

Keowee Key embarks on \$14M renovation effort

BY JUSTIN LEE CAMPBELL
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SALEM — Keowee Key held a groundbreaking ceremony Friday at its country club as part of a multimillion-dollar renovation plan to update, modernize and expand the lakeside retirement community.

The \$14 million makeover includes modernizing the club, expanding the Southside Pool Pavilion and Fitness and Racquet Center, updating the golf course and adding a fast-casual dining venue and another 2.5 miles of paved walking trails, according to a news release.

Keowee Key spokeswoman Christine de Vlaming said Friday's ceremony went "very well."

"Everyone was enthusiastic," de Vlaming said. "We're thrilled to see all

these wonderful changes happening to upgrade the amenities and lifestyle at Keowee Key. Each part of the project is exciting, and it's about the overall plan of having so many upgrades this year."

Keowee Key board of directors president Margaret Eldridge said in the statement Oconee County, South State Bank, Hogan Construction Group, architectural firms DP3 and LS3P

and the community's local partners have been a "very responsive team."

"It's been great working with the board, staff and our Keowee Key owners, who overwhelmingly approved this investment," Eldridge said.

De Vlaming said the homeowners "work hard together"

to maintain the "high quality" of the community.

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old development in Salem with almost 3,500 residents.

"The community's residents are well known in the area for their extensive volunteer activities," according to the statement.

Keowee Key held the first groundbreaking ceremony of its 2018 Master

Projects Plan earlier this month at the Pavilion.

The plan includes renovating the pool, replacing the bathroom and adding 1,500 square feet of lounging area, according to a news release.

The pool is scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend.

The plan also includes a golf course installation led by architect Richard Mandell, whom Boardroom Magazine recently

named Golf Course Architect of the Year, according to the release. Eldridge said installation contractor Wadsworth Golf has been "flawless."

"Our collection of recreational amenities, vibrant social fabric, diverse arts culture, financial stability and affordability are unmatched in this region," Eldridge said.



PHOTOS BY REX BROWN | TJ

Keowee Key board of directors president Margaret Eldridge speaks at Friday's groundbreaking ceremony for its 2018 Master Projects Plan worth \$14 million at the Country Club in Salem. The plan includes updating and modernizing the club, Southside Pool, Fitness and Racquet Center, golf course and walking trails.



Artist renderings show the plans for renovations and additions to the Club at Keowee Key.



Keowee Key officials and others break ground March 7 for an expansion of the Southside Pool Pavilion in Salem.