

NEWBERRY ESTATE

Life in these parts is easy, beautiful, entertaining

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Dallas Post Correspondent

"Living here is so very scenic and beautiful. There is a feeling of tranquility and beauty here."

Iris Levy
Newberry Estate resident

The living is easy, beautiful and entertaining at Newberry Estate, an owner-managed condominium complex in Dallas, originally called Hillcrest Orchard Farm and later renamed Stone Acres by the Newberry family.

Cathy Anselmi moved there in 1989. A single mother with two young daughters, she found it a safe community with turn-key 24-hour security, where "neighbors watch out for one another," she says. "My front steps were swept and the school bus picked up the girls."

Anselmi lives in the Hillside section in a condominium-like building, one of five cluster groups on the 87-acre property. She calls it the "So-Ho section of Newberry" as the units in Hillside are more casual than some in the other clusters.

Today, Molly Noone, a single mother of four, picks up her 9-year-old son, Joshua at the bus stop and enjoys the community for its convenience. Joshua doesn't have to shovel the snow and gets more time to play with friends in the heated-community pool or with tennis balls.

The complex has tennis courts, a par-3 golf course and three pools. Noone likes that the site is "nestled in the woods and not plopped out in the middle of a field somewhere."

Fred Halsey, current president of the homeowners association, especially enjoys watching the youngest children learn to play golf. "I watched a small boy place the ball in a row on a green. He came back to his golf bag, which was the same size as he was, and he fell over trying to pick up the bag."

Originally, there were few buildings and no sports activities at Newberry Estate and the amenities were reserved for only one family.

The property belonged to William Frederick Newberry, who in 1911, built the large stone estate house at the entrance called the Highlands, now used for catering. Then, it was Newberry's summer home and a working farm with apple orchards, blueberries and chickens, all of which were sold weekly from a farm truck in Wilkes-Barre.

There were Macs and an apple called Delight, recalls Nelson Ashburner, of Kunkle, whose father Ralph was the farm manager at Newberry his entire life. In the 1950s, the younger Ashburner helped his father pick apples, spray and store them in the apple cold cellar which is still on the property.

His father cared for the grounds and all the farm animals, including parrots and exotic fish the Newberry family had, taking the fish out of the summer pools and putting them in the greenhouse pool for the winter.

The Ashburners worked for W.F. Newberry, an executive with Woolworth's, a chain of over 500

department stores nationally founded by Newberry's brother, John Joshua Newberry.

In 1972, the farm was developed into a five-cluster gated community by the Troup family, working with architect Peter Bohlin, who designed the grounds. At first the project "was a bust," according to George Spohrer, who moved there in 1973.

The Troup family used the money it earned selling the Atlas Chain Co. in West Pittston (around \$3 or \$4 million) to buy the estate. First Eastern Bank, a mortgage holder, foreclosed on the property and it changed hands two more times until a group of homeowners put together a "kitty," according to Spohrer. The community became a big success after the Agnes Flood when people like Spohrer wanted to leave the Wyoming Valley. Spohrer calls Bohlin, who later designed a home for Microsoft founder Bill Gates in Oregon, "a visionary."

Bohlin's design for Newberry has preserved the natural landscape, the formal lawns and apple orchards on the farm. A stream winds its way through the estate and forms a chain of three ponds over which the golf course is laid. The stream attracts wild life, ducks, game and a resident herd of deer.

Iris Levy and her husband, Dick, came to live in Orchard West 10 years ago. "Living here is so very scenic and beautiful. There is a feeling of tranquility and beauty here," she says.

This most agreeable atmosphere prompted Levy to help her friend, Marilyn Gregorski, make Newberry her home as well.

Selling her home was the last thing on Gregorski's mind until a young couple made an offer on it and Levy helped her move to Newberry. "She said, 'I'm going to arrange this for you and you will like it.' I've been very happy since. It's expansive and beautiful and we all watch out for one another," says Gregorski.

Pat Rosenthal says the same thing about the community. "People here are very friendly and you can count on them to help."

There are pool parties in the summer and the residents can participate in all the activities as part of their ownership. The public can join and enjoy the pool, tennis and golf facilities through the Newberry Estate Country Club which offers supervised summer programs for children, social events for parents and families, and golf and tennis lessons.



