

# BUSINESS/TECH Denton Business Nebraska natives trade cold for Wii

Midwest transplants find Denton senior community a good fit

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By Rachel Mehlhaff / Staff Writer

Nebraska natives Lynn and Floyd Warren came to Denton for a winter vacation, but liked it so much they decided to stay.

Last October, the couple moved to The Bridgemoor at Denton, an apartment community for seniors 55 and older. In May, the Warrens returned to their home of 34 years, packed up some items and relocated for good to the Bridgemoor with their poodle, Princess.

Lynn Warren, 67, happened upon the community last July when she was in Denton visiting her mother, who lives in an assisted-living facility. She said she was on her way to look at another apartment complex when she saw the Bridgemoor and decided to stop in.

“I felt a 55-plus community would be the best option for us,” she said.



DRC/David Minton

Lynn Warren and her friends play Wii bowling on Thursday in the clubhouse at The Bridgemoor at Denton, a senior housing community.

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The 240-unit community set on 19.5 acres on Spencer Road offers seniors a variety of activities, from playing Wii bowling to watching movies to taking informational classes. During one such recent class, residents heard from a police officer about fraud prevention.

“We try to educate them as much as we can,” said Shelly Johnson, the community’s business manager.

The community features a 40-seat movie theater, fitness center, billiards room and two salons — one for residents, another for their pets. The facility holds monthly potlucks and recently added a community garden.

Although it opened in 2009, the non-income-restricted senior community hosted a ribbon-cutting June 10 to let the city know it's here. The facility feels brand-new, Johnson said, with recent changes to management (Seattle-based Pinnacle) and ownership (La Jolla, Calif.-based Interwest Capital Corp.).



DRC/David Minton

Lynn Warren and her husband only planned on spending the winter at The Bridgemoor at Denton, seen Thursday afternoon under sunny skies, but decided to move there for good.

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With 109 current residents, the facility is 45 percent occupied and 53 percent leased, Johnson said. She expects there will be 125 residents by the end of June.

“Our community is very active,” Johnson said. “We provide daily activities and [the residents] are good about attending them.”

Warren said not everyone joins in the activities, but she enjoys them. Warren also enjoys the quietness, her neighbors and not worrying about upkeep.

“We think that it's a very friendly community,” Warren said. “It seems like it's family.”

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