



BY PAUL HILLSTROM FOR THE OKLAHOMAN

The community center at Stoneridge Farms, developed by Jaret Alexander in northwest Oklahoma City, includes rooms for parties, meetings and events such as weddings as well as a junior Olympic swimming pool and a wading pool.

'Mayberry' near Piedmont at Stoneridge Farms

By Beverly Bryant
Special Correspondent

If Andy Taylor wanted to build a house in Oklahoma for himself, Opie and Aunt Bee, he might consider Stoneridge Farms, a quarter-mile west of Morgan Road on Memorial Road.

"We've built Mayberry near Piedmont," said builder Randy Aldridge, who with his brother Bobby owns RLA Custom Homes.

They, along with Taber LeBlanc of Homes by Taber, are the exclusive builders in Stoneridge Farms, a development by John Alexander in north-west Oklahoma City, in the Piedmont School District.

Homes are being built in the second phase of the development, which the builders say is definitely a family neighborhood.

Stoneridge Farms is north of the intersection of Northwest Expressway and the Kibbickick Turnpike. Memorial Road dead-ends just past the west entrance to Stoneridge Farms.

Across the street from the neighborhood is Piedmont's first off-site school, Stone Ridge Elementary.

See STONERIDGE, Page 32F



BY PAUL HILLSTROM FOR THE OKLAHOMAN

Home builders Taber LeBlanc of Homes by Taber and Bobby Aldridge and Randy Aldridge of RLA Custom Homes show the kitchen of a home built by the Aldridge brothers at 13800 Tragan Way in the Stoneridge Farms addition.

Stoneridge Stoneridge

Continued from Page 31F

which opened this fall.

The school is about five miles from the district's other schools, which are clustered inside the Piedmont city limits near Edmond Road and Piedmont Road.

"This is taking us back to when kids could walk to school," LeBlanc said.

The school district has an option on 10 acres west of Stone Ridge Elementary School, said the district's facilities planner, Jerry Dickerson.

"We don't have anything definite planned for that property," he said.

Dickerson said the district has been careful not to commit to any plans until it has considered all its options.

"We are looking for some land for another elementary school," Dickerson said. "We will want at least another 10-acre tract in that southeastern quartile of the district, probably near Piedmont Road and NW 164.

"We've got 93-plus square miles in the district and a new school would be near the populated area."

He said the middle school could be expanded at its current location in Piedmont.

Dickerson said the Piedmont school district bought 40 acres for the high school.

"We are on our fifth phase of expanding the high school, which is on Edmond Road," Dickerson said.

There are 2,172 students in the Piedmont school system, Dickerson said.

Small-town feel

Continuing the small-town feeling, the Stoneridge Farms neighborhood includes a community center that was completed in August, Randy Aldridge said.

The community center includes rooms for parties, meetings and events such as weddings, as well as a junior Olympic swimming pool and a wading pool.

"This is the biggest community pool in Oklahoma City," Randy Aldridge said. "It's one of the nicest clubhouses and pools I've seen, with the baby pool," LeBlanc said.

The builders said Stone Ridge Elementary was a key factor in their decision to build at this location.

"We agreed the builders would donate \$200 per lot, which would

See STONERIDGE, Page 33F

Continued from Page 32F

be matched by the developer, to help furnish the school, Randy Aldridge said.

"We presented the first \$20,000 check in August."

Even in the rural setting, the school offers top-notch features including fiber-optic connections for Internet service, LeBlanc said.

Ninety-eight homes have been built in the first section of Stoneridge Farms, Randy Aldridge said. About half of the 81 lots in section 2 have been sold.

Urban amenities

The builders said that although the neighborhood is definitely in the country, it is close to many of the amenities of north Oklahoma City and Edmond.

"At 7 p.m., you realize you're in the country but near the city," Randy Aldridge said.

There are another 100 acres left to develop at Stoneridge Farms and a playground is planned to open in section 2, Randy Aldridge said.

"We all know the world we live in today does not allow us not to know where our kids are," Randy Aldridge said. "These kids will have the community center and the playground and they can walk to and from their neighborhood school, even after last practice."

Not all of the residents of Stoneridge Farms have school-age children, though. "It was always surprising to us how many older couples without kids moved out here to be away from the city," Randy Aldridge said.

Lower land costs

Part of the attraction is lower land costs than in other parts of the Oklahoma City area.

"The same product in Edmond is considerably more expensive," said Bobby Aldridge. "This is a new neighborhood, so the owners are guaranteed equity."

Homes are a minimum of 1,800 square feet up to about 2,300 square feet, LeBlanc said. Prices range from \$175,000 to the low \$200,000s. Lot sizes average 65 feet by 120 feet, he said.

Most homes in the neighborhood have three bedrooms and a study, and two or 2½ bathrooms. Most have three-car garages.

LeBlanc said the amenities in the homes compare favorably with homes in other areas, with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, crown molding, built-in closets and ceramic tile.

Beverly Bryant: bebv@pittstar.com