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Developer welcomes two new builders to Lantana

(Dallas, TX – Nov. 10, 2009) – Republic Property Group announced the addition of two prominent Dallas-area builders to Lantana, the developer’s premier 1,743-acre master-planned community in southern Denton County.

Standard Pacific Homes has purchased 22 home sites in the Carlisle neighborhood of Lantana with home prices expected to be from the \$300s. American Legend Homes has purchased 31 home sites in the Magnolia neighborhood, offering low maintenance living for young families or empty nesters priced from the \$180s.

Pre-sales are expected to begin in early 2010 for both builders with model homes anticipated to open in March 2010.

“We’re delighted to have these highly-respected builders in Lantana,” said Teresa Grawe, vice president of marketing for Republic Property Group. “Despite less than ideal market conditions, their investment in Lantana demonstrates the value they place on our established, successful community. We look forward to introducing their new home designs to prospective home buyers.”

Michael Brady, president of Standard Pacific’s Dallas division, said he has followed the success of Lantana over the years and believes that the infrastructure, amenities, sense of community and schools are among the finest in any master-planned community.

He noted: “We’re excited about becoming part of Lantana and its long-term vision and commitment to quality. Our product and the home-buying experience of our customers will be a perfect complement to this outstanding community.”

American Legend Homes' president Vance Timm said, "Lantana offers homebuyers a terrific lifestyle with quality amenities and we're pleased to bring our timeless, energy-efficient homes to the neighborhood."

Lantana opened in 2001 and currently is home to more than 7,000 residents. The community’s Hill Country theme, inspired by its rolling terrain, is carried out from the land plan and landscape design to the building architecture of the amenity centers and the Lantana Golf Club. “This theme, the outstanding community events, great neighborhood schools and location are the reasons the development has been selected multiple times as D/FW Community of the Year by the Home Builders Association of Greater Dallas,” said Ms. Grawe.

“An interesting trend we’ve noticed in recent years is master-planned communities – including Lantana – have fared better than stand-alone subdivisions,” said Ted Wilson, principal of Residential Strategies Inc. “Consumers understand inherent parts of the master-planning process are design controls and construction requirements supporting housing values even during tough times. The developer’s superb planning and attention to detail have resulted in Lantana being one of the most highly regarded places to live in D/FW.”

He added: “The other important factor prospective buyers should consider is the financial strength of the community’s developer. Republic Property Group is one of D/FW’s premier developers. At a time when some developers are financially challenged, buyers should recognize that RPG is on extremely solid footing and will continue to be there to meet the needs of its residents.”

Lantana’s unique combination of amenities includes the Lantana Golf Club’s 18-hole championship course designed by Jay and Carter Morrish. Additional recreational amenities include two fitness centers; five swimming pools including a competition pool, resort pool and splash park; a lakeside covered pavilion; five tennis courts; playgrounds; and a comprehensive trail system tying the community together.

Located off FM 407 just west of FM 2499 in southern Denton County, Lantana has two highly regarded on-site elementary schools and a middle school and is close to Denton ISD’s new Guyer High School.

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