

Complex seeks to serve homeowners in different life stages

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For The Herald-Dispatch

TEAYS VALLEY, W.Va. -- The developers of a large housing complex are reconsidering original plans in an effort to meet a unique demand in Putnam County.

Devonshire at Teays Valley, which is currently the home to both apartment units and townhouses, could soon incorporate an assisted living facility within its 110 acres.

"We are finding with the changes in the economy, people are getting back to being closer to family, and we are trying to meet that need," said Todd Dofflemyer, the chief executive for Cathcart Properties Inc., the developers of the housing complex.

In addition to a market study, he said a plethora of people who have stopped in have requested a one-floor plan unit, and have also complained about the lack of available assisted living facilities in the immediate area.

Currently, the only available units at Devonshire are townhouses for purchase and apartments for rent. But, Dofflemyer says that living in the complex isn't limited to that.

Tucked in between Charleston and Huntington, people who live here can live like millionaires, he said.

It has already occupied 73 percent of the 168 luxury apartments that are complete and open, and they are hoping to reach a 95 percent occupancy rate by late spring, said Dofflemyer.

"In terms of our apartments, we have really created luxury apartments for an affordable rate. We call our renters, 'renters by choice,' " Dofflemyer said. "We have tried to create an atmosphere of an upper-end lifestyle."

In addition to the apartments are the newly opened townhouses; four of the 13 units have sold, and an additional unit is under contract.

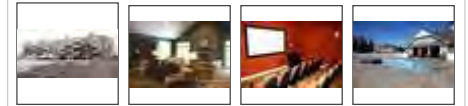
Every resident of Devonshire has an exclusive membership to the 6,700-square-foot community clubhouse that features a fitness center, sport courts, a movie theater, a pool and hot tub, a billiards area and a relaxation area that includes massage and tanning.

Teays Valley was the perfect place for a development like this, said Dofflemyer.



Billy Summers/For The Herald-Dispatch
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"The former president of our management company was from Huntington, and she always said we should look at this unique area," he said. "There's an amazing amount of high-end single family homes in this area, and typically when you have that amount of single family homes, there is a market for luxury apartments. But before us, there weren't any available."

Cathcart Properties, which is headquartered in Charlottesville, Va., broke ground in 2008, but the project does not have a date set for its completion.

"That would be like throwing a dart on the wall," Dofflemyer said. "We feel this project would probably take 10 to 12 years to complete, but it depends on the economy, job creation, things of that nature."

The Townes at Devonshire features the town homes, which begin in price at \$157,490 and can cost up to \$219,900.

The units have between two and four bedrooms; the largest unit available is 1,960 square feet.

Wexford Village at Devonshire features the apartment buildings where units range in price from \$750 to \$1,295 per month.

"For all that you get, we feel this is a phenomenal deal," Dofflemyer said.

For more information about the townhomes, contact realtor Dallas Sheldon from Family First Realty at 304-757-1010.

For information on rental units, contact property manager Sarah Smith at 304-757-1270.

More information is also available on the Web site at www.liveatdevonshire.com.