



Giving and sharing

by Marge Coalman, EdD

Vice President of Wellness & Programs, Touchmark

Most people have sacrificed their own desires to help or support those in need. This was an international phenomenon following the tsunami in Indonesia and Katrina crisis in New Orleans. Churches, towns, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, groups, and individuals sent funds. Physicians and nurses left their communities to volunteer. The awareness of how fortunate most of us are to have a

“Sharing is sometimes more demanding than giving.”

—*Mary Catherine Bateson*

home, bed, electricity, food, and shelter rekindled our gratitude for the things we so often take for granted.

The experience of sharing takes on a more personal definition when the donation is time and talent that results in creating relationships. Hardworking, dedicated volunteers are the core of needed—sometimes invisible—services that make life work for millions of people with limited support from family, friends, or neighbors. These volunteers deliver meals to older adults isolated in their homes, visit schools weekly to read with a challenged learner, and serve meals regularly to people living in homeless shelters. Unlike writing a check, this kind of gift takes a consistent, personal commitment to prioritize the needs of others over our own.

As we approach the season of giving with a heightened awareness of the vast needs around us, both local and

national, it is an ideal time to take a personal inventory of the talents, skills, knowledge, and love we can make available to others. Sharing on an ongoing basis is more demanding and challenging than the one-time annual gift or the weekly donation to our place of worship.

Touchmark offers many opportunities for residents, staff, and families to participate in volunteer programs and services within our community as well as with our neighbors and organizations. There are also opportunities for volunteers from the area to participate in programs and services planned and scheduled in the Life Enrichment/Wellness program. To become a volunteer, visit our Web site (Touchmark.com/volunteer-opportunity.htm) or give us a call to find out what opportunities are available that make a difference in the quality of life—for both the givers and receivers.



Touchmark living ... It's the lifestyle!



by Jeffee Tayar

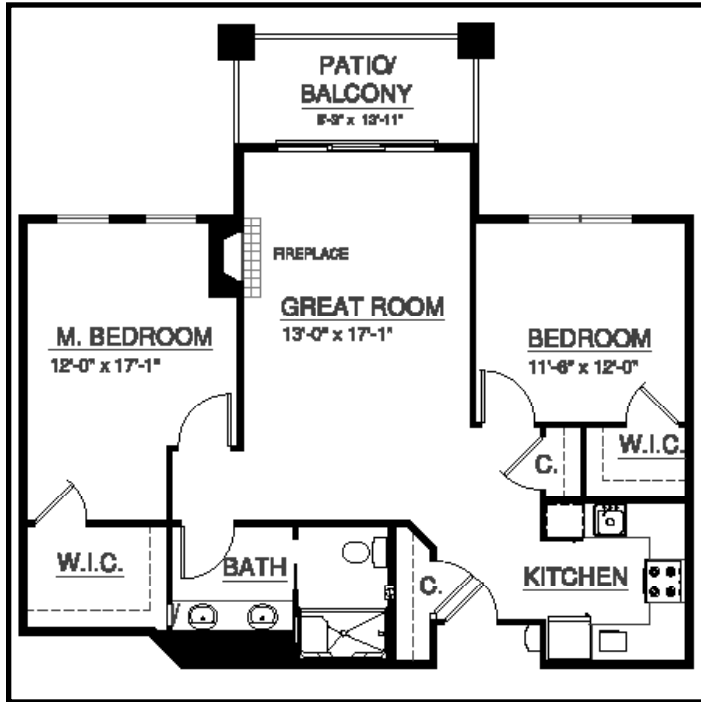
—Sales Associate

Imagine how nice it would be to have everything done for you so you're free to travel and enjoy your hobbies. That is exactly what Touchmark residents experience every day. They enjoy the luxury of Touchmark's scheduled transportation and indoor and outdoor home maintenance. They savor chef-prepared meals, work out in the Wellness Center, and

take part in fun events and activities with neighbors.

This month, Touchmark is showcasing two homes: The Eisenhower and Grandview home number 144:

Select this beautiful **Grandview home**, where interesting events and a friendly community are close by. With the modern kitchen in this home, cooking can be a delight, and there is plenty of room for entertaining. Or you can enjoy a flavorful meal in Touchmark's dining room.



Tour this 1,015-square-foot Grandview home today.

The **Eisenhower** includes 2,048 square feet of living space and a 558-square-foot garage. This season is the perfect time for making the transition into the home you have been longing for—a home with no maintenance.

