

# BaptistVillage



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# WILL YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recently, I was in a “Team Connect” session. At Team Connect, we spend a day with Baptist Village Communities (BVC) team members from all over Oklahoma.

I was sharing information about the BVC scholarship fund. The Josephine Heyland Education Assistance Fund enables BVC team members to go to school, to better prepare themselves for the aging services field.

A lady raised her hand. I called on her.

She said, “I’ll do it!”

“Do what?” I asked.

“Go to school...get my education, take a scholarship.”

Interestingly, this lady had told the whole group her age earlier in the day. She was in her 50s.

This lady inspired all of us. She said some profound things and has an extraordinary zeal for life. I learned from her and was inspired by her.

She stepped up! I said, “who will prepare themselves for the future of serving others?” She said, “I’ll do it!”

I tell people quite frequently...“you can change the world.” And, of course, that’s true as God uses us in the ways we are gifted and in the area we are called to serve. God changes the world through those who serve Him.

There is not anyone reading this that doesn’t have a chance to change the world today doing what you are doing in your calling. Be imitators of God and walk in love.

You see, **today** is not another routine and mundane day full of life’s problems. **Today** is a day God has given you, and He will use you to change the world for His glory. All you have to do is walk out there and do it...**today**.

Our God is so full of love for you and will give you everything you need to do the thing he has gifted you to do.

“I’ll do it”...said the lady in her 50s.

I’ll do it too!

What about you?

**Dr. Bill Pierce**



# EYE IN THE SKY

## Elk City Resident and Optometrist Shares about His Time with NASA

>> Story by Jason Davis, BVC

**"A**t NASA, you'd expect a bunch of super intelligent people," says Dr. Gary Ford, resident of The Neighborhoods at Baptist Village of Elk City. "In actuality, it's a collection of skilled people that have an interest in one specific area."

Dr. Ford, 75, was one of those skilled persons.

Gary is a retired optometrist, practicing for many years. He says he always knew he wanted to be an optometrist. He had poor vision in grade school. For this reason, he wanted to pursue a career in helping others facing vision challenges.

He was raised in the Clinton, Oklahoma area. "I spent my early years in the country," says Gary. "I went to school in a one-room schoolhouse until sixth grade. When the schoolhouse closed, I attended school in Clinton and graduated from Clinton High School. It was in high school that I realized the opportunities

that could be available to me."

Gary attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University for two years. He finished enough courses that afforded him the opportunity to enroll in optometry school. He attended the University of Houston and obtained his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees.

It wasn't long before his professional world was about to take a unique turn.

"I got a birthday present from Uncle Sam in 1969. It was the voluntary draft into the armed forces. If you were a doctor in 1969, you got drafted to go serve your country in Vietnam. I joined the army to 'see the world.'"

One of his first stops "seeing the world" was only 100 miles south of his old stomping grounds.

"I was transferred to Fort Sill. There were seven of us optometrists there. In the military, I checked the soldiers' vision, and if it wasn't good enough, they had you put glasses on. You didn't want to send a soldier to Vietnam if they didn't have the best vision possible."

"They lined [the soldiers] up as far as the eyes could see. We had to work as efficiently as possible, because there was no turning around saying, 'I just can't work this fast.'"

It was during this time that NASA approached Gary. They wanted him to work there during the summers and part-time during the school year.



Gary and his associates' main objective was a "gold coated visor" used on astronaut helmets. NASA was responsible for their growing popularity, but they were unsure of the effects they had on people's vision. Dr. Ford worked on the concept for a year.

"The reason they wanted to convert to the gold coated visor was because the original material used was plastic, and [NASA] didn't know what that was doing to the astronauts' vision. That was my job."

And he was accustomed to the hands-on approach to his specific job.

"I was the low man on the totem pole," recalls Dr. Ford. "I had to do the labor and testing on actual subjects. That would be the astronauts themselves. There's no telling which astronauts we were helping out. We didn't really need to look into that..."

Dr. Ford and fellow optometrists used what is called the Munsell Color System to check vision. While at NASA, he also performed others tests. He checked the astronauts' reaction using low frequency, high amplitude sounds. This was to simulate what their vision would go through during takeoff. Another test dealt with g-force - how much the astronauts could take and how it affected their vision.

^ TOP: A gold-coated visor. Dr. Gary Ford and his colleagues assisted with the technological innovation for NASA.

