

The Village Voice

Bradford Village, a Brookdale Community

Resident Spotlight:

Gerry Pearson

Gerry Pearson was born in Chicago on July 27. She grew up in Minneapolis with a younger sister. Gerry had a happy childhood with skating and skiing in the winter and, after receiving a bicycle for her tenth birthday, she could ride to the lake to go swimming in the summer.

Gerry went through elementary and high school in Minneapolis, then on to the University of Minnesota. She earned a degree in dietetics, which she used as a Home Economics teacher later in life. She met the love of her life, Marvin, at the University, where he was earning his degree in forestry. They had two children, Edward and Nancy. Edward lives in Edmond and Nancy is in Houston. Gerry has six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Edward is a chemical engineer and Nancy

has a Ph.D. in biology. When the children were growing up they did a lot of camping in a tent with a Coleman stove that belonged to Gerry's parents from the 1930s. They enjoyed camping in the United States and Canada.

Gerry started playing the flute in third grade and stayed with it through college. She let it drop, but then took it up again about twelve years ago. She very much enjoyed playing with Leo Webster at Bradford Village breakfasts and at the Health Care Center.

Marvin worked in forestry and safety engineering for many

years with Wausau Insurance. They lived in Atlanta for 17 years before moving to Edmond. Other than teaching, Gerry also did volunteer work and worked for H&R Block for 10 years in Atlanta. In Edmond, she was a volunteer for Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TEC).

45 years ago, Gerry and Marvin built a two bedroom cabin in northern Wisconsin on a beautiful lake. They spent as much time as possible there until Marvin retired, and then they spent every summer there. She grew up enjoying fishing and continues the sport to this day. They went to Canada every year to fish, too.

Since Marv passed away, Gerry continues to go with her son and two grandsons. This year she caught a big Musky on a light tackle. It took her 20 minutes to bring it in! (See picture below).

They made many trips to the Arctic, where they fished and collected beautiful art work of the Eskimos, consisting of soap stone figurines, tapestry, and several wall hangings. In order to reach their destinations, they had to fly in small air craft and land on gravel air strips. Gerry still likes to travel and is going to Italy this month for a grandson's wedding.

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August 2017

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Welcome, New Neighbors!

Betty and Bob Matthews



Betty and Bob Matthews moved to Bradford Village mid-July and have “jumped right in” to the thick of activities, having already attended the birthday party, Celebrations, and meals at the Community Center.

Betty was born in rural Kentucky, and mostly attend schools there. Bob’s father was employed in the oil field, and (as he recounted at the birthday party), Bob was born in Three Sands, Oklahoma, now a ghost town. He was raised in the Norman area.

The couple met when Bob was working at the Ardmore newspaper and Betty moved to Ardmore to work at the Air Force Base there. They attended the same church and several parishioners encouraged the romance. It may have been Betty’s red and white Crown Victoria that sealed the deal in 1957!

Bob worked as a “stringer,” reporting news over a wide area for the Shawnee News Press newspaper and later the Ardmoreite (paper). He was pleased to be chosen for a scholarship to Oklahoma Baptist University by the Ardmore church. The first year at OBU, he worked at a grocery store, also taking photographs for various events—weddings, etc.—to supplement his income. His sophomore year, Bob became editor of the school newspaper. He also worked for Channel 9 as a photographer for 8 years. (Ask him about his experiences reporting on the 60s racial integration difficulties in the South.) His lifetime job was serving as the Associate Editor of the Baptist Messenger, a weekly news magazine distributed to most Baptists in Oklahoma.

Betty became a Registered Nurse, working at many hospitals in the Oklahoma City area. She opened Lackey Manor, the Baptist Retirement Home in northwest OKC, and also worked at Baptist Hospital as Associate Director of Nursing. Part of her experience included working with Dr. Zudhi, renowned transplant surgeon. Logan County Hospital, Mercy, and Deaconess Hospital are among her other positions. “I was called by God to be a nurse and am thankful for the opportunity,” she reports.

