

# NEWS RELEASE



**For immediate release**

February 13, 2013

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**Touchmark announces memory services, Alzheimer's expert training**  
*New residence providing dementia services to open in April*

Meridian, IDAHO — Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village in Meridian is on the brink of completing half of its major expansion. The Owyhee Lodge, designed especially for people living with Alzheimer's and other age-related dementia, is set to open in April. It will also offer assisted living services.

The one-story 30,165 square-foot addition will include 48 private residences divided among three neighborhoods. Each private studio has a full bathroom, and each neighborhood has a kitchen, dining/activity room, living room and a courtyard. The Owyhee Lodge also features an on-site spa, beauty salon and private family dining/meeting rooms.

Touchmark uses the Best Friends™ approach to providing memory care. Developed by internationally renowned author David Troxel and co-creator Virginia Bell, the method is centered on what people with dementia need most – a “best friend.” The model of care makes coping with memory loss, confusion and mood changes easier for individuals with the disease as well as caregivers. It is estimated that Alzheimer's and other age-related dementia affect more than 26,000 Idahoans, according to the Alzheimer's Association. Troxel's mother had Alzheimer's disease and passed away several years ago.

Troxel will be on site in March for a multiday training with Touchmark staff from all of its communities that provide memory care services. At the conclusion, staff will be certified Best Friends master trainers. This certification is new, having only been launched a year ago.

Troxel also will participate in a meeting of families currently caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. Space is limited; to reserve a spot, please call 208-888-2277.

“We are delighted that David himself will be providing this training. A great deal of planning and care have gone into the design and construction of the Owyhee Lodge; the real day-to-day difference in people's lives, though, will come from the caregivers,” said Matt Hoskin, executive director of Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village.

Touchmark broke ground last summer on a \$22 million expansion that included the Owyhee and the three-story Targhee Lodge, which will offer 68 homes for people 55-plus who live independently. It is slated to be completed this fall. To learn more about Touchmark's memory care services and the Owyhee Lodge, visit [Touchmark.com](http://Touchmark.com).

**About Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village:**

At more than 100 acres, Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village is an award-winning retirement community offering a range of homes and lifestyle options. More information is available at [Touchmark.com](http://Touchmark.com).

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TOUCHMARK *at Meadow Lake Village*

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