

Residential Real Estate

REAL ESTATE DEEDS

Town Approves Zoning Change for Mixed-Use Project

Voters at Holbrook's Town Meeting recently approved the rezoning of a 79-acre parcel to enable the development of Old English Square, a mixed-use development proposed by the Braintree-based Mullins Co.

The Mullins Co. plans to build a pedestrian-friendly retail village along Union Street and housing at the center of the site. The retail village will feature 30,000 to 75,000 square feet of retail and office space, while the housing portion of the development will include 211 one- and two-bedroom condominiums. The housing will include a mix of market-rate and affordable units, as well as housing for people 55 and older.

The plan also includes the preservation of 54 acres, with 7.5 acres donated to the town for recreational fields. The project is located within walking distance of the commuter rail stop in town.

Construction is slated to start next year.

Archdiocesan Development to Feature 40 Apartments

Construction has started on the Riley House Apartments, a 40-unit elderly housing complex in Boston that is being developed by the Archdiocese of Boston's Planning Office for Urban Affairs.

The project, located at 39 Maple St. in Boston's Hyde Park neighborhood, involves the adaptive re-use of a former convent and construction of new affordable housing. The former convent building has been vacant for over 12 years.

Riley House will feature one-bedroom units, which will be available to elderly residents with incomes at or below 50 percent of the area median income. Twenty percent of the units will be targeted to homeless elders earning below 30 percent of the area median income.

Established in 1968, the POUA has completed nearly 1,800 units of affordable and mixed-income housing and currently has another 654 units in the works.

North Attleboro OKs Brookline Firm's Condo Plan

► LEGISLATION

Housing Bond Bill Would Keep Programs for Disabled, Elderly

By Aglaia Pikounis

DEBBIE BERNABEI AND HER HUSBAND Mark moved into a small ranch-style home in Walpole 18 years ago that they have been slowly customizing to accommodate their severely disabled sons.

For a long time, Brett, 20, and Nicholas, 23, both of whom use wheelchairs and rely on feeding tubes, couldn't join family and friends when they gathered in the Bernabei home's tiny dining room for meals.

About two years ago, the Bernabeis received a \$25,000 loan from the Home Modifications Loan Program, a state program that helps people make their homes accessible. That loan, along with a home equity loan, enabled the Bernabeis to complete a \$100,000 renovation project that ultimately enlarged the home's dining room, added an outdoor deck and made the backyard accessible.

Now, Brett and Nicholas can



Debbie Bernabei's disabled sons Brett (left) and Nicholas enjoy a higher quality of life now that a \$25,000 loan from the state Home Modifications Loan Program has enabled the completion of accessibility renovations to their Walpole home. A housing bond bill currently before lawmakers would reauthorize funding for the program and other, similar initiatives.

in the House Ways & Means Committee.

Included in the bill is a \$25 million request for the next five

over 500 families in the commonwealth," said Anne Lane, coordinator for the Home Modifications Loan Program. "Debbie