

Highlands homes are made to order

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Chris and Lori Kendra have been renting a home at The Highlands since May. Now they are watching their own home being built in the final phase of The Highlands development, called The Pines.

The couple, both raised in the Bronx, moved to the area from Yorktown, Westchester County. They were looking for a safe place to raise their boys, Christopher and Ryan, and a quiet place to come home to at the end of the day.

"Everywhere you look, you see trees and bushes," Chris said. Both the Kendras work in New York City. "You see hawks flying all over the place. The pond is beautiful and the pool is unbelievably well kept."

Builder Pete Nurzia, of Nurzia Construction Corp., is in the process of finishing the remaining 27 homes in the 94-home subdivision in the Town of Pawling. The lot sizes range from 0.75 acres to an acre and a half.

There is only one entrance into the community, and several cul-de-sacs off the main road, Harmony Farms Drive, which is a large loop.

Small groupings

The homes in The Highlands are in small clusters, nine to 12 houses, separated from other small groups of homes by woods, fields and a 40-acre natural preserve. Twenty acres are devoted to recreational amenities including a 15-acre spring-fed pond, two tennis courts, walking paths, a swimming pool and clubhouse, and a picnic area.

"It's definitely more of a neighborhood community concept versus your typical country estate lots," said Nurzia, who works with his father, Mike. "It's much closer knit."

There are all types of home styles in The Highlands including traditional, contemporary and Victorian. Nurzia offers four home plans that can be modified. He said buyers are given allowances in order to customize their home. Custom homes can also be built.

The Highlands is also part of the larger Pawling community which has many businesses that make day-to-day living easier.

There are some lots still available in The Pines. Prices for homes in this phase start in the low \$500,000's. There is also a 3,500-square-foot model home available for \$615,000.

For information, call Rhonda Rist, senior customer service representative for The Highlands, at 845-855-8142.

NEIGHBORHOODS

THE HIGHLANDS

Address: Lot # 46, Hunter Lane, Pawling.

Features: This 3,554-square-foot spec home's first floor has a family room with cathedral ceilings and a fireplace, a breakfast area and kitchen. Upstairs, there are three bedrooms, including the master bedroom and bathroom and two additional bathrooms. The home is on .71 acres.

Commuting/shopping: The Highlands is less than five minutes from the Metro-North train station in the Village of Pawling. It is approximately 13 miles from Route 684 and Interstate 84. The Taconic State Parkway is about a 15-minute drive. Shopping is available in Pawling or seven miles away in the Town of Beekman. Malls in Danbury, Conn. are about a half-hour drive and shopping in Poughkeepsie is about a 40-minute drive.

School district: Pawling.

Taxes: Approximately \$12,600.

Attributes: This community offers on-site recreational facilities. Homes can be easily customized and are surrounded by trees and open spaces. The Highlands has its own water and sewer facilities. For information, visit the Web site at www.pawling.org

THE HIGHLANDS

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Abstract (Document Summary)

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