

Metropolitan Briefs

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Approval of Queens Complex Delayed

The Board of Estimate delayed zoning approval for a proposed \$150 million, privately financed complex of condominiums, stores, offices and parking space in Rego Park, Queens. The development, to be known as the Galleria at Forest Gardens, had received a 4 to 3 favorable vote in the City Planning Commission last month. While it is favored in principle by most Rego Park community groups, a strong campaign against the project has been mounted by businessmen and civic leaders representing nearby Jamaica, supported by the Regional Plan Association. The Jamaica interests are concerned because their own business district is badly languishing.

Hi-Tor Adult Home Loses Its License

The State Board of Social Welfare voted to suspend the license of the Hi-Tor Manor House adult home in Haverstraw, where a 65-year-old man allegedly died of malnutrition. A board spokesman said that the home's operating certificate would be suspended for 30 days pending procedures seeking to revoke it permanently. The action came after a board investigation into the death of William Maltzman on Jan. 12. The license suspension will make it necessary to move 158 residents out, probably starting next week.

Suit Filed in Drug-Experiment Death

Elizabeth Barrett, daughter of Harold Blauer, who died in an Army-sponsored drug experiment in 1953, filed a civil suit in Federal District Court here seeking \$85 million in damages for the death of her father. The suit alleges that Government officials, Army officers and doctors conspired to cover up a "wide scale experimental drug program on human subjects." The suit asked for compensatory, malpractice and punitive damages.

2 Banks Agree to Refund Legal Fees

Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz announced that the Bankers Trust Company and the Chase Manhattan Bank had agreed to return \$75,000 in attorney's fees collected since July 1, 1973, from 5,800 defaulting consumers and to impose no more such charges when their counsel obtain judgments.

Gasoline Prices Down A

The average retail price of gasoline in the New York-Northeast area fell in November, as it has for the first time in 18 months, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.