

# HomesFriday

## Marigold ranch home fits empty-nesters just right

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**Sponsored by Meritus Homes**

Just the right size. That's how Ken and Sandy Siok described their new Marigold ranch home at The Enclave at Mill Creek.

The community of low-maintenance new homes is being developed by Meritus Homes at the intersection of Army Trail Boulevard and North Mill Street in an established area of central DuPage County.

A comfortable ranch with 1,754 square feet, the Marigold has everything the couple wanted: an open concept layout, single-level living — and it's detached. Sandy loves the kitchen with its abundant cabinets, big center island, full suite of stainless steel appliances, granite countertops and elegant touches. She also likes how it flows into the dining room and family room.

"It just feels like that's the way a home is supposed to be," said Sandy, noting that they toured other models at The Enclave at Mill Creek but always came back to the Marigold.

In all, Meritus Homes offers four designs at The Enclave at Mill Creek. Ranch plans have 1,603 to 2,154 square feet of living space; two, three or four bedrooms; and two full baths for base prices that range from \$401,900 to \$443,900. Second-story options add 866 to 1,090 more square feet of living space, one or two bedrooms or a loft, and another bath on the upper level. This brings the square footage up to 2,620 to 3,077 with base prices that range from



The open-concept Marigold ranch has just over 1,700 square feet of living space, two bedrooms and two full baths.

\$472,400 to \$488,900.

The Sioks, who are empty-nesters, like the luxury master suite with his-and-her closets plus a private bath — a feature their old house did not provide. And for when family comes to visit, the second bedroom and adjacent full bath are on the other side of the home. The space can be used as a library, office or den, as well.

"This is our first newly built home and we were excited to pick out our finishes and add our own personality," said Ken. The Marigold was exactly what Ken and Sandy desired, yet they still added many upgrades in an effort to duplicate the look of the model, which they absolutely adored. They also invested in several options that were not cosmetic but structural, like a front porch elevation and deep-pour basement.

"It's a blank slate to work with," said Ken of the basement, which he plans to finish at a later date so the grandchildren have their own play space. "And thanks to the taller ceiling, it won't feel like a basement when done. Our goal is to create a family room with big-screen TV, bar, pool table and play area."

The couple also chose a premium homesite on a cul-de-sac in Phase II of The Enclave at Mill Creek, even though it meant waiting a little longer to move.

Overall, the community boasts abundant green space, including Westwood Creek, three ponds and a scenic sitting area, with more than two-thirds of the ranch-style homes backing to natural and open areas. Phase II is tucked back over the bridge and the Sioks' homesite abuts open space so it has the privacy the

couple was accustomed to coming from a large yard of nearly an acre.

Unlike at their old house, The Enclave at Mill Creek's homeowners' association will perform all lawn care for their homesite as well as maintain common area landscaping and even handle snow removal on driveways.

"With fewer outdoor chores, we'll have more time to spend with the grandchildren," Ken said. After all, the move to The Enclave at Mill Creek was to be near family, specifically the couple's three children: a daughter in Glen Ellyn and two sons in Elmhurst.

"It's a smart idea to get closer to our nine grandchildren because Sandy helps out on a regular basis," said Ken, noting that the couple relocated from Arlington Heights where they had lived for more than 30 years.

"It was a big decision because we've been in the Northwest suburbs and Cook County for the entire 44 years we've been married," he said. "Now, at The Enclave, we're less than 10 minutes from our daughter and 15 minutes from our boys."

Plus, being within minutes of Interstates 355 and 290 as well as Route 83/Kingery Highway makes it an easy drive to work for Ken, who is an insurance agent.

"The people at Meritus Homes are great to work with," Ken said. "They made the process stress-free since we had not done this before. They were patient when guiding us with selections so we never felt overwhelmed. Everyone has been professional, cooperative and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MERITUS HOMES  
Ken and Sandy Siok are the first homeowners in Phase II of The Enclave at Mill Creek in Addison.

engaging. It's been a very positive experience."

Even so, Ken felt the need to research things himself. He spent time talking to homeowners who already lived in Phase I at The Enclave at Mill Creek and received nothing but 100% positive responses.

"It's been really fun to see the neighborhood start to take shape," he said.

When complete, The Enclave at Mill Creek will feature a total of 87 homes. A few remain in Phase I and sales now are underway for Phase II.

Two decorated models are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The sales office is located at 758 Fairway Drive, just north of Army Trail Boulevard and west of North Mill Road in Addison. The community's entrance is on the north side of Army Trail Boulevard at Links Drive (enter 601 Army Trail Blvd. into a GPS system to find the site).

For more information, call (331) 225-3646 or visit [www.MeritusHomebuilders.com](http://www.MeritusHomebuilders.com).

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