

El Dorado shows off

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SUN CITY — A new activities center and attractively landscaped courtyard were the highlights when El Dorado of Sun City opened its Phase II project yesterday.

Management is showing off the activities center, two newly landscaped courtyards, a system of walkways and the enclosed condominium building with room for more than 100 additional suites. Together these additions cost about \$750,000.

In its third phase El Dorado will finish the interior of the third condominium building, landscape the Viewpoint lake-front and complete final landscaping and development of the property facing Thunderbird Boulevard. Phase III is expected to be completed by next January or February, according to El Dorado spokesman Ev Eakin.

Eakin said the original 249 planned units have been reduced to 221 because demand has been much higher for larger condominium suites.

The new activities and fitness center, located on the second floor of The Commons, is one of the more spacious and luxurious of any retirement community in the Valley, according to El Dorado General Manager Pat Cavitt.

She said many of its amenities and color schemes were a direct result of feedback from the retirement facility's 58 residents.

The center includes a giant-screen TV room for group viewings, a library housing many donated resident books, crafts room for painting, weaving and other handiwork and a men's lounge with TV, pool and poker tables and a cardroom.

Along the corridors and common areas of the condominiums, more than 100 attractive paintings add to the decor. Many were painted by El Dorado residents.

Fitness center exercise equipment will include a treadmill, exercise bicycles, weight lifting bells and a rehab trainer. Also on the second floor is the beauty parlor, auditorium seating nearly 200 where Rio Salado dance and health classes are now being conducted, and offices of the directors of resident activities, health and fitness.

The two new courtyards feature a lagoon setting with waterfalls, fountain and gezebo and nighttime lighting.

The front entrance to The Commons has been completely redone, with a vestibule added along with self-opening glass doors.

Newly decorated model condominiums furnished by Freeds Fine Furnishings will be on display during the open house.

Unit prices range from \$79,900 for 600 square-foot units to \$189,900 for courtyard two-bedroom, 2 1/2 bath suites.

Cavitt said El Dorado will continue to market heavily in Sun City. Market studies have shown that Sun Citians like to maintain recreation center privileges and live where they



STROLLING ALONG — The new courtyard features a paved walkway, a small gazebo, and some landscaping.