately reviewed by the community.

Courtyards Homeowners Association (HOA) Updates

The Courtyards HOA held its 2016 HOA meeting on Tuesday, October 18. The meeting agenda included: review of the HOA balance sheet and income & expense report; review and approval of 2017 Courtyards proposed budget; and election of a new board member to replace Liz Zaic.

The Courtyards HOA members voted to approve the 2017 budget and a \$10 per month increase in HOA fee, from \$155 to \$165. Karen Landry was nominated and elected to replace Liz Zaic on the Courtyards HOA Board. The HOA Board

members and Courtyards residents thanked Liz Zaic for her long-time service to the Courtyards HOA and the Links community at large. In addition, members recognized Gil Clark for his services on the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). Gil is stepping down from the ARC after many years.

Garrison Falls HOA Updates

The Garrison Falls HOA held its annual meeting on Wednesday, November 9. The meeting was well attended and resulted in the approval of the 2017 budget, presented by HOA Treasurer Barb Greeley. Barb is also stepping down from her HOA position after four years and is being replaced by Andy Muenzfeld, who was elected unanimously.

The meeting discussed: the quality of lawn care this year and the upcoming bidding process for a new lawn care contract for the next few years; the retention of an attorney in Gettysburg for HOA legal affairs; and the recently revised ARC guidelines. Homeowners expressed particular interest in the status of the pond that developer Rick Klein built (and currently maintains) along side Lousy Run. The pond serves as a drainage catchment area for Garrison Falls storm water run-off. At some point in the future, the HOA will assume responsibility for the pond, but homeowners were assured that responsibility will not be accepted until the pond is certified to be sound from engineering and safety standpoints and is appropriately landscaped. (Contributed by Dave Larson)

The Villas at the Retreat HOA Updates

The Villas HOA met on 27 October, noting that 5 new homes were added to the Villas neighborhood this year. Residents were well represented at the annual meeting, which reviewed and approved the 2017 budget. Three homeowners agreed to accept responsibilities on the Villa Advisory Board. Thank you, Brenda Insalaco, Heidi Bienkowski, and Gayl Dustin for serving! (Contributed by Karen Hollerich)

Links Condominium HOA

Occupancy in the Links condominium has steadily increased over the last year to the point that an HOA Board has been established. The HOA will be taking over the running of the condo in January 2017. A meeting is scheduled for condo residents on December 7 at 1 pm. The HOA Board members are Bob Heir (President), Linda Feldman (Vice President), and Tim Dehan (Treasurer/Secretary).

Links Activities

Community Center Update

The Links Community Center Pool closed a week after Labor Day weekend, ending a busy summer, when the pool was enjoyed by many Links community residents and their guests.



This picture of the Links Community Center pool was taken by the Paula and Stu Kravits's grandson, Charlie.

Links Residents in Alzheimer's Walk

Links residents supported our neighbor Shelly Anderson in the 2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Adams and Franklin Counties on October 15, 2016. In addition to donations to this worthy cause, several friends participated in the Walk with Shelly, who lost her grandmother and more recently her mother to this terrible illness. Shelly received a certificate and medal as a Champions Club Member because she exceeded her goal by a significant amount. Way to go, Shelly!



Joining Shelly in the Alzheimer's Walk were Dave Anderson, Karen and Keith Landry, Kim Stavely, and Arlene Rosenberg, all Links residents.

Halloween Fun at the Links

This year's Halloween festivities at the Links fell on Saturday, October 29. The Links Family Activities Committee organized this annual event, including hayrides, a pot luck dinner, and trick-or-treating for kids in the neighborhoods. The event was a huge success thanks to many, including: Rick Klein for providing and driving the hayride around the golf course and neighborhoods; Chef Paul Karstetter at the Links Premier Clubhouse who replenished the lemonade supply in the midst of catering a wedding; and all those who helped out: Karen Landry, Julie Muenzfeld, Pat Adair, Stu & Paula Kravits, Catherine & Mike Short, and Stacey & Steve Rice. Additional thanks to those who made monetary donations to this event.



Links Family Activities Committee

For new residents who do not know, the Links Family Activities Committee is a group that plans several family-oriented activities throughout the year. Typically, the Committee plans a Halloween-themed potluck and hayride, and sends out a notice to the community about trick-or-treat night. The Committee also plans a community Easter egg hunt complete with games and crafts. This is usually on Good Friday. The Committee also tries to plan an ice cream social each year. There is no charge for these events as neighborhood kids host a lemonade stand over the summer to raise money for these activities.

The Committee consists of Catherine Short and Stacey Rice with help from various folks.

For instance, Stu and Paula Kravitz help scoop ice cream at the ice cream social, Marion Mills and Pat Adair helped to get the Easter egg hunt together, and the Halloween potluck is a community affair!

Family Activities Committee events are always open to everyone in your family. The Committee sends out notices to the community, and has a Facebook page. People can look up "Links Family Activities Committee" on Facebook or contact Catherine Short or Stacey Rice directly for more information. (Contributed by Stacey Rice)

Halloween-themed Ladies Breakfast

Yuthud Oberdick hosted the October Links Ladies Breakfast with a Halloween theme. A large turn-out of Links ladies admired the Oberdick house decorated with a bountiful and beautiful Halloween and Fall/Thanksgiving decorations. A number of ladies wore creative and colorful costumes to the event. Well done, Yuthud!



