



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Pine Mountain Builders Selected To Build Unique Homes at Blalock Lakes**

Pine Mountain Builders has been chosen as the exclusive builder of the 135 lakeside and lake view homes at Blalock Lakes, a gated community of 399 home sites on 3,000 acres in Coweta County, just southwest of Newnan, which is being developed by Cousins Real Estate Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cousins Properties.

Subscribing to EarthCraft House building standards, all homes built at Blalock Lakes will integrate a respect for the environment both inside and outside the home.

"It's the wave of the future," said Mike Guinan, co-owner of Pine Mountain Builders. "It makes for a healthier home both inside and outside, respects the environment and saves the homeowner in utility costs."

The lakeside and lake view homes at Blalock Lakes will range in size from 1,800 square feet to 3,200 square feet and will feature energy saving insulation strategically placed for the highest efficiency, insulated windows and energy efficient lighting and appliances.

Other features include environmentally friendly amenities as Trex-brand decking, a deck building material that looks like natural wood but is actually a composite of recycled materials. Trex-brand means that the homeowner can have a top-quality deck that is not only easier to maintain since it doesn't require the upkeep of a wood deck but is also easier on the environment since it uses recycled materials.

Pine Mountain Builders, headquartered in Pine Mountain in west Georgia, is co-owned by Guinan, Scott Brown and Cousins Properties. Brown and Guinan have more than 40 years experience in the building industry and both have college degrees in construction, Guinan's from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta and Brown's from the University of Florida. Brown also earned a master's degree in real estate development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Together, the two own Fortress Construction but formed a separate partnership with Cousins Properties about three years ago to build the homes at Longleaf at Callaway.

Building to EarthCraft House standards requires more than just filling out a few forms. EarthCraft inspectors visit each home and strenuously grade the measures builders take in areas like site planning which requires a tree preservation plan, a protected tree save area and tree planting. A minimum of 12 trees per acre are required to be planted. Other requirements in order to earn certification include R-factor insulation rated for where it is placed in the home, insulated windows and doors, weather stripping, energy efficient appliances and a resource efficient design. EarthCraft House certification requires a minimum of 150 points, and bonus points can be earned for homes built near mass transit and for homes that exceed ENERGY STAR new home standards.

(cont.)



Guinan says he is excited about being a part of the Blalock Lakes team. "This is a different project," he said. "It presents a better use of the land. Instead of a lot of houses built on cleared property, there will be a lot of green, open space." And in keeping with the green, open space, Guinan said the exterior of the comfortably elegant lakeside and lake view homes will blend compatibly their heavily wooded surroundings. For more on EarthCraft House visit [www.earthcrafthouse.org](http://www.earthcrafthouse.org)

Cousins Properties Incorporated, headquartered in Atlanta, has extensive experience in the real estate industry including the development, acquisition, financing, management and leasing of properties. The property types that Cousins actively invests in include office, multi-family, retail, industrial and land development projects. The Company's portfolio consists of interests in 7.5 million square feet of office space, 3.8 million square feet of retail space, 0.4 million square feet of industrial space, two multi-family residential projects, over 9,600 acres of strategically located land tracts for sale or future development, and significant land holdings for development of single-family residential communities. Cousins also provides leasing and management services to third-party investors; its client-services portfolio comprises 11.9 million square feet of office space. Cousins is a fully integrated equity real estate investment trust (REIT) that has been public since 1962 and trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CUZ." For more information on the Company, please visit Cousins' Web site at [www.cousinsproperties.com](http://www.cousinsproperties.com).

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