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tarr Hollow's favorite fur-bearing, four-legged celebrity is a female whitetail deer named Starr. She took up residence at the clubhouse as a fawn in the summer of 1999.

Jerry Thornburg had often told Jim and Renna Wood stories about finding orphaned animals and raising them until they were able to take care of themselves. Jim and Renna had told Jerry that if he ever found an infant animal that needed surrogate parents, they would gladly take on the responsibility.

One day while driving his ATV on Houston Ranch Road in front of Starr Hollow, Jerry spotted a dead doe. The deer had been hit and killed by an automobile. As Jerry stopped to examine the animal, he spotted her infant fawn nearby. The baby tried to run, and Jerry knew that if it escaped it would have no chance of surviving in the wild on its own.

Jerry caught the baby deer and carried her to the Starr Hollow clubhouse where she was greeted by Jim and Renna, her new parents. They found a small box and placed it under the desk where Renna works on her computer. There, the baby slept, according to Jim, "like a little kitten."

Neither Jim nor Renna knew anything about caring for an infant deer, and so Jim called a veterinarian on the telephone and started asking questions. Jim says that the vet informed him that if you found a baby deer, you were not supposed to raise it; instead, you should surrender it to the Parks and Wildlife Department.

Jim guessed, probably with a good deal of accuracy, what the fate of the animal might be if he took that direction. Then he assured the vet that he had no intention of raising a baby deer, he was simply curious about what would be necessary if someone ever wanted to do such a thing. Since the questions were now merely hypothetical, the



**Starr's first twin fawns,
Pitch and Putt.**

vet was happy to answer.

The fawn was a few days old at best. They named her Starr and, as instructed by the veterinarian, Jim and Renna bottle-fed the baby a formula intended for feeding infant goats. She ate two or three times a day.

During Starr's first three weeks as a resident of the clubhouse, she stayed in her box. As she became comfortable with her surroundings, she began to move around the clubhouse, and when she grew larger, she wanted to venture outside, always staying close to her adopted mother, Renna.

Maturing as most children do, Starr became interested in a form of companionship that Jim and Renna could not provide. There are male whitetail deer living on Starr Hollow, and some of them are mighty fine looking boys. Starr was ready for a social life of sorts, if you know what I mean, and before very long, she was spending her nights out in the woods with the guys.

Well, you can probably guess what happened next. Starr came back to visit with Jim and Renna, and it was soon evident that she was in a motherly way. In time, Starr gave birth to twin fawns, a male and a female, named Pitch and Putt. Each year since, for the last 5 1/2 years, Starr has become pregnant. Like her namesake Belle, Starr has always



Starr stops to smell the roses before she eats them (above).



Baby Starr being bottle fed (left).

Being just a wee bit shy, when Starr does play a round of golf, she prefers to do so alone. And while she often walks the course, at times she considers riding (right).



shown interest in big bucks.

Starr returns home frequently to visit. She'll also allow a few others to pet her, but she is very selective about it. She is not hard to spot, because she wears a velvet collar designed to let any hunters in the area know that she is royalty as well as a special pet.

While dining at the clubhouse, as she still does on occasion, Starr prefers apples, grapes, peanuts, acorns, tomatoes, potato chips and any kind of flowers that have been planted around the clubhouse. She also likes peanut butter and crackers. Of course, none of the staff at Starr Hollow or any of the club's members would ever feed her such things, because we wouldn't want her to get spoiled.



Starr with fawns Pitch and Putt (top).

Starr, Marty and Belle (bottom).