

Foxboro CC members 'pitch in,' save money



Foxborough (Mass.) CC members fill in an irrigation trench.

BY PETER BLAIS

Short on money, but long on potential projects? Then consider a successful program recently held at Foxborough (Mass.) Country Club.

On March 24, the eastern Massachusetts facility held a volunteer effort, dubbed "Pitch-In and Putt Day."

Superintendent Andrew Langlois and office manager Nora Berard organized what they hoped would be a fun work party. They and club President Herb Schiffer, who first proposed the project, reasoned, "True golfers come to

love their home course," said Berard. "Provide them with the opportunity to express that love and they'll come through, especially if you make it fun."

They were right. Flyers were sent to members detailing the agenda.

The day started with coffee and donuts along with instructions on the day's activities. The 125 members who showed, about one-third of the total membership, spent the morning raking, hauling and burning brush. They also filled in a series of trenches that a tight budget had left open after a costly

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irrigation project. More than 500 man-hours were saved from the club's budget.

The group was treated to a potluck lunch provided by the members. The day concluded with a nine-hole tournament. Each participant was also awarded a free guest pass.

"When the members sat down to their lunch, it seemed like a combination old-time church social and revival meeting," said Berard. "People wanted to know when was the next work party and what else needed to be done."

Berard would be happy to answer any questions concerning the program. To contact her call 508-543-4661, Mondays through Fridays, between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Golf course moratorium asked in BC

The president of the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists has called on Premier Bill Vander Zalm to institute a moratorium on golf course applications on agricultural lands until a detailed study is completed.

A cabinet order-in-council in June 1988 permitted golf courses and restaurants in the agricultural land reserve.

The agricultural land commission received 67 course proposals in the 18 months following the order. Agrologist association President Wendy Holm believes that is too many and that agricultural land is best left for farming.

The proposed moratorium would affect new and pending applications, not those already approved.

Golf course would buffer hospital, homes

State officials are considering building a golf course in Highland, Calif., that will act as a buffer between the Patton State Hospital for the criminally insane and nearby residents.

Negotiations for the lease from the East Valley Water District on the 90-acre tract are complete and construction bids are being accepted for the proposed 18-hole executive course and driving range.

The golf course received near-unanimous approval in a water district survey of nearby property owners. The district will be paid for the land by whoever develops the course, which is expected to cost more than \$2.5 million. Part of the course's income will also go to a hospital patients' fund to buy toiletries and other items.

Development plans include preserving a small cemetery where indigent mental patients were buried before 1934.

Construction will begin this fall with the driving range opening by mid-1991.



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