

Ginsburg Development Companies

News

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GDC HOMES IDEAL FOR ‘STAY-CATION’

Harbors, Fairways, Ridgewood offer resort-style living for stay-at-home vacations

VALHALLA, N.Y. (July 29) – Steve and Lynn Bernstein usually travel to the Jersey Shore for their summer vacation, but this year they decided to spend their getaway time in the comforts of their home at The Harbors at Haverstraw, an award-winning master-planned community on the Hudson River waterfront.

“We do love the shore, but now there’s no need to go down there, not with everything we have here,” said Steve Bernstein. “When I drive down the driveway with the river behind me, my whole mindset changes. Just seeing the water puts you in a relaxing frame of mind. I feel like I’m on vacation already.”

As travel costs soar, more people are planning “stay-cations” this year. According to Rand McNally’s recently released annual Great American Road Trip survey, two-thirds of U.S. adults who plan to take a road trip this summer say rising gas prices have changed their travel plans.

Staying at home doesn’t mean having to forsake all the activities you enjoy while on vacation. Residents of Ginsburg Development Companies (GDC) communities such as The Harbors at Haverstraw (N.Y.), The Fairways at Wallkill (N.Y.) and Ridgewood at Middlebury (Conn.) experience that vacation-like feeling every day.

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“Homeowners at The Harbors, The Fairways and Ridgewood don’t have to worry about giving up anything if they choose to stay at home for their vacation,” said Martin Ginsburg, founder and CEO of Valhalla, N.Y.-based GDC, which is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year. “They can luxuriate in resort-style comfort right in their homes with unparalleled lifestyle amenities that cater to their every need. Living in these neighborhoods is like being on vacation every day of the year without ever having to leave home.”

The Harbors offers a choice of contemporary condominium flats and lofts or townhomes both inland and on the water. The community maximizes its location along the waterfront with a shoreline promenade providing spectacular river views, as well as a sculpture trail, marina, fishing pier, docks for visiting boaters and a kayak launch. The Bernsteins take full advantage of the promenade, enjoying a leisurely stroll on its walkway almost every evening.

“When we walk along the promenade, everyone is out there, walking, bicycling, roller-blading,” said Steve Bernstein, who was one of the buyers at The Harbors. “We enjoy the sculptures, the flowers, the beautiful landscaping, everything. It’s a great mix of people. I met people here who I feel like I’ve known for years.”

Residents of The Harbors would swear they’re on vacation when they are lounging or taking a refreshing swim at the outdoor pool pavilion, or when they take in a Friday night movie in the lifestyle center’s intimate 28-seat theater. Steve Bernstein makes frequent use of the state-of-the-art treadmills in the fitness center, which features such amenities as a half-court gymnasium, an exercise room with advanced cardio weight equipment, spa services and saunas. He also enjoys the homemade food at The Harbors Café – “The restaurant chef will cook whatever you’re in the mood for,” he said.

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The Harbors also has a full-time concierge and activities staff that organizes events such as barbecues, yoga classes and presentations by local artists and historians. “The staff people are great,” Bernstein said. “There’s nothing they wouldn’t do for you.”

The Harbors has won numerous national and regional awards, including the 2007 Best in American Living award as the No. 1 community of its size. The award is sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders and Professional Builder magazine.

Stay-cationing is also an enticing pleasure at The Fairways at Wallkill, which offers easy access to a beautiful golf course and scenic vistas. Like The Harbors, The Fairways is an award-winning master-planned community.

Overlooking the historic Orange County Golf Club, The Fairways offers a mix of townhouses, single-family homes and duplexes set amid the bucolic countryside in Orange County N.Y. Stay-cationers don’t have to leave home to enjoy a host of amenities. The grand clubhouse features an elegant social room with an outdoor terrace, meeting room, cyber café, game room and catering kitchen. Outside the clubhouse, home vacationers can make use of a heated pool, a kiddie pool, a tot lot and a furnished sundeck. The Fairways also boasts a fitness center with state-of-the-art weight and cardio equipment.

Rocco Calabretta usually goes to Florida for his summer vacation, but this year he’ll kick back and spend lots of time at the pool and clubhouse at The Fairways. The 46-year-old former fish market and deli owner finds the pool therapeutic for his multiple sclerosis, which limits his mobility.

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“Right in the back yard I have a pool, and I have all the amenities in the clubhouse. It’s like being in a resort,” said Calabretta, who was one of the first buyers at The Fairways when he purchased his townhouse three years ago with his wife and three children. “I can sit outside and cool off in the pool if it gets too warm. We also have a beautiful clubhouse with a weight room, pool table and cyber café. I get to use all of that. It’s a wonderful thing.”

Although he doesn’t golf, Calabretta is a social member of the club and uses the miniature golf course and on-site putting green. He also enjoys the regular pool parties, monthly continental breakfasts and his home’s picturesque backdrop of wooded hills.

The Fairways also has been honored for its sensitive site planning, dramatic home designs and outstanding amenities. It was named 2006’s Best Townhouse Community in the “Pinnacles” award program sponsored by the Builders Association of the Hudson Valley.

Like The Harbors and The Fairways, Ridgewood at Middlebury provides resort-style living that mirrors a getaway vacation. Ridgewood, a neighborhood of townhouses in a countryside setting outside Middlebury, Conn., is situated on ridges with dramatic views of pristine woods and soon, a 9-hole golf course.

Ridgewood’s award-winning, 8,300-square-foot lifestyle center features an elegant, comfortably furnished great room with a cathedral ceiling; a game room with card tables, a pool table and board games; a theater room; a half-court gymnasium and an advanced fitness center with cardio and weight-training equipment. Just outside the lifestyle center are a tennis court, a heated pool, a tot lot and a sun deck.

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Ridgewood also has received a host of regional and national honors, including a citation as Connecticut’s Best Cluster Community for 2007 from the Home Building Industry (HOBI) Awards sponsored by the Connecticut Home Builders Association.

Ridgewood’s sales office is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and can be reached at (203) 758-2260. The Fairways sales office is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be reached at (845) 374-0063. The Harbors’ sales center is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be reached at (845) 786-5600.

Current GDC communities include AVANT Chelsea (New York City); Riverwatch at Greystone (Yonkers, N.Y.); Harbors at Haverstraw (N.Y.); The Fairways at Walkill (N.Y.); Christie Place (Scarsdale, N.Y.); Ridgewood at Middlebury (Conn.); The Greens at Gillette Ridge (Bloomfield, Conn.) and Quaker Green (West Hartford, Conn.).

To place your name on GDC’s priority list for future communities, log on to www.gdc-homes.com, click on to “future communities” and then “name of development” or call 1-866-GDC-4466.

Ginsburg Development Companies (GDC), established in 1963 and based in Valhalla, N.Y., is one of the nation’s premier full-service real estate design, development and management companies. Martin Ginsburg is the president and chief executive officer. GDC has developed more than 10,000 residential units during its 45- year corporate history. GDC’s residential sales Web sites are www.gdc-homes.com and www.gdcmetro.com. Information about GDC’s commercial ventures, corporate activities and charitable foundation is available at www.gdcllc.com.