

# NEWS RELEASE



**For immediate release**

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## **Touchmark puts final touches on Owyhee Lodge** *Architect installs building features designed to be familiar, comfortable*

Meridian, IDAHO — The Owyhee Lodge, which will provide memory care and assisted living services beginning in April, is now in the final stages of development. Currently, furniture and accessories specifically selected for those living with Alzheimer’s disease or age-related dementia in mind are being installed.

Joseph Billig, AIA, director and vice president of Touchmark Development and Construction, is overseeing the final details and placement at Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village this week during the installation. According to Billig, the furniture for the Owyhee is selected with purpose.

“For residents, this is their home, and because of the nature of Alzheimer’s disease and other age-related dementia, a secured environment is necessary,” said Billig. “Thus, most of the residents’ days will be spent in their neighborhood. For that reason, it is even more important the spaces are warm and inviting and feel like home.”

Thus, the Owyhee’s art, furniture and architecture are designed to stimulate the minds of people with dementia. Further, each piece is carefully selected with the intent to be recognizable and familiar. Most pieces are chosen to be tactile, so residents can interact with them and perhaps evoke a memory.

“Home might mean prints and statuettes of cats and dogs or even hens. Birds, landscapes and trees all add a comfortable feel to the building. Specific pieces, such as a horse facing one direction, are strategically placed to guide residents to or away from spaces or exits,” said Billig.

The one-story Owyhee’s design includes 48 residences divided among three neighborhoods. Each neighborhood has a kitchen, dining/activity area, living room and courtyard. A beauty salon/barber shop, spa and family dining/meeting rooms are shared by the three neighborhoods.

Touchmark at Meadow Lake Village broke ground last summer on the \$22.1 million expansion project, including the Owyhee Lodge and the new Targhee Lodge, which is scheduled to open in fall.

### **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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