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Condos on display Sunday in OTR tour

By Lisa Bernard-Kuhn • lbernard@enquirer.com • September 8, 2009

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OVER-THE-RHINE - More than 60 newly built and renovated condos in this neighborhood will be open for tours on Sunday as part of the OTR Tour of Living home show.

Properties to be showcased are located on Vine, Republic, Pleasant and Main streets in seven newly opened condo developments in the Gateway Quarter district. Prices range from \$150,000 to more than \$350,000.

The event is free and will run from noon to 5 p.m. in conjunction with Over-the-Rhine's "Second Sunday on Main" event, which will feature live music, local artists, specialty vendors and a beer garden along Main Street

Attendees can pick up a map and tour information at tents at 12th and Main and 12th and Vine streets.

Since 2005, non-profit developer Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. has helped spark a roughly \$93 million investment in Over-the-Rhine yielding new storefronts and renovated condos and flats.

Among the projects to be highlighted on the tour is an eight-unit "green" condominium development at the corner of 13th and Republic called Mottainai.

Developed by B2B Equities and Northpointe Group, the \$3 million project recently landed Leadership in Energy and Design certification from the U.S Green Building Council. The program establishes benchmarks for environmentally-friendly construction, and Mottainai is the first building in Over-the-Rhine to land the designation.

Among other features, Mottainai units have cork and bamboo floors, which are considered more sustainable than traditional timber that takes longer to grow. Also, bathrooms boast translucent paneling made from recycled 2-liter bottles. Two condos remain available.

So far this year, 24 condos have been sold in the Quarter with an average price tag of \$150,000, said Holly Redman, a Realtor with Link Realty.

"We really haven't seen much of decline in sales," she said, adding that last year 28 condos were sold in the Quarter.

All told, 157 condos have developed in the Quarter, of which nearly 57 percent have been sold. Plans are under way for an additional phase of work that would bring up to 180 apartments to the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Walnut and Vine streets.



Holly Redmond, a real estate agent with Link Realty, is photographed in a unit in the Mottainai condos that will be featured in the Gateway Quarter Tour of Living on September 13.

(The Enquirer/Leigh Taylor)

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What: OTR Gateway Quarter Tour of Living will feature seven new condominium developments with 62 new market-rate condos in Over-the-Rhine's Gateway Quarter.

When: Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Where: Pick up a map and tour information at tents located at 12th and Main and 12th and Vine streets.

Parking: Public parking is available at the corner of 12th and Vine as well as street parking along Vine, Walnut and 12th streets.

More information: Visit www.gatewayquarter.com or www.secondsundayonmain.org

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