

Royal Oaks, a Great Place to Retire!



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About 20 years ago, Stan and Marge Applegate were on vacation driving the “blue highways” of Appalachia when they happened upon the town of Dalton, Georgia. Naturally, they stopped awhile. Who wouldn’t? The city is ideally located in the scenic Georgia mountains, enjoys a thriving arts community and is a treasure trove of historical sites just waiting to be explored.

The Applegates spent several days exploring the town and meeting the people. During their visit they passed a construction site. A new retirement community named Royal Oaks was just being built. Stan admired the location, the buildings and the outstanding landscape architecture being installed. He said to his wife, “This would be a great place to retire.” Now 20 years later, Stan Applegate is happily planning and participating in Royal Oaks’ 20th anniversary celebrations as one of the community’s most active and influential residents.

Richard and Anne Nahlovsky retired to the Gulf Coast, but after surviving several major hurricanes they decided that Gulf Coast weather was not for them. When it came to choosing a new place to live the decision to choose Dalton came naturally. “We came for the weather!” they said. But they stayed because of the town. “We just love Dalton,” said Richard. “It has everything you want in terms of services and lifestyle ... and with all the history, shopping, and dining around, if you still you can’t find something fun and interesting to do in Dalton, you’re pretty picky!”

The Nahlovskys first bought a home about 10 miles outside of town where they lived happily for 10 years. When the time came to downsize, they gave no thought to leaving Dalton. The only choice to be made was to which retirement community they should move. Royal Oaks topped the list – the buildings, the spacious apartment homes, the amenities, the southern style and personalized services all surpassed anything they saw elsewhere. “Plus, Royal Oaks let us bring our two dogs. I wouldn’t move anywhere they weren’t welcome,” Anne said. Richard and Anne have only been living at Royal Oaks for a short time, but they can’t imagine anything better. “We’re busier than we’ve ever been!” they say. From classes at Bradley Wellness Center to the many clubs and activities at Royal Oaks to the wonderful things



*Front entrance of
Royal Oaks*



Richard and Anne Nahlovsky

to do in town, Richard and Anne are living life to the fullest.

Even before they moved to Royal Oaks, the Nahlovskys were taking part in many of the programs offered at Royal Oaks. “We came over regularly to participate. We heard a terrific concert pianist, some great choirs and we were especially impressed with a series of concerts and programs on Appalachian music. There were concerts and experts came and showed us how the instruments were made, and how to play them. It was amazing!” Richard said.

That brings us back to Stan Applegate and his friend Marcia Hoole, who had an idea for Appalachian music programs that would be presented at lunch. Stan has traveled all over



*Stan
Applegate
in the Royal
Oaks art
studio*

the world to places such as Easter Island, Machu Pichu, and the Galapagos Islands. But a comment he made got Marcia thinking that they should spend more time learning about the unique culture and heritage of the area in which they live. One thing led to another and before they knew it, they were working with Dalton College on five separate programs on Appalachian music and its influences. There were lectures, concerts and demonstrations. Everything from Celtic music to Bluegrass was explored. “We’re encouraged to do anything we want here,” says Stan. “If you come up with an idea, there’s always someone around who is ready to help you make it happen.”

That’s the beauty of living in a close-knit community like Dalton. That’s also the reason why so many Dalton residents refuse to leave “home” when the time comes to move to a retirement community. Marjorie Miller has spent most of her life in Dalton. She’d never think of pulling up those deep roots and leaving town. That’s why Royal Oaks was the perfect choice. Living here, she has kept her ties to the community she loves and is continually making new friends. In fact, she is so busy that it was easier to talk to her son for this article, than to catch up with her!



Royal Oaks Plantation Terrace

People continue to change and grow when they come to Royal Oaks. And for 20 years, Royal Oaks has been changing and growing to meet their needs. From membership in Bradley Wellness Center, conveniently located across the street, to new options for dining in a modern bistro to an attentive staff and outstanding amenities, Royal Oaks deserves a visit.

Marjorie's son, Jim Miller, thinks his mother made an excellent decision. "Mom is close to a wonderful set of friends, and spends hours each week doing all the things she loves, without the pesky burdens of owning a home!" Jim says. Instead she's off to bridge club and garden club with her lifelong friends or busy enjoying all the social activities that Royal Oaks offers.

According to Jim, Marjorie also appreciates Royal Oaks' southern hospitality and cooking! "My mother has always been a great cook. She knows what it takes to put good food on the table, and she's really impressed with the chefs at Royal Oaks." She also loves the service in the dining room, the linen napkins and tablecloths, which make each meal feel like a special little celebration. Now Marjorie cooks simply to impress the ladies in her recipe club.

Resident Virginia Cooley's son, Russell Cooley, has become a fixture at Royal Oaks. He knows all of the residents, takes part in the Friday socials. He loves the surroundings, and he's not even a resident...yet! His mother is, though. They spent five years looking into communities, before this very particular woman settled on Royal Oaks. It certainly was the right choice. She's so busy that to see his mother, Russell has to come to visit her, and finds himself spending more and more time at Royal Oaks. "It's beautiful here. Pictures just don't do it justice. The view from the wall of windows in the dining room is breathtaking." He also enjoys talking to the residents. "It's a great history lesson. I've learned more about Dalton since Mom came here than I ever knew before. It's made me more appreciative of the special place in which we all live."

As Stan, Anne, Richard, Marjorie, Virginia and their sons know, Dalton is a whole lot more than the "carpet capital of the world." It's a wonderful town full of wonderful people. It's a great place to explore both Civil War history and the history of the railroads. It's a center for culture and arts, and Royal Oaks is right in the center of it all.



Casual dining in the Churchill Bistro

Best of all, for all of its services, hospitality, southern charm and amenities, the cost of enjoying life at Royal Oaks compares very favorably to the cost of maintaining a home, but without all the chores!

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To learn more about Royal Oaks click, call, or visit by contacting royaloaksretirement.org or calling 706.275.8899 and toll-free at 1.800.275.8969.



A Royal Oaks' apartment (living and dining area)



**Imagine retirement
without the worries...**

Royal Oaks is Georgia's Best Retirement. Naturally.

Retirement shouldn't be a time filled with an endless list of house projects or chores. It should be a time enjoyed among family, friends, and long-loved hobbies in a secure and caring environment. Royal Oaks is here for you providing an active retirement without the worries. Royal Oaks offers residents the comfort and freedom of a maintenance-free lifestyle including services such as weekly housekeeping, scheduled courtesy transportation, and restaurant-style dining...all while being able to live in a well-designed apartment home with upgraded finishes surrounded by the natural lush landscape.

For more information about the Royal Oaks retirement lifestyle or to arrange a personal tour of the community, please call 800.275.8969 or visit our website at RoyalOaksRetirement.org.

Royal Oaks

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