



The Linksletter

Volume XIV, Edition I

February 2017

Upcoming Events

- Friday, February 24: "Last Friday of the Month" is hosting a guest speaker from the Eisenhower National Historical Site, presenting "Ike's Connection to Gettysburg."
- Friday, February 24: 10th Annual A Woman's Purse Live and Silent Auction to benefit the Adams County Children & Youth Independent Living Program and other United Way Initiatives, 5:30 - 9 pm. (Contact Karen Landry for information)
- Saturday, February 25: Links Chili Cook-Off at the Community Center, 5 pm.
- Sunday, April 2: The 2017 Gettysburg Taste of the Town at the Eisenhower Conference Center, 2-5 pm.
- Thursday, April 27: "Tee It Up For Jen" Charity Golf Tournament at the Links, in support of the Adam's County Arts Council. (Contact Stu Kravits for information)
- Sunday, April 30: World Team Sports "Face of America" 2-day bike ride from D.C. to Gettysburg, at approximately 11:00 am. (Contact Bruce Bradshaw for information)

HOA CORNER

Master Association Updates

The Links Master Association (MA) Executive Board is happy to inform Links homeowners that a new lawn care contract has been signed with Brightview Lawncare Services, from Dillsburg, PA. This selection was made after extensive work, to include preparing a new Statement of Work; reviewing bids; meeting with potential contractors; conducting on-site visits to each of the bidder's current customers; and conducting a legal review. Although Dillsburg is the local branch of the company, Brightview is one of the largest lawn service companies in the country and has access to additional resources if/when needed to ensure its customers receive consistent and quality lawn care. The contract has been signed and services will commence in February 2017 with Spring leaf removal, mulched bed preparation, and mulch application.

With a comprehensive effort including representatives from all areas, Brightview was selected as the lawn care provider for the entire Links Community, including the Courtyards, Garrison Falls, Condos, and the Villas/Retreat. This will ensure a consistent and professional appearance throughout the Links Community. This decision by all HOAs for one contractor will result in one point of contact for all Links lawn care services and puts all HOAs under the same lawn care standards.

The MA will be providing a complete breakdown of all services via separate e-mail to Links residents. The bottom line is that there will be no reduction of services previously provided by Classic Landscaping and some additional services that goes beyond our previous contract. Brightview will weed and trim after each mowing; conduct soil sampling to determine the correct fertilizer that needs to be applied according to the samples; apply fertilizer and weed/crabgrass

control; treat for insects; etc. The comprehensive contract also includes planting and maintaining the beds at the entry ways to the Links Community. Work on the entry beds will remain a shared cost between the MA and the Developer.

Brightview will also make available, at a cost, extra mulch (to include application, if desired) for homeowners that desire additional mulch for their rear beds, or areas not provided by the HOA. That option was not available from Classic Landscaping. There will be a separate e-mail to homeowners further explaining that option.

Brightview key personnel have agreed to come to the Links for a "kickoff meeting" so homeowners can meet the new team. At that time they will discuss in detail their services and answer questions. The MA will set a date for this discussion and notify homeowners. This will likely be in the March timeframe. Much more information will follow, but the MA wanted to officially get the word out. The MA is confident that Links residents will see significant improvement of both services and the overall appearance of neighborhood lawns and common areas.

(Contributed by Bud Vance, MA President)

The Villas at the Retreat HOA Updates

The Villas at the Retreat now has new volunteer Advisors to the HOA Executive Director Rick Klein. Gayl Dustin is the Master HOA representative and Advisor for the Villas budget. Brenda Insalaco is the lawn care Advisor and liaison for the Villas to the new lawn care company. Heidi Bienkowski is the Advisor for Architectural Review Committee (ARC) requests. Villas homeowners should feel free to contact these Advisors with any neighborhood issues of concern. We thank them for volunteering to act on our behalf.

(Contributed by Karen Kopp-Hollerich)

Ed. Note: Karen is stepping down as the volunteer Advisor to the Villas at the Retreat HOA after serving in that capacity over the last two years. Her services were very much appreciated by Villas homeowners and she will be missed. Thank you, Karen!

Links Activities

Links Support to "Homes for Haiti" Charity

More than 100 people (including many Links residents) attended the first "Homes for Haiti" Charity Dinner, presented by the Food for the Poor at the Links Clubhouse on Sunday, November 13, 2016. This charity makes the dream of a safe and secure home a reality for 15 families in Gressier, Haiti. The event raised \$31,000 in contributions, for a total of \$61,000 towards this charity.

(Contributed by Frank Bender)



Attendance at the “Homes for Haiti” Charity Dinner

Links Support to Arts Council’s “Jingle Ball for Jen”

On Friday, December 16, 2016, over 20 Links residents attended the “Jingle Ball for Jen” at the Oxford Hill Mansion, the home of Bill and Jane Rice who are the owners of the Utz Corporation. This annual event honors the work done by Jen LeVan and raises funds for the Adam’s County Arts Education Center. Jennifer LeVan was a long-time patron of the arts in Gettysburg who passed away in 2015 after a courageous battle with breast cancer. “Friends of Jen” are her friends and admirers who came together to honor this amazing woman who gave so much to the community.

