

Land swapped for Fla. muni golf project

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — Thanks in part to a poker bet back in 1928, a landowner has offered free land in exchange for a pledge by the city to build the area's first public golf course and extend roads and utilities to the site.

Consultants have told the city it will cost \$5.1 million to build an 18-hole golf course with clubhouse and irrigation system. A 1992 market survey estimated strong demand for golf on the Treasure Coast would enable an 18-hole golf course in Port St. Lucie to earn a \$100,000 in its first year.

Assistant City Manager Dennis Beach says

if the city decides to go ahead with the venture, it will take two years to design it and obtain the necessary permits. At least 60 acres of the offered land is wetlands and much of the rest has drainage problems.

The land is owned by 10 cousins from Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan who inherited it from their grandfather — a former Florida East Coast Railway worker who reportedly won the real estate in a poker game in 1928. The family initially offered to sell the land to the city for a \$6 million then proposed a donation in May 1994 if the land were to be used as a golf course.

N.H. proposal awaiting state permits

NEWMARKET, N.H. — A proposed 18-hole golf course project in Durham near the Lamprey River is waiting for two state environmental permits.

The Newmarket Conservation Commission recently urged the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to evaluate the golf course's potential threat to the river concerning runoff of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides.

The river is the backup drinking water supply for Durham and

the surrounding area

The project has been approved by the Durham Planning Board and the Town Council.

The developers, the Charles Benevento Family Trust of Salem, Mass., must now apply for the environmental permits.

A spokesman for the state's environmental services department has said the golf course, to be called The River's Edge, shouldn't have a negative impact on the river as long as it is built and operated properly.

Local gov't rejects N.J. course plan

MULLICA TOWNSHIP, N.J. — The Township Council rejected plans for a \$38.5 million golf course and residential project.

The plan, which had been in the works since the mid 1970s, was unanimously rejected by the council because of residents' concerns over the environmental impact of the proposed 758-acre project and questions about how the township would handle the anticipated influx of school-aged children the development would have created.

The developer, Impact Realty Associates of Hackensack, had offered to provide sewer lines to the elementary school and commercial properties in the rural township. There is currently no public sewer system anywhere in the township.

Bay State town approves study

AVON, Mass. — A \$25,000 market and financial feasibility study will be conducted for the development of an 18-hole public golf course.

Registered voters at a special town meeting approved funding the study after a presentation by the firm of Rowland Bates of Golf Realty Advisors, Inc.

Correction.....

Because of an editing error in December's issue, the addresses of two industry firms appeared incorrectly in the *Golf Course News* Buyers' Guide. The correct addresses are: **Watersaver**, P.O. Box 16465, Denver, CO 80216-0465; and **Southern Hydro Turf, Inc.**, P.O. Box 430, Morganton, GA 30560.

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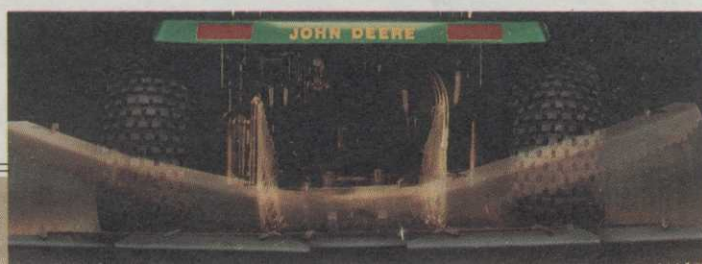
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