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Developer breaks ground on Oakland Township luxury home subdivision

By Ryan Felton, The Oakland Press

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OAKLAND TOWNSHIP — Twenty-five years ago, developer Dominic Mocerri helmed construction of the Hills of Oakland, a neighborhood on Adams Road featured in an international showcase of luxury homes.

That iteration of the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan's Homearama drew the largest attendance in the event's three-decade run, Mocerri said Wednesday. The developer is hoping to match that response when his company's next undertaking, the \$137 million Pinnacle at Oaklands, debuts as the featured site next year for

Homearama 2014.

With county and township officials on-hand, Mocerri Companies held a ceremonial groundbreaking Wednesday of Pinnacle, an upscale community on a stretch of Silverbell Road known as the "Billion Dollar Mile" that the developer expects to produce a \$250 million economic impact to the community.

When complete, the sprawling, picturesque site on Silverbell Road, just east of Adams Road will feature 81 homes from 4,800 to 9,000 square feet, Mocerri said.

The subdivision stands as the last of seven phases in Mocerri's award-winning development of upscale neighborhoods called The Oaklands.

"This has been the showcase for environmental sensitivity and economic sustainability," he said.

Guests were escorted to a model home Wednesday by trolley after Mocerri offered remarks on the project, which is expected to draw international attention at the Homearama showcase next August. Mocerri said it will be the fourth time he's been involved in the showcase.

"The ultimate premium" of the neighborhood is "it bounds around nature," Mocerri said.

The site backs up to Wyndgate Country Club and Gallagher Creek lines Pinnacle's landscape. Traffic will flow through an entrance along Silverbell, with the site stretching a half-mile north.

Township Supervisor Terry Gonser said Wednesday it's exciting "that this type of development is going into Oakland Township."

"It really is the pinnacle," Gonser said.

Homearama 2014 also marks the third time Oakland Township has been showcased in the event.

"Not very many communities can boast that," Gonser said, if any at all.

Up to eight homes valued from \$1.65 million to \$3.4 million will be open to the public for viewing at next year's event. Mocerri said the homes should be outfitted with basements within the next two weeks.

Builders include Cranbrook Homes, MJC Companies and Arteva Homes, along with Mocerri.

Homearama 2014 will be held Aug. 29 to Sept. 21, 2014. Tickets are \$10 or \$20 for a season pass.

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