The couple has three children: Kimberley, their oldest, and Kurt, their youngest, both live in Tennessee. Kent, the older son, lives in Oklahoma City. The Matthews also have five grandchildren.

They are at home in 904 Enz, and we welcome them, wishing them a long and joyful residence at Bradford Village.

Alven & Helen Lawson

We also welcome Alven & Helen Lawson to the Bradford Village family. They are residing at 929 Jacobs. Look for an introduction to appear in a future edition of The Village Voice, after the Lawsons get settled in!

Eddie Tellone

Eddie Tellone is our newest maintenance specialist at Bradford Village, having served here for a year. He was mostly raised in Montreal, Canada, going there at the age of 5 1/2 with his mother and three sisters, and leaving when he was 19. He lived in Phoenix, Arizona for two years, then love brought him to Oklahoma City. Although the love-interest didn't last, his job with First National Bank of Oklahoma lasted for 35 years.



The Daily Oklahoman interviewed Eddie in 2011 and detailed his work experience at the bank. His first duty was to change lightbulbs — from the basement of its three towers to the beacon atop the old-art-deco bank building; the 33 floor west tower is 493 feet tall at its spire! He worked his way into becoming the chief engineer of the property, managing the center's heating and cooling system, adjusting thermostats, unclogging toilets, repairing dripping faucets, and yes, changing lightbulbs. Together with one helper, they managed the property whose towers comprise one million square feet.

"I mostly used common sense to learn how to repair things. I learned on the job; as I encountered difficulties, I studied the problems and figured out how to repair them."

Eddie's wife, Cathy, is a nurse at Integris Hospital. They have two sons and four grandchildren. Currently, they are celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary with a trip to Hawaii.

(Resident Spotlight cont')

Marvin and Gerry moved to Bradford Village in 2006. Marvin passed away in 2012. They had been married 61 years.

Gerry's hobbies include reading (she belongs to three book clubs); bridge (she belongs to two clubs and one foursome); participates in her church's Renewal Program and Circle, and she is a member of PEO.

We're glad to have Gerry as a part of the Bradford Village family!

Chaplain's Corner

by Jim Davidson

Matthew 7:14

"...All things whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do even so to them..."

Abraham Lincoln said, "Folks are about as happy as they permit themselves to be." Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

Around the Village

Doris DiPaula



A one-year resident of Bradford's Healthcare Center, Doris DiPaula was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. The family soon relocated to South Plainfield, N.J. Doris was the fifth of six children. Since South Plainfield was inland, the family enjoyed spending most summers in outings to the ocean.

After her marriage to George, a contractor superintendent, in 1954, they had three children, two boys and a girl, who have given Doris five grandchildren: Charles, Nicole, Edward, Brandon, and Carter. Since they all live in Edmond, the family is close and she enjoys seeing them.

When her children went to school, she started a career working in an elementary school. She served as a teacher's aide, working with special needs students. She also spent some time working in the cafeteria. Doris was there for seventeen years and enjoyed being around the elementary children.

Thomas, her son in the Air Force, was stationed at Tinker Air Base, which led to his encouraging his siblings to relocate to Edmond from New Jersey. Shortly after George died, Doris moved to Edmond, too, in 1993.

With her twinkling eyes and ready smile, and her engaging Jersey accent, she quickly adjusted to the change. When she needed more care, Bradford Village Healthcare Center was the family choice. She enjoys playing bingo and being around the friendly people of Oklahoma, though "the food is different."

Thanks!

by Mary Davidson



Thanks to residents of Bradford Village and Lowe's donation, we delivered 54 cases (or 1728 bottles) of water to the Edmond Fire Station/Administration building. This water will be distributed to all local Fire Departments as needed.

The firemen are very appreciative of water, especially during this extreme heat when they are battling so many fires.

We will continue to take donations to purchase more water as the need arises. Thanks so much for your generosity and compassion.

Around the Village

What are Best Friends For?

by Don Self

It is a privilege to have, just next door, neighbors like Mary and Jim Davidson. My wife, Aleene, with late-stage Alzheimer's disease, had depended on them for years for their friendship and affection. They went out of their way to help Aleene any way they could.

