

Right on the Wood-mark

GRAND OPENING: New assisted living community to be unveiled in Sun City

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DAILY NEWS-SUN

Apartments with full-size refrigerators, stove tops, private baths and a center that offers many distinctive amenities greets Sun City at The Woodmark, the newest assisted living complex celebrating its grand opening Sunday.

Woodmark is a small, privately owned company with its home office in Bellevue, Wash. The Sun City branch, at 17207 N. Boswell Blvd., is the only one in Arizona, with others in Reno, Nev., Albuquerque, N.M., and Federal Way, Wash. It has 447-square-foot studios, 550- to 590-square-foot one bedrooms with two different styles and 858-square-foot two-bedroom, two-bath apartments.

Judy Murphy, Woodmark's community relations chairwoman, showed off the elaborately decorated building, dining area and all the amenities Woodmark offers as she prepared to open the complex after working since February to get the building up and running.

The monthly rent includes concierge services, an 18-passenger van for transporting residents, and multiple planned activities. Rent is on a month-to-month basis, starts at \$2,375 and runs up to \$3,555, which includes most services.

A snack area has popcorn and ice cream available for in-between meal hunger pains. A lounge area has a 40-inch-plus television and cable for viewings of favorite movies and shows.

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** The Woodmark at Sun City's grand opening celebration.
- **WHEN:** noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.
- **WHERE:** For information call 583-7600.

And a garden room is waiting for thirsty soil to be watered and plants to be pruned.

A full-service kitchen is available for entertaining the entire family. And five laundry rooms are available free-of-charge.

"You can do it yourself or have our staff do your laundry," Murphy said.

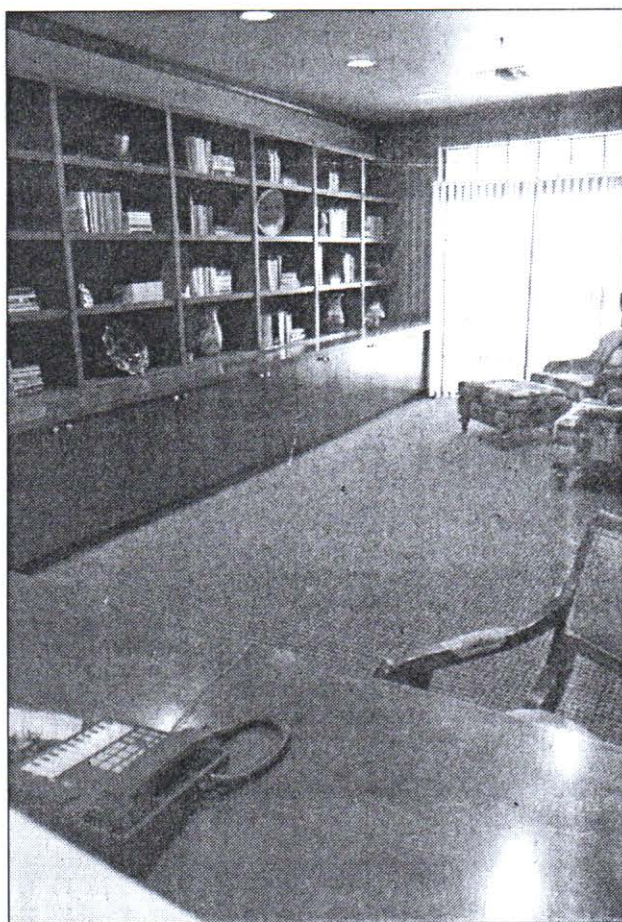
A library is stocked with donated books and will eventually have a computer to check e-mails from out-of-state family members. A fitness center offers weights, a treadmill and armchair aerobics. And all bathrooms are equipped with large showers and built-in seats.

"We did a lot of research for our unique residences," said Linda Tesmer, Woodmark's marketing and sales director. "Our owners just envisioned providing more services."

Also, residents can wear a necklace, bracelet or belt clip that can be activated to alert staff if problems arise, and in each apartment pull cords are available in the bathrooms.