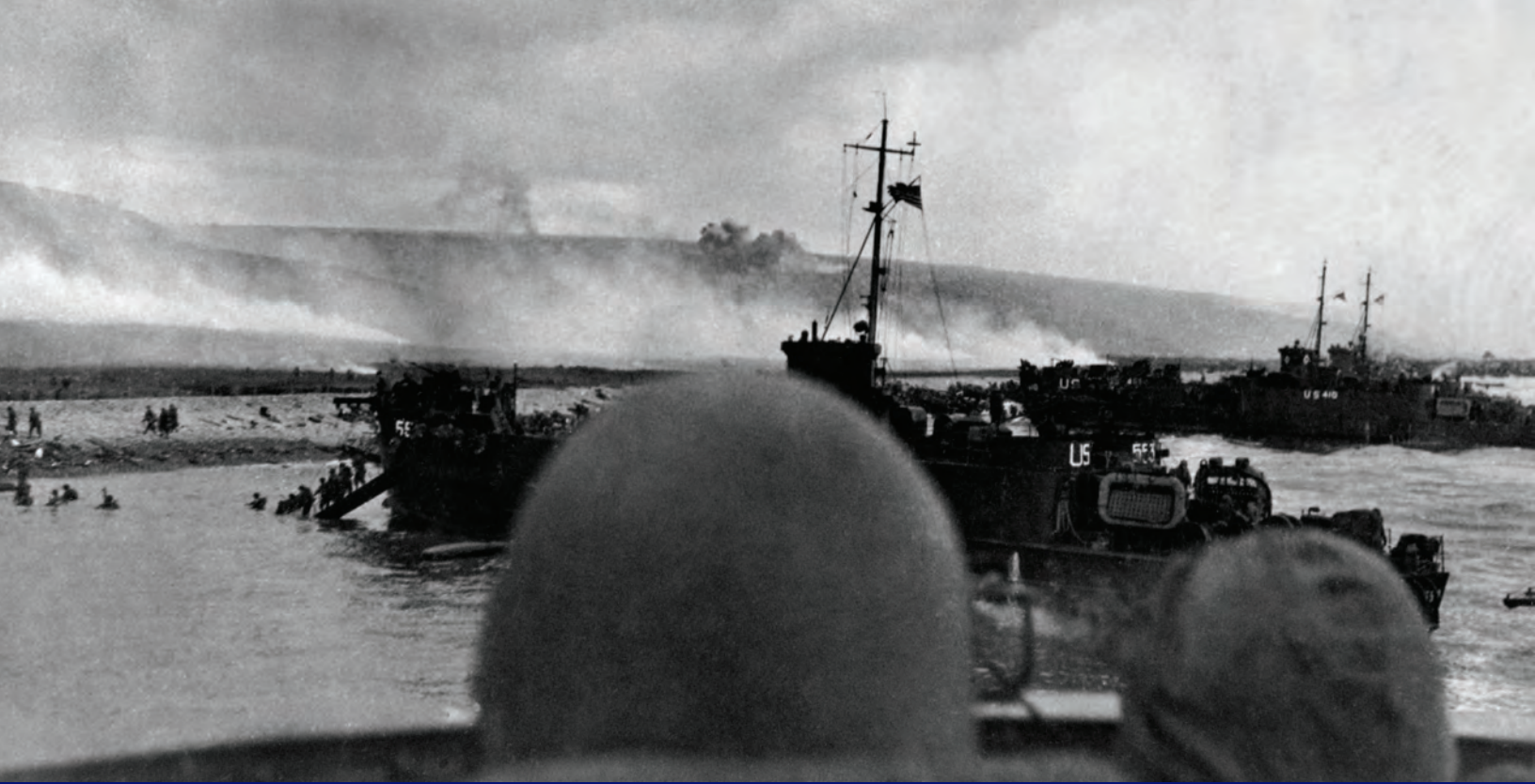
After NASA, Dr. Ford practiced optometry in multiple locations, eventually ending up in Elk City. He retired from regular practice about three years ago.

He then moved to Baptist Village of Elk City a short while later. Dr. Ford enjoys Village life.

"Everyone here likes to be as free as they can be and do as much as they can do," says Gary. "I've talked to other associates and friends that worked at other [senior living communities]. And I can't imagine anything better than Baptist Village."

"It's number one. This is truly a good place. Actually, this is truly the BEST place."

