

Developer meets need for senior housing

New Hartford complex grows

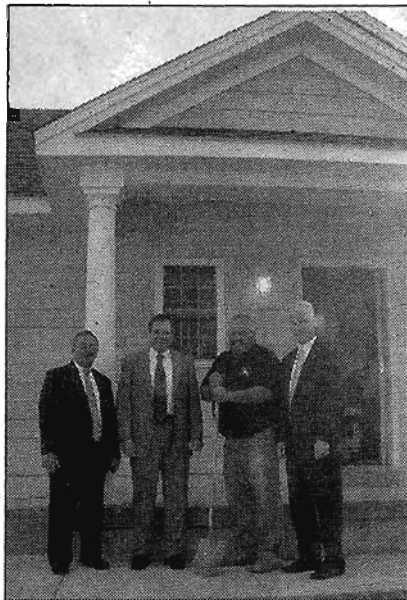
BY KARI BANACH
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

NEW HARTFORD — The Canterbury Village senior apartment complex on Reservoir Road is growing to meet a growing demand.

Terryville developer Tim Bobroske is adding a pair of duplexes to the 20-unit compound, after tabling plans to buy town-owned land in a nearby neighborhood for a new complex.

For years, there has been a 10- to 15-person waiting list to get into this quaint, Colonial-style development. The town's zoning officer, Karl Nilsen, said it's largely because it's the only game in town for age-restricted housing.

Nilsen said because this wealthy, rural community has no housing authority, there's no designated party to lure devel-



Terryville developer Tim Bobroske, second from right, celebrated the expansion of his senior housing complex, Canterbury Village, in New Hartford on Tuesday with Northwest Community Bank brass, who helped to finance the project. From left are John R. Urson, John E. Gergots and Stephen P. Reilly. The 20-unit complex, which is being expanded with four new units, has a waiting list and is the only senior housing in town.

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opers of age-restricted or affordable housing here. "We're relying on the interest of private contractors to do it," he said:

The Tim Bobroske Co., for one, has been interested for years. He approached selectmen in 2002, 2006 and again

earlier this year to try to buy a 2-acre parcel in the Loomis Heights neighborhood to build a second 10- to 18-unit complex in town. Canterbury Village was built in 2000, and also qualifies as some of the town's only affordable housing, Nilsen said.

All three times, selectmen

never made a decision on his proposal after neighbors expressed a desire to buy the land, see the land go undeveloped, or be turned into a park. The wooded property in 2006 was appraised at \$100,000.

"We love New Hartford and feel there's a great need here for senior housing," Bobroske said. "We may go before the (newly elected) administration and try to buy the property again, but this is what we're doing for now."

The Loomis Heights lot was carved in the 1950s by the town as part of a subdivision of duplex public housing, but it was never developed. The homes there are now privately owned, but the 2-acre lot has remained untouched and in the town's hands.

Though the new units at Canterbury Village, which will rent for \$1,300 a month including heat and water, are only halfway through construction, three of the four are rented, said Bobroske, who also owns complexes in Plymouth, Thomaston and Wolcott.