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Self Storage Facility Being Built on Hollow Tree Ridge Road Overlooking I-95

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Date : January 13, 2017

Hollow Tree Self Storage (HTSS), the first high-end, self-storage facility to come to Darien will open its doors in the fall of 2017. The state-of-the-art building is under construction at [131 Hollow Tree Ridge Road](#) and will include a front office, and 800 to 1,000 climate-controlled units in a variety of sizes for myriad self-storage needs.

— *an announcement from Hollow Tree Self Storage*

“We look forward to bringing this beautifully constructed project and much-needed service to the

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community,” said John Hertz, one of the developers of HTSS.

Designed by Architect Chris LaVigna of LaVigna Associates, the facility’s design takes inspiration from old New England mill buildings, with the central office recalling a turn-of-the-century schoolhouse. The office presents a small-scale, residential facade that ensures most of the storage units will not be visible from the road.

“Our goal was to create a tasteful design that would complement the character of Darien,” LaVigna said. “We wanted to avoid the harsh industrial look common to prefab metal storage buildings in favor a natural color pallet with soft, sandy stucco walls, a well-articulated façade and elements such as pitched roofs and shade trellises to add depth and interest.”

HTSS will be secured by a gated perimeter with electronic access, a state-of-the-art surveillance system, and on-site property managers who will provide around-the-clock security and service to customers.

“Security was a major focus of ours in designing and creating this facility. We are employing the latest technology and have included all the amenities required to accommodate a full-time, live-in property manager,” Hertz said.

HTSS will offer stand-out features not common in other self-storage facilities, including a solar carport for the storage of boats, RVs and other vehicles (energy collected from the panel will be used to power the facility).

Larger storage units will be drive-up accessible while smaller units will be reachable by elevator. The building, which is 100 percent climate controlled, will offer wine storage, car storage and museum quality storage. Additionally, there will be 16 commuter parking spaces available for lease with easy access to the Noroton Heights train station.

HTSS developers bring more than 30 years of experience in the self storage industry. For more information about Hollow Tree Self Storage visit www.hollowtreestorage.com. [*Editor's note: It appears the website isn't up yet.*]

Editor's note: The property, which has sat vacant for years, had a major development problem: Sewer service is difficult because the land sits between the highway and the railroad tracks, and Avalon Darien owners don't want to provide sewer service to the site.

Only a caretaker for the property will live there, and self-storage sites tend to generate little traffic, the Planning & Zoning Commission was told when the land-use application came before it.

The facility will share the driveway that Avalon Darien uses for its entrance.