Nine-year-old Joshua Noone is picked up at the gate by his mother, Molly Noone, at Newberry Estate. Young families find the social amenities and residential services convenient for their busy lifestyles.

There are pool parties in the summer and the residents can participate in all the activities as part of their ownership. The public can join and enjoy the pool, tennis and golf facilities through the Newberry Estate Country Club which offers supervised summer programs for children, social events for parents and families, and golf and tennis lessons.



Newberry Estate, a resident-owned gated community in the Back Mountain, offers a woodland setting and amenities like golf, tennis and swimming.



Jim Rhoden prepares to tee off on the first par 3 hole at Newberry Estate. Resident owners and the Back Mountain community can enjoy golf tennis and swimming at the Newberry Country Club.



Resident/owners at Newberry Estate can enjoy golf, tennis and swimming and have the luxury of perfectly-maintained grounds and security in clustered condominium sites.

Their experiences lead to first-ever stutter group

By MEGAN SCHNEIDER
For The Dallas Post

Misericordia University student Terrance Murgallis is helping to make a difference for a group that can often be overlooked. Murgallis, along with fellow student Marybeth Rissingner, have founded the first stuttering support group in Northeast Pennsylvania.

All three students are sophomores in Speech and Language Pathology at Misericordia. And all three stutter.

The support group will be the first of its kind in the area and is unique compared to traditional stuttering support groups because Murgallis's group will not be run by doctors or professionals attempting to teach techniques. This group will be

open forum, public and will offer a chance for participants to help one another.

Murgallis, 19, has stuttered his entire life. He attended speech therapy in preschool, but never realized anything was wrong until he started elementary school. He remembers being mocked for his stutter while in first and second grades. He recalls children imitating him when they would say his name. As he got older, though, the bullying eased up.

"Every once in a while in high school, a kid would be a jerk," said Murgallis. "But it didn't bother me by then."

In March 2010, Murgallis visited the speech therapy program at Misericordia. There, he met with instructor Dr. Glen Tellis, a specialist in stuttering. It was after that meeting Murgallis knew what he would do after graduation.

MORE INFO ...

Support group meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. every other Monday in the lobby of Passan Hall on the campus of Misericordia University. The open floor style meeting is meant for stutterers to help each other undo emotional damage and provide a comfortable place where they will know they are not alone.

uation.

But first, he had a personal challenge to face. He was chosen as one of nine valedictorians for the Meyers High School Class of 2011. This meant a public speech. He admitted being scared, but added, "I owed it to myself."

After learning specialized techniques from Dr. Tellis, Murgallis decided to take the speech a step further by volunteering to deliver the opening speech and led the class of 2011 in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Murgallis practiced techniques to stop himself from

blocking, the long pause that stutterers develop as a defense to keep themselves from repeating syllables or sounds. Instead of repeating, which in Murgallis's case was mocked by his peers, stutterers teach themselves to block the sound.

After jumping that hurdle, he learned breathing techniques that help to open the vocal folds, making it easier to produce the desired sound. Murgallis admitted that the air flow techniques are difficult because a stutterer really needs to think about their breathing, but they did help him.

"I've been fortunate to make a lot of progress," he said.

Murgallis wrote his valedictorian speech about his struggles with stuttering. His favorite phrase from his speech was, "Anyone can do anything if they persevere." He remembers the crowd applauding.

"It gave me a lot of confidence and a lot of vindication," he admitted.

After graduation, Murgallis had faith in himself and in his ability. But it wasn't until starting college that he met another person with a stutter. That is why the students formed the stuttering support group. Initially, it was just for students, but the founders decided to open the meetings to anyone who stutters.

"It's important for you to know you're not alone," Mur-



Terrance Murgallis is one of the founding students of the first Stuttering Support Group in the area.

gallis said. "That's how I felt before coming here."

"I feel for them because most people take being able to speak coherently for granted," he added.

Murgallis is now a sophomore at Misericordia and knows he is on the right path. "I've always wanted to help," he said. "It would be rewarding to help people talk."