The next time you visit Baptist Village, sit down with a resident and listen to their story. You never know when you might be talking to a former NASA optometrist. ❤️



# Storming Normandy

## Earl Geis Recalls World War II Experience

>> Story by Bob Nigh, **Contributing Writer**

**B**aptist Village of Oklahoma City resident Earl Eugene Geis was born near Rocky, Oklahoma. After he graduated from Rocky High School, he didn't go to college, but did attend a music school in Dallas for a while after high school.

"When I got out of high school, the first thing I did was work in a lumberyard, and then dad and I started farming together. We had cattle, and about the only other thing we raised was wheat."

His family remained in Rocky throughout the "Dirty Thirties" of the Depression.

When asked if life was hard then, he simply replied, "Well, we were like anyone else," shrugging his shoulders with the iconic stoicism of those who survived those extremely difficult and challenging times.

"Dad tried farming for a while, but he got hay fever so bad that we moved to Oklahoma City and he

became a cabinet maker. Mom was a homemaker. I had one brother who became a preacher, and three sisters, all of whom have now passed away."

About a month after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, he married his girlfriend, Eva, and, five months later, got drafted, not knowing which branch of service he would be assigned to. Recruiters sent Geis to Lawton, where he took several aptitude tests to see which branch he would be suited for. The tests revealed he was very gifted in mechanics. The Army Air Corps, the predecessor of the U.S. Air Force, had a particular need at that time for specialists who could service airplanes, so they sent him to Wichita Falls, Texas for training. At Wichita Falls, he and others didn't go through basic training because the need for men with their abilities was so crucial.

"I didn't have the time to go through all of that," he quipped.

Initially, Geis was trained as an electrician, also receiving instruction in carburation, aerodynamics and hydraulics. Then he and a few others were sent to Chanute Field in Rantoul, Illinois near Chicago for further training. Chanute Field was one of 32 Air Service training camps established after the United States' entry into World War I. His intensive training there included additional instruction in carburetors and hydraulics, with the goal of making him efficient in working on P-47 Thunderbolt fighter planes.

He had to learn all of the parts of the P-47, including new water injection technology, which provided an increase of about 20 percent of power when the fighters were involved in a dogfight. Ironically, he had gained a lot of experience with water injection working on tractors when he was a youngster.



"When I was seven years old, my summer job was servicing carburetors on tractors out in the fields," he said. "I learned to disassemble them, adjust the components and then put them back together."

Asked what he got paid for that work, he smiled, "Well, I got three meals a day . . ."

Geis then was sent to Richmond, Virginia for what he termed "on the job training."

"I'll give the Army credit for one thing," he mused. "They prepared us well before we were sent overseas."

In June 1944, as a specialist with 391st Tactical Fighter Squadron of the 366th Fighter Group of the Ninth Air Force, Geis traveled on the RMS Empress of Australia—an ocean liner built from 1913–1919 in Germany—to England. The squadron first was stationed at the maintenance and repair depot at Membury, and then moved to Thruxton about 65 miles southwest of London. Because of his exceptional mechanical aptitude, Geis was briefly

^ TOP: Earl Geis smiles as he recounts his time spent in the Armed Forces more than 70 years ago.

ABOVE: The emblem of the Ninth Air Force during World War II.

assigned to the Royal Air Force School in Liverpool, where he learned to service British planes, including Lancaster bombers and Spitfires.

"I had to learn to fix those British planes in case they had to have an emergency landing on our field and I could repair them," he explained.

In addition to the P-47s, Geis also serviced U.S. C-47 cargo planes and B-17 bombers. Geis' squadron provided air support for "Operation Overlord," the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France by allied forces on June 6, 1944.

*continued on next page*



“We got there the next day,” he recalled. “Just before dawn on June 7, I drove a truck from a landing craft onto Omaha Beach.”

During the next night, the Seabees bulldozed a runway —A-1—which was their first airfield in France. Three days later, the first P-47s arrived. The runway had 40 mm anti-aircraft gun and .50 caliber machine gun emplacements. Although never wounded, Geis said he had one terrifying close call when a large anti-aircraft shell fragment smashed into the tent in which he and another man were sleeping.


“The shell fragment tore through the roof of our tent and landed right between our bunks, which were only about two feet apart,” he recalled.

In France, where he served for a little over a year before the squadron moved to Belgium, Geis was responsible for maintaining the cameras on the P-47s, keeping them synched with the eight machine guns fired by the pilot, and setting the timing of the sparkplugs on the carburetors of the 18-cylinder, 2,800-rpm engine.

