

# 'Neighborhood' concept in Maples development

The Maples of Novi, a projected 600-unit residential community development, in its first week of sales drew 120 reservations from eager homebuyers and dozens of reservations from renters, representing approximately \$15 million in new home sales.

At 14 Mile and Decker roads on 220 acres of wooded and natural landscape, this planned development of Classic Construction will include neighborhoods for young families,

empty nesters, pre-retirees, singles and senior citizens.

Additionally, The Maples of Novi will offer religious, cultural and entertainment programs and activities to foster interaction and ensure a sense of community among residents of all ages.

"Classic Construction is excited to be developing these homes in this special setting," said Sam Blumenstein, president of Classic Construction.

"Homes of the Maples of Novi will offer quality workmanship and materials, at 15 to 20 percent below market prices. Of special importance is our effort to create a community in the traditional sense of 'neighborhood,' where residents can enjoy their privacy and build special relationships with the other residents."

IN ADDITION to the wooded and natural surroundings, The Maples of

Novi community will feature many amenities including a nine-hole golf course, clubhouse, swimming pools, nature and exercise trails and a commercial center.

Attached ranch-style rental units will start at \$495 per month for 750-1000 square feet, single-family detached units set around the nine-hole golf course will offer 1,400-2,000 square feet, starting at \$124,900; single-family detached starter units adjacent to woodlands will feature

1,100-1,750 square foot homes starting at under \$90,000.

The community will also feature adult independent living residential facilities for seniors, with rents starting at \$395 per month.

Harvey J. Altman, a consultant of Classic Construction, said that the developers are researching programs such as day care centers, sick care, fitness classes, and community social functions for The Maples of Novi to address the psychological well-being as well as the physical comforts of the residents.

Altman said lifestyle enhancement programs that could be offered to residents include weight management, stress management, cholesterol awareness, CPR training and childbirth education.

The owners of Classic Construction include Blumenstein, Morton Feldman and Monte Fricokin, who collectively have more than 75 years of experience in property development and the construction industry.

Classic has previously developed three residential communities. These include the Maples Place VII, The Maple Place Woods and Maple Place.

For more information about The Maples of Novi, call 609-1560 or 137-8800.

# Aging affects color perception

Q. My 85-year-old widowed father-in-law is moving in with us, and we are about to redecorate a room just for him. He's in generally good health, considering his age. With his glasses, his vision seems to be quite good, except that he describes the same colors I see in very different ways. Is it possible that there might be special requirements in selecting colors for the elderly that I should take into consideration?



**Helen Diane Vincent**  
all about color

harmony will also be affected. For this reason, I suggest you redecorate his room according to his color tastes, also keeping in mind that whatever colors are chosen, they should be separated by fairly strong tonal contrasts. The purpose is to help in his depth and distance perception.

For this reason, also avoid using matching patterns that might give the illusion of blending the wall with furniture, or with the floor covering. The lighting for his room should have as much consideration as color, sufficiently bright, yet avoid glaring.

Q. We have a brick Colonial home with white trim. Our front door, also in white, needs refinishing. My husband is leaning toward black as a more practical color. I'm afraid this might be too strong a color for our entrance, and besides, I don't like black. There is no screen or storm door, and the entrance is in full view of the street. It might seem like a small matter, but I don't want to make any mistake using color. Any suggestions?

A. You're right in carefully considering what impression the front door will make. When color becomes part of an architectural element, it seems to gather a force even greater than in the interior.

Your front door, which welcomes people to your home, not only makes an impression on them but says something about the people living inside.

Colors, other than black, that are practical and compatible with a Colonial style house are deep red,

green, a "slate" or grayed blue and a brown, in either a painted or wood finish.

Each color conveys a different message: The red is the most assertive and congenial. So would be the brown, except it suggests a more down-to-earth quality. Blue communicates calm and a touch of aloofness, while green strikes a balance between the extremes of calm and assertiveness.

Under no circumstances deviate into pastels or overly bright colors. You might consider painting the decorative molding in white, no matter what color you choose, but I think a touch of brass in the hardware would provide an even more elegant touch in keeping with the inherent dignity of the Colonial style. By the way, your apparent rejection of black suggests you refuse to be hindered by limitations of your life.

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