The annual holiday “Jingle Ball for Jen” offered a wonderful evening of glamour, great food, entertainment, and fund-raising, including silent and live auctions of donated items. Some of these auction items were donated by Links residents. A few residents also purchased summer camp scholarships to enable youngsters from local low-income families to have an enriching arts experience at the Arts Education Center’s summer program.

Links Holiday Party

The Links Holiday Party held on Saturday, December 17, 2016 was a big success. Links residents feasted on hors 'oeuvres (prosciutto-wrapped asparagus and bacon-wrapped scallop), main entrees (prime rib and salmon), and desserts (strawberry jubilee). The crowd stayed well after dinner to enjoy the the music and dancing. A grand time was had by all who attended!



Links Holiday House Tour

The 2016 Links Holiday House Tour took place on Sunday, December 11, 2016. Three homes were on the tour schedule, including two on Chamberlain Court and one on Banner Court. Organizers of the House Tour scheduled participants into three groups, with each group of 20+ people spending about 1 hour at each house, starting on 5 pm and ending around 8 pm. Helpers signed up to provide the hosts/hostesses with food and drink for the tour groups. The 2016 Holiday Tour was a huge success with a great turnout. Kudos to Betsy Dougherty who chaired the committee to organize this great event, along with the homeowners who opened their homes to the tour, as well as the legions of Links residents who helped out! We hope to have more homeowners volunteer to host so this event can continue on an annual basis.



The Links homes on the 2016 Holiday House Tour were beautifully decorated and the food and drinks were fabulous.

Links Wine Club Going Strong

The quarterly meetings of the Links Wine Club continue to draw strong attendance and participation. The February 4 meeting celebrated Valentine's Day with new visual aids to augment Betsy Dougherty's presentation of Starborough Sauvignon Blanc from Marlborough, New Zealand. Our Webmaster, Kurt Dustin, provided technical assistance.



Links Ladies Make Valentine's Cards

With the coming of Valentine's Day, long-time Links resident Paula Kravits once again has generously opened up her craft room to neighbors to make one-of-a-kind Valentine's cards. Supplying materials and tools, Paula shepherded over a dozen Links ladies over several days time to cut, paste, and fold special cards for friends, loved ones, and grandkids. She provided samples and shared ideas to inspire crafty neighbors to produce unique Valentine cards. Thank you, Paula. You're the best!

Mark Your Calendars!

Please save the morning of **April 30th** at approximately 11:00 to honor the wounded veterans (**approximately 130**) who are participating in the World Team Sports "Face of America" two day bike ride from Our Nations Capital to Gettysburg.

This will be our Ninth year that we as a community have turned out to say "thank you" to these veterans, many of whom are disabled, as well as the active duty participants (600 total riders). We appreciate their service to our country and have demonstrated that as the attached picture illustrates.

The bike ride participants have all said that passing through the Links on the second day and getting such a great reception has been an inspiration to them and one they look forward to after a long ride through the back country from Frederick to Gettysburg.

See you there!!
(Contributed by Bruce Bradshaw)



A scene from the 2016 "Face of America" ride passing through the Links on Mason Dixon Road.

Community Center Update

The Community Center Oversight Committee (CCOC) recommended a review of the Links Community Center rental rates and provided to the Master Association Executive Board, a proposed rate schedule. The Links Master Association met on Friday, Jan. 27, 2017; discussed the CCOC recommendations; and decided on the following:

- 1) The rental fee for Links homeowners, regardless of use, is \$25 per hour.
- 2) The rental fee for Links Golf Course employees, Pool Members, and Golf Course Members, for personal use, is \$50 per hour.
- 3) The rental fee for all business rentals - this includes rentals coordinated by the Links Wedding/Special Events Coordinator, as an expansion of the Premier Clubhouse - is \$100 per hour.

The requirement to complete a rental agreement remains the same, including requiring a \$250 deposit and allowing one hour set-up and one hour clean-up without charge.

To check if a date is available and/or to reserve the Community Center for an event, residents should contact CCOC members Connie Feldman or Catherine Short.

New Links Community Activities Calendar

We now have a Community Activities Calendar available on the Links HOA website, <http://www.linkshoa.org/links-calendar>. This is a read-only calendar of all the wonderful activities that we plan throughout the year. Activities listed will be those available to the entire community, both

recurring weekly activities as well as unique events. You will still receive notifications of specific dates and details of unique events via email through the Links Distribution. This calendar is for your planning purposes only, and you will note some details will be omitted as this website is also open to the public at large. So continue to watch your email for Links news.

Karen Hollerich and Cynde Vance will serve as editors to keep the calendar up to date. Let us know if we missed anything! We hope you find it useful.

Thanks go out to our webmaster Kurt Dustin for helping set up this calendar on the website.
(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.