Geis wrote a letter to Eva about every two weeks, and his unit received mail from home about once a month. He was paid \$13 a month in the Air Corps. Meanwhile, Eva made \$47 a month at home working at a TG&Y store in Cordell.

Geis also was involved in another famous battle of World War II. “On January 1, 1945, we were in Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge.” He said. “German planes attacked our field, which was situated in a bunch of trees. We lost about six planes, and they strafed the camp. Bullets were slamming into the ground about 20 feet away from us.”

Earl was, in fact, involved in six other major World War II battles. He remained in Belgium until Victory in Europe Day on May 8, 1945. He returned to the U.S., and was discharged as a master sergeant at Ft. Chaffee, Arkansas. He then returned to Oklahoma, settling about eight miles south of Gotebo to resume farming wheat and raising cattle. He also did carpentry during the winter and built his and Eva’s home.

Geis has forged a legacy of service and commitment for his son, Howard, daughter, Sharon, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He greatly enjoys life at Baptist Village, where he visits with other residents during meals in the dining room. Baptist Village is thrilled to have residents like Mr. Geis who have served their country and fought for the freedoms we enjoy every day. 



^ TOP: Mr. Geis shows off his citation from Belgian royalty for his squadron’s efforts in the country during World War II. It was issued to him shortly after the war ended.

BOTTOM: The training guide from Chanute Field, where Earl trained for his work on P-47 Thunderbolt planes.





## BVC Adds Instagram and Vimeo to Social Media Presence

>> Story by Jason Davis, BVC

**B**aptist Village Communities (BVC) knows we must shape the future of aging services every day. We have enjoyed a solid social media presence for several years on Facebook and YouTube. In fact, since launching our Facebook page in 2012, we have grown to well over 3,000 followers. We are excited to be getting the word out about our wonderful services.


BVC is always seeking additional ways to promote our services and reach as many people as possible. To this end, BVC is now established on Instagram and Vimeo.

In this digital age, more people than ever before are computer and technology savvy. This is certainly true of the Millennials demographic. BVC is aware that Instagram is one of the most, if not the most, preferred social media platforms for Millennials. While Baptist Village Communities does not serve Millennials-aged residents, many Friends Team members certainly fall into this demographic.

“In an effort to reach more candidates for careers, we felt it would be to our advantage to expand our social media exposure,” says Sherry McLeod, BVC workplace culture enhancement specialist. “Instagram is a platform used by more of the younger prospects we want to reach.”

Launched at the end of May, BVC’s Instagram account already is nearing 100 followers.

BVC’s Vimeo profile was also launched at the same time. Vimeo is a video platform, similar in style to YouTube. Vimeo provides an ad-free video experience, excellent video quality capabilities and good tracking and administrator usability.

Baptist Village Communities is pleased to now have four social media platforms at our disposal. We pray the result will be more and more people becoming aware of how BVC enhances lives every day. 



# The Journey of Our Calling

## Anna Holland's Unique Path to BVC

>> Story by Jason Davis, **BVC**

**T**hroughout our lives, it is evident that only God truly knows the paths laid out for us. And every person's journey is uniquely theirs.

Just ask Baptist Village of Ada Friends Team member Anna Holland.

Anna has spent nearly her entire life in the United States. But her first several months of life were anything but "normal."

"I was born in Thailand during the Vietnam War," says Anna. "My father was in the U.S. Air Force. My mother was from Thailand, and she had a rough childhood. She was sold to a lieutenant in the Thai army when she was only 12 years old."

When she was an infant, Anna says she, her mother, father and two half brothers had to travel together through the dense jungle in southeast Asia during the war. Anna's mother would often have to fight

alongside Anna's father as they traversed the rough terrain.

Somewhere along the way, they became separated from each other in the jungle. In his frantic search, Anna's father came across a local village. At this point, he had been serving in Thailand for the past 12 years. This meant he had developed a relatively good rapport with the locals.

"My dad went to the Mama-san [a woman in a position of authority] of the village. He told her the situation at hand. The Mama-san sent a bodyguard with my dad, and they went to the back bungalow. Lo and behold, my mother was there. As it turned out, they had been on a mission...and she and my two half-brothers were the only ones who had escaped from the battle alive."

At just 18 months old, Anna came to the United States. When she was born, Anna had issues with her

lungs. The doctors in Thailand were unable to provide the needed medical procedures needed to fix them for Anna. Her father brought her to the United States so she could receive the services she needed.

