

Homeowners Give \$4.5-Million to Motor Lodge

Start
Slated in
August

Commercial
Land Extended

CHESTER — The city planning commission gave preliminary approval Wednesday for construction of a \$4.5-million Howard Johnson's motor lodge and a 500-room Salvo Hotel. A new 100-unit city-owned facility in the Smedley Urban Renewal Area.

The planners unanimously approved an amendment to the Chester Redevelopment Authority land-use plan to extend commercial use east from the Providence and Edgemoor Avenues intersection almost to 13th and Crosby Streets.

The extension, according to Planning Commission Chairman Dr. Nathan V. Plaffer, allows construction of parking facilities for the motor lodge, which will be situated on a triangular plot bounded by Providence and Edgemoor Avenues and 14th Street.

Representatives of Formik Developers, Inc., who will build and operate the motor lodge, said construction will begin in late August if necessary zoning exceptions are granted and final approval obtained from city officials in the near future.

The planners also gave preliminary approval to the proposal of the Chester Salvation Army to build a new headquarters and community facility at 15th Street and Arbor Drive.

An architect for the George M. Ewing Co. of Philadelphia said the building would be located on just over an acre of fully landscaped property.

It would contain a 140-seat chapel, a gymnasium, a multi-purpose room, kitchen, and classrooms for use by the Chester "Golden Age" organization.

He said the Salvation Army had hoped to begin construction by the middle of May.

Citing these two buildings, Dr. Plaffer said they were just a part of the \$30-million actual program of construction in Chester.

Plaffer said the planning department is currently preparing a list of projects that would show the investments being made in what he called "new Chester."

Planning Commission member Leonidas S. Bean proposed a meeting between the commission and the Chester Redevelopment Authority (CRA) to discuss guidelines the CRA was imposing on potential land developers in the city.

Bean said the CRA requirements concerning such areas as signage, signs, and construction materials were holding "up" progress in the city by deterring builders who get "disgusted" with what Bean called the CRA's "meaningless details."

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Wings Flip Seaplane Passengers Get Feet Wet

TINICUM — A brisk gust of wind flipped a small seaplane at the Philadelphia Seaplane Base, Easton, on Wednesday. The gust gave a three-man crew an all-night job righting the craft.

Robert Mills, owner of the seaplane base, said he was piloting the craft with two passengers when the sudden gust upset the plane.

"We were just next to the dock," Mills said. "We just got our feet wet as the plane rolled over."

Neither Mills nor his passenger was injured and the seaplane was not damaged. The plane was towed back to the dock by a tugboat.

Mills said he and two other men worked until 9 a.m. today to get the plane upright and ready to fly.

They used equipment from the seaplane base to do the job. Mills said the plane was "a little bit damaged" but was "not too bad."

Mills said wind was running at 20 to 30 miles an hour and a gust of about 35 miles an hour apparently upset the plane.

During the storm, the seaplane was being used for a flight lesson. The instructor was not on board.

The seaplane was a Cessna 440. It was being used for a flight lesson. The instructor was not on board.

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Jury Weighs testimony in shooting

MEDIA COURTHOUSE — The jury heard the case of a 31-year-old man charged with "murder generally" and carrying a concealed deadly weapon. The case was heard on Wednesday.

During the third day of trial, the defendant Dwight L. Dingle, 31, of the 2000 Block W. 12th Street, told the court he had been shot by a police officer.

Mills said he and two other men worked until 9 a.m. today to get the plane upright and ready to fly.

They used equipment from the seaplane base to do the job. Mills said the plane was "a little bit damaged" but was "not too bad."

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Yendon Elevates Plaffer Given Top School Post

YENDON — At a special session of the Yendon School Board, Chairman William E. Yendon elevated Nathan V. Plaffer to the position of superintendent of schools.

Plaffer, 51, has been in the position of assistant superintendent since 1985. He has been in the position of assistant superintendent since 1985.

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BID REJECTED Swim Club Taken Off Auction Block

RIDLEY TOWNSHIP — The financially plagued SOMS Swim Club was taken off the auction block Wednesday after the one bid was rejected.

The property now faces foreclosure by its creditors, an attorney said.

Acquiesce Louis Traisman said the property, which includes a swimming pool, a wading pool, a clubhouse and a snack bar, was taken off the auction block Wednesday.

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Shooting Suspect Charged

Continued from Page One
Bank Nursery in Upper Providence Township.

A Sun Ship spokesman said today no one in the personnel office had the authority to release information on whether Groce had ever worked in the shipyard.

A spokesman at the nursery said today "a young man known as 'Negan' began work there at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, but it is not 'perfectly satisfactory' to the nursery's department for its round-the-clock effort on the case." He also commended Ureth said the Cif for "being very cooperative."

He claimed District Atty. Gen. John J. McWen Jr. was also on the case last Wednesday night as witnesses were being interviewed.

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