

WEST WARRENTON'S best kept *secret*

Tucked away in west Warrenton is a little paradise for the lucky homeowners who have discovered the lakes, forests and meadows of Leinenweber Lake Estates.

Just west of Ridge Road and north of DeLaura Beach Road, the area is hidden from view of those driving toward downtown Warrenton.

Leinenweber Lake Estates is, according to Realtor Pam Ackley, the area's best kept secret. "Granted, we like it like that," said Ackley, who works with Windermere Stellar Real Estate in Gearhart and who lives in the 62-acre development. "But there are properties for sale."

Developed gradually since 1979 by Loren and Linda Gramson and Tom and Gail Manke, Leinenweber Lake Estates is a community of 50 homes surrounded by trees and lakes with lots large enough to ensure privacy.

Young families, professionals and retirees live year-round in the quiet community, and there is plenty to do. In addition to easy access to local small lakes for canoeing and kayaking, the area is a haven for walkers and bikers who enjoy exploring pathways that lead to Fort Stevens State Park, Coffenbury Lake and the ocean.

"It's a great place to raise kids," Ackley said. "It's just a great neighborhood."

For 20 years, the owners of a five-bedroom, three-bath home listed by Ackley have enjoyed a view of Kyle Lake from the expanse of living room and dining room windows or from the deck that wraps around the back of the home.

The 3,325-square-foot home sits on 1.93 acres at a dead-end road bordering state park land. "It is by far one of the most private houses in the development," Ackley said.

A recreation room fills the full-size daylight basement, and the house also features a sauna, shop and three-car garage. A sunroom off the master suite overlooks a lush yard landscaped with native plants. The large kitchen easily fits four adults, and the living room is kept cozy by a woodstove. The main-floor laundry room is large, and the house has an abundance of storage areas.

The homeowner calls Leinenweber Lake Estates "heaven." "It's just wonderful," she said. "It's close to trails. We're out there almost every day. Our grandkids like to fish from the lake. This is secluded, but there are so many opportunities. And, it's less than three miles from Fred Meyer and Costco and even closer to Main Street Market in Warrenton." The home is listed for \$568,000.

In addition to the home, three vacant lots, each fronting a lake, are ready for houses. A .96-acre lot on Leinenweber Lake is drenched in sunshine and provides easy access for canoeing or kayaking. It is listed with Ackley through Windermere for \$145,000.

Two other .92-acre lots sit on a high bank fronting Kyle Lake. Both lots include mature trees, level areas for homes and access to the four-acre lake. The lots are listed at \$120,000 and \$130,000. One of the lots also has access to Burma Road, a pathway that leads to a network of trails.

Developer Loren Gramsen, who has lived in Leinenweber Estates since 1990, remembers duck hunting in the area when he was a kid.

"I thought then that it would be a cool place to have a house," he said. "Now I have one. It's such a beautiful place to live. You can be sitting on the deck, and suddenly four or five elk will be walking by. People here really appreciate the secret they have."

Michael and Vickie Griffin, who recently discovered that secret and bought a log home listed with Ackley, say they are happy with their decision to move to Leinenweber Lake Estates.

"We have enjoyed every day we've been here," said Michael Griffin. "The lake, the trees, the wind, the deer, geese, ducks, elk make this a magic place to live."

"It's quiet, the neighbors are friendly and helpful, and it's a short, beautiful walk to the ocean," he added. "We're home."



LOT 100

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