

Naval Air Station track planned in Illinois

GLENVIEW, Ill. — The long-awaited development of the Glenview Naval Air Station — which includes plans for an 18-hole course and a nine-hole par-3 course — is underway.

The village of Glenview has awarded Chicago-based Walsh Construction Inc. a \$22.8 million contract to launch Phase 1 of infrastructure improvements at the former military facility, which closed in 1995. The village is the

master developer of the project that will transform the flat property over the next 10 to 15 years.

The redevelopment will include 540 acres of open land and public space, including a lake and the 18-hole, daily-fee layout. An existing 109-acre public course will be expanded to 175 acres and improved. In addition, a new par-3, nine-hole course will be built on 39 acres. A golf learning center is also planned.

Ind. muni built without tax dollars

NORTH VERNON, Ind. — When the new 18-hole St. Anne's Golf Course opens this summer at North Vernon Municipal Airport, it will signal an accomplishment that has drawn the interest of mayors from around the country.

The St. Anne's course was built with no tax dollars on federal land. The city of North Vernon

leases 900 acres from the Federal Aviation Administration for its North Vernon Municipal Airport. Most of that land is subleased for farming. The 160 acres where the course sits — which were untilable and not producing income — were leased to golf professionals Greg Bishop and Brent Hanger, who worked with the city to develop the course.

North Vernon Mayor John Hall has described the arrangement which led to the building of the course as one of the few of its kind in the country. He said he has received phone calls from mayors asking how the project was created.

When it opens this summer, St. Anne's will be the first 18-hole public course in Jennings County. St. Anne's will provide a shuttle bus from the airport terminal to the golf course.

Eastern Pa. links to close for greens remodel

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — The Allentown Municipal Golf Course, a popular 18-hole facility built in 1962, will operate with nine holes this year before closing completely on July 12 for a greens reconstruction project. The course is scheduled to reopen by June 1999.

The greens reconstruction is the last phase of a four-year project that has included new tees and bunkers, a computerized underground irrigation system for greens and fairways, a practice green, and a lake and two ponds. The renovation design has been handled by Ault, Clark & Associates of Kensington, Md.

Illinois facility to reopen by summer

EDWARDSVILLE, Ill. — The \$1.4 million project to rework the back nine and one additional hole at the private, 18-hole Sunset Hills Country Club is nearly complete.

Assistant Pro Kevin Fisher said the main change on the 69-year-old layout has been the topography of the back nine. Several blind shots were taken out as well as other hills and dips.

A fairly mild winter allowed the Sunset Hills maintenance crew and Rausch Construction to stay on target for a summer reopening.

Another major change that won't be immediately recognizable is a new \$75,000 irrigation system.

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