



Edition 24
May/June 2021

CONNECTIONS

We are virtual neighbors enabling mature adults to come together to learn, plan, and serve with spirit and dignity.

Change and Growth

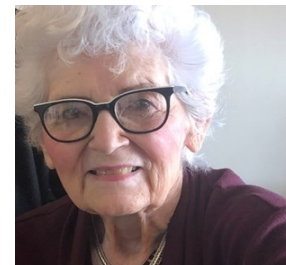
You cannot have one without the other. Your organization, VillagesOKC, is seizing every new opportunity and it is wonderfully painful!

Just think! You are part of an organization that isn't just surviving, but growing in membership during covid — NEVER SHUTTING DOWN. We began *Porch Pals* deliveries and our *Good Neighbor* calls increased. This required creativity, leadership and so many things we've NEVER DONE BEFORE.... including television! Since January your Village has had television stories on KWTW

and KFOR featuring Caroline Baze, Gayle Cameron, Wendell Snow and his wife. Also featured were Margaret Bridgewater, Elizabeth Payne, Gaylene Stiles and Marilyn Olson. We are seeing increasing awareness of this organization across the greater Oklahoma City area in various newspapers which is 'Changing the Conversation about Aging.' The Journal Record has announced your Village as one of several organizations being honored for GIVING BACK at the [Beacon Awards ceremony on July 8](#). This award category is

for 'a non-profit contributing to another non-profit.' Amazing for a three year old organization!

Another aspect of growth and change came about for our office coordinator, Keri Sapcut. She is now moving on to a wonderful opportunity for growth and advancement in her own life. We are grateful for her service to this Village and wish her well. The office staff is working to reorganize and interview candidates. Please extend grace while we work through this new chapter of growth.



Marilyn Olson,
Executive Director

Remember we've never been this age or created a village before. Dr. Marion Diamond in "My Love Affair of the Brain," reminds us that doing something NEW and something CHALLENGING is good for the brain. If that's true, VillagesOKC brains must be approaching brilliance! Just take a look at the amazing opportunities on the summer calendar.

Communications

Beverley Bailey



Beverley

"When in doubt, choose change. I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is they must change if they are to get better. There is nothing permanent except change."

Change. It is usually scary; it is sometimes liberating; it is always stressful, and it is plain unavoidable.

My challenge, as the new Communications Coordinator, is to tackle change creatively and to communicate with VillagesOKC members and friends to enlighten, inform, and inspire you with

usable information. In this issue our change begins with a bi-monthly newsletter in the future.

I need your help. If you know a person or business we need to highlight, let me know. As my Dad always said, "I don't know what I don't know."



Gaylene

Community Resources Gaylene Stiles

Typically, when someone refers to community resources, they mean an organization that serves a particular group of people by providing tools to help them grow in positive ways while improving their life. With that idea in mind, VillagesOKC is proud to boast of 75+ community resource partners and sponsors that are part of the VillagesOKC movement as we strive to live out our mission of: Virtual neighbors that enable mature

adults to come together to learn, plan, and serve with spirit and dignity.

Connecting Village members with appropriate, trusted services is indeed front and center to our member-driven virtual community. After all, we are a plan, not a place. Being aware of community resources and discovering ways of collaboration allows for opportunities of continued education, life planning, and service to each other.

We believe that everyone has something of value to give and we work hard to find that connection. We think VillagesOKC is the best, most creative, and most purposeful way to age well.

Be sure to take a few minutes to check out the event calendar and sign up for a class, event, or get-together and discover ways to grow and improve! A great example would be the upcoming tour of New View.



Mary

Quality Control Mary Yarber

They say necessity is the mother of invention and thanks to the flexibility of our VOKC staff we took that saying to heart 15 months ago by incorporating new ideas.

We created some inventive alternatives to our normal in-person meet-ups. We learned about Zoom, a word I had never heard of until March 2020. We

connected with friends and members with phone calls, porch visits and virtually visiting the Christmas bazaars in Germany. As a result, our membership actually grew by staying engaged and continuing to move forward!

We have learned a lot this past year; tried new things, walked through new waters, moved

cautiously forward, and stretched our brains. To quote Albert Einstein, "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."

2021 is going to be a great year for VOKC members and friends!



Caroline

Membership Caroline Baze

Meet Bonnie Terrill— She is a true leader! She joined Villages in March 2021 by taking the GIFT class. She immediately began investing herself and her skills into VillagesOKC by encouraging her friends, Connie Cottrell and Kay Stout to become members by joining the GIFT class You go, girl!

