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# More growth ahead for Township at Colony Park

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Ben and Shawn Edwards have embraced the “live, work, shop” lifestyle offered at The Township at Colony Park. Last month, the couple moved from Tennessee to live in a condo they purchased in 2010 and made it their permanent home because they enjoyed visiting the area so much.

“Almost any day, Ben and I may be seen playing with our grandkids at the playground, exercising at The Club, walking around the lakes, shopping, banking, drinking a cup of coffee, getting a haircut, or having a delicious meal followed by a cup of frozen yogurt, a cupcake, or decadent chocolate apple dessert,” Shawn Edwards said.

The Edwardses believe in The Township’s purpose of community, evidenced by residential and commercial building and endless car traffic. Kerith Corp. is in various phases of the construction, totaling approximately \$35 million, said marketing director David Johnson.

“We’ve seen more growth in the last few years than you would expect in this economy — and it’s due to the ‘buy-in’ from the people of Ridgeland and Madison County,” Johnson said. There are two hotels under construction — The Marriott TownePlace Suites, an extended stay hotel, and The Marriott SpringHill Suites.

A building at 141 Township Avenue will feature first-floor retail and second- and third-floor office space.

Anne Marie Smith, marketing manager for Anjou and Sombra Mexican Kitchen, said Highland Colony Parkway is becoming the hot spot for businesses, shoppers and prospective residents. “It has



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huge potential and so many types of restaurants,” she said. “It will probably be the new County Line Road with the restaurants and hotels coming here.”

Several singlefamily homes are under construction and about 120 condos are in the planning phase.

“Upon completion of the current construction alone, the city will have seen an increase in the local workforce by 300-500 permanent jobs,” Johnson said.

He said The Township generates around \$1.8 million in sales tax revenue and about \$1.4 million in ad valorem taxes.

“People want to be where things just feel right, and that’s what the new urbanism development provides — a sense of place,” he said.

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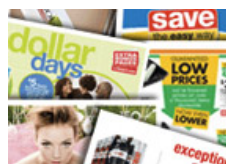
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