

# Builder/Architect

Special Feature



## Portfolio Properties Presents Oak Pointe

# Portfolio Properties Presents Oak Pointe

By TJ Neale

With a stand of 100-year-old oak trees and natural prairie to buffer luxury townhomes and row homes from upscale retail/professional and fine restaurants, Portfolio Properties is bringing a new level of luxury and amenities to Will County, IL.

John L. Rogers, President of Portfolio Properties, speaks enthusiastically about Oak Pointe at Homer Glen, his largest project since taking over the day-to-day operations in 2002. “The Homer Glen area is the ‘front door’ of Will County,” said Rogers. “Our goal is to create a sense of place.”

“We’ve let the land and its natural features dictate usage — some pieces of property lend themselves to residential use only; others are perfect for mixed-use development.” Oak Pointe will not only be an exciting day trip for shoppers, but also a sought-after address for those who demand functional luxury and a relaxed lifestyle.

Rogers is collaborating on the development with John LeGrand, a well-known and respected builder in Will and Cook coun-

ties. LeGrand has built more than 200 homes and has provided construction-related services for clients on numerous other commercial and residential projects for more than 30 years. He manages projects for Rogers’ sister company, Portfolio Properties Fine Homes, as well as advising the Oak Pointe endeavor.

Oak Pointe, rising on 82 acres of farmland and prairie, fits perfectly into Homer Glen’s master plan. Incorporated in the early 2000s, Homer Glen’s planning board is able to pick and choose the projects that best fit their vision. Rogers, who helped draft the architectural standards for the village, brings an urban planning background as well as his own vision to the table. Rogers says that developing neighborhoods that are destinations in themselves is a nationwide trend.

To ensure the distinguished level of design he’s envisioned, Rogers approached John Myefski, a nationally known architect based in Glencoe, IL. Myefski and his firm, Myefski Cook Architects, Inc., have a number of impressive awards, including

**This aerial view of Oak Pointe captures the center component of the community: the 21st Century Village, complete with 146,000-square-foot, upscale retail/professional space and the finest restaurants nestled into a park-like setting, within walking distance for the residents.**





**The Enclave at Oak Point will feature approximately 30 luxurious, three-story row homes within walking distance to the retail center.**

Preservation Awards from the Glencoe Historic Preservation Commission, Project of the Year Awards from the National Commercial Builders Council and awards from various organizations for kitchen and bath designs. Their work has also been featured in numerous print and broadcast media.

Myefski’s design for Oak Point incorporates 146,000 square feet of space for specialty retail shops and restaurants in a 21st century village setting. Parking lots provide close access, but preserve a park-like feel with trees and landscaping throughout. Sidewalks and paved paths throughout the development will encourage residents to walk to the nearby pond, nature preserve and retail area. Rogers is currently negotiating with a number of businesses that will locate here.

## THE ENCLAVE AT OAK POINTE

Buildings containing approximately 30 row houses will be tucked in a natural clearing in the oak grove and within easy walking distance to the retail area. At three stories tall and with underground garages accessed from the rear of the brick and stone buildings, visitors to the neighborhood might think they’ve taken a wrong turn and ended up in the Gold Coast neighborhood of Chicago.

The row houses are spacious, with more than 3,000 square feet of living area. The first floor boasts an open floor plan, with

a master suite and bath and an additional bedroom or study on the second floor. A laundry room is conveniently located on the second floor, while the third floor offers two more bedrooms and space for a large playroom/study area.

An optional elevator is available; according to an informal focus group conducted by Portfolio Properties, approximately 30-40% of row house buyers will take advantage of this amenity. “There are a number of empty nesters with very large homes currently living in the area — they’d like to move out of these homes that no longer fit the way they want to live. Our row houses give them the opportunity to downsize while staying close to their old neighborhoods,” said Rogers. Row houses will be priced from the \$700s.

## THE CLOISTERS AT OAK POINTE

Buyers who prefer townhomes will appreciate owning one of the nearly 50 units that, though not quite as large or luxurious as the row houses, are ideal for those who appreciate gracious living without home or yard maintenance. Units, many with walk-out basements, will have brick exteriors and decks and/or patios with outdoor fireplaces. Homes are between 2,500 and 3,000 square feet and priced from the \$400s. Rogers envisions all ages living in both the Enclave and Cloisters. The townhomes will have the finest interiors, featuring custom cabinets, granite countertops and luxurious baths.

**The Cloisters at Oak Point consist of 50 spacious townhomes for those who appreciate gracious living without home or yard maintenance.**





The core team at Portfolio Properties consists of John Rogers, President; John LeGrand, Project Manager; and Marge Gielczewski, Executive Assistant and Office Manager.

A number of lots for single-family homes are also available in Oak Pointe and will be built exclusively by Portfolio Properties Fine Homes.

## A GREAT LOCATION

Adjacent Orland Park was recently named No. 45 on *Money* magazine's Top 100 list of America's best places to live, while Homer Glen is nationally recognized as a premier open-space community, attracting affluent residents and businesses. The average income in 2006 for households within 2 miles of the development was \$116,867; for households within 6 miles, that figure was \$100,411. With more than 176,000 people living within a 6-mile radius, retailers and restaurateurs have an ample demographic base for successful business ventures.

The development is located at 159th Street and Will-Cook Road and is convenient to the Orland Park retail corridor, I-80 and I-355. A Metra station, 2 miles away at 153rd Street, provides

public transportation to Chicago for those who prefer not to drive into the city.

"Oak Pointe combines a relaxed lifestyle with functional luxury — it's city living in a park-like setting," said Rogers. ■



For more information about Oak Pointe at Homer Glen:

*Portfolio Properties*

15801 Bell Road, Suite 230

Homer Glen, IL 60491

(708) 645-7612

[www.portfolio-properties.com](http://www.portfolio-properties.com)

[jlrogers@portfolio-properties.com](mailto:jlrogers@portfolio-properties.com)