

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton Plans to Upgrade and Improve Facilities at Historic Seaview Resort

Construction Projects Involve Most Major Areas of Property;
Upgrades Seen as “Rebirth” of Iconic Resort

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GALLOWAY TWP NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey plans multiple construction projects to upgrade and improve the historic Seaview Resort it purchased last month. The 96-year-old original structure and most other areas of the property—including lobby, main dining room, Grace Kelly Oval Room, façade, kitchen, one of the guest room wings, porte cochre, golf courses and golf shops will undergo significant upgrades coordinated by hotel operator Dolce Resorts.

To minimize potential impact on guests, the hotel will close between January 17, 2011 and March 17, 2011, the traditional slower period at the property. The golf operation at Seaview will not be affected by the work.

“Stockton is accelerating plans for needed upgrades to this magnificent facility,” President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. said. “We are working with Dolce and Troon Golf, the manager of the award winning Bay Course and Pines Course to ensure as seamless a transition as possible.”

Dolce has committed to hiring a number of local union contractors, minority contractors and subcontractors and architects to undertake the work. To fund the project, Stockton College will take advantage of \$5 million committed by the resort’s previous owner, LaSalle Hotel Properties, to pay for repairs as a term of sale.

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“When Seaview reopens next spring, the transformation will be tantamount to a rebirth of this historic southern New Jersey icon,” said Stephen Prakash, Seaview Resort’s general manager. “The winter season offers a great opportunity to accomplish several planned improvements in a compressed time period and will ultimately improve our competitive position.”

Dr. Saatkamp said Stockton and Dolce are coordinating efforts to ensure Seaview will advance the educational mission of the College while serving the needs of its hotel and golf course guests.

As per usual, the Bay Course remains open on a year-round basis, weather permitting. The Pines Course annually closes from early November through mid-March, depending on the weather.

Special care also has been taken to reduce the impact on Seaview associates. A small contingent of staff will remain on duty to provide security, maintenance, accounting, administration and sales support. The remainder will be temporarily furloughed during most of the construction but will be eligible for unemployment.

Group functions will be relocated to the three closest Dolce properties: Dolce Valley Forge in King of Prussia, Pa.; Dolce Basking Ridge in Basking Ridge, N.J.; and The William F. Bolger Center for Leadership Development in Potomac, Md. Traditionally, there is little group activity at Seaview during the January-March period.

“The building’s historic and unique design and architectural integrity will be respected throughout the process,” said Matt Altier, Stockton’s vice president of Administration and Finance.

Stockton College finalized its purchase of the historic property on Sept. 1.

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