In April, Bonnie introduced her

friend, Kafie Carman, to VillagesOKC and she also joined a GIFT class. Later, both ladies attended the "Brain Health Series" and instantly decided to become leaders and present the class in Edmond. Working together they found a location and began facilitating the class on June 9. Bonnie will also facilitate "The Gathering/Edmond"

where members and friends meet for lunch and fellowship. Bonnie and Kafie are born leaders with great people skills!

Bonnie and Kafie love interactive events and are planning a day trip for VillagesOKC members this summer with a tour of Guthrie — learning the history, visiting the local sites, and, of course, lunch at a local eatery!

The Gathering *Where old friends greet and new friends meet*

2nd Saturday of each Month

Johnnies 33 E. 33rd St., Edmond

CLICK HERE to let us know you'll be there!

Johnnie's has a great selection of burgers, salads, hotdogs and gluten free options.

3rd Saturday of each Month

Whipped Bakery 3820 N MacArthur Blvd, Warr Acres, OK 73122

CLICK HERE to let us know you'll be there!

Whipped Bakery has a delightful selections of sandwiches and sweets



Edmond



39th & McArthur

Purchase your lunch and join our VillagesOKC friends in a private dining room.

Everyone— members and friends are welcome to attend this social gathering!

Annual Festival of Arts *Celebrating the Arts and Community*

VillagesOKC Member, Steve Childers, will be one of the featured artists at this year's annual Festival of Arts! His artwork may be viewed in **TENT 20A.**



The Festival of the Arts is a community celebration of the visual, performing and

culinary arts, bringing a variety of talented artists together in downtown OKC's Bicentennial Park. This Festival has been an OKC tradition since 1967. It is considered a rite of spring and an

ACOKC signature event. This year ACOKC will be held

June 22nd -27th.

Steve has requested rides to the Festival of the Arts. If you are available to help, please contact the office at 405.990.6637 to volunteer.

Bicentennial Park

201 N. Walker Ave. OKC

Tues/Sun June 22—27

10:00 am—10:00 pm



Steve Childers

The GIFT Workshop

The GIFT is a four-week, 90 minute interactive workshop (or the new two-weeks @ 3 hr. workshops) guiding participants through 12 key areas most impacted in a life transition. Participants learn time-saving techniques, providing rapid access to key information when needed. The \$199 fee includes a one year Villages OKC membership, the exclusive Villages-OKC GIFT Binder, a trusted

network of professionals with resources, and a safe and confidential environment providing support, encouragement, and direction

EVERY VILLAGESOKC MEMBER, your neighbors, church friends and club friends will want to enroll in one of these life-changing GIFT classes. Call/text 405.990.6637 to reserve your place today!

Be prepared!

Now Scheduling 2021 Host Locations! All you need is seating and bottled water for 12 at a church, library, restaurant, insurance agency, realtor office, wellness center or country club. If you have a suggested location for the 2 or 4-week GIFT series, please call/text the office 405.990.6637 or email info@villagesokc.org!



THE JOURNAL RECORD BEACON AWARDS

The Journal Record is pleased to announce the 14th annual Beacon Awards honorees. This program is designed to recognize and honor the businesses that offer vital support to Oklahoma's nonprofit community. The 2021 Beacon Awards Cere-

mony will be July 8 via Zoom at 4:00pm.

VillagesOKC is honored to be nominated as *'A nonprofit organization contributing to another nonprofit organization working to meet specific needs in the community.'*

Honorees are chosen from three categories: Charitable Influence, Philanthropic Impact, and Nonprofits Serving Nonprofits.

Congratulations to
YOUR VillagesOKC!

Tech Mondays *Technology is best when it brings people together*



Minli

Meet Minli Thomas. She is serving as our summer intern in the area of social media helping with all our technical needs.

Still struggling with Instagram? This class is for you! Come learn the in's and out's of this app and leave feeling like a pro!

The one-hour tech classes will be held Mondays, July 12, 19, 26 at 10 am and repeated again each day at 1 pm.

Each class will be interactive and require your phone. Classes are limited to six (6) participants to ensure personal assistance.

Mark your July calendar!

