

[PRESS RELEASE]

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Atlanta Builder and Developer Takes a Bold Step towards Birmingham's Future Georgia's Own TyCam Development Prepares to Break Ground on a Revolutionary "Family-and-Faith-Based" Lifestyle Community in Alabama

January 18, Birmingham – With the recent rezoning approval of Daniel Payne Legacy Village by the Birmingham City Council, Georgia-based TyCam Development, Inc. prepares to take a bold step towards Birmingham's future. Atlanta builder, architect and developer, Tony Pourhassan is excited about the possible ramifications that a development such as the one proposed for the former Daniel Payne College site could mean. First approached by land holders – Alabama's Ninth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC) – in February 2010, Pourhassan was tasked with developing a plan and acquiring the approvals necessary to break ground on a revolutionary concept, a "live, work, play, pray" community in the heart of North Birmingham.

Named after Daniel Payne (1811-1893), an esteemed educator, historian, bishop, and first African-American president of a college in the United States – the Birmingham-based University closed its doors in 1979 shortly following a devastating tornado in which the campus incurred widespread damage and subsequent financial woes. The 153 acres on which the college stood has remained in the hands of the African Methodist Episcopal Church ever since. The church maintained a number of offices on the property before moving their headquarters to downtown Birmingham in 2009. For many years, the elders of the church along with 9th Episcopal District Bishop James L. Davis have sought the best use of this large tract of land located in the northern sector of this bustling Southern city, as well as the best development company with which to partner. Their search led them to native son, Tony Pourhassan and TyCam Development, Inc.

Tony Pourhassan, former Montgomery resident and owner of TyCam Development, Inc., began commissioning studies of the site right away to examine the viability of the project while Bishop Davis and the elders took their proposal before the congregations that make up the 9th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Both the studies and the response from the church on a whole were extremely positive. "This is a truly beautiful spot in a terrific location," insists Pourhassan. "Thanks to more than 25 years in the land development, construction, and architectural design industries – I am able to see past the abandoned buildings, and fields choked with brambles and weeds. Bishop Davis and I can envision the infinite possibilities for a wonderful community that exists in harmony with the environment that surrounds it—a throwback to another era in appearance, boasting all the modern conveniences. This vision includes a phenomenal church retreat surrounded by nearby friendly neighborhood shops, a treasure trove of lush wetlands and green trees, scenic walking trails and beautiful new construction eco-friendly homes – many of which can be enjoyed by former bishops and retired pastors of the church."

Plans for The Daniel Payne Legacy Village include a community comprised of beautiful church retreat complete with lodging and conference facilities at the development's core. Recreational space, more than 50 acres of green space providing beautiful park-like surroundings, and a bungalow residential community of nearly 120+ single-family homes will encircle the retreat. Handsomely constructed office space and a retail center will serve as the face of the Village along Daniel Payne Road. Now that the project has met with the approval of the Zoning Advisory Committee of the Birmingham Planning Commission, the City Council and the Honorable Mayor William A. Bell, Sr., Bishop Davis and Mr. Pourhassan hope to begin breaking ground on Daniel Payne Legacy Village in 2011. In addition to growing Birmingham's housing base and thrusting the city to the forefront with such a pioneering concept in mixed-use developments, Daniel Payne Legacy Village will also represent positive job growth for the city – with construction expected to span several years.

"In keeping with Bishop Davis and AMEC's wishes to build something lasting, something worthy of Daniel Payne's legacy – we believe we may have stumbled upon an innovative concept that can be reflected in cities all across the nation, " explains Pourhassan. "Imagine so much more than your run-of-the-mill mixed-use development – a place where neighbors and entire congregations can come together to worship, celebrate, and shape the future of both their church and their neighborhood – a place to live, work, play and pray, a 'family-and-faith based community'. It's really exciting, and TyCam Development is truly honored to be a part of it."

About TyCam Development, Inc.: The Atlanta-based design-develop-build firm, TyCam Development, Inc. is the parent company of Highlight Homes, LLC, Highlight Home Restoration, and Vesmont, LC. Over the course of 25 years, its president, Tony Pourhassan, has built more than 800 Single Family Homes and more than 200 Townhomes across 20 subdivisions in the state of Georgia. He's been instrumental in the development of 12 communities, with three more exciting subdivisions in the works. He has taken steps to streamline his industry by successfully implementing cost code accounting to accurately track construction & development costs, spearheading green building & development programs, and assembling countless talented teams to take projects from concept to successful completion. Tony is also no stranger to working with public officials, lawyers, residents, & engineers to rezone property, as well as acquiring & assembling due diligence materials to secure equity investors and bank loans for company projects, and partnering with local schools, charities & civic organizations to raise money or donate labor & materials to give back to the community. He is a Certified Professional Home Builder and is a member of the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association, the National Association of Home Builders, the National Association of General Contractors, and the US Green Building Council. Tony has received countless awards for his designs. He was raised in Alabama, and is a proud graduate of Auburn University – where he received his Bachelors of Science in Architecture with a Minor in Structural Engineering.

About African Methodist Episcopal Church: The AMEC grew out of the Free African Society (FAS) and was established in Philadelphia in 1787. It has since grown to encompass more than 2 million members, 8,000 ministers, and 7,000 congregations in more than 30 nations in North and South America, Africa, and Europe. The 9th Episcopal District of the AMEC covers the state of Alabama, and is comprised of 275 AME congregations representing more than 20,000 members of the denomination. The 9th Episcopal District is currently presided over by Bishop James Levert Davis, a fifth generation African Methodist Episcopal Minister. Bishop Davis has pastored in Alabama and Georgia over his 40-year span of pastoral ministry. During that time, he has been responsible for spearheading many dynamic programs and projects to better serve the people of the community including the development of Big Bethel Village in Southwest Atlanta, and the purchase and development of more than 20 pieces of property in the "Auburn Renaissance" in one of Atlanta's oldest black communities.

Attachment: Daniel Payne Legacy Village Master Site Plan (pdf file)

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