Planter prefers golf to subdivision

ACKERMANVILLE, Pa. — Leon Brodt, a 63-year-old farmer, is building his own golf course on his former 150-acre farm here. Brodt is about 75 percent building his own golf course on his former 150-acre farm here. Brodt is about 75 percent of his farming years.

Brodt said he wanted to preserve the open space and still be able to draw income from it without having to subdivide for buildings. He left the contours of the land much as they were during his farming years.

Brodt isn't planning to build any kind of clubhouse but will build a small pro shop. He said he would also like to expand the course to 18 holes someday. Part of the course Brodt is building rests on the old Ackermanville Golf Course that closed about 15 years ago.

Coast Guard opens track to civilians

NEW YORK — The cash-strapped Coast Guard has opened its exclusive nine-hole golf course on Governors Island to civilians.

For the first time ever, the Coast Guard is offering limited corporate and individual memberships to outsiders because staff and budget cutbacks have threatened the future of the nine-hole, 3,803-yard course. Five corporate slots at $85,000 apiece and 20 individual memberships at $650 each were made available.

The course — with views to the World Trade Center, the Brooklyn Bridge and lower Manhattan — has double tees on each hole. Several fairways wrap around star-shaped Fort Jay, built in 1798.

The fort is encircled by a two-tiered, 30-foot-deep moat — a unique hazard.