

Homestead Hills OK'd for \$3.2M expansion

BY OWEN COVINGTON

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WINSTON-SALEM — Homestead Hills has received preliminary approval from the state to add 40 skilled nursing beds to its 37-acre campus in a move that will add to its assisted living offerings.

The \$3.2 million expansion at the Winston-Salem retirement community, owned by Charlotte-based Senior Living Communities, involves the relocation of skilled nursing beds previously allotted to the Greensboro Road property of Presbyterian Homes in High Point, which closed in November 2009.

The expansion will require the addition of up to 60 jobs, most of which will be skilled health care positions, according to Wallace Saunders, president of Senior Living Communities.

“What we’re pleased about is the addition will allow us to expand the continuum of care we can offer,” Saunders said.

Homestead Hills currently has 62 condominium-style villas, 76 single-family cottages and 48 assisted-living rooms and suites on its campus at 3250 Homestead Club Drive south of Hanes Mall and Interstate 40 in southwest Winston-Salem.

The expansion would involve the construction of a 15,600-square-foot wing at the campus and include a large dining space, work space for patient therapy, a spa, massage therapy space and a “bistro” that can be used for social gatherings and an additional dining area, according to the applica-



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tion Homestead Hills filed with the state.

Saunders said plans include an expansion of the wellness center to a “state-of-the-art” facility. He said Senior Living Communities has been a leader in the wellness aspect of senior housing.

Homestead Hills applied for approval from the state, which oversees the allocation of skilled nursing beds, in June. Following the conditional approval Homestead Hills received at the end of September, there is a 30-day window for appeals that ends Oct. 30, after which final approval would come by the end of the month if no one challenges the state’s decision, according to Lisa Pittman with the N.C. Division of Health Service Regulation.

The company is in final negotiations with a contractor for the project, Saunders said. The skilled nursing facility is expected to open to patients in the fourth quarter of 2012.

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