

Business Spotlight - Money Hill

Money Hill Developer HONORED AS CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR



It might seem that the basic concepts of land developer and conservationist are polar opposites at best, with such diverse motivations and goals so often involved. Yet occasionally, a rare individual steps forward to prove that a unification of far-flung purposes can be successfully achieved. So it was with David Goodyear, the developer of Money Hill Golf and Country Club, who was posthumously honored and awarded the 2009 Conservationist of the Year by the Louisiana Nature Conservancy.

The award was recently given at the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum in Madisonville. Speakers on hand for the event included Dr. Keith Ouchley, Louisiana State Director of The Nature Conservancy; Dr. John Crain, President of Southeastern Louisiana University; Peter Gitz, Mayor of Madisonville; Dr. Jay Martin, Director of the Maritime Museum and Nelwyn McInnis of the Louisiana Nature Conservancy.

Goodyear was honored for his dedication to conservation, contributions resulting in the acquisition of thousands of acres of nature preserves, his tireless cultivation and devotion to the natural beauty and wildlife of St. Tammany Parish and more than a decade of cooperation with The Louisiana Nature Conservancy. Sally Goodyear, wife of David Goodyear, was on hand to accept the award.

Mimi Goodyear Dossett, President of Money Hill Golf and Country Club, commented briefly on the award, "We're not only proud of the work of David Goodyear, but we're also proud of the role that The Nature Conservancy plays in the

preservation of natural resources around the country. At a time when ecology is on the forefront of the critical issues facing our country and our individual decision making, Money Hill is exceedingly pleased to have been on the cutting edge

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of the movement for many years. We will continue our efforts on behalf of The Nature Conservancy and our residents and members with a renewed commitment to stewardship and preservation as we enter

a new era of progress."

With two nature preserves adjacent to Money Hill, The Louisiana Nature Conservancy has been a close neighbor since 1996. Five years ago, the St. Tammany office of The Louisiana Nature Conservancy located their field office on the grounds of Money Hill. They have partnered to work cooperatively on the adjacent lands through a Cooperative Management Agreement which includes the judicious use of prescribed fire, control of invasive exotic plants and ecological timber management.

The Talisheek Pine Wetlands Preserve is located west of Money Hill and consists of nearly 3,000 acres. Originally purchased from Money Hill, this preserve along with the Abita Creek Flatwoods Preserve, contains a mosaic of pine savannas, bayhead swamp, slash pine, pond cypress and longleaf pine for-

est. The Abita Creek Flatwoods Preserve (840 acres) is located south of Money Hill and their boardwalk nature trail is open to the public during daylight hours.

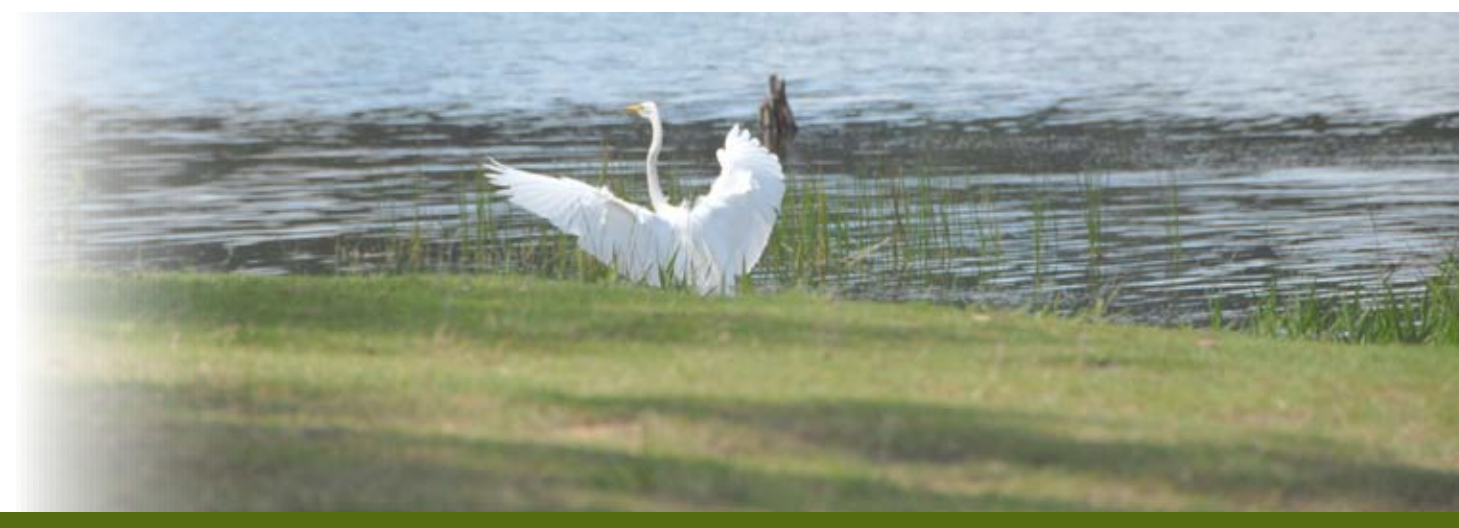
Nelwyn McInnis, Northshore Project

Director of the Nature Conservancy said, "The Louisiana Nature Conservancy usually does not give an annual award to a conservationist, however, they do give awards to people who have gone above and beyond in conserving land. David Goodyear was a person who went above and beyond to conserve our natural habitat in St. Tammany." She further stated, "If more developers followed the Money Hill model, it would be more attractive to homeowners who feel it's important to incorporate developments with nature."