Amazingly, Anna didn't learn any of this story until she was preparing to graduate from nursing school.

Her father had been through a lot during the war. He was a double amputee, was deaf and nearly blind. He also had health issues due to exposure to Agent Orange, a defoliant chemical, in Thailand. His condition meant he had to communicate to Anna via writing on a board. He wrote on the board, "thank you for helping me fulfill a promise."

she was 16 years old. She then became a licensed practical nurse. Prior to arriving at Baptist Village of Ada, she worked at a long-term care community near her home.

"One of the girls that used to work for me got a job at Baptist Village," recalls Anna. "I jokingly told her 'hey, if they need a nurse let me know.' Well wouldn't you know it, two weeks later she calls me and tells me they need a nurse. Specifically, they needed a director of health services. I had to think about it a lot, because I'd never been in this position before."

"Now that I'm here, I love it. I love the team atmosphere. We give all the residents a little extra,

"Providing the extra little bit - the simple things - is what I love to do. That's the most rewarding thing."

- Anna Holland



He had promised Anna's mother that Anna would one day become either a teacher or a nurse.


Due to her father's job in the Air Force, Anna's family moved around. They originally were based at Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, Alaska. From there, they moved to Mangum, Oklahoma, where her father worked at nearby Altus Air Force Base.

One day, he learned of 160 acres for sale near the tiny town of Gertie, Oklahoma, not far from Ada. They moved there, and Anna has lived on their property ever since.

Anna has now been in the nursing field for 30 years. Anna began as a certified nursing assistant when

because they deserve it. They've earned it. I tell the team to just take time to talk with them. You'll learn so many cool things."

"I think this is the best place I've ever worked, and [Campus Director Tracy Scheer] is the best administrator I've ever had. Our Friends Team members here feel the same way. And I'm not one to stay in my office. As soon as my paperwork is done, I'm out working right alongside the team."

When asked what is most important, Anna concluded with, "providing the extra little bit - the simple things - is what I love to do. That's the most rewarding thing." 

# A Place to Call HOME

>> Story by Dana Williamson, **Contributing Writer** and Jason Davis, **BVC**

**P**ay the rent, or fill a prescription for badly needed medication?

This is a choice that no one should have to make. But the fact is, this is an all-too-common reality for many senior adults with limited financial resources. It is because of this scenario that Baptist Village Communities (BVC) created the Larry and Edwine Adams Assistance Fund to help residents.

However, the need for assistance is outgrowing what is available in the Fund. This means that, now more than ever, your gift can make a major impact in residents' lives.

"If I had a million dollars, I'd still live here," declares Baptist Village of Cleveland resident Kathy Gill.

But Kathy doesn't have a million dollars. Neither do countless Oklahomans who just want to have a safe place to call home. The truth? Many residents planned for retirement and all the wonderful things that come with it - travel, relaxation, spending time with grandchildren. But as is often the case, life threw them a curveball. The money they had worked hard to save is now gone - and when they need it the most.

Gill, 71, never dreamed she would need help paying her monthly rent. She worked as a certified public accountant and a bookkeeper in hospitals and schools. She also worked alongside her husband in his auto mechanic shop. But her husband was self-employed. He did not have health insurance or retirement benefits.

consider these  
**FACTS**



**Today...**

**10,000**

people turn 65 every day in the United States\*

**100**

people turn 65 every day in Oklahoma\*

\*daily average

**By 2029...**

**14.4 million**

middle income senior adults in the United States

**54%**

percentage of senior adults unable to afford senior living services

**60%**

percentage of senior adults with mobility limitations

**20%**

percentage of senior adults with considerable healthcare and functional needs

This proved to be a costly situation, as he suffered a stroke. The couple were forced to use their life savings to pay medical bills, even going as far as selling their home. He passed away only two years later, leaving Kathy with only Social Security income and not much else. To add insult to injury, Gill developed an eye disease that eventually may render her blind.



*Kathy Gill*

She decided it was time to live closer to her children. Baptist Village of Cleveland was the destination, and she quickly fell in love. "The atmosphere was great, and I bonded immediately," says Gill. "But I had financial challenges."

That's where the Adams Fund came into play. It provided her the financial help she needed. Now she has built a new life for herself at Baptist Village.

"The Adams Fund gives me security," says Gill. "I have a roof over my head and my family is nearby. I'm so grateful for people who give so that residents like me can have a place to call home."

