

They were 'suburbs people,' until they discovered Stapleton's neighborhoods. Now they're building a new, larger home there



MARK SAMUELSON

Naul and Tanna Rae Manthe were both raised in Arvada and when they married and started looking to replace their northwest townhome with something sized for kids, the last place they were likely to look was Denver's Stapleton. "We were suburbs people," says Tanna Rae Manthe. "We looked everywhere." One night they veered over from searching Arapahoe and Douglas County projects to see what Stapleton really looked like. "Oh, yes!" Manthe remembers saying, as they toured models by a pocket park with a pool. "That is where I want to live."

Now the Manthes are surrounded by neighbors who include some of their best friends

(three neighbors joined them for a trip down to Puerto Vallarta) and have a family that's growing like radishes – kids 4, 5 and 7, plus their black lab Maverick. So now they're building their second Stapleton home – a personalized version of Infinity Home Collection's triple-award-winning PURE collection in Central Park West, on a site with some extra elbow room that they picked facing Westerly Creek trail corridor.

Builder Dave Steinke notes that typical Stapleton buyers are from the city of Denver or out of state not as often from suburbs west of the Platte. "It's a big obstacle to overcome, but this is a very cool place to raise a family," he said. Tanna Rae agrees: "It's the people, the neighborhoods, the schools," she says; adding that she and her friends are so involved in Stapleton's social and recreational life – including the kids' favorite restaurants, and summer movie



In front of Infinity Home Collection's PURE models in Stapleton, Naul and Tanna Rae Manthe with kids Miles, 7, Mae, 5, and Margaux, 4, show off the architecture they chose for their new home.

nights and concerts – that they joke that "We can't leave campus."

The Manthes met Infinity's Steinke when they were working on a silent auction for Westerly Creek Elementary School (9 for 10 stars at GreatSchools.net). Steinke and Infinity contributed an iPad, and are now building them a home that can run on an iPad.

In the Manthe's case, that's a PURE 3 plan (this year's BAR award winner, you can tour the

model), which Infinity is creating with an option for added space (3,500 square feet finished), with three outdoor living spaces included covered front porch and covered patio. "Cutting edge," added Naul Manthe says about Infinity's quality and features. "Good floor plans."

And smart-home design, as well, that will allow the family to run lights and locks from the iPad; along with sustainability features

for energy and water efficiency, plus air quality. To reach from Quebec in Stapleton, take MLK east a mile to Central Park Blvd., left to E. 33rd and left again to Uinta.

Mark Samuelson writes on real estate and business; you can email him at mark@samuelsonassoc.com. You can see all of Mark Samuelson's columns online at DenverPostHomes.com

IF YOU GO...

WHERE: PURE by Infinity Home Collection at Stapleton; 2 furnished models, 4-bed/3½ bath homes on 7,000-foot-plus lots, award winners at all three major competitions, local and national. 34th & Uinta St., Denver; from Quebec Street in Stapleton take Martin Luther King Blvd. east 1 mi. to Central Park Blvd., left 0.2 mi. to E. 33rd Ave., left 2 blks

PRICE: From high \$500s

WHEN: Today Noon to 5 p.m., daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

PHONE: 303-229-7845

WEB: StapletonDenver.com

Local luxury homes lauded as best new single-families in nation

Celebrity Communities, a developer with over 50 years of experience in the Denver area along with Celebrity Custom Homes, the builder, offers the nation's best 2,500- to 3,499-square-foot single-family home as part of the Overlook Collection at Heritage Hills.

The National Association of Home Builders recently recognized Plan One with top honors as a Nationals Award Gold Winner for excellence in architectural design. Two of the other four homes in the collection, Plan Three and Plan Four, also won silver awards for brilliant architectural design. All three semicustom home plans – known as The Avila, The Spazio and The Turin, respectively – also are now available at Pradera as the European Hillside Collection.

At Heritage Hills in Lone Tree, you'll find a tight-knit social community that features two junior Olympic-sized swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts and a play area for kids. The community's prime city-close location – minutes from the DTC, the Lincoln Avenue light rail station, I-25 and C-470 –



This beautiful outdoor room is part of the nationally award-winning collection of homes by Celebrity, available at Heritage Hills in Lone Tree and Pradera in Parker.

makes it easy to access both the city or the mountains. Meanwhile, Pradera offers a country-quiet atmosphere with wide-open

spaces and vistas. This community features a golf course, community center with pool, ball fields and a vast trail system that winds

throughout hundreds of acres of open space.

You may choose to build Plan One/The Avila – which also won silver at the Nationals for best interior design – for its breakfast nook/hearth room and large outdoor courtyard with balcony. Or, maybe you prefer to build Plan Two/The Campagna for its gourmet kitchen, master-on-the-main and outdoor room. Alternately, you might prefer Plan Three/The Spazio for its Spanish-inspired architecture, interior courtyard with al fresco dining room and optional guest casita. Or, you may prefer Plan Four/The Turin for its ranch-style layout, secluded courtyard and private guest casita.

Can't decide? Any of these plans can be customized specifically to your preferences, so you'll have no trouble building the home of your dreams. Visit a Celebrity sales office to tour these award-winning homes and choose yours either city-close in Heritage Hills or country-quiet in Pradera from the \$700s. For more information, visit CelebrityCommunities.com.

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