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TWO NEW COHOUSING NEIGHBORHOODS IN ANN ARBOR MOVING FORWARD;

HONEY CREEK COHOUSING TO BEGIN DESIGN PROGRAMMING IN JANUARY

ANN ARBOR, MI; Dec. 7, 2001 – **Honey Creek Cohousing**, the third cohousing neighborhood planned for Ann Arbor, will soon begin the next step in the project development: site design. For this stage, the community members will participate in a process for designing the overall six-acre site for the 36-household community located on Little Lake Drive in Scio Township.

"We are very excited about the Honey Creek project as we already have a solid group of households who are enthusiastic about the cohousing concept," said Allison Welles of the Cohousing Development Company, developers of the completed Sunward Cohousing Community, also based in Ann Arbor. "Now we are looking for new members, including families, couples and retirees, who would like to be part of the design process and help shape their future neighborhood."

Honey Creek Cohousing is being created in a streamlined development process whereby the developer and project manager handle the more technical aspects of the project (i.e. financing, township approval process, design, building, engineering, etc.) and help guide things steadily forward, so that the Group members can focus on community building and creating strong relationships among the future residents.

Cohousing communities are created like old-fashioned villages to promote easy interaction among the residents. They are mainstream neighborhoods that allow future homeowners to help design and develop the overall site, the individual homes and common buildings. Residents own their homes and are equal owners in the common property. According to The Cohousing Network, the national non-profit organization that tracks the industry, cohousing is the most rapidly growing type of intentional neighborhood in the country.

For Honey Creek Cohousing, the next step in the project development will be a Site Design Workshop that will take place over the weekend of January 25-27, 2002. This workshop will be led by nationally renowned cohousing architect Kathryn McMamant, who is a principal in the Cohousing Company, a Berkeley, CA-based design firm that specializes in working with cohousing groups. She and her husband, architect Chuck Durrett, are also the authors of Cohousing: A Contemporary Approach to Housing Ourselves, which brought the cohousing concept to the U.S. with its publishing in 1988.

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Next in the development of Honey Creek Cohousing, will be the design of the common building or "Common House," where residents will have optional community meals several times a week. The Common House Design Workshop will take place from February 22-24, followed by the design of the individual homes in March 2002. Both the design of the Common House and individual homes will be conducted by The Cohousing Company and Ann Arbor architect Wayne Appleyard of Sunstructures, which specializes in passive solar design and energy efficient construction.

In addition to Honey Creek, the Cohousing Development Company is also developing the **Great Oak Cohousing** community, next door. Like its sister neighborhood, Great Oak will be a 36-household intergenerational and environmentally conscious village on six acres of land, of which approximately three acres will be preserved as open space and meadows. According to developer Nick Meima, Honey Creek has 30 households committed to the project.

"Great Oak is well along in the project development process," said Meima. "The community has already completed the design of the site, Common House and the homes, and these designs are now in the Scio township approval process. Construction is planned to start in the spring of 2002," Meima added.

The two new cohousing communities hold Information Meetings several times a month in Ann Arbor. These informal one-hour meetings offer an opportunity for first timers to learn about the cohousing concept, see a video showing completed cohousing neighborhoods in the U.S., and meet people who live in cohousing and have been through the development process.

The next Information Meetings will take place on **Thursday, December 13 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 16 at 10 a.m.** In January, Information Meetings will be held on **Thursday, January 3 at 7 p.m., Sunday, January 13 at 10 a.m.,** and **Monday, January 21 at 7 p.m.** Information Meetings take place at **Nicola's Little Professor Book Company in the Westgate Shopping Center**, between Jackson Road and Maple Road.

People seeking additional information, may contact Nick Meima or Allison Welles at **734-663-5516**, or via email at mirest@aol.com

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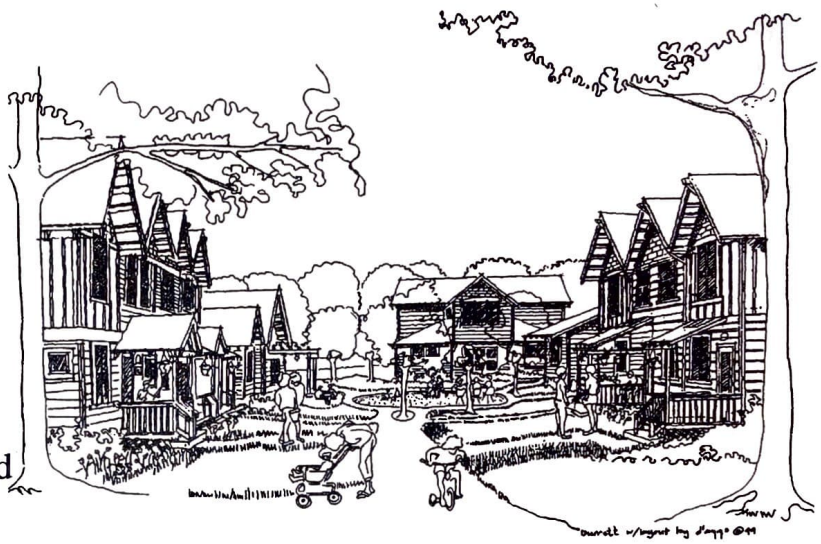
Looking For More Than a Home?

Community is the key ingredient in a strong neighborhood...

Would you like to live in a neighborhood you helped create and where you know all your neighbors?

Consider...

Honey Creek Cohousing, the third cohousing community now being created in Ann Arbor that combines private homes with shared land and resources.



This 36-home planned neighborhood, located on six acres of meadows and woodlands, will offer a diverse intergenerational village, a large common building for optional shared meals, play areas for children, a pedestrian orientated design, and environmentally sensitive construction.

For more information, you are invited to one of our free **Informational Meetings**.

Honey Creek COHOUSING

Contact Nick Meima at

734-663-5516

or via email at

mirest@aol.com

Visit our website at:
www.ic.org/honeycreek

Upcoming Informational Meetings:

Nicola's Little Professor Book Company in Westgate Shopping Center (corner of Jackson Rd. & Stadium Blvd.)

Thursday Jan. 3, 2002 - 7 PM

Monday, Jan. 21, 2002 - 7 PM