



# The Carmel Pine Cone

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## Five years after it's conceived, new Trevvett Court opens

By MARY BROWNFIELD

THE NEWEST housing complex for low-income seniors in Carmel officially opened Tuesday, and its 14 fortunate residents are set to move in next week. But the nonprofit Carmel Foundation still has almost \$1.3 million to raise to pay for the \$3.5 million project.

Addressing dozens of donors, foundation board members, fundraisers and other key supporters of the project, board chairman Terry Burns described its completion as a "huge accomplishment."

"We have raised \$2.3 million, and, not that anyone's counting, we still have \$1,227,329 to go," she said. "But we're here, and we look forward to continuing on."

"It took a village to make this happen," foundation president and CEO Jill Sheffield told the group Aug. 24. She recalled collaborating with Sarah Berling to find an architect for the Dolores Street project and choosing Eric Miller's Pacific Grove firm in 2005.

The plan underwent its first planning commission meeting in February 2006.

Miller said his firm designed the complex to feel residential and convivial, not institutional. The 14 500-square-foot units have differing floor plans, allowing for some individuality, and every front door is Dutch, so people can leave the top half open when the weather is nice and they're feeling more sociable.

After years of designing and planning, ground was broken last October, and SBI Builders undertook demolition and construction, finishing the project on time and on budget. SBI also donated all the granite countertops in the apartments and the laundry room.

"It was a pleasure doing this job," company owner Dan Silverie told the crowd before describing some of the green materials in the building. In addition, the Carmel stone was saved during the demolition of the old build-

ing and reused in the new one.

"It's terrific to have affordable housing in downtown Carmel," he said. And as he and his crew wrapped up their work during the Monterey Peninsula's busy Concours Week, "we had several people come in and ask how much they were for sale for."

Mayor Sue McCloud described the complex as a "dream come true for seniors," and she said the nonprofit foundation's total of 50 units in the Trevvett Court, Norton Court and Haseltine Court complexes satisfy 80 percent of the city's state-mandated low-cost housing.

"The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea is proud to have The Carmel Foundation as a neighbor," she said, describing the nonprofit as the gold standard "for how a community cares for its older members." In a town where the majority of its residents are over 55, that care is crucial.

For more information on contributing to Trevvett Court, contact Linda Lee at [lindal@carmelfoundation.org](mailto:lindal@carmelfoundation.org), [www.carmelfoundation.org](http://www.carmelfoundation.org) or (831) 624-1588 ext. 52.

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