

## Hickory Woods Happenings

By Annita Peeler

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Another busy week at Hickory Woods, with all of our usual activities we've been doing some planning for the rest of the year. We started our planning with the calendar event and then moved on to Assisted Living Week ending with Christmas. We can't believe fall is just around the corner and then Thanksgiving and Christmas! This year has flown by and every year they seem to go by faster and faster. I can't believe I will be at Hickory Woods 25 years this December 1<sup>st</sup>. I certainly could write a book of all the many interesting things that have gone on at Hickory Woods over the years. I remember the night of our Open House at Hickory Woods, we had already moved in ten or twelve residents. One couple had been on our waiting list for almost two years while the building was being built. The husband had developed dementia during that time, and it had progressed by the time they moved in. We had approximately 700 to 750 people attend our Open House and everyone was enjoying touring the building because this was such a new concept of elderly living at that time. I looked down the hall and I saw the husband walking down the hall sporting his wife's pink fluffy bathrobe and pink fluffy bath slippers looking for a snack. He was quite a sight to behold! Of course, we were marketing a senior living community with residents who mainly needed socialization, playing golf, healthy and fit, so this was not exactly the image we wanted to portray. Our marketing director hurriedly grabbed him a snack and walked him back to his apartment. So, life has never been boring at Hickory Woods with every day different. I could fill an entire journal of all kinds of stories similar to this one. All residents are unique and special. From time to time, I see family members of past residents who remember me and express their positive experience at Hickory Woods which makes what I do all worthwhile.