

# NEWS RELEASE



## Touchmark at Coffee Creek

**For immediate release**

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**Nineteen stories — all worth telling**

**Touchmark releases Vol. IV of “As We Lived It”**

EDMOND, Okla. — A new collection of “As We Lived It” stories as told by Touchmark at Coffee Creek residents is published.

“As We Lived It — Vol. 4” includes reminiscences of romance, of surviving the Great Depression and of coping with the challenges of World War II.

The new volume offers 19 more recollections by Touchmark residents who made their way into adulthood during the challenging times of the Great Depression and the war.

The stories are transcribed by Touchmark residents Leaman and Judith Harris and were told orally during weekly storytelling sessions at Touchmark, which began four years ago.

The experiences were so vivid, the Harrises decided to have them published in the first book, through the help of Touchmark. Three more volumes followed, including the latest collection which is now available at Touchmark or can be ordered online.

Proceeds from the book benefit the Touchmark Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity devoted to enhancing the well-being of seniors.

Judith Harris says she and her husband are amazed that the storytelling sessions are continuing. While Vol. 4 includes stories about military service, they represent only a small part of the life experience of most of the residents.

“The project keeps going, because new residents bring new life experiences and are willing to share them with others,” she said.

Theodore Major “Bud” Montgomery details in concise language his recruitment and role in the World War II Manhattan Project. That led to the successful development of the first nuclear bomb that brought an end to the war when two were dropped on Japan. Montgomery describes the accidental bombing of his unit by the Army Air Corps at a remote location in New Mexico, and offers a spellbinding eyewitness account of the first nuclear bomb test in the New Mexico desert.

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TouchmarkEdmond.com

Bobbie Groves recounts growing up on a farm in northern Oklahoma. She operated the farm for several years with her courageous mother, and later moved to Oklahoma City, where she met her future husband while waiting to catch a bus.

“We were surrounded by family and good friends. We never had money but never felt deprived,” Groves writes.

And Edna Durrett talks of growing up on a farm west of El Reno, being poor but not realizing it. “It is interesting that when I think back on how I grew up, I know we were poor, but no one else around us had much. So we did not seem poor,” she says. “We were a close and happy family despite the hard times we lived through.”

Seven stories in “As We Lived It — Vol. 4” deal directly or indirectly with World War II. Two others talk about the Korean War. The rest trace tales of hardship, growing to maturity and doing whatever was necessary to survive in difficult times.

The book is available for purchase for \$34.95 and can be ordered by calling Touchmark at (405) 340-1975 or visiting [TouchmarkEdmond.com](http://TouchmarkEdmond.com).

Touchmark 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](http://TouchmarkEdmond.com).