

Hospital property purchase completed Construction could begin in December

Staff Reports

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Gilbert Hospital has officially closed on the purchase of approximately 10 acres at the northern edge of Anthem in Florence on which it will build a new hospital, Pulte Homes announced.

"This makes our plans official. We are very excited to start development of a full service, general acute care hospital for the greater Florence communities," David Wanger, Gilbert Hospital CEO, said in a news release.

The healthcare development group FHAD Property, LLC went into escrow with Pulte Homes in March and closed last week on the acreage on the southwest corner of Franklin Road and Hunt Highway. The transaction represents the first phase of a planned 40-acre medical complex.

Wanger, who said the group expects to name the facility Florence Hospital at Anthem, expects to break ground by December. The new facility will be modeled after Gilbert Hospital.

Wanger said the Florence Hospital at Anthem is expected to open with a 60,000-square-foot, two-story structure that houses approximately 36 inpatient beds, 20 Emergency Department rooms, two operating rooms, full diagnostic capabilities to include MRI, CT Scan, Digital X-ray, Nuclear Medicine, Ultrasound, Full Service Laboratory and Blood Bank.

Wanger said plans for the Florence Hospital at Anthem also include: a full service pharmacy; two medical office buildings (40,000 square feet adjacent to hospital); physician specialties such as internal medicine/hospital services, emergency, cardiology, general surgery, gastroenterology, urology, orthopedic surgery and podiatry; and strategic partnerships for ground ambulance and air ambulance (helicopter service).

Florence hospital is expected to have approximately 350 employees after the first year.

Brad Schoenberg, vice president of operations for Pulte Homes, said residents from Anthem and surrounding communities have been eager for the closing to take place and development to begin.

"Gilbert Hospital is a leader in the delivery of healthcare for the Southeast Valley and so many people are very excited that they have chosen Florence to expand their services," Schoenberg, said. "The growth in Florence and surrounding communities is tremendous, and with this growth comes the need for many services including hospitals."

About Gilbert Hospital

Gilbert Hospital is licensed as a full-service, acute care general hospital. The hospital is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Although offering a complete array of traditional hospital services, Gilbert Hospital is pioneering in its focus on emergency medicine and the rapid, accurate and compassionate care the entire Gilbert Hospital staff provides.

Gilbert Hospital is the only hospital in the Valley that guarantees "Door to Doc in 31 Minutes." The hospital staffs for "peak volume" 100 percent of the time, thereby anticipating increased patient flow and maintaining short Emergency Department wait time promise. An Inpatient bed expansion is set to break

ground in late 2008. For more information: www.gilberter.com .

"Gilbert Hospital would not be what it is today without the hard work, dedication and loyalty of our physicians, nurses, associates, volunteers and our entire staff who have given themselves so significantly to help make it a successful member of the community," Wanger said. "We look forward to the same wonderful association in the Florence community."

Gilbert Hospital opened in February, 2006 as the first general acute care hospital in Gilbert. The hospital is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The facility saw and treated more than 51,000 patients last year in its emergency department, making it one of the busiest emergency departments in the Valley.

About Anthem at Merrill Ranch:

Anthem at Merrill Ranch by Del Webb is a 3,200-acre master planned community planned for 9,100 homes in two neighborhoods: an all-ages Pulte neighborhoods and a Sun City neighborhood for active adults. With a vibrant resort-style feel to the community and incredible amenities including a huge community park with sports fields, catch-and-release fishing, a Big Splash water park and two beautiful community centers for all ages and active adults.

About Pulte Homes:

Pulte Homes, Inc., (NYSE: PHM), based in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., is one of America's largest home building companies with operations in 50 markets and 26 states. During its 58-year history, the company has delivered more than 500,000 new homes.

Since 2000, Pulte Homes operations have earned more top-three finishes than any other homebuilder in the annual J.D. Power and Associates® New Home-BUILDER Customer Satisfaction Study.

Under its Del Webb brand, Pulte is the nation's largest builder of active adult communities for people age 55 and older.

Its DiVosta Homes brand is renowned in Florida for its Built Solid building system and distinctive master-planned communities. Pulte Mortgage LLC is a nationwide lender offering Pulte customers a wide variety of loan products and superior service.

Web sites: www.pulte.com; www.delwebb.com; www.divosta.com