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with our progress!!



NEWS



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Recreation Centre is underway!

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Stonecroft New Hamburg has been anxiously anticipating the arrival of spring, and with it, the breaking of ground for the Recreation and Leisure Complex. As sales progress in the adjacent Phase III, residents are watching this stunning facility take shape.

In keeping with the elegant home designs that are a signature of Stonecroft, the Recreation Centre will stand out as a feature of the community. A grand entryway garnered by classic pillars will welcome visitors to enjoy large, bright windows and spacious facilities. Full glass at the rear of the Complex will allow for the enjoyment of lush green space and many landscape features, including a quaint walking bridge, pond and fountains.

When complete, the 18,300 sq.ft. Rec Centre will boast an indoor pool and saunas, modern fitness and exercise facilities. Outdoors will offer tennis courts, horseshoe pits



and a patio area for barbecues. The conference room will include seating for 250, as well as a fully equipped servery for reserved family and community functions. Residents will be able to take advantage of comfortable lounge areas and a community library. Their Recreation Centre is designed to be a hub for social activities, housing space for billiards, indoor shuffleboard, cards and a craft room.

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KEEPING IN TOUCH

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Monday to Thursday 12pm-6pm
Saturday to Sunday 12pm-6pm

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www.stonecrofthomes.com



Happy to Leave Toronto Behind

Lynda and Peter Duckworth took their time in choosing their new home. As Lynda says, “We looked at adult living communities from one end of the province to the other.” Ultimately, they chose Stonecroft.

When the Duckworths first decided that the New Hamburg adult community was where they wanted to be, the only building standing was the Presentation Centre. They knew Stonecroft was what they wanted, but the time was not then right to relocate from their Etobicoke home. When the time came to make a move, they were first in line the morning the lots of Stonecroft Phase II became available. They chose a Dorchester design, and moved into their personalized home in the fall of 2004.

Like many Stonecroft residents, the Duckworths are not yet in full retirement mode. Lynda is retired—she left her position as principal of a private girls’ school, St. Mildred’s Lightbourn in Oakville, five years ago. But Peter—more properly, Dr. Peter Duckworth—continues his duties as Principal Geoscientist for AMEC, a worldwide engineering and environmental services company, and as a part-time professor at the University of Toronto at Mississauga, where he has taught since 1972. His doctorate is from the University of Toronto, while Lynda holds a Master of Education degree (Administration), also from U of T.

Peter was based in AMEC’s Mississauga office, but was able to transfer to the company’s facility in Waterloo. He laughs about the intriguing dilemma presented by their new home, as the Duckworth’s had opted for the full cyber package when deciding on features. At home, Peter says, “I can communicate as effectively with our offices anywhere in the world as I do in my office in Waterloo.”

It was his career that gave Peter his first introduction to this area in the 70’s—he was involved in preliminary studies concerning the viability of the Mannheim water recharge system. But it was Lynda’s affection for small-town life that inspired them to look outside the GTA. She grew up in a small town north of Barrie; Peter, who was born in England, moved to Toronto

in the 1950s and has been thoroughly urban ever since. Lynda laughs that even as they lived on the edges of Toronto, “I could never cross the Humber.” and when it came time to make a move, “retiring in Toronto was really not an option for me.”

When they discovered Stonecroft, they knew it was to be their home. But Lynda admits that they knew little about their adopted neighbourhood. “New Hamburg was a place between Waterloo and Stratford.” Embracing their new community whole-heartedly, the Duckworths are now very acclimatized.

They describe being “amazingly comfortable.” Peter laughs that his Erb Street commute to Waterloo has nothing in common with his GTA daily drive; the distance is roughly the same, but the tension is definitely not. Lynda praises New Hamburg for being “amazingly self-sufficient... there is nothing you can’t get here.” At Christmas, they made a point of doing their Christmas shopping in town

Despite his long history as an urbanite, Peter has always had one foot in the countryside. He loves outdoor activities, and the Duckworths often spend their leisure time exploring the surrounding area—Peter from the point of view of a geologist, Lynda through her love for local history and new-found communities.

The couple brings a wide range of interests to their community. From the late 1970s to the early 1990s, Peter was a volunteer team manager for the Canadian team at the Commonwealth Games. That took him all over the world, including Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. Lynda is a dedicated genealogical researcher and an avid reader.

They spend time each year in Barbados and Arizona. Lynda serves her community whole-heartedly; both as a Director on the Condo Board, and as

the Chair of the Stonecroft Recreation Centre Working Group. The Duckworths approach life with vigour and curiosity, and they are delighted to be doing so from their new home base—Stonecroft, New Hamburg.

~By Paul Knowles



Peter & Lynda Duckworth enjoying the spaciousness of their home.

When it came time to make a move, “retiring in Toronto was really not an option...”

Residents Take Ownership of Community

One does not have to look very hard at Stonecroft to see that the residents here are very proud of their community, as the list of social groups and gatherings keeps growing.

Common interests bring neighbours together for casual conversation, as well as more organized social activities. The *Stonecroft Cares Group* has emerged, to provide support to community members through welcoming, helping, and expressions of care. A *Green Thumb Society* for the avid gardeners is also offered. Residents have put together a directory to keep in touch, as well as a bi-monthly newsletter—the ‘*Croft Chronicles*’ - highlighting these groups, as well as a full calendar of events organized by the newly formed *Stonecroft Social Activities Committee*.



Groundbreaking ceremony, with Mike Schout & residents with an active part in the project

Social Committee Chair Jan Latimer talks cheerfully of the many upcoming events that are being organized. In addition to bi-weekly coffee hours and various luncheons,

“we have two barbecues planned for this summer, to be hosted in people’s backyards. We are looking forward to using the Rec Centre in the future.” Looking forward, the Social Committee has started planning for a Christmas Wine & Cheese as a kick-off event for the new facility.

There are many details to hash out as to how this facility will function to best meet the needs of its active users, from how the library will be set up, to what exercise equipment would be most utilized. Lynda Duckworth, Chair of the Stonecroft Recreation Centre Working Group

speaks about the presence of the new facility with so much excitement, in anticipation of it being an added draw to this wonderful community. In its planning stages, the committee has a shared view of what they want the Complex to represent. “We want people to think of the Rec Centre as an extension of their own home,” states Duckworth. And she couldn’t be more pleased with all the work that was put forth by developer Mike Schout, as surveys had been put out to the residents to find out what *they* wanted to see in *their* Recreation Centre. The results have been used extensively to hone in on the specifics of what this Leisure Facility will offer.



Rick & Jan Latimer host coffee hour in a temporary community room



Chatting with friends and neighbours over a cup of coffee

New Standard Finishings

We have revised our standard finishes to include a builder’s grade hardwood in the great room and dining areas, as well as ceramics in the foyer, kitchen, baths and laundry. Snowbirds in particular will appreciate the security package provided. An appli-

ance package is also available. Exterior features include pressure-treated decks, pavestone driveways and the classic look of Charington windows. We have many lots still available in Phase 3, as well as select lots in Phase 2. Prices starting at \$275,000.