Abutters oppose course slated for N.H. horse farm

KINGSTON, N.H. — Plans to convert the 100-acre Lucky V horse farm into a nine-hole golf course are not sitting well with the farm's neighbors, who have petitioned the local planning board to disapprove the application.

Frank Colanton said he has an agreement to purchase the farm from the University of New Hampshire (UNH), and he wants to act on his plan as soon as possible.

John Murphy does not want to see the plan take effect anytime soon. He has presented to the board a petition opposing the plan. The petition lists several reasons: increased traffic at the farm entrance; elimination of the tranquil countryside and privacy; decrease in property values; and stray golf balls.

Even the couple that has lived on the UNH farm for the past seven years is against the golf course. Robin Verdillo told the Union Leader: "We're interested in seeing that Kingston remains agricultural. That's why we're opposed to the golf course."

Officials from the university and Colanton claim they had signed an agreement to sell the farm to Colanton.

Go-slow policy on Santa Rosa Island project

PENSACOLA BEACH, Fla. — A resort with golf, tennis and high-rise hotels could provide economic benefits while using part of Santa Rosa Island in an environmentally sensitive manner, developers recently said.

Consultants hired by the Santa Rosa Island Authority recently heard from citizens, town officials and developers to explore the feasibility of building a course on 372-acre undeveloped acres of environmentally sensitive land.

While developers and business advocates see the economic benefits of such a resort, environmentalists are more cautious. They fear the golf course would cause pollution and want the area left undeveloped. They also worry that traffic generated by the course would further congest beach roads.

Board attacks Simi Valley resort deal

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. — The Moorpark City Council has blasted plans for a 700-acre resort with a golf course in Happy Camp Canyon Regional Park.

Citing adverse environmental, traffic and economic impacts, every councilman voiced objections to the project, presented by Ouor Resorts.

Tulsa development may go public

TULSA, Okla. — A 300-acre, 18-hole golf course and residential development is planned south of Tulsa, and the developer is negotiating a deal that might allow the public to own shares in the project.

Tulsa-based River Oaks Development Corp. plans to begin developing this month a championship golf course along a mile of the Arkansas River's north bank, near 131st Street and straddling Sheridan Road.

River Oaks Associates, a development team assembled by Tulsa developer Steve Wallace, is considering the formation of an equity-based Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) to own and operate the golf course portion of the project once it is completed.

Interest in the trust would be available through a public share offering.

Pittman Poe & Associates is the designer of River Oaks course that is expected to be completed by early fall 1994.

Change of scene for Nicklaus project

SHREVEPORT, La. — After encountering drainage problems and spending $50,000 on a feasibility study, developer Ed Taunton has decided to move a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course from its original site, near Route 220 at Swan Lake Rd., to Bossier Parish.

An increase from 18 to 27 holes accompanies the move. The new course with two clubhouses is scheduled to open in the fall of 1994.

Taunton told The Times, "It was an expensive lesson to learn, but the new area gives us more variety and options to do a lot more things."

In addition to the drainage problems, the original site sat in the flight paths of B-52 traffic out of Barksdale Air Force Base.

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