

Developer unveils plans for his next project in Bossier City

Phase 1 of 64-acre Villaggio expected to cost \$80 million to \$90 million

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By Jane Bokun

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Imagine a Bossier City community where you can window shop, dine under an umbrella in an outdoor cafe, pick up your dry cleaning then walk back home within minutes.

Think it's a crazy idea? John Good Jr., developer of Louisiana Boardwalk in Bossier City, doesn't.

During a press conference Wednesday at the Bossier Civic Center, Good announced his newest project: Villaggio (an Italian word for village).

The 64-acre, family-friendly development will be on U.S. Highway 80 just east of Swan Lake Road and west of Bossier Parish Community College. In fact, the property will be within walking distance of the Bossier City school.

Construction of Phase 1 is slated to begin within the next couple of months and is expected to cost \$80 million to \$90 million.

"Here in Bossier City, we're celebrating 100 years. And this development is an excellent way to showcase our growth," said Lisa Johnson, executive director of the Bossier Chamber of Commerce.

The mega-development will feature a sandy-beached lake, 55,000 square feet of retail space, multifamily housing with two- and three-bedroom apartments, town homes, dining, office and commercial space and a lakeside promenade with the property's trademark 45-foot clock tower. There also will be jogging/walking trails, swimming in designated areas and paddle and sailboat rentals.

All this, Good said, for apartment rentals of about \$700 to \$1,300 per month. "We're very reasonable."

Lots also will be offered for sale for home building.

Villaggio's retail space, called Buoni Negozi following the Italian-style theme, will showcase Main Street frontage. Some will offer a view of the Promenade at Lake Villaggio. A special market area called Carrelli will use umbrella market carts offering everything from fresh flowers to Italian coffees.

Good expects Phase 1 to open in summer 2008.

"This project is definitely outside the box," he said. "People looking on Interstate 20 will say, 'What's over there?'"

The question also may be who's renting?

Good said the apartments may be leased by BPC students or people from Barksdale Air Force Base.

As a part of Phase II, Villaggio will offer Casa Bella, which will have one-, two- and three-bedroom units that will incorporate a three-story design with wrought iron gates.

Good and his company, Villaggio Development Limited, are developing the project. He also founded Stonebridge in 1996. The 330-acre project was Bossier City and Louisiana's first Fred Couples' PGA professional golf course and residential community.



This is an artist's rendering of an interior street at Villaggio, an Italian-themed lifestyle community that developer John Good Jr. plans to build along U.S. Highway 80 in Bossier City. **Use the link below to see more artist's concepts of the development.** (Special to The Times)

TO LEARN MORE

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On the Web:

- [Villaggio development](#)

Multimedia:


-  [Read about developer John Good Jr.](#)
-  [Quick facts about the Villaggio project](#)
-  [Read more about amenities planned for Villaggio](#)
-  [Read the news release about Villaggio](#)

Photo Galleries:

-  [Artist's renderings of Villaggio development in Bossier City](#)