

Jersey estate could become TPC course

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Johnson & Johnson heiress Barbara Piasecka Johnson has apparently decided that Jasna Polana, a \$20 million, 46,000-square-foot mansion she built with her multi-millionaire husband J. Seward Johnson in the 1970s, would work better as a clubhouse and centerpiece for an exquisite championship golf course and possible PGA Senior Tour stop.

The idea must be approved by the township's planning board, but Johnson wants to turn the grandiose mansion and 225 acres of rolling farmland into a premier golfing venue run by the Tournament Players Club.

Gary Player has designed a 6,900-yard layout that is expected to draw a PGA Senior Tour tournament before the end of this century.

Membership dues, which opened at \$40,000, are now up to \$42,500 and are expected to go higher. Annual fees will be priced at around \$5,000.

If the project happens, Jasna Polana — which means Bright Meadow or Bright Glade in Polish, Johnson's native language — would become one of the most spectacular and clubhouses in the world. The palatial, gated building sits at the end of a mile-long driveway lined by oaks. It has a circular courtyard, a bomb shelter designed to withstand an atomic attack (it will house golf carts), an unfinished chapel (to be a bar and grill) an orchid house, and other exotic extras.

Nicklaus layout planned in Vt.

BURLINGTON, Vt. — A project calling for an 18-hole Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course and 250 houses on 440 acres of former farmland is gaining momentum in the state's largest city.

Landowner Dean Economou and his project have won sound official support so far. Economou originally offered the city ownership of the golf course, but the idea was turned down by the city council over funding issues.

Economou's plan calls for an 18-hole course, clubhouse, pro shop and dining area as well as offices and storage area in a preserved, historic farmhouse.

Rulewich leaves Jones to start own firm

BERNARDSTON, Mass. — Roger G. Rulewich, a chief golf course designer for Robert Trent Jones for 34 years, has left the Jones Companies to become chief golf course architect for The Golf Group Inc., a new golf course design/construction firm.

Rulewich, 58, is a former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects and Yale University graduate with a degree in civil engineering. As chief designer since joining the firm in 1961, Rulewich had a hand in

the design of more than 150 Robert Trent Jones signature golf courses. His list of credits in which he had major design input include the Robert Trent Jones Golf Club in Manassas, Va., and the 18 golf courses that comprise the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail of Alabama.

Rulewich is the latest to leave the Jones Companies for the The Golf Group (TGG) because of cutbacks with the Jones Companies. Rulewich will be a principal in TGG which includes Gary Darling as

president and Pat McMillan and Jeff Bradley as officers and project managers. John Harvey, another Jones employee, has also joined TGG as a design associate.

Rulewich is expected to provide hands-on direction of his designs while Darling will lead the construction expertise. The Golf Group is based in Bernardston adjoining the Crumpin-Fox Club, a public course designed by Rulewich and ranked among the best 75 public courses in the country.

HAWAIIAN COURSE FALTERS

KAUMANA, Hawaii — Plans for an 18-hole golf course and country club here appear dead. C. Brewer Homes, the major creditor for the proposed Kaumana Country Club, filed to foreclose on the project. Homes alleged Kaumana failed to make payments on the nearly \$1.42 million it owes. Kaumana's developers, mostly Japanese nationals, filed for bankruptcy.

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