

New resort welcomes first guest Monday

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An upscale facility opens in Hunt when Stablewood Springs Resort receives its first guest Monday.

The “world-class boutique destination spa and resort,” located along the Guadalupe River, encompasses 140 acres and will be dotted with 70 vacation villas after phase one of the construction project.

So far, four villas are complete and the rest are expected to be finished by the end of 2010, according to marketing and sales manager Jennifer Hoff.

“Right now we are completing about two a month,” she said. “And we already have several contracts, so as soon as they are finished, we are closing on them.”

Hoff said a majority of buyers interested in the resort come from the Dallas and Houston areas.

“The people who are buying seem to have a soft spot in their hearts for Hunt,” she said. “Either they went to camp here as children or their kids come here for the summer camps.”

Hoff said those in the buyer pool seem to average between 40 and 60 years old.

And, according to Herb Lipsman, president and CEO of The Health Club Company which operates the resort, they also are people on the go.

“We are creating a luxury resort that is going to be appealing to people with an active lifestyle,” Lipsman said. “We have already installed five miles of hike and bike trails designed by local guy David Appleton.”

Three different villa models are selling for \$720,000. Owners have an option to rent their villas to guests through the resort’s rental program.

“There really is nothing else like this in the area,” Lipsman said. “We are marrying the great Hill Country outdoors with luxury living.

“It really is the best part of the Hill Country.”

The facility’s pool complex is expected to be in operation later this summer, and the full-service spa and fitness center opens in the fall.

Hoff said the hiking and biking trails are ready for use.

Construction on a bar and grill, as well as a conference center, are slated to begin in the fall.

Other amenities will include recreational lakes, golf privileges and concierge services.

Although hunting will not be allowed at Stablewoods, Hoff said a full-time recreation director will be on staff to coordinate hunting packages and other activities which will be outsourced.

Houston’s Houstonian Resort developer Tom Fatjo and Company developed the eco-friendly property. The Dallas-based architecture firm, three, is the design firm.

The buildings are being constructed using compressed earth block.

For more information about Stablewood Springs, visit www.stablewoodspringsresort.com.