

# THE OAKLAND PRESS

Thursday October 19 2006

## 'A BULLS-EYE LOCATION'



Oakland Press photos/CHARLIE CORTEZ

Developers Randy Wertheimer (top left), Steve Conley and David Gans show the Wellington model in Novi. Above left, Wertheimer points out the iPort system. At right, an upstairs bedroom in the Stratford model.

## New sub also features high-end amenities

By DOUG HENZE  
Of The Oakland Press

Builder David Gans compares his 2,500-square-foot model at the new Knightsbridge Gate subdivision to a Hollywood "front."

"Folks who walk in ... they say, 'This home is a lot bigger than it looks,'" Gans said of "The Wellington," which opened in July. Gans owns Winnick Homes.

The four-bedroom model has a formal dining room with white columns, a library, a two-story great room and a grand, two-story foyer.

"You wouldn't see this but maybe in a 3,800-square-foot home," he said of the formal foyer.

The model is one of three open at Knightsbridge — a collaboration of Winnick in Bingham Farms, Hunter Pasteur Homes in Farmington Hills and JC Development of Hartland.

The subdivision, which is to include 348 homes ranging from 1,900 square feet to 2,900, is going up on the east side of Napier Road south of Grand River Avenue. Homes are in the \$270,000s to the

\$340,000s.

Residents will have access to a pool and cabana clubhouse with changing rooms.

The builders have been selling homes at the 150-acre site since April, initially from a sales trailer. They hope a grand opening held earlier this month, which drew about 100 people, will add to the 35 sales they've made.

"I call it, for lack of a better term, a bull's-eye location — you're 15 miles from everything," Gans

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## GATE

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said. "It's easily accessible to (Interstate) 96."

The development has drawn a mix of buyers, said Steve Conley, chief operating officer for JC Development.

"We've got young couples, families that are looking for good schools," he said. "It's very diverse from an ethnic

standpoint."

Buyers have come from Livonia, Milford and the Troy area.

"I don't think we've ever had a subdivision where we pulled from so many areas — Romulus, Royal Oak," said Randy Wertheimer, owner of Hunter Pasteur Homes.

"Novi's a good place to raise a family with the shopping and the recreation."

JC Development and Hunter Pasteur have built

two models jointly.

One, called the Stratford, has a finished basement with a full bath and wood floors and granite countertops in the kitchen. A double oven and butler's pantry in the kitchen and a master suite with a linen closet, walk-in closet and large bathroom with a six-foot jetted tub are other amenities in the 2,600-square-foot model.

"There are features in this

home that you find in a \$600,000, \$700,000 home," Wertheimer said.

"Every home has what's called an iPort station, where you put in your iPod and you can hear it in any room of the house (through a speaker system)."

The model is high-tech in other ways.

"You can control, from one keypad, your security, your iPod, your heating and cooling," Wertheimer said. "If you

get up at 6 o'clock in the morning, you can have your lights go on 25 percent, another 25 percent in 15 minutes (until they're at full brightness)."

Most of the homes at Knightsbridge will have two-story foyers and two-story great rooms as well as finished lower levels.

Gans, who will have his first closing Friday, expects a 36-month to 42-month build-out at the development.