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JAMES RYAN FORMS COMPANY TO BUILD HOMES IN COLUMBIA

James P. Ryan, former president and a director of one of America's largest homebuilding organizations, has announced the formation of a new corporation to build homes and apartments in the Baltimore-Washington region. The company has begun the construction of six model homes in the new city of Columbia in Howard County.

Until he formed his Maryland-based company, Mr. Ryan, 34, was president of Ryan Homes Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa., an organization which has built homes in 14 localities in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York and West Virginia. In addition to Mr. Ryan, who serves as president, other members of the Ryan organization are Robert Gaw, secretary-treasurer; Kenneth Carlson, project manager; Richard Jenkins, production manager; Jack Miller, sales manager; and James Gondek, supervisor. Mr. Ryan states that the company, now in offices at 687 Baltimore National Pike, will move to Columbia when office space now under construction is available later this year.

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The company will initially build 100 homes in Columbia's first three neighborhoods of Bryant Woods, Faulkner Ridge, and The Birches. All are part of The Village of Wilde Lake, the first of nine projected villages in the new city. Each village is expected to have a population of 10,000-12,000.

The homes will range from \$19,750 to \$35,000 and up, in fee. Basic models will have 3, 4, and 5 bedrooms, dual bathrooms, Westinghouse-equipped kitchens, family rooms and attached garages. Exteriors will be brick and aluminum siding.

The Ryan homes will be in three general price ranges. Typical of the moderately priced line is a two-story four-bedroom model with one and a half baths upstairs, and a living room, dining room, kitchen-dinette-family room with powder room, a one-car garage and full basement. It will sell for \$25,500.

Priced at \$29,700 will be a rancher with three bedrooms, two baths, living room, dining room, kitchen-family room, basement and a two-car garage.

Selling for \$35,000 will be two-story colonial with four large bedrooms, two full baths upstairs, living room, dining room, family room, a U-shaped kitchen with a breakfast area, laundry room and two-car garage.

"We are very enthusiastic about building in Columbia," Mr. Ryan says. "We feel that the new city is one of the most important factors in the Baltimore-Washington housing market, and we are very happy to be associated with this nationally acclaimed project."

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Ryan is the first of a number of individual builders who will provide homes in Columbia. According to Robert E. Huff, director of residential sales for Columbia, "We are negotiating with more than half a dozen builders who will offer a wide range of houses. We expect to announce these firms in the very near future as soon as the negotiations are completed."

Mr. Huff points out that "the construction of houses in Columbia is not limited to major builders. Finished lots are also available to small builders, and to individuals who want to build their own homes."

Hobbitts' Glen Golf Course, about two miles west of Wilde Lake, has been reserved for ^aPGA Pro-Am Tournament on June 30th. On July 14th, Van Cliburn will be the guest soloist at the first concert of the National Symphony summer series in Columbia's Merriweather Post Pavilion of Music in Columbia's downtown park. Steel work for the pavilion was completed in mid-April.

Also nearing completion is The Village Green, Columbia's first of nine community shopping and recreational centers. The Village Green will have a Giant Food store and other shops, a library, a community hall, a tennis club and a swimming pool for year-around use.

Nearby, a moderately priced group of apartments, Bryant Gardens, is under roof and will have models open in June. A mile northeast, another apartment group in a higher rental range is under construction on the south shore of Wilde Lake.

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"Early residents," Mr. Huff says, "will find Columbia's amenities and services waiting for them. They will have lakes for boating, a new golf course, tennis courts and swimming pools, parks, roads and paths, community centers, stores and shops, metropolitan water and sewer, gas and underground electric facilities."

The much-publicized new city will be open to the public by mid-summer.

END