One late night in June of last year, I helped Aleene to the bathroom in her walker – she had become so weak, she collapsed in my arms! I feared I might have lost her. With all my strength, I laid her on the floor. Her breathing seemed almost gone so I knew no way but to ask Jim and Mary for help.

I knocked on their door – it was so late – they came in just a few minutes. I was so worried, it seemed like a long time. When they saw me, they recognized Aleene was in trouble and came over at once, in their night clothes. Though Aleene was unconscious and I almost in shock, they went to work. Jim called 911 while Mary tended to her. No doubt they saved her life. Aleene's breathing got better, the ambulance came, and EMT's worked on her a lot more, then they left for the long trip to the hospital.

Jim and Mary knew I was in no shape to drive, so they took me to the hospital and stayed a long while, until two of our kids arrived. Aleene survived and lived several more precious months. No wonder I love God so much!

Mary is lovely and a delight; everyone loves her! As for Jim, I have no bad things to say about him, either! If my wife, Aleene, was still here, she'd skin me alive if I said one bad thing about Brother Jim!



Summer at Bradford

Porches

Did your grandparents have a porch? Was it screened in? Did it have a swing? Did company sometimes sleep out there when the inside beds were full? Did the screen door squeak when it was opened?

We were reminded of our life growing up on porches when we recently noticed a new housing development in Edmond featuring porches. We just had to drive around and look – sure enough – you can buy a new house with a swing to swing on, or a porch just to sit on and remember days gone by. A special place where family can greet others and “sit a spell” on the front porch.

We investigated the independent living residents of Bradford to see if any neighbors just “sit on the porch.” (When it’s not 100 degrees, of course!) A number of neighbors have created a porch-like atmosphere around the cottages, mainly in the back yard areas. It seems a good idea to feature some of them as times goes on. We are not aiming to distinguish “best” or “most beautiful,” but to helpfully remind ourselves of times gone by before window fans, air conditioners, and TV. Times when neighbors strolled the sidewalks and street to visit about mostly anything—or nothing at all.

So, as it cools down (and it always does!), take some time to sit outside. Maybe someone will come over and visit. Or maybe it will serve as a good place to “just remember” special times on someone’s porch.





Around the Village



Community Garage Sale

Saturday, September 16 * 7am—12pm

Do you have items in your home you'd like to pass on to a new owner? Consider donating to the Bradford Village Garage Sale!

Items are currently being stored at 229 Lincoln. If you have large items, complete a work order and a maintenance technician will move the item for you. Please hang on to smaller items—closer to September we will have designated drop-off days.

All proceeds from the sale will go to the Cottager's fund for donations to Ida Freeman school and other community service projects.

We will also be partnering with local vendors to host a craft fair on the 16th, in the CC.

Solar Eclipse

How does the moon cut his hair? Eclipse it!

On Monday, August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse will be visible in totality within a band across the entire contiguous United States, and will only be visible in other countries as a partial eclipse.

The full eclipse will be visible from our area at 1:05 pm. Watch with us from the Community Center!

DO NOT LOOK DIRECTLY AT THE SUN
The sun's rays could harm your eyes.

The Resident Programs team will provide special glasses to watch the eclipse, OR, join us on Friday, August 18th to make your own eclipse viewer!

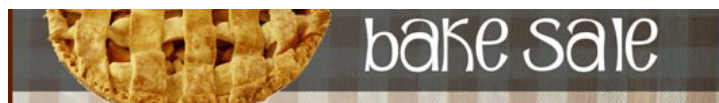


THE END OF ALZHEIMER'S
STARTS WITH *you.*

**Support the Walk to End Alzheimer's.
Saturday, September 30, 2017**

- Donate
- Fundraise
- Join our team & walk with us!

Make a donation or join the team at
<http://act.alz.org/goto/bradfordvillage>



Check out our Bake Sale & Auction!
August 30, 2017 * 4:00 pm

Donate treats and bid on your favorites!
Proceeds go to our team total for the
Alzheimer's Association!