

Tuscarora Village ready to welcome new residents

BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO

Interim Tribune Editor

Tuscarora Village is looking to welcome new residents to its idyllic neighborhood setting. The manufactured home community, located at 4012 Seneca Parkway, Niagara Falls, is ramping up its phase two construction plans, giving prospective homeowners the opportunity to create their perfect home from the ground up.

The company currently has 29 homes already installed in its phase two, 78-lot construction area, with four more currently on order. The company's first phase completed in 2013 with 71 homes.

Located in the heart of Niagara County, the quiet community manages to offer the feel of a rural environment while keeping important amenities within arm's reach. Situated just minutes away from local churches, restaurants, schools, hospitals and shopping centers (not to mention Niagara Falls), Tuscarora Village offers the conveniences of city-living, without all the hustle and bustle that comes with it.

"It's very peaceful here, everyone is nice, and we're always welcoming new people," Property Manager Linda Lehr said.

That's not just part of the sales pitch – as a resident, Lehr speaks from experience. "I've met so many wonderful people; made some very good friends. But what's really nice about it, if you want to walk around and talk to people, you can. If you don't want to, nobody will resent you for it; there's no hurt feelings. Everyone is just accepted as they are. It's just a very nice community."

Unlike similar communities, Tuscarora Village has no age restrictions. The neighborhood features a healthy mix of single folks, families, working professionals and retirees alike.

But beyond the friendly neighbors and exemplary location, Tuscarora Village is also reshaping the way people construct their future homes.

Homebuyers can sit down with sales staff and choose a floor plan tailored to their own needs and preferences. From there, the



company offers a variety of carpeting options, interior and exterior color schemes and numerous choices for kitchen and bathroom amenities.

Particular about cabinetry? Need a walk-in shower? Hoping for central air? All one has to do is ask. There are even options for garages. As an added plus, all new built-to-order homes come with top-of-the-line appliances including refrigerator, stove, dishwasher and microwave.

Once the desired home is de-

signed, manufacturing is handled by Commodore Homes of Pennsylvania. From there, the home is shipped, and installed on the lot of the customer's choosing.

Lehr said it takes around five months for the home to be built and installed.

For those in a hurry, Tuscarora Village also has plenty of new, move-in-ready homes for sale. For a current selection of available homes, visit www.tuscaroravillage.com/for-sales/.

Pets are allowed with some re-

strictions. There also is an on-site clubhouse available to rent for gatherings.

"Our community is always open to new people," Lehr said. "If somebody is changing their lifestyle – maybe downsizing and getting rid of their big homes – this is the perfect, perfect place for them. Starter homes, for people just starting out – these homes have good resale value."

But perhaps the defining feature of the community is really the community itself. Quiet, freshly paved streets, lined with cozy well-kept homes; smiling neighbors waving from their porches.

Lehr pointed to the mailroom, all done up in a fun, summer beach theme.

"One of our neighbors, a gentleman, he always keeps our mailroom decorated, especially for Halloween and Christmas. No one asked him to, he just enjoys doing it," Lehr said, smiling. "It's just really a great place to live."

For more information on Tuscarora Village, call 297-6980, or visit www.tuscaroravillage.com.

NT: WWII vet William Gosch sworn-in as interim 2nd Ward Alderman

ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO

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Officials from North Tonawanda and Niagara County gathered on the steps of City Hall last Wednesday for a swearing-in ceremony for 97-year-old William Gosch, who will serve as a temporary replacement for 2nd Ward Alderwoman Donna Braun. Braun was selected by the City Council Tuesday evening to serve as the city's clerk/treasurer. Gosch will serve as a temporary replacement while the board conducts a search for its next 2nd Ward alderman.

Gosch, a lifelong NT resident, graduated from North Tonawanda High School in the Class of 1942, and Niagara University, Class of 1950. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II where he fought in four combat missions in the Pacific Theater. Following the war, Gosch served as general manager for the Richardson Boat Co. and, later, the North Tonawanda Housing Authority. Gosch said he also spent some time after the war working in the costume jewelry business in Honolulu, which he said was "the best job ever because you got to look at all the pretty girls."

Conditions were idyllic for the ceremony; lots of sun, but none too warm. Gosch was surrounded by the smiling faces of friends and neighbors, many of whom were local officials.

"It's a great day when we can honor one of our fine World War II vets, a lifelong resident, and a friend to me and a lot of people up here," Legislator Richard Andres said.

Prior to the swearing-in, local officials took turns sharing their respect and admiration for Gosch, beginning with Assemblyman Angelo Morinello.

"I'm a combat Vietnam veteran, and to be able to honor a World War II combat veteran is really, and truly, a credit to what those veterans are made of," Morinello said. "Bill here is asked that he fill the void with Donna Braun being elevated. It just shows that age is no barrier. The wisdom, experience and ability to serve – Bill has served all his

life and he will continue.

I want people to remember, on Aug. 23, 2018, he was honored as a hometown hero. He has been serving his community since the day he was born and he is continuing to serve his community."

North Tonawanda Mayor Arthur Pappas said it was an honor to appoint Gosch and said that his past, present and future services are valuable to the city.

"This is an honor, not just maybe for Mr. Gosch, but for all of us that are involved in North Tonawanda and our community and the surrounding area," Pappas said. "To have someone like Bill Gosch still going strong in support of his community and of his country is an amazing feat. We have someone here who has not only been a lifelong resident, but has been a true citizen of this community and has helped in so many ways and promoted his community and has been a very, very loyal person to his country. ...

"People like this are few and far between; that devote such a lifetime to helping and promoting what this country and our communities stand for. I can only say thank you, Bill, for your service and your commitment through everything you



Officials were on hand for the swearing-in of William "Bill" Gosch.

do. He's always followed through and is still doing it.

"If you thought you were out of service, we want you back! We still need you. We're still going to use the services you have to offer, and we thank you for being a part of this and being able to take over for Donna Braun for period of time here.

The master of ceremonies, Judge Shawn Nickerson, said, "They call Mr. Gosch's generation 'The Greatest Generation' for a reason. They saved the world for democracy and Mr. Gosch is continuing to answer the bell and serve his community.

a P.S. that goes with that, because I'm a neighbor. And the P.S. goes this way, as he just swore on the Bible that he would do those things, the P.S. identifies that he will take care of my leaves and snow!"

Gosch himself said he was "absolutely overwhelmed" by the whole affair.

"I want to thank everyone here that's given me the opportunity to be a bigger part of our community. I've lived here all my life and I don't think there's a better place in this world that a person would want to live – except maybe Hawaii," Gosch said.

Elsewhere he added, "This is the greatest city in the world. Our crime rate is low, the public works are very good, and we have reasonable yearly temperatures. I mean the winter is no fun, but not as bad as Alaska."

When asked by a reporter if the alderman position was something he'd like to keep, Gosch paused and, with a smile, said, "No."

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