

NEWS RELEASE



Touchmark at Coffee Creek

For immediate release

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\$15M Phase 2 development will meet demand, offer more services

EDMOND, Okla. — Edmond's largest development to receive city approval this year will break ground Friday, July 10, 2009 at 10 a.m. for a \$15 million expansion project. Instead of a traditional groundbreaking, dignitaries will help lay the foundation and release concrete down the chute.

The celebration will include newly elected Edmond Mayor Patrice Douglas, Janet Yowell, executive director, Edmond Economic Development Authority and Keili Hicks, Alzheimer's Association advocacy and public policy coordinator for the state of Oklahoma.

The expansion includes a three-story addition and a one-level memory-care neighborhood, adding 73,000 square feet to the community that offers distinctive living.

"Even as the economy slumps elsewhere, Touchmark is moving ahead to meet the high demand for its award-winning lifestyle," says Jamie Ham, executive director of Touchmark. He goes on to comment that Touchmark residents and their families won't be the only ones to benefit from the expansion. "The Edmond-area economy will see benefits through the use of contractors, building material suppliers, workers and professional staff," he says.

A significant part of the expansion will be the addition of a new service: memory care. A 37,908-square-foot building will include 50 private studios with full bathrooms. The design draws on the latest research for providing a comfortable and secure environment for people experiencing memory loss. For example, all residences will face an inviting residential common area decorated to create a homelike feeling. There won't be any dead-end corridors or unsupervised areas. Colors and décor will create a nurturing surrounding.

The building will be divided into four neighborhoods, each with 12 to 13 residences. Each neighborhood will have its own kitchen and dining area, living room, space for activities and access to a secure outdoor courtyard. A beauty salon/barber shop, spa baths, multipurpose room, family conference room and doctor's office will be shared by the four neighborhoods.

Touchmark residents throughout the community participate in Brain Builder classes, where they do various cognitive exercises. According to Life Enrichment/Wellness Director Cathy Bird, these activities require attention and use different parts of the brain.

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“Our brains have the capacity to continue to grow, which is why we offer cognitive enhancement activities, such as learning facts of the day, word-generation games and other experiences,” says Bird, who received specialized training and is certified in Geriatric Wellness — believed to be the only person in this area to have earned this distinction.

A new wing on the Grandview building will add 34,812 square feet of homes for people who live independently as well as those who need some assistance with their daily activities. The 36 apartment homes will range in size and include studio, one-bedroom, two bedrooms and one bath and two bedrooms and two baths. The architectural style and finishes will be consistent with and complement the current building.

Touchmark is committed to environmental stewardship and has committed to purchasing 100-percent wind power for the expansion. Since 2006, Touchmark has purchased 100-percent wind power to operate the Grandview. Touchmark is an EPA Green Power Leadership Club award winner and a member of the EPA’s Green Power Partnership.

The Phase 2 additions are expected to be completed in 2010. Architect is LRS Architects of Portland, Oregon. General contractor is Weis Builders, based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Rick Wessell and Mark Mitchell of Touchmark Development & Construction will oversee the expansion. Stillwater National Bank is providing the funding.

Touchmark Executive Vice President Bruce S. Dalrymple is directing the development. This expansion is an extension of the vision that he and Derek Turner, president and chief executive officer of Turner & Co., had when they first started working together several years ago to create a premier community.

Touchmark, located in Edmond at 2801 Shortgrass Road, is part of the Coffee Creek 638-acre planned residential development, which includes a golf course, recreational centers and walking and biking trails for Coffee Creek homeowners. Touchmark at Coffee Creek offers a wide range of homes and lifestyle options. For more information, contact Touchmark at (405) 340-1975 or visit TouchmarkEdmond.com.

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