The Eisenhower is perfect for entertaining, with its formal



The Eisenhower

dining room that allows people to flow into the living room and continue to the covered patio. You can cook if you want, or you can partake of a chef-prepared meal at the Grandview. Come see this home today!

It's all about the lifestyle—come discover Touchmark today.

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It's a dog's life!

Residents and staff members registered their canine companions and invited their family and friends to attend the second annual Touchmark at Coffee Creek Dog Show.

On the day of the event, people gathered in the Grand Hall and voted for their favorites. Here are the categories and winners:

Best Trick

Merlin and owner, Sales Associate Bobby Hinkle

Best Dressed

Jasmine and Amber, with owners Skip and Liz Codding

Most "Ear-resistible" Ears

Tiffany, with owner Milli Abercrombie, and Paco, with owners Leaman and Judith Harris

Best Kisser

Patty, with owners CD and Kathryn Blanks

Most Beautiful/Handsome

Missy, with owner Marjorie Stribling

Best in Show

Paco, with owners Leaman and Judith Harris

"After the voting, the humans enjoyed dog-bone shaped decorated sugar cookies and lemonade, and the dogs ate dog treats and enjoyed their toy prizes," shares Life Enrichment/Wellness Coordinator Cathy Bird.

“Thanks so much to all who participated and attended. We all had fun seeing the beautiful dogs and their special talents!”

“Oktoberfest was great fun. You threw a wonderful party. Thank you for being a terrific group of people,” stated some of the posters.



Milli Abercrombie and her dog, Tiffany, participated in the recent Touchmark Dog Show. Tiffany received one of the “Ear-resistible” Ears awards.



Lou Ann Rice delights guests and residents with a lively Oktoberfest tune.

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Dining and dancing at Oktoberfest

Touchmark recently held a lively Oktoberfest celebration. The event included an enjoyable social hour, where staff served German wine, beer, and schnapps.

Later, Lou Ann and Donna Rice played polka music, and people grabbed song sheets to sing along while others danced.

And what’s an Oktoberfest celebration without food? People enjoyed a scrumptious buffet of traditional German

food and savored bratwurst, sauerkraut, potato salad, apple strudel, and more.

Several people looking into the Touchmark lifestyle joined residents and staff for the dinner and entertainment and took tours of the community.

The next day, residents delivered thank-you posters to staff.



Sales Assistant Judy McDowell donned a white-blond braided wig, and resident Everitt Baker wore the outfit he used when he played his trombone in a German band in Texas.

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Celebrating Oklahoma’s birthday

During the Oklahoma centennial, people participated in a month of fun events. Residents watched a fried catfish



Residents Bennie Peters and Mike Crawley dance at Oktoberfest.

cooking demonstration, attended a lovely Oklahoma Resident Tea, where people wore Western attire and brought Oklahoma memorabilia to share, and sipped local Oklahoma wines at a winetasting event.

The evening of the Oklahoma dinner, Touchmark dining staff served flavorful, regional favorites, including steamed catfish, chicken fried steak, cheese grits, black eyed peas, cornbread sticks, pecan pie, and more. Bandana centerpieces with Oklahoma flags, mini cowboy hats, and sheriff badges decorated the tables.

After the dinner, Erleen Massey and the Edmond Senior Center line-dancing group performed a lively demonstration and taught people a few line-dancing steps.

On Monday, November 26, the official photographer of the Oklahoma Centennial, Mike Klemme, will share about his interesting career as a photographer and stories behind the book *Celebrating Oklahoma!*. Books will be available for sale and signing.



L.M. and Peggy Sullivan at the line-dancing performance.



Mike Crawley (left) and Leaman Harris at the Oklahoma Resident Tea.

Upcoming events

Sunday, November 18, 4 pm—First Presbyterian Children's Chime Choir plays after worship service.

Wednesday, November 21, 4 to 6 pm—Pizza and wine at Parkview home. Register at front desk.

Monday, November 26, 2 pm—Mike Klemme, the official photographer of the Oklahoma Centennial, will be in the Grand Hall with his book *Celebrating Oklahoma!*. Books available for sale and signing.

A day to honor grandparents



Families and friends gathered for a sports-themed Grandparents' Day. People enjoyed games, prizes, candy, and popcorn and watched a football game on the big screen. From left: Daughter Linda Wise, granddaughter Heidi Reeder, great-granddaughter Ella Jane Reeder, and residents Faye and Scott Kelsey.



From left: Ed Mayeaux, granddaughter Elise Connor, and Jimmie Mayeaux

