

# Stuarts Draft land still available for recreation

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STUARTS DRAFT — A few potential parents have expressed interest in adopting a parcel of county-owned land in downtown Stuarts Draft being eyed as a possible ballfield.

But as of yet, no one has signed the adoption papers.

County officials are hoping to lease the 4.7-acre parcel, which is located behind the Draft firehouse and has fallen into disrepair, to a civic group for \$1 a year.

In return, the group would take over maintenance on the land and develop it for use as a ballfield or for other recreational uses.

According to Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman and South River representative Orvin H. Kiser Jr., the Stuarts Draft Ruritan Club, which is currently developing two Little League fields of its own,

has also expressed interest in the county-owned land, which is large enough for a ballfield for 12- to 15-year-olds.

Others in the Stuarts Draft community have expressed interest in forming a "Diamond Club" to take care of the land, according to Kiser.

Such a club would be modeled after existing Quarterback Clubs, and would oversee the development and maintenance of a ballfield on the property, he said.

"It doesn't show any signs of organization right now," Kiser said.

A recently-formed recreation advisory group for the Stuarts Draft area will discuss the county-owned land during a meeting on Tuesday, according to Kiser.

"We're interested in trying to develop a plan for the use of that field," he said.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Stuarts Draft Middle School auditorium.

## Diamond Club

The Stuarts Draft Diamond Club, an organization working to renovate the old field behind the Stuarts Draft Firehouse, will meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the firehouse.

At its last meeting, the following officers were chosen: Orvin H. Kiser Sr., president; Bill Sullender, vice-president; Randall Houff, secretary; and Phillip Doyle, treasurer.

Anyone interested in joining the club in its project should come to the next meeting.