Clippings

Brief bits of news from in and around the golf business.

A number of new courses across the United States are currently under construction or have been tentatively approved. The Development Corporation of America, Hollywood, Fla., has begun construction of a luxury golf community in Boca Raton, Fla. Boca Greens, a single-family community, will contain about 1,000 homes priced from $85,000 to $110, built around an 18-hole golf course.

The course and clubhouse is being developed by William S. Roach, who has designed a number of clubs including Mill River Club in Palm Beach, Fla., and the Old Westbury Country Club on Long Island, N.Y. Roach is a past president of the National Golf Club Owners Association.

The course is being designed by architect Joe Lee, Boynton Beach, Fla., who has designed more than 200 courses including the three Disney World courses in Orlando.

Jack Nicklaus reportedly may design an 18-hole championship golf course in Douglas County, Colo. Nicklaus and Jack Vickers III, son of Denver oil magnate Jack A. Vickers, jointly own about 1,860 acres of land in Douglas County on which they plan to build a golf course, swim and tennis club, and residential community. Construction is scheduled to begin in June.

A city-operated 9-hole golf course in McCook, Neb. could become a reality if the McCook City Council votes to approve an agreement between the city and the city’s Elks Club.

Money for construction of the proposed course will come primarily from the Elks Club ($125,000) and a federal grant from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation ($200,000).

Construction of Bear’s Paw Country Club, a condominium community and 18-hole golf course in Naples, Fla., began in February and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Nick Kenevezich, general manager of J.R. Murphy Enterprises, the company developing the project, said plans call for that course also to be designed by Jack Nicklaus.

Freeman, Penrose & Kajimuira, Ltd., Honolulu, Hawaii, recently purchased the 310-acre Country Club of Sarasota, a $13 million residential and golf course development south of Sarasota, Fla. Peter Tucker, vice president of the firm, has assumed active management of the club and will also supervise Torrey Homes, Inc., the home-building subsidiary of the club.

The winter months have not only been a time of rapid golf course construction, but also a time for many superintendents to change jobs. John E. Laake, formerly a superintendent at Crest Hills Country Club, Cincinnati, was named superintendent of Columbus (Ohio) Country Club. Terry Wulf, formerly an assistant at Westwood Country Club, Rocky River, Ohio, was named superintendent at Sweetbriar Golf Club, Avon Lake, Ohio.

Michael Lombardi, a graduate of Providence College, Providence, R.I., has been named operations manager of Cranston Country Club, Cranston, R.I.

Century Rain-Aid, Madison Heights, Mich., recently named Ben Talafar, a 17-year veteran of the industry, executive vice-president. They also appointed Paul R. Sowerby, previously a production control analyst for the Ford Motor Co., inventory manager.

Further, Rain-Aid opened a new branch in Clearwater, Fla. Bob Elliott, a University of Massachusetts graduate and former golf course superintendent, and Nancy Elliott, a former administrator with Federal Supply, Inc., Clearwater, Fla., will manage the branch.

Elliott & Elliott Lombardi

A number of golf course superintendents’ associations recently elected new officers. The Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association named Cameron Henderson, Berkshire Country Club, Easton, president; Jim Maclaren, Lebanon Country Club, Lebanon, vice-president; and Charles Gadiz, Kimberton Golf Course, Phoenixville, secretary-treasurer. Kenneth Keller, Country Club of Harrisburg, and Terry Wueschinski, York Country Club, were named directors.

The Greater Cincinnati Golf Course Superintendents Association named its new board of directors. They are James Glazer, Cincinnati Country Club; John Fanning, Terrace Park Country Club, Milford; Terry Frey, Beckett Ridge Country Club, West Chester; Mike O’Connell, Maketawah Country Club, Cincinnati; and John Hamilton, Jack Nicklaus Golf Center, Cincinnati.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation recently elected Al Herbst, of the University of Chicago, president, and Tom VanDeWalle, Short Hills Country Club, East Moline, vice-president.

The American Society of Golf Course Architects will hold their 33rd Annual meeting March 11-16 at the Pinehurst Hotel, Pinehurst, N.C. Activities will include a special awards banquet, panel discussions, and professional development seminars. The society will also present a permanent exhibit on golf course architecture to the World Golf Hall of Fame at a special reception.

The Nevada Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference will be held March 29-31 at the Aladdin Hotel, Las Vegas. For further information contact Dave Morby, Director of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 4086, North Las Vegas, NV 89030.

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