The complex includes a beauty salon/barber shop, a wellness center and a 24-hour nursing staff. All caregivers are certified for directed care, Tesmer said. The large dining room seats 72 people and residents can order like they would in a restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

"We are so proud of our food," Murphy said. "Food makes a big difference and it's never lacking



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The library will offer computers with Internet access, so residents can e-mail their families.

around here."

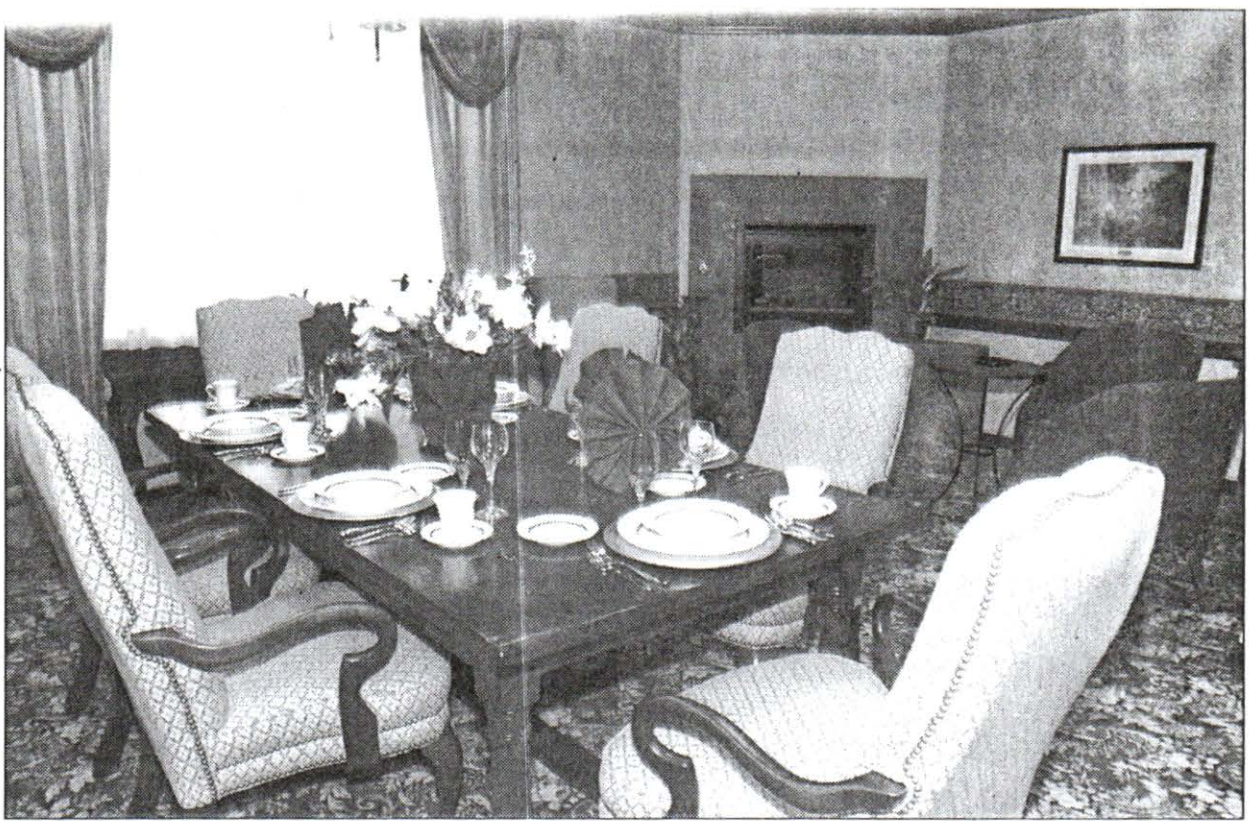
The Woodmark also has a Courtyard Memory Care residence with 32 bedroom suites, which will be open by late October.

The residence is specifically for residents suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia, and has an aviary with finches, canaries and doves, a beauty salon, a tool shop and a library.

The center is also decorated with calming, subdued colors. Residents have other activities and are not just set in front of a television, Tesmer said.

"If they have attention and direction, people with Alzheimer's can have a quality life," she said. "We also check them hourly during the day and half-hourly at night."

For information, call the Woodmark at 583-7600.



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At The Woodmark's guest dining hall, residents can entertain family or friends privately.