July 12, 19, or 26

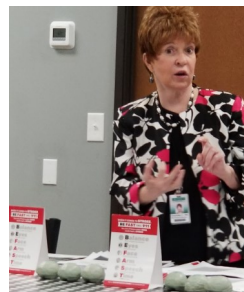
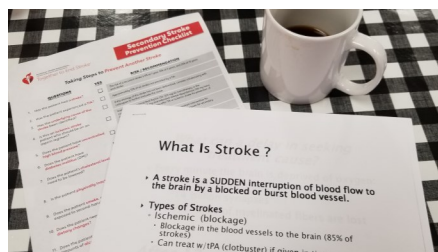
10am or 1pm

Visit [VillagesOKC.org](https://villagesokc.org)

to sign up for this event

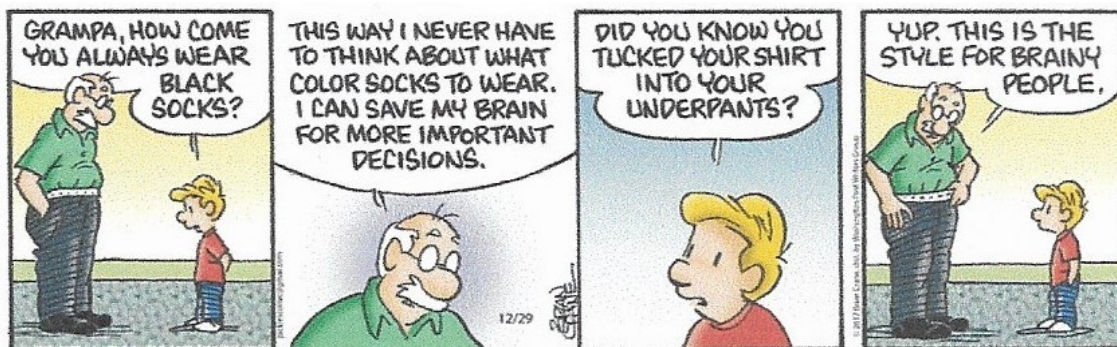
Women's Coffee *2nd Tuesday of each month*

Women's Coffee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Whipped Bakery (39th & McArthur area). Coffee and sweets are provided with enlightening presentations on a variety of topics. You'll enjoy meeting old friends, new friends, and gaining new information. Join us next time on July 13 at Whipped!



Member, Charlotte Colbert

A Cheerful Heart is Good Medicine Proverbs 17:22



Pickles by Brian Crane

Cruise Planners Travel

Marcie Murphy

Marcie Murphy, is an active VillagesOKC member who loves to travel. Three years ago that desire led her to follow her dream and purchase the franchise—**Cruise Planners**—for the OKC area. However, her expertise includes all aspects of travel, not just cruises.

Starting a business is both exciting and challenging, and Marcie is actively looking for ways to provide travel experiences both in city, state, and out of state for VillagesOKC members and friends.

She is currently working on a day trip to Ft. Worth via

train with transportation included throughout the city. In 2022 an Alaskan cruise and a European River cruise are also anticipated!

Marcie is a mom, a retired military veteran, and postal worker, living in OKC. We're glad your part of VillagesOKC!



Azalon Hair Studio Tour Monday, June 14, 10am

Join us as we tour **Azalon Hair Studio** in Yukon!

Azalon is owned by VillagesOKC member, Sheila Mauldin. Azalon has 31 stylists that specialize in up to date cutting and color and are certified in Brazilian Blowout Treatments.

Those who attend will receive a FREE makeup lesson and learn new tips and tricks!

If you decide to book an appointment after the tour, just mention this ad and tell them you are a

VillagesOKC member to receive 20% off a personalized makeup lesson/application or hair services. Limited registration for this event at VillagesOKC.org.

2121 S. Yukon Pkwy—Yukon

405.265.4044 ext. 2



Projects Needing YOUR Help

If you enjoy organizing or tackling a project,
give the VillagesOKC office a call to set a time to volunteer.



- ◆ Have great people skills? We're always looking for help recruiting and getting to know new members.
- ◆ Volunteers to schedule and coordinate the GIFT classes and make sure attendees know where and when workshops are located.
- ◆ A volunteer is needed to schedule GIFT Video Testimonials of those who have gone through the 4 week workshop.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed to organize records, write thank you notes, create a history album, file news clippings, and even straighten up the storage cabinet.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed to assist with deliveries for Porch Pals once a month.
- ◆ The Public Relations team will soon need a volunteer to assist with articles and photos.
- ◆ A volunteer is needed to organize our Trusted Business Listings and do data entry.
- ◆ Another volunteer is needed to coordinate the calendar – this could be quarterly (3 months) or for the year.
- ◆ Other tasks always come available. Just call and check out the needs!

Most projects have a beginning and an end; a few are on-going either weekly or monthly. Some projects could even be done at your home.

Volunteering is good for the brain!

Contact the VillagesOKC office for more information or to set up a time to volunteer.

Contacting VillagesOKC

VillagesOKC – 3908 N. Peniel Ave., Ste. 340, Bethany, OK 73008

Phone: 405.990.6637

E-mail: info@villagesokc.org

Website: www.VillagesOKC.org



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