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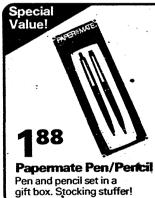


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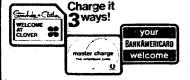








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CINNAMINSON BALTIMORE PIKE Second Lawrence project

Housing for elderly eyed

By ANDREW LANTNER Staff Writer

Lawrence Non-Profit Housing, Inc., owner of the Eggerts Crossing Village complex for low and moderate income families, is planning a second development in Lawrence Township for the elderly.

Fred Vereen Jr., manager of Eggerts Village, said yesterday the corporation hopes to build from 120 to 160 units on five acres near Gordon and Phillips Avenues in Lawrenceville. The corporation plans to obtain federal funds to back the

'I know there's a need for this type of housing in the township," Vereen said. "We want to make it a good project for older people.

He said he hoped the day the apartment complex will open its doors to residents is only "a year or

Vereen said his corporation has an option to buy the site, which is owned by Mrs. Pierce Smith of New

The non-profit corporation does not have to seek a zoning change for the

Vereen said the group will try to have requirements regarding minimum acreage and parking for apartment complexes reduced. Those requirements are too demanding for a development of this type, he said.

The township council has expressed interest in this venture and this week directed Vereen to prepare an ordinance which would incorporate needed changes in township zoning laws. Vereen said his model ordinance will be submitted to the council soon.

The Eggerts Crossing manager said the residents will have to be at least 62 years old and have small incomes. Individual residents cannot earn more than \$7,400 a year, while joint income of couples cannot exceed \$9,450, he said. Also, because of a federal requirement 30 per cent of the tenants must have individual incomes below \$4,450 or joint incomes below \$5,900 he said.

Lawrence residents will be given preference, but the project will be open to residents in other parts of Mercer County as well, he said. No

Vereen declined to estimate how much the project will cost, saying We haven't dealt with those figures yet." He added, however, that applications for funds have been made to the state Housing Finance Agency. The corporation would also apply to:

the township for tax abatement. The apartments, which will be efficiencies, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, will rent from \$93 to \$196 a month, depending on the renter's income and the size of the apartment, he said.

Mahoney and Zvosec, of Princeton, the architects for the project, have planned a pinwheel shaped development, three stories tall in some areas and four stories in others. The development will be equipped with recreation and hobby rooms and possibly dining room and greenhouse and pottery room, Vereen said.

'We're talking to the Lawrence Arts Council about helping us with crafts projects," he said. "We want to get many community groups involved in deciding what goes in

Deal club opened beach after N.J. advocate sued

By DAVID HLADICK Staff Writer

FREEHOLD - The borough of Deal began letting the general public swim in front of a swank beach club this year after the state Public Advocate filed suit challenging the municipality's restrictive beach access policies.

W. Stanley Conover, Deal administrator, testified yesterday in Chancery Court here that prior to this year the borough didn't permit non-members of the exclusive Deal Casino to swim in front of the club. Membership in the municipally-owned club is restricted to residents, nonresident property owners and

Conover did not explain the reason for the change except to say that the board of commissioners in Deal set

the policy on the advice of counsel. However, the Public Advocate filed suit last January contending that the by-laws of the casino as promulgated by the Deal board of commissioners violated the New Jersey public trust doctrine that was handed down by the state Supreme Court four years

Public trust

Attorneys for the Public Advocate's Department have taken the position that the doctrine basically provides that land between mean high and low tides is held in trust by the state and the public should have access to it.

Deal, a community of about 1,000 residents, is located on the coast midway between Asbury Park and Long Branch. The town has been known for years as a haven for the

The borough owns about 1,400 feet of beach front, of which 400 feet is taken up by the Deal Casino.

Casino membership fees range up to \$800 for a family of four. The facilities at the casino include an Olympic size swimming pool, bath houses and beach cabanas, a snack ar and restaurant, basketball and tether ball and shuffle board courts and eight sets of bathrooms.

