

D

New Homes for sale
in the Seattle and
Puget Sound Area

New Homes

SATURDAY

SAN JUAN PASSAGE | anacortes

Community anchored by solid values, standards

Visitors to San Juan Passage will instantly feel and appreciate the planning and attention to detail that was put into its creation, says sales manager Kathleen Clarke.

"A few years back, during the initial planning and permitting phase of the project, my husband and I made a trip to Wickford Point — another coastal community, south of Providence R.I., that was designed and built by Gilbane Development Company," she says. "It was amazing how the homes accentuated the warm and friendly nature of the town and their seafaring spirit, and how each residence seemed to complement the whole."

Clarke says that the same design concepts and practices that made Wickford Point an award-winning community are being repeated at San Juan Passage.

"You see it in the sidewalk-lined streets that meander gently along the hillside, and the community parks created as respites where neighbors can gather and enjoy views of the Guemes Channel and the San Juan Islands beyond."

Company chairman Bob Gilbane likes to point out that the promise for any great residential neighborhood must come from the land and from the larger community that surrounds it.

"In our case, we have



Overlook Park serves as the centerpiece of San Juan Passage.

developed a passion for coastal areas steeped in traditional values and rich with natural assets," Gilbane says. "Anacortes, with its colorful marine heritage and abundance of marinas, hiking trails and public forest lands, offers this and more. There's also a bustling downtown buoyed by eateries, art galleries and fashionable boutiques; a full-service, regional hospital; the new Anacortes Library; and a civic museum that honors the town's maritime roots."

The mature maple tree at the opening to San Juan Passage is also a tribute to those roots. Rescued from an old estate and transplanted at great expense, it seems to say, "Come in — step back in time and re-establish values in a new kind of small-town neighborhood."

This welcoming tree is almost a century old, as are the principles that drove the design of this green, sustainable seaside retreat, where homes are built ship-tight, front porches greet passersby, gabled roofs peak like sails and all views point to the sea. This is tradi-

View these homes

Open noon-4 p.m. Thursdays-Sundays

Getting there

From I-5 north, take Anacortes Exit 230. Follow Highway 20 west to Anacortes. Turn right on Commercial Avenue and continue through town to 12th Street (Oakes Avenue). Turn left and continue 2.7 miles to San Juan Passage, just before the ferry terminal.

Prices

Finished homes from \$399,000-\$790,000

Information

360-588-6900 or sanjuanpassage.com

tional architecture responding to a nautical environment. And, of course, homes have the conveniences and quality detailing that today's discerning buyers demand.

Yet the homes at San Juan Passage can best be characterized as modest in size, with models ranging from 1,400 to 2,600 square feet. "Our plans reflect the movement away from super-sized homes and favor spaces that are designed for energy efficiency and a sense of intimacy with enduring craftsmanship and detail," Gilbane says.

Lead architect Douglas Kallfelz, of Donald Powers Architects, cites the project's classic building forms, good proportions, simple details and durable, natural materials as hallmarks of timeless architecture. While the details he employs may be simple, they are smartly planned and meticulously orchestrated.

Inside, common spaces are open, airy "great rooms" with nature pouring in through wood-wrapped windows and French doors. Granite-appointed kitchens open to living areas to make entertaining easy. Master suites include his and her walk-in closets and natural stone accents. And everywhere you look, Kallfelz uses architectural angles to create comfy nooks and interesting spaces for art and storage.

Again demonstrating their commitment to the San Juan Passage vision, Gilbane's crews worked through the winter months to ensure that Overlook Park would be ready for residents to enjoy this spring.

Today, visitors can work their way down through the park to a natural stone amphitheater that has been carved into the hillside overlooking Guemes Channel. This gathering spot was recently completed by Mike Harris, well-known in Anacortes as a master at creating landscape features using dry-stacked rock.