

The carriage home redefined

Grand opening gives new meaning to a classic design



It's hard to ignore the charm of a carriage home. Designed with the sensibility of early coach houses, today's versions offer homebuyers an alternative to traditional townhome and single-family homes that creates a level of design efficiency that is adaptable to many lifestyles.

A perfect example of this attribute can be found in the new carriage home designs at Ponds of Odessa, near Middletown, Delaware. The fact that there's a model with a first-floor owner's bedroom suite makes it attractive to those who want single-level living. For families that need three bedrooms upstairs, the mission has been accomplished. And for homebuyers who want two large bedrooms, there's a floor plan that answers that desire as well.

This weekend the unveiling of new floor plans and the Grand Opening of the furnished Blair model home will give prospective home buyers a full understanding

of the many ways these plans may be combined to suit their needs. Clearly women were involved with the interior design of these homes as anyone touring the new model will appreciate when they see the spacious open-concept floor plan. Starting with a well-thought-out kitchen with plenty of storage space behind gorgeous 42" hardwood cabinetry, and continuing with the way the kitchen opens up to the breakfast and great rooms to form a large bright and airy living area, the female perspective is in full bloom. A woman's touch continues with such details as a laundry room located where it is needed most – on the second floor near the bedrooms. No one will have to carry baskets piled too high up and down stairs on washday.

There are two basic models, the Blair and Walden, each offering a wide range of floor plans. Look towards the Blair if you value the elegance of a formal dining room away from the hustle and bustle of the kitchen/breakfast/great room area. Two- or three-bedroom designs define the second floor. Regardless of number of bedrooms preferred, count on an impressive homeowner's suite, with two spacious walk-in closets and a beautifully designed private bath.

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With the availability of an owner's suite on the first floor, the Walden model will please anyone who values single-level living. Other variations of the Walden locate the owner's suite on the second floor along with one or two additional bedrooms.

Both models share a wealth of features. The family chef will appreciate the GE appliance package. Select the option of a prep island and you'll be ready to host your own cooking show! Impressive energy efficiency, attractive low-maintenance exteriors, 2-car garages and a professionally designed landscape package are some of the many upscale amenities.

The area is home to many recreational, entertainment, shopping and cultural opportunities, and with Routes 1 and 13 a few short miles away, there's easy access to Middletown, Newark and Wilmington. Even the Delaware beaches are within

easy reach. Those with school age children will value the fact that Ponds of Odessa is in the top-rated Appoquinimink School District.

"With its mix of single-family homes, carriage homes and townhomes, Ponds of Odessa is designed to appeal to many types

of homebuyers," says community sales manager, Theresa Gallagher. "It's perfect for anyone looking for an affordable home with lots of possibilities and Benchmark Builders' solid reputation for quality."

Homes start at \$222,400 with carriage homes beginning at \$269,900. A visit this weekend during the Grand Opening of the new carriage model home is the perfect time to see exactly how it all comes together – especially if one is interested in taking advantage of a wide range of special incentives, including a free third bedroom, \$2500 in settlement assistance, free hardwood entrance foyer and a free partially finished basement. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Theresa Gallagher at 302-378-1955, or go to www.BenchmarkBuilders.com.



Directions: From I-95 in Delaware, take Rt.1 South and exit at #142 (Townsend). Turn right onto Pole Bridge Rd. then left onto Rt. 13 South. Follow to Bayview Rd. and turn left. Make the next right onto Vance Neck Rd. and follow for 2 miles.

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