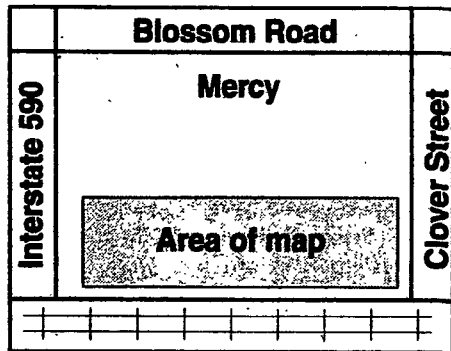


# SENIOR LIFESTYLES

## Sisters of Mercy weigh sale of land



By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

**BRIGHTON** — Attention, seniors: Interested in brand-new housing that provides quick access to major Rochester expressways, yet also offers a view of the stately Sisters of Mercy motherhouse

and Our Lady of Mercy High School? That option could become available within a couple of years, if a proposed land sale by the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester goes through.

The order has begun negotiations with NewMark Development Co., Inc., of Brighton to sell 28 acres of undeveloped property just south of Mercy High School's athletic fields. The new housing facility would be bordered also by Clover Street to the east and the school and motherhouse complex to the north. According to NewMark's proposal, the complex would include 11 single-family homes, 52 town homes and a 255-unit apartment building for both assisted and independent living for seniors.

NewMark will take its proposal to the Town of Brighton's planning board within the next 30 to 60 days, said Sister Sheila Stevenson, RSM, the li-

aision between the Sisters of Mercy and NewMark. Sister Stevenson anticipates that construction would take approximately two years.

NewMark presented the proposal during an open forum May 2 at Mercy High School. Though some Brighton residents were concerned about increased traffic, drainage and the environment, Sister Stevenson pointed out that NewMark is aware it must consider those matters in order to get the town government's approval.

This is not the first time the Sisters of Mercy have been approached about selling some of their 62 acres of undeveloped property near the motherhouse. Sister Stevenson noted that the order has entertained offers from various developers for "at least 30 years," but that none of the proposals were "in concert with our mission."

"We are concerned that what goes on our property will always be our neighbor, and will be an asset to the Brighton community," Sister Stevenson remarked.

Financial matters were another driving force behind the current negotiations with NewMark, Sister Stevenson added. Though she declined to give the land's proposed price tag, she said the sale would provide a timely boost for the Sisters of Mercy and their ministries.

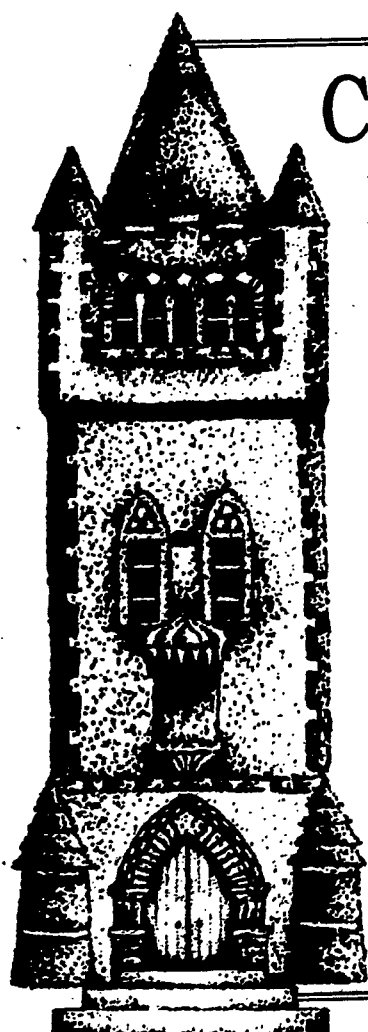
"Finances are a concern to us as we become older and fewer. We're experiencing more retiring sisters, and fewer active income-providing sisters," she said. "We would like to retain and continue to develop our ministries."



Courtesy of Sister Sheila Stevenson, RSM

NewMark Development Company's proposed senior citizen housing project would include 11 single-family homes, 52 town homes, and a 255-unit apartment building offering both assisted and independent living for seniors. The project would be built on land to the south of Mercy High School and the Mercy motherhouse on Blossom Road, and would be flanked on the west by Route 590 and on the east by Clover Street. The company would purchase the 28 acres for the project from the Sisters of Mercy.

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