



There is a sense of security that comes with living in the community

Middle ground between living alone and nursing home

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Imagine living in a home with an indoor pool, library, maid and chef. For most, that is only a dream. But for some seniors living at Beachwood Apartments at Warm Beach Senior Community, it is a reality.

The 29 apartments that first opened in 1980, are one facet of the larger community. Residents still live independently, but should they find themselves needing assistance, support is readily available.

Beachwood offers amenities such as meal and housekeeping services, transportation, and access to a campus nurse.

Marilyn McLaughlin and her husband Delbert moved to Warm Beach Community from California in December 2007. Their son lives in the

Retaining independence

area, and they heard about Warm Beach through their church.

Living in Beachwood Apartments is not that different from living independently, McLaughlin says. Although there is a housekeeping service offered, she prefers taking care of own home, and is still able to do so.

She does, however, appreciate the other amenities Beachwood has to offer, especially having two meals a day provided for.

McLaughlin says she enjoyed where she used to live, but she feels as though she "just traded one good thing for another."

She also enjoys being a part of the larger Warm Beach community. "It's a pleasant place," she says. "It's certainly tops."

The setting of Warm Beach is incomparable, she said. Finding an apartment outside of a city can often prove difficult, so Beachwood's rural setting is a definite benefit for residents who prefer the quiet peace of the surrounding woodlands to the noise and bustle of urban life.

Another resident, Grace Marr, moved to Warm Beach Senior Community in December 2004. Shortly after losing her husband, Marr suffered a broken wrist and relied on her children to take care of her. Recognizing the many benefits that would be associated with living in a supportive senior community, Marr made the decision to move into a Beachwood apartment.

There is a sense of security that comes with living in the community, Marr says, and agrees that having two meals a day

provided for her is probably the biggest benefit.

However, although there is staff on hand should a resident find him or herself needing help, Marr said she and the other Beachwood residents still feel as though they live very independently. They can entertain family and other visitors, have their own phone lines, and still enjoy a great deal of privacy.

Essentially, living in a Beachwood apartment is just like living in a regular apartment in a really nice neighborhood, they say.

Marr says one of her favorite parts of living in Beachwood Lounge is having so many opportunities to socialize. "We have a lot of activities and entertainment," she said. "The atmosphere is very loving and caring."

She said she is especially grateful to live in a Christian community. The atmosphere and the close relationships among neighbors are what set living in Beachwood apart from living on one's own, outside of a senior community.

Family members also feel a sense of security, knowing that caring, qualified people are always around to care for their loved ones. Plus, should a resident ever need to enter an assisted living or nursing facility, they are conveniently located next door.

Marr said the Beachwood Apartments are a unique alternative for people who wish to move into a community but are not ready to give up their independence. "For the amenities Beachwood offers," she said, "I don't think you could find anywhere else better."