

‘Stay a While in Culver’ – Forth in a series

Mystic Hills’ new rustic cabins welcome golfers and visitors alike

By: Anna Campbell, correspondent

CULVER- Mystic Hills Golf Course, located at 16788 20 B Road in Culver and owned by Vicki Pugh, is home to two new ‘stay and play’ cabins which opened in August of this year.

Mystic Hills may be most famous for having been designed by legendary golf course architect Pete Dye; in fact, it’s one of seven courses selected to be a part of the Pete Dye Golf Trail.

For Pugh, the golf business is a family affair. The course opened in 1999, and at that time was owned by Pugh’s parents, Wayne and Mary Lou Bonnell. Pugh’s sons are also involved in the course. Dave Pugh currently serves as the PGA Professional (golf pro) and course superintendent. Mike Pugh is an engineer for BraunAbility in Winamac, and lent his expertise to the construction of the new cabins, which were designed and built by Dave and Mike together.

The brothers have gone on several golf outings and through their experience determined what works best for a ‘stay and play’ cabin. Both are experienced in construction, and with Mike’s engineering background, they were able to keep the cost to about \$70,000 per cabin.

Prior to the cabins, Mystic Hills had used a few houses nearby the course as placec to stay and golf. Pugh explained the inspiration behind the cabins: “We wanted to be more accommodating. With the new cabins you can walk right out the door and onto the course.”

Each cabin is comprised of two bedrooms and a loft space, open concept living room and kitchen and two bathrooms. The two cabins are identical and are differentiated by name, one being Cleek and the other, Brassie.

Cleek is an older golf term which referred to a club with an iron head. Brassie is the traditional name for a wood number two golf club.

Upon entering a cabin, one is welcomed with rustic, natural charm. The two-story field stone gas burning fireplace and big screen television are the focal point of room. There is a light and airy feeling with the honey colored woods and high ceilings. The kitchen is outfitted with a refrigerator, two-burner stove top, dishes and glassware.

The Pugh’s have an eye for detail.

“The cabinet knobs are made from our Mystic Hills logoed golf balls,” Vicki Pugh pointed out. “What you cannot see is that under the tile floor that runs throughout is radiant heat to give our guests extra warmth.”

Guests have the option of sleeping in a queen bed, twin bed, or pull-out futon. The cabins each can sleep up to eight people. Each cabin has its own outdoor patio, equipped with seating and a grille that overlook the tranquil course.

One does not need to play golf in order to rent a cabin.

“We hosted a quilting retreat last weekend. We set up tables in the club house and the ladies stayed in the cabins overnight,” Pugh explained. “The cabins are great for families, such as

Culver Academy parents, because they really are a home away from home being so spacious with a kitchen.”

The grounds also offer an event space for weddings, showers, meetings, fantasy football events, and banquets. The golf course is open from March through the end of November. The cabins and event space are available all year for golfers and non-golfers alike.

Pugh shared Mystic Hills’ vision for the future: “We have permits for a total of five cabins; we wanted to start with two at first, then build the others if there is a need.”

You may book your cabin online by visiting mystichills.com/stay-play/ or by phone 574-842-2687.