

ments in May 2011 and now 232 of almost 300 renovated units are occupied, according to Sandi Sauders, Park Lee's manager. The rest of the project is expected to be finished in about a year, Simplot said.

Park Lee's residents are a mix of income levels, including some units set aside for low-income residents, Simplot said.

"The goal is to integrate all levels of income in a community because that creates a healthy community," Simplot said.

Market rates for one-bedroom units are \$425 a month. Two-bedroom units start at \$475 a month. Nineteen two-bedroom cottages in one-story buildings go for \$599 a month.

For more information on Park Lee, call 602-264-1195. **-E**



Life at Midtown offers another option for central Phoenix renters

Real estate developer Ryan Hartman says apartment complexes in central Phoenix that he's been renovating will appeal to renters who are "artistic, eclectic and urban."

Life at Midtown includes 131 units in three complexes.

The apartments, built in 1960, have a mid-century modern style, Hartman said. "I love architecture, and these buildings have really good bones," he said.

The project includes Aura, a 96-unit complex at 3623 N. Fifth St., and the neighboring Shorewood, a 21-unit building at 3601 N. Fifth St. that Hartman said has a "boutique feel."

Estates is a 14-unit property located in what Hartman called a "Palm Springs-kind of neighborhood" at 310 W. Medlock Drive.

Since he acquired the properties in December, Hartman said that there have been interior renovations, including installing glass tile backsplashes and opening kitchens to the living area. Units have polished concrete or plank vinyl floors.

Outside, Hartman said he filled two of the four pools at Aura and installed new landscaping. Community courtyards offer barbecue areas, bocce ball, tetherball and fire pits.

The complexes have one, two and three bedroom units ranging in size from 600 to more than 1,000 square feet.

Hartman said that the location of the apartments will appeal to the LGBT community. He noted that the apartments have easy access to the light rail and a grocery store.

The properties have attracted singles and couples in the 25 to 40 age range, Hartman said.

For more information, visit auraatmidtown.com.

— Glenn Gullickson