

la quinta

## Affordable housing complex opens

Wolff Waters Place commemorates two men's contributions

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La Quinta's newest affordable housing development celebrates two local pioneers' contributions while allowing their legacy to live on.

Nearly 200 people — the majority key players in the creation of the new community — attended the Wolff Waters Place grand opening ceremony Wednesday, marking the addition of 218 affordable housing units to La Quinta.

"For the city — and for the valley — it's a tremendous step forward to have a development providing high quality housing for underpaid, hardworking families," said John F. Mealey, executive director of the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition, the nonprofit housing development corporation that

constructed the new community.

The apartments are for very low-income families whose annual income is about \$27,000 — or 50 percent less than the Riverside County median income, Mealey said.

Wolff Waters Place, at 47-795 Dune Palms Road, is named in memory of La Quinta's first Mayor Fred Wolff and local real estate executive Alan Waters.

Each had served on the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition board.

"I'm thrilled, and Fred would be thrilled too," said Kay Wolff, the mayor's widow.

Fred Wolff was one of the early board members of the coalition, staying on with the nonprofit corporation for nearly two decades, Kay Wolff said.

"Fred was very passionate about this organization. I think it kind of epitomizes helping out people who don't have the opportunities that many of us do," she said. "It was the kind of thing

that Fred really loved."

Waters, who died in 2007 just around the time the project began, was also a strong supporter of the coalition's mission making it befitting of him to share the name of the development with Fred Wolff, Mealey and Kay Wolff said.

Wolff Waters Place is currently awaiting official LEED Silver certification, said Brian Peulicke, the coalition's construction manager.

The development consists of one- to four-bedroom garden apartments and townhouses with units ranging from 650 to 1,376 square feet.

In addition, the community building houses a day care center, computer lab, meeting rooms, and pool and spa area.

Wolff Waters Place is about 70 percent occupied with residents who moved in as early as mid-December, but applications to lease are still being accepted.

For more information, call (760) 347-3157.