

Keystone Villa in Amity to expand

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AMITY — Construction on a new 38,000-square-foot, three story building at Keystone Villa will begin this spring after the township Board of Supervisors approved phase three expansion plans.

James Elliott, president of Hollenbach Construction Company in Boyertown, thanked the board for their help in approving the plans within three months.

He said construction should be completed within eight to nine months.

“We have completed four projects in 10 years,” said Elliott. “It doesn’t take five years to get a plan approved. Thank you for working with us in a collaborative way.

“When this project is completed, the Keystone Villa will have invested over \$36 million in Douglassville,” said Elliott. “Our tax bill is almost \$500,000 a year. What was reported by members of the Daniel Boone School Board is absolutely not true. We have had a great working relationship with Amity Township.”

To draw a comparison, Elliott said a land development approval process he experienced in Ephrata, Lancaster County, was 13 months.

The Keystone Villa is located at 1180 Benjamin Franklin Highway East. The new building will have 42 apartments, 26 units for personal care and 16 dementia units.

An additional 14 full-time first-shift staff will be hired and a total of 36 new staff members will be employed when the facility is fully occupied.

The first building at Keystone Villa was an independent living facility that opened in 2005. That was followed by a Personal Care and Memory Care building in 2009 and a name change from the Villa at Morlatton to Keystone Villa at Douglassville in 2011.

Elliott said the former Hoffman residence will be demolished for the new construction.

Information from News of Southern Berks, 
www.berksmontnews.com