



For immediate release

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Touchmark announces expansion and renovation

BISMARCK, N.D. – Touchmark on West Century is beginning construction of an expansion that will add two buildings and six cottages to its campus as well as remodel several areas within the existing building. The addition will expand the retirement community's independent, assisted living and memory care services.

It's expected the \$25-million project will provide work for approximately 100 people during construction as well as add about 50 staff positions when completed in late 2016.

New independent living options

A new 81,000-square-foot building will provide 57 new homes. Ranging from two-bedroom to studios, the homes will feature fireplaces, decks, pantries and kitchens that include islands, built-in desks and charging stations, quartz countertops and under-mount stainless sinks. Underground parking will be available for 46 cars.

A party room with deck on the top floor will be available for all residents, and an enclosed skyway will connect to the main building's dining and activities.

"This building will sit on one of the higher elevations in Bismarck and provide unparalleled views to the southeast," says Touchmark Executive Director Tabatha Fletcher, R.N., who oversees the community. "The homes will offer one of the best views anywhere in town."

Fletcher says the additional homes and expansion are needed to meet the growing requests for services.

Memory care and additional assisted living

A two-story building (21,000 square feet) will offer memory care services on the first floor and additional assisted living on the second floor. Located at the south end of the campus, the building will be situated so the additional memory care residences will share the existing secured courtyard.

The design draws on the latest research for supporting personal interaction and providing a comfortable and secure environment for people experiencing memory loss. The warm, open setting includes electric fireplaces, bookcases, carefully selected artwork and other touches that evoke the familiarity and comfort of home. A spa bath, family meeting room and laundry will be available.

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Each floor will be designed as a homelike neighborhood that includes its own kitchen, living room and areas for dining, activities, music and art. Each neighborhood will have 16 private studios with full private bathrooms and roll-in showers.

Additional cottages and a remodel

In addition to the two new buildings, Touchmark plans to add four single-level homes as well as one duplex home, extending its cottage neighborhood to the north. Within the existing building, the common areas of floors two and three will receive new carpet, paint, furniture and fixtures.

Architects are LRS Architects and Joseph Billig, AIA, senior vice president of Architecture with Touchmark Development & Construction. The Weitz Company, experienced in building retirement communities, is the general contractor. Rick Wessell, senior vice president and director of Construction for Touchmark Development & Construction, will oversee the expansion.

About Touchmark

Touchmark on West Century opened in 2000 and is currently home to more than 160 residents. The full-service retirement community offers a range of homes and lifestyle options for people 55-plus years. An on-site health and fitness club is open to anyone over 40 and features a variety of fitness options. For more information, visit Touchmark.com.

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