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In the Neighborhood

Stoney Creek combines nature, convenience

Wildlife provides visual respite for Scott County neighborhood residents

by Teresa Ruzic and Deirdre Cox Baker
QUAD-CITY TIMES

THE lure of nature and wildlife, combined with easy access to city conveniences, make residents of Stoney Creek rave about their neighborhood.

Established two years ago, the area on the east end of Bettendorf near Davenport Country Club has grown steadily. Fewer than a dozen large home sites are left, and residents of the stately homes are enthusiastic about their surroundings.

Kay Kent, a Realtor and resident since February, 1997, says the home she shares with husband Robert, also a Realtor, offers great privacy, yet is quite convenient.

"When I'm home, I really feel like I'm surrounded by nature," says Kay, who adds there was deer in her backyard that very morning.

She points out her house is just 3-4 minutes from gas and convenience stores, and 7-8 minutes from Bi-Ve and shopping centers.

Further, the Kents enjoy the fact Stoney Creek is in Scott County, with property taxes 44 percent lower than those paid by Davenport residents, 31 percent lower than Bettendorf residents. Illinois property taxes are more than double compared to those of Scott County, she says.

"This enables homeowners to buy more home, and not have as much tax burden," she explains.

Stoney Creek is really a "family neighborhood," Kay says, and that thought is embraced by Chris and Margy Agnew, who head a 26-member combined extended family.

The couple moved into the one-story cream stucco dream home Margy always wanted to design in January, 1997. At that time only the trees rimmed their two-acre lot.

Now every address on their court has a home to go with it and the Agnews have more than a dozen neighbors.

"When we moved in, it was a field," Margy says. "It was kind of nice the first summer. But our neighbors are friendly. Most of the people have kids, some with really young ones. There are couples like us who have kids college age and above."

Like many homes in Stoney Creek, the lower level of the Agnew's features a walk-out entrance to a wooded area that drops off into a haven for wildlife.

Photos by Brett Wald / Quad-City Times

Fine homes on spacious sites are evident in the Stoney Creek neighborhood, located near the Davenport Country Club in Scott County. Residents report spotting wildlife such as deer and fox, eagles and hawks, on the surrounding meadows, cliffs, woods and winding stream. However the homes, just off Wells Ferry Road, are also within minutes of city conveniences.

Joe Kelley / Quad-City Times

There are a total of 29 home sites offering great privacy. Each has a wooded walkout view of the creek and bluffs.

Dolan says he is very careful in selecting the luxury home plans for this subdivision. Each plan is a distinctive creation and he takes special pride to maintain the environmental integrity of the land as he builds upon it.

Further, the homesites have been laid out to complement nature's design, as with the Agnew's.

Margy is impressed with the high quality and variety of architectural design used by Dolan. A Frank Lloyd Wright-style home is nearing completion just beyond her sunroom windows. Stucco and brick are favored materials for the neighborhood's one to two story homes.

"The homes here are pleasing to look at," she says. "There's really no set plan or style and there are many plans to choose from."

The Agnews and Kents are very happy with their Stoney Creek homes. Kay, who has built many homes over the years, says this home is so perfect, it is the last one the couple will build.

The Agnews, who have built nine homes in 25 years of marriage, are just as content.

"We just wanted to be out in the country," Margy says of her Bettendorf address in the Pleasant Valley school district. "This is where we want to stay. We feel so blessed to be here."

The view from an array of windows on the main floor can be fascinating for nature lovers.

"We can see the birds flying at eye level – eagles and hawks. That's fun, I like that," Margy says.

Dolan envisions natural setting for stately homes

Residents like the Agnews are just what the builder and developer had in mind when he bought the land. Tim Dolan of Tim Dolan Development Co. was first attracted to the area because of the "calming sounds of the gently rushing creek, the stoney bluffs and ravines (from whence came the name), the amiably rolling meadows, the towering oaks and pine trees."

NEIGHBORHOOD PREVIEWS

Here's what is planned for future issues of "In the Neighborhood."
For advertising information, call (319) 383-2400.

Oct. 4 – Haigus Hills; Crow Creek area, Batt.
Oct. 11 – Goose Creek, Dav.
Oct. 18 – Glen Arnil, Dav.
Oct. 25 – Gordon Addn., Dav.
Nov. 1 – Kimberly Village, Dav.
Nov. 8 – Lake Hurlington, Scott Co.
Nov. 15 – Windsor Crest, Dav.
Nov. 22 – Crystal Creek, Dav.
Nov. 29 – Ridgeview, Dav.
Dec. 6 – North Meadows, Dav.
Dec. 13 – Old Coventry, Dav.

Dates subject to change

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