

Homearama coming to Macomb Township

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By Thomas Franz 



Christenbury Creek in Macomb Township will host the 2016 Homearama event starting Sept. 21. (Photo provided by the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan)

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MACOMB TOWNSHIP — The latest and greatest in home design and technology are set to be showcased in Macomb Township.

This year's Homearama event, put on by the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, will take place starting Sept. 21 at Christenbury Creek, a new condominium development located near Card Road and 23 Mile Road.

"During 2015, 1,290 single-family new home permits were issued within Macomb County. Of those, 420 were in Macomb Township. We are pleased to be presenting an event in this area that has a wide appeal to homeowners and homebuyers," said Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

It is the second time a Homearama event has come to a Macomb Township development. Previously, the event visited the township in the late 1980s.

"This is quite an undertaking that they have done over there," said Macomb Township Supervisor Janet Dunn. "I think people are looking for a little more higher-end product, and I think Homearama is going to provide that."

The event will feature eight model homes for visitors to tour. Arteva Homes, the main developer of Christenbury Creek, will feature a pair of homes, along with two each from Lassale Homes, Sunset Homes and Vitale Companies. The homes range in price from \$449,000 to \$749,500.

The homes will feature the latest in building trends, technology and interior design. Event officials said this year's Homearama theme, "Bringing the Dream Home," will be shown off as visitors will see affordable ideas to incorporate into their homes.

"The economy in southeastern Michigan has continued to improve, and there is a growing interest in new homes and home remodeling," Stoskopf said. "The 2016 Homearama will allow visitors to spend time exploring the homes through self-guided tours, and will make our theme a reality in their lives and in their current or future homes."

Developers got a bit of a late start to prepare for the event, Township Engineer Jim Van Tiflin said, but they were able to finish work in time for the event.

"They had to compress the whole construction schedule, but from what I hear, they're on track to have everything done," Van Tiflin said.

Van Tiflin said that when the developers of Christenbury Creek brought forward their plans for the development, they did so with the intention of hosting Homearama.

The first Homearama took place in 1983 in Troy, and this year's event will be the 21st of its kind. The most recent Homearama occurred in 2014 in Oakland Township after the event wasn't held for several years during the economic downturn.

"I think what it does is spread some ideas and spurs some ideas in the community," Van Tiflin said. "It gives potential homeowners some ideas as to what can be done with exterior looks and interiors. A lot of good ideas can come out of an event like this."

The event will kick off with a charity gala from 6 to 10 p.m. Sept. 21. Tickets for the charity preview cost \$100 and benefit the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation.

Guests will enjoy appetizers and cocktails while touring the fully furnished homes. They also will receive the Homearama Plan Book at the event, featuring floor plans and other information on the homes.

Preview tickets include a "comeback" ticket for use once during the run of the public event that will begin Sept. 23. For the charity preview party, there will be a complimentary on-site executive shuttle service.

Following the charity preview, Homearama will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sept. 23-25, Sept. 29-Oct. 2 and Oct. 6-9.

The event has free on-site parking. Advance tickets for use on one day during the run of the program may be purchased online for \$10 per person or at the gate for \$12 per person. There is no charge for children 15 and younger when accompanied by an adult.

A portion of the proceeds from the public event will benefit HBA's Charitable & Educational Foundation, the American Red Cross and the Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation.

For further information or to purchase tickets to the charity preview or public event, visit www.HomearamaHBA.com or call (248) 737-4477.