The Adams Fund bears the name of its creator - Larry Adams, a former Oklahoma pastor who served as campus director of Baptist Village of Oklahoma City from 1986 to 1995. Today, Larry and his wife, Edwine are residents there.

As campus director, Adams frequently checked on and provided for residents. He would often take care of those with financial burdens personally, buying necessities for residents out of his own pocket.

"Pretty soon, Edwine and I couldn't afford to keep doing it," says Larry Adams. "I wrote letters to churches, asking them to collect offerings for these residents in need." Eventually, an endowment was established through The Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma. The fund was named after Larry and Edwine in 1998.

Pat Adams supports his parents' work. A successful businessman, He says he gives to the Adams Fund because the Bible calls Christians to honor their parents. "The need is growing because people are living longer," says Pat. "They deserve quality of life in retirement."

Money for the fund comes from several sources, including the annual Mother's Day Offering (MDO). One-hundred percent of BVC's MDO portion goes to the Adams Fund. Long-term support for the fund is provided through gifts to the Adams Fund Endowment and is managed by The Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma.

The endowment is critical to safeguarding the Adams Fund. Donors with the means to make large gifts to the Adams Fund are desperately needed, individuals with the ability to help hundreds of residents at once.

On average, five percent of Baptist Village residents receive assistance through the Adams Fund. The average monthly cost for residential living at Baptist Village is about \$800 each month. Qualifying residents can receive \$250 monthly assistance through the Adams Fund. This can alleviate significant financial stress and worry.

**Give today!** 

**Your gifts to the Adams Fund provide financial assistance for dozens of residents. To support the fund, you can:**

**Give online:**

[www.baptistvillage.org/donate](http://www.baptistvillage.org/donate)

**Give by mail:**

Baptist Village Communities  
3800 N. May Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

**Questions?**

Call Lindsy Skinner, director of development, at (405) 942-3000 x 4208.



# The impact of your gift

## How the Adams Fund helps countless people every day

One hundred people turn 65 every day in Oklahoma. Seventy-nine percent of those middle income baby boomers have no savings for retirement care. Because of this, the Larry and Edwine Adams Assistance Fund is needed now more than ever. Without growing support, we cannot continue to provide assistance to those who need it most. For many, this Fund is life-changing and often means the difference between home and homelessness.



**5%**

average percentage of Baptist Village residents receiving assistance through the Adams Fund



**\$800**

average monthly cost for residential living at Baptist Village



**\$250**

average amount given in individual assistance monthly to residential living residents

Help a resident today. Call (405) 942-3000 ext. 4208.



# *Giving &* **RECEIVING**

## Do good and secure your future with a Charitable Gift Annuity.

A Charitable Gift Annuity provides the security of a guaranteed lifetime income while allowing you to support Gospel-centered ministries like Baptist Village Communities. Your gift is eligible for an immediate tax deduction, and annuity interest yields are at a 10-year high. Start a conversation with our planned giving professionals today.

### GET STARTED AT:

405.942.3000 ext. 4208 | [lskinner@baptistvillage.org](mailto:lskinner@baptistvillage.org)



Baptist Village  
Communities



THE BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION  
OF OKLAHOMA

# NEW BVC LEADERSHIP



**MONTY  
BAGGETT**

*Campus Director*  
Baptist Village  
of Broken Arrow

*NEW FRIENDS TEAM  
LEADERSHIP*

Monty Baggett arrived at Baptist Village of Broken Arrow in July. He has plenty of great praises for Baptist Village, and serving is obviously what he enjoys most.

"I feel called to be here. We truly serve God by serving one another, and it's great to know we are not serving alone in this ministry. It's empowering to know that those at the helm of this organization are as passionate about serving others as anyone could be. Baptist Village Communities has a wonderful reputation and integrity of leadership."

"I have the privilege and responsibility of leading a campus filled with incredible residents and wonderful team members. I get to pour love, encouragement, support and direction into the lives of those who live and serve with us. Most of our residents make up one of the greatest generations that has ever lived. They have given, worked and sacrificed much to build what my family now gets to enjoy. We have the opportunity to give something back by making their lives happier and more fulfilled."

Monty is married to his wife of 39 years, Sheila. They have two grown children and nine grandchildren. They attend Ekklesia Church in Muskogee. Monty's hobbies include sports and playing racquetball.