"Money Hill has applied smart planning techniques and respects the environment," said Mimi Goodyear Dossett. "Residential developments above I-12, if planned correctly, can help avoid traffic and drainage issues that occur south of Interstate 12."

Earlier this year, Money Hill Golf and Country Club was the recipient of the "Best Attention to the Environment Award" by a developer of a residential community. The award was presented by the St. Tammany/Washington Parish Home Builders Association's Sales and Marketing Council. Those who knew David Goodyear, the original mastermind behind Money Hill, understood why Money Hill was honored. "Money Hill was green before the term was popular," said Mimi Goodyear Dossett. We have actively worked to maintain this environmental leadership year after year. The owners have chosen this dedication to the land and it has translated into a community that has always ranked among the most beautiful private golf communities in the state."

Money Hill is truly a unique place to live. How rare it is to find a community, located minutes from city conveniences,



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that offers its residents life in such a beautiful pastoral setting. The relaxed refinement of the Money Hill lifestyle is in perfect harmony with the natural beauty of its pristine country setting. "Currently, there are numerous new home sites under construction with others preparing to build," said Mimi Goodyear Dossett.

Many styles of architecture are represented in the homes and com-

and meeting planning.

The golf experience you will have at the Money Hill Golf Course. One look at Money Hill's 18-hole championship course and you'll understand why it's changing the way golf is played in Louisiana. The undulating contours of the terrain offer actual hills and valleys that provide constant elevation changes - from tee to green and hole to hole -

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munity. Money Hill's Clubhouse and The Villas were inspired by American architectural icon Frank Lloyd Wright. The Garden Homes are distinctly French Country, while other estate-sized residential homes reflect a variety of traditional, West Indies, Acadian and Louisiana influences. Architectural guidelines allow a variety of architectural styles and sizes. However, all plans must be approved by the Architectural Review Committee.

Now in its 11th year of operation, the private community offers a championship 18-hole golf course, state-of-the-art fitness facilities, swim/tennis club, relaxed dining at The Grille, a full service Pro Shop, private golf lessons at the Bob Noel Golf Academy and on-site event

throughout the course. Situated on a 150 acre artesian spring fed lake, the course's final five holes may be the most memorable as they present every type of water hole known to golf. You'll play towards, around, along and across the lake - there's even a green in the lake! Five tee box positions make the course playable for all skill levels, including children's tees on nine of the eighteen holes.

If you are looking for a special place to hold a wedding reception, business meeting or event, then Money Hill Golf and Country Club is the place. Whether your day includes a breathtaking sunset ceremony overlooking lake, a reception with dinner and dancing for family and friends in the private clubhouse, or meeting space and catering for your next

training session or executive meeting, you can count on their professional staff to help you create a memorable event for you and your guests.

Today, Money Hill is moving forward in its most distinguished and enterprising period. As a family oriented golf community of gracious homes, Money Hill offers both simplicity and sophistication in an enclave secluded from congestion of urban and suburban living. For the nature enthusiasts, Money Hill is currently developing an approximately six-mile walking and jogging trail that will meander throughout the grounds. "This new trail will offer unique opportunities to see native wildlife in their own habitat. We have several rare species of plants and animals here, including the Bald Eagles and their offspring that come back every year," said Mimi Goodyear Dossett. Spectacular sunsets are as frequent as the sighting of rare species of flora or fauna. She further stated, "In addition to the walking and jogging trail, Money Hill is developing a Hunting Club that will be available to a limited number of memberships for residents." Only archery and primitive weapons are allowed in the hunting preserve.

Additionally, there are plans being considered to open a second entrance into Money Hill Golf and Country Club from Louisiana Highway 21. Louisiana Highway 435, the main connection to the town of Abita Springs, is currently undergoing a transformation. State Representative Scott Simon (R), Abita Springs has successfully acquired the funding to begin the improvements along this stretch of highway. According to Simon, Louisiana Highway 435 will be made safer by constructing and widening three new

bridges and straightening a section of the existing highway. Located north of I-12 in St. Tammany Parish near Abita Springs, lot prices start in the \$80s and are more than 100 feet above sea level. Call 985.892.3300,



CHARLES W. AND FRANK GOODYEAR
Originally founded the town of Bogalusa

CHARLES W. GOODYEAR, JR.
Purchased land and cultivated tung orchards on the property

CHARLES W. GOODYEAR III
President Money Hill Plantation and Bogalusa Tung Oil

DAVID GOODYEAR
Operated Money Hill Campground and developed Money Hill Golf and Country Club

MIMI GOODYEAR DOSSETT AND CHIP GOODYEAR
Current President and Chairman of the Board of Money Hill Golf and Country Club

MONEY HILL ACQUIRED ITS NAME IN THE 1800'S. LEGEND HAS IT THAT BARATARIA PIRATES AND SMUGGLERS, PERHAPS EVEN THE NOTORIOUS JEAN LAFITTE, BURIED STOLEN LOOT ON THE GROUNDS. THE ALLURE OF THESE TALL TALES WAS SO STRONG THAT TREASURE HUNTERS EXPLORED AND EXCAVATED THE PROPERTY INTO THE 1930'S.

extension 200 for further information on Money Hill or visit online at www.moneyhill.com. For more information about the ongoing local and national projects of The Louisiana Nature Conservancy, call 985.809.1414 or visit online at www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/louisiana/