Links Oktoberfest Celebration

Bud and Cynde Vance hosted their annual Oktoberfest celebration on Saturday, October 8. This year, the overwhelming response to the party invitation prompted the venue to be moved from the Vance house to the Community Center. Links neighbors brought a huge variety of goodies to share and to complement the grilled bratwurst and sauerkraut main menu. Some even turned out in Bavarian costumes. It was a grand celebration!

Bud & Cynde Vance and Helga & Bill Epley in Bavarian costumes, otherwise known as trachten dirndls and lederhosen.

Hawaiian Open at the Links

This year's Hawaiian Golf Open took place on October 3. The Open was the brainchild of Links resident Frank Negro, who started it in 2007 as a neighborhood golf tournament, where players don Hawaiian shirts, promoting friendly competition and camaraderie. This year 31 players participated: 11 women and 20 men. All the door prizes were donated by local businesses. No cash prizes were given out. Instead, all the entry fee money went to Ruth's Harvest, a local Gettysburg program to provide food on weekends for children in need. This year's Open raised donations totaling \$660. Congratulations to all who participated!



Red Hat Ladies at the Links

The Red Hat Ladies at the Links have been very busy this summer and autumn. Activities included luncheon at a Thai restaurant in Dillsburg, PA in August; a tour of the National Cryptologic Museum in Fort Meade, MD in September; and a visit to an alpaca ranch in Littlestown, PA in October. In November, the group will be attending the Pennsylvania Christmas Craft Show in Harrisburg, PA. The activity scheduled for December is a Christmas Tea in Spring Grove, PA. Please contact Barb Greeley for information on Red Hat activities.



The Red Hatters at the August activity, a luncheon at the Pakha's Thai Restaurant in Dillsburg, PA.



The Links Red Hat Ladies at the October activity, visiting the Quarry Critters Alpaca Farm in Littlestown, PA.

Links People in the News!

The Gettysburg Times recently spotlighted Links resident Gillian Short in an article on Lincoln Elementary School students participating in a local music outreach program. Inspired by the students' reactions to the music played by the Acropolis Reed Quintet as a part of this program, Gillian drew an imagined scene of a bird of prey being chased by a cougar, morphing into a playful game of tag. The resulting drawing wowed the students. Incidentally, Gillian plays the trombone in the advanced band at the middle school.



Community Reminders!

Newspaper Recycling

Newspaper recycling has had a long history at the Links. Starting in 2006, after a group of Links residents toured nearby Mason-Dixon Farm and learned of the need for using papers for the “freshening” barns, where new-born livestock were kept. For several years following, a local Boy Scout Troop made monthly newspaper collections at the Links and sold them to the Farm for \$65/ton initially. By 2015, it was up to \$95/ton. Early this year, the Farm had equipment problems and decided to cease newspaper collection prompting the Boy Scout Troop to stop newspaper collection.

To continue the recycling practice, Links residents recently partnered with another Troop, which was able to obtain \$50/ton for newspapers, magazines, and glossy advertisements for a factory in Hanover to process padded mailing envelopes. It is estimated that since 2006, newspaper recycling at the Links has generated around \$2350 for Boy Scout Troops, going a long way to fund their activities.

Links resident Frank Negro began this effort in 2006 and continues to be its advocate and coordinator. Look for the email reminders for dropping off your newspapers, magazines, and paper advertisements. It's a very worthy cause!

Trash & Recycling

Residents are reminded not to put excessive weight into a trash bag. Residents should use multiple bags instead of overstuffing one bag to avoid bags collapsing and trash spilling onto the roads and driveways. Also, all trash bags should be securely tied. Pet owners should put pet debris into double bags to avoid bags breaking and spilling over.

Residents are reminded to use the recycling containers located in the parking lot near the Community Center. Please breakdown boxes to maximize space. Recycling saves money and is good for the environment.

Speed & Safety

As our Links neighborhoods continue to grow, there are more walkers, kids, and dogs outdoors enjoying our beautiful community. There has been growing concern over cars driving through our community with excessive speed. There has been report of at least one near-miss due to a car driving too fast. As school began in the Fall and the school bus stop is located at Mason-Dixon Road and Savannah Drive, our young folks will be walking out to Mason-Dixon in the morning and back in the afternoons on the roadways. In addition, there is a blind spot for drivers as you go up and down the hill on Savannah. This combination can be hazardous to all walkers. All drivers should watch their speed throughout the neighborhood and keep it down below 20 mph. All walkers should keep to the grass or walk facing the traffic coming towards you for better visibility. Please advise all drivers and visitors to your home to watch their speed and use caution while in our neighborhood so that we all stay safe. (Contributed by Karen Hollerich)

This newsletter serves the entire Links community. Residents are welcome to contribute articles, photographs, and suggestions/feedback to the Links Newsletter. Please contact Tai or Bruce Landis via email or phone, as listed in the Links Directory.

Distribution of this newsletter and announcements of community activities depend on accurate email and contact information. Please contact the Links Neighborhood Directory Keeper Cliff Feldman (cdfeldman@comcast.net or tt.road.guy@gmail.com) or your neighborhood HOA representative to ensure contact information is up-to-date.