Deal also operates the Philips Avenue Pavillion, which has a 1,000-foot beach front and is open to the gener-

However, residents are charged \$35 for membership in the Pavillion as opposed to \$85 for non-residents.

Beach fees at the Pavillion are \$2 on eekdays and \$3 on weekends. The Public Advocate has argued that the higher membership fees discriminate against non-residents.

Conover spent nearly three hours on the witness stand yesterday answering questions posed by Robert P. Corman, an attorney for the pub-

Wouldn't approve it When asked by Corman if the borough would accept an application

from a non-resident for membership in the Deal Casino, Conover replied: We would accept it, but we wouldn't approve it.'

During the long period on the witness stand, Conover noted the borough four years operated a casino at another site until the current facility was built in the late 1950s.

Conover said that when the bor-

was no beach left in front of the facility due to erosion

Corman submitted as evidence a series of photographs dating back to the 1940s to show the changes in the Deal coastline.

Charles Kitlasz of Belmar, a witness for the Public Advocate, testified that he frequently fished at the present casino site prior to 1956 and recalled that he often saw people out at night picknicking and walking on the beach. In the suit, the Public Advocate is

asking that daily passes be sold at the casino and that the seasonal fees at the pavillion should be the same for residents and non-residents. The case is scheduled to resume

Monday before Judge Merritt Lane Attorney Thomas L. Morrissey,

who is representing the borough, said he plans to call no more than

Bicen? Humbug, Hopewell says

By J. STRYKER MEYER Special to the Times

First, Joseph A. Hoffman told the Bicentennial Tourism Task Force that New Jersey was going to do all it could to attract tourists next year.

But then, Christopher F. Bannister spoke up and said that Hopewell Township, where he is a member of the township committee, didn't want any part of it all.

After speeches by Hoffman, state Commissioner of Labor and Industry. and Steven B. Richer, deputy director of the New Jersey Bicentennial Celebration, outlining plans for bringing tourists and their dollars into the state. Bannister asked that Hopewell Township be left out of any

No way, said David Earling, project director of the Bicentennial Commission and a Hopewell Township resident himself. That's because Hopewell Township's claim to fame in the bicentennial year is Washington Crossing State Park.

Bannister had asked a somewhat surprised Charles Geter, chief of Labor and Industry's office of tourism and promotion, about bypassing Hopewell Township during a task force committee meeting after the bring-the-tourists-to-New

But before Geter could respond, Earling broke in to ask if Geter knew Bannister was from Hopewell Township — a township which has threatened to sue both the state and federal governments for bicentennial-related costs it might have to absorb next year. Since last May the Hopewell Town-

ship committee has said, time and again, that it doesn't want township taxpayers to have to bear the burden of police, medical and emergency equipment costs bicentennial hordes might force on the township. The township has heard estimates that 20,000 to 50,000 visitors a day might come to the park next year, and parking space is available for several hundred automobiles.

Earling told Bannister that there was no way the bicentennial commission would remove Washington Crossing Park from its literature or

Prepaganda

"Look, there's bicentennial propaganda across the country saying to-where he (George Washington) went, Washington Crossing," Bannister: said. "And all those people are going: to drive a long way to find there's very little in the park for them to look at. But in the meantime, what is Hopewell Township going to do about all the traffic problems and confusion caused by all those tourists?"

Since last spring, Bannister, also a member of the township planning board, has led a township fight to get the Department of Environmental Protection - the agency which operates the park - to bring its plans for the park before planning board for an official review. To date, he said, the DEP hasn't done that.

"I'm not about to help promote." tourism in Washington Crossing until. DEP demonstrates some competence; in handling visitors and displays: some cooperation with the municipality - cooperation we've asked for repeatedly and have yet to receive," he said after the meeting.

To date DEP has made informal presentations to the planning board about what it plans to do in the park, Bannister said.



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