**BILLY  
JOHNSON**

*Campus Director*  
Baptist Village  
of Hugo

*NEW FRIENDS TEAM  
LEADERSHIP*

Billy Johnson is one of southeast Oklahoma's most highly experienced healthcare administrators. He served nearly 20 years as chief executive officer of Coal County General Hospital and Extended Care, which includes a skilled health center. He says his journey to Baptist Village Communities was completely a result of God's plan.

"I was not looking for a new job," attests Johnson. "I had 19 plus years at my job, working my way up over the years. I just know that when [Vice President Steve Thomas] called me about this opportunity that it was the right time and place that God wanted me at this point in my life. God called me to this ministry, and I consider it a blessing to be serving with BVC."

Billy loves helping people and having the opportunity to serve others. He enjoys teaching team members how to serve others and how, by working together, they can make a positive difference in someone's life.

Billy has been married to his wife, Nancy, for 32 years. The Johnsons have two children: Haley, 27, and Brent, 17. They have two grandchildren: Lexi, 4, and Kase, 3. Billy and Nancy are faithful members of First Baptist Church, Coalgate.





## FRIEDA STEWART

*Vice President - Quality*

FRIENDS TEAM  
PROMOTION

God orchestrated the entire process that led her to come serve at BVC, says Frieda Stewart. Frieda was recently named BVC's vice president - quality. Frieda has served on the Friends Team since April 2013.

Frieda regularly travels to multiple BVC campuses. She performs onsite audits, electronic record audits, training, mentoring and coaching team members. She is on-call for clinical questions and writes policies and procedures to ensure compliance for BVC.

Frieda also attends all annual surveys by the Oklahoma State Department of Health to make sure the process goes smoothly and Friends Team members feel supported and empowered.

"I have the opportunity to make a difference every day, and often in different places," says Frieda. "I get to build relationships with a good number of team members because of my travels. I am so grateful that BVC provides an environment conducive to openly serving God alongside like-minded believers. Every day, I am allowed and encouraged to live out our mission of Enhancing lives by Serving God, Serving You, Serving Together."

Frieda and her husband, Kevin, have been married 32 years and have two children: Lacey and Tyrel. They have three grandchildren. The Stewarts attend Life Fellowship in Weatherford. Perhaps Frieda's greatest claim to fame outside of BVC is barrel racing. She and her family have competed in rodeos and competitions for many years. Frieda recently qualified for the National Barrel Horse Association Nationals Finals in Georgia.



## KASEY DAVIS

*Regional Marketing Specialist*

FRIENDS TEAM  
PROMOTION

Kasey arrived at Baptist Village of Owasso in February 2016. Through determination and growth, she has progressed on the resident services team, from specialist, to director, and now as regional marketing specialist.

She is a major cheerleader for BVC. "I believe in the organization!" says Kasey. "I am passionate about the services we provide within BVC...our services change the lives of senior adults every day! I have the pleasure of working with so many of our great Friends Team members. From marketing strategy, to marketing plan implementation, to trusted friend...I get in the trenches with our teams on the ground and make a difference in the lives of the people we serve. I consider it a privilege to come to work each and every day!"

Kasey and her daughter, Bostyn, 10, attend LifeChurch. Kasey loves the mom life. She enjoys running, as well as a great day at the lake or an evening with friends and family. Kasey has family throughout Oklahoma, including her grandparents, who are residents at Baptist Village Lake Texoma.



We invite YOU to join the Friends Team today!  
To learn more about opportunities available,  
visit our website: [baptistvillage.org/careers](http://baptistvillage.org/careers)



# DEDICATED SERVANTS

**B**aptist Village Communities (BVC) enjoys a tradition of Friends Team members with many years of service. BVC is excited to recognize significant milestones reached in 2019.\* Thank you for enhancing the lives of those we serve!

## 35 Years of Service

Garell Murray, Cleveland  
 Steve Thomas, Home Office  
 Annie Wickson, Hugo

## 20 Years of Service

Dionne Dunkins, Hugo  
 Chris Finley, Oklahoma City  
 Bridget Holt, Hugo  
 Cynthia Tryon, Entrusted Hearts - Oklahoma City

## 15 Years of Service

Celeste Cano, Oklahoma City  
 Brenda Haskins, Owasso  
 Leslie Hollrah, Oklahoma City  
 Shawna Parsley, Entrusted Hearts - Owasso

## 10 Years of Service

Brenda Gates, Entrusted Hearts Case Management  
 Susan Morgan, Entrusted Hearts - Owasso  
 Nathan Purifoy, Owasso  
 Yolanda Velasco, Oklahoma City

