

EXHIBIT "C"

Rockland Journal-News

Clarkstown will build golf course

By John W. Barry
Staff Writer

NEW CITY — Clarkstown residents will soon be able to shoot birdies and eagles on town property — and it won't upset animal rights activists.

The Clarkstown Town Board has agreed to purchase 193 acres in Ramapo for development of a \$10 million town golf course, supervisor Charles Holbrook said yesterday.

The first tee time at the 18-hole championship course, planned for the intersection of Routes 306 and 202, is scheduled for the spring of 1999. Construction is expected to start in 1997.

Holbrook said the town's next step is to hire an architect to design the course. The plan will then go to the Ramapo Town Planning Board for consideration.

The property will cost the town \$4.5 million, and construction of the course will be \$5.5 million, Holbrook said. The town plans to take out a 30-year bond to pay for the land, and a 20-year bond to cover the cost of the course.

The course, to include a pro shop and snack bar, is expected to pay for itself, Holbrook said.

The agreement means Clarkstown would become the fourth town in the county with its own golf course. That's good news for Peter Streitman of New City, who says playing at other towns' courses is too costly. The only public golf course in Clarkstown, at Rockland Lake State Park, is overrun by New Jersey golfers, he said.

"That's excellent," Streitman said when he heard the news. "It's a nice thing for Clarkstown residents and a definite plus."

Golf courses operated by other towns are open to people from Clarkstown, but they must pay more and don't get first crack at reservations. Holbrook said these privileges would be granted to town residents using the new course.

Town officials looked at several sites before settling on the land in Ramapo, including areas in Stony Point and Orangetown. Those sites were too expensive, Holbrook said.

Property at Letchworth Developmental Center was also considered, but the town did not want to wait for New York state to decide what they were going to do with the land. No suitable sites could be found in Clarkstown, Holbrook said.

Ramapo Town Supervisor Herbert Reisman said he anticipates no problems with Clarkstown's plan.

"It's not likely to draw the same type of criticism as a shopping center or factory," Reisman said. "As long as they pay their fair share of taxes, they're welcome."

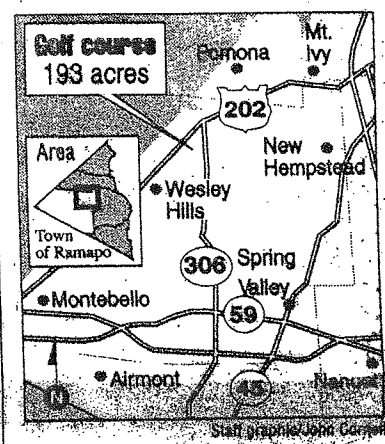


PHOTO BY BRUCE PAGE