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## 'Walkable' village underway in E. Hampton

BY **GREGORY SEAY**

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SUBMITTED RENDERING

A rendering of apartments at Edgewater Hill in East Hampton, which is under construction.

Edgewater Hill, a walkable 74-acre residential-commercial development, is in the \$8 million first phase of construction in East Hampton, with its first commercial units to be ready this fall, the developer says.

Dream Developers of East Hampton broke ground Wednesday for five, two-story buildings, each with eight garden-style apartments, and a separate two-story building with 18,000 square feet of office-retail space.

Edgewater Hill is adjacent to the Laurel Ridge subdivision and fronts the east side of the town's Route 66 commercial corridor. Condominiums, single-family houses and more commercial space will come later, Dream Developers co-owner Steve Motto said.

In all, Edgewater eventually will encompass more than 200 dwellings and 80,000 square feet of commercial space, Motto said. The project's buildout pricetag was unavailable.

"It's finally here," Motto said. "It was a dream of ours to make a vibrant, walkable community work for the town of East Hampton."

Town planner-architect Patrick Pinnell, of Goman + York Property Advisors in East Hartford, designed key elements of Edgewater Hill. Pinnell is renowned for his embrace of "new urbanism," a planning concept in which housing, retail, offices and green spaces are unified into a pedestrian-friendly "village."

Architect Anthony Amenta, of Hartford's Amenta Emma Architects, designed the residential and commercial spaces. Amenta also designed West Hartford's Blue Back Square mixed-use development.

Farmington Bank is financing Edgewater Hill.

The retail-office building will be ready this fall, Motto said. The initial batch of apartments to be available early next spring will be one- and two-bedroom units, with rents ranging from about \$900 to \$1,400 monthly.

Meantime, Motto announced two tenants have committed to space in the first commercial building: Educational Playcare will open its seventh Connecticut facility on the second floor; and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New England Properties will relocate its 21 East Hampton agents to first-floor space.

Berkshire Hathaway, too, will oversee lease-up of Edgewater's 40 apartment homes, Motto said.

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