## 5 Years of Service

Dekisha Brown, Owasso  
 Sara Erwin, Hugo  
 William Fisher, Owasso  
 Regina Grimmett, Home Office  
 Jill Hall, Oklahoma City  
 Penny Harjo, Entrusted Hearts - Oklahoma City  
 Anna Holland, Ada  
 Kahtausha Jennings, Owasso  
 Jessie Keys, Owasso  
 Andrea Kreis, Ada  
 Bradley Labadie, Owasso  
 Esther Lekwa, Oklahoma City  
 Brenda Maupin, Oklahoma City  
 Victoria McClain, Oklahoma City  
 Christy Milam, Hugo  
 Phillip Molina, Okmulgee  
 Bless Nguti, Oklahoma City  
 Kelley Opela, Owasso  
 Linda Osborn, Ada  
 Juana Perez Martinez, Oklahoma City  
 Sherri Powell, Okmulgee  
 Rebecca Reeves, Owasso  
 Rhonda Sneed, Entrusted Hearts Case Management  
 Shaniece Starks, Owasso  
 Lisa Stotts, Owasso  
 Wilma Thompson, Oklahoma City  
 Carla Venable, Owasso

\*As of October 2019

## EXECUTIVE TEAM

**Home Office | 3800 N. May Avenue | Oklahoma City, OK 73112 | Toll-Free: 866.887.2872**

Dr. William Pierce, President

Ken Mills, Vice President - Chief Financial Officer

Wendell Short, Vice President - Planning and Project Management

Frieda Stewart, Vice President - Quality

Steve Thomas, Vice President - Operations

## VILLAGES

**Baptist Village of Ada | 3501 Oakridge Drive | Ada, OK 74820 | 580.332.6004**

Tracy Scheer, Campus Director

**Baptist Village of Broken Arrow | 2801 N. Birch Avenue | Broken Arrow, OK 74012 | 918.355.0099**

Monty Baggett, Campus Director

**Baptist Village of Cleveland | 1001 Baptist Village Drive | Cleveland, OK 74020 | 918.358.2575**

Gary Ligon, Village Manager

**Baptist Village of Cordell | 701 E. 12th Street | Cordell, OK 73632 | 580.832.5831**

Lindsay Altenhofel, Village Manager

**Baptist Village of Elk City | 1500 W. Country Club Boulevard | Elk City, OK 73644 | 580.225.5555**

Cathy Henderson, Campus Director

**Baptist Village Honey Creek | 2620 W. 13th Street | Grove, OK 74344 | 918.786.2223**

Gary Mishler, Village Manager

**Baptist Village of Hugo | 1200 W. Finley Street / P.O. Drawer 608 | Hugo, OK 74743 | 580.326.8383**

Billy Johnson, Campus Director

**Baptist Village Lake Texoma | 10777 Village Drive | Madill, OK 73446 | 580.564.3776**

Matthew Wood, Village Manager

**Baptist Village of Miami | 2525 N. Elm Street | Miami, OK 74354 | 918.542.7124**

Shane McGhee, Village Manager

**Baptist Village of Oklahoma City | 9700 Mashburn Boulevard | Oklahoma City, OK 73162 | 405.721.2466**

Martin Hall, Campus Director

James Duehning, Associate Campus Director - Health Services Administrator

**Baptist Village of Okmulgee | 1500 W. 6th Street | Okmulgee, OK 74447 | 918.756.5377**

Sherri Powell, Campus Director

**Baptist Village of Owasso | 7410 N. 127th East Avenue | Owasso, OK 74055 | 918.272.2281**

Nathan Purifoy, Campus Director

Mitzi Epperson, Associate Campus Director - Health Services Administrator

## ENTRUSTED HEARTS BY BAPTIST VILLAGE

Shannon Ryan, Director

**Lawton Office | 60 N.W. Sheridan Road Suite 6 | Lawton, OK 73505 | 580.355.2440**

**Oklahoma City Office | 9700 Mashburn Boulevard | Oklahoma City, OK 73162 | 405.720.2401**

**Owasso/Tulsa Office | 7410 N. 127th East Avenue | Owasso, OK 74055 | 918.272.4694**

**Medical Equipment | 208 E. 5th Avenue Suite H | Owasso, OK 74055 | 918.274.4310**

**Case Management | 3800 N. May Avenue | Oklahoma City, OK 73112 | 405.516.4888**



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