

## LBCAP Students Remember Veterans on Memorial Day

By: Jessica Nielsen

Students from our on-site after school program, LBCAP (Long Beach Community Action Partnership), many of whom are residents of on-site family housing and various shelters, took time to express their appreciation of the sacrifice our veterans have taken to preserve our freedom. The kids range in age, but they share a similar message: *Thank You.*

Memorial Day is the day everybody celebrates the U.S. Vets for going to war and sacrificing their lives for this country. I want to say thank you, because they didn't have to go to war and sacrifice their lives for us, but they chose to go and fight for us. I also wanted to say thank you for saving our country and protecting us

—Elijah Walker (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Memorial Day is the holiday that shows the tribute to the hardcore veterans with lots of guts. They fought for our land and I am very grateful for that. Most of them came back proud to be in Red, White, and Blue. Some came back with decapitated limbs and some in bloody clothes and I am truly grateful.

—Carl Tipler (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

Thank you veterans! Memorial Day is a day to celebrate people who died and participated in these bloody and deadly wars. My thanks goes out to everyone who participated in wars because you risked your life to save my life and everyone else. I can't explain in words how grateful I am, but I can say thank you and happy Memorial Day!

—Leigha Ohwu (6<sup>th</sup> grade)

We hope that the *Village Anchor* is a useful tool for telling our stories and communicating events and announcements that are of interest to you. If you have a suggestion for improving the newsletter or would like to submit a story, please call us at (562) 388-8065 or email [info@centuryvillages.org](mailto:info@centuryvillages.org).



## More Than 300 Volunteers Come Together to Beautify CVC

By Kimberly Crawford

On May 24<sup>th</sup> more than 300 volunteers from Nestlé USA, in partnership with the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation, Long Beach Community Action Partnership, and Century Villages at Cabrillo, broke a sweat to help beautify the CVC campus. In just a few short hours so much was accomplished!

Over 160 fruit trees were planted. Some will bear fruit soon as they are dwarf trees, and the rest will grow into a very substantial orchard over the next few years and will be a beautiful addition to the campus as well as a source of food and enjoyment for our residents. We painted 11 benches, as well as the fence surrounding the KaBOOM! area which completely revamps the playground. The KaBOOM! playground now looks bright and clean and very inviting for all to enjoy. Eighteen new benches were built for the campus, including 6 very unique types with planters and game boards attached. The crosswalks and STOP lines on the road near the school and childcare center were repainted, as well as the game courts and wall inside of Bethune

School play yard. Last, but certainly not least, we mulched! What a job that was, very hard work but well worth the effort.

The financial contribution for this transformation totaled over \$10,000 in supplies alone. More importantly, however, it has greatly improved our campus and it was truly a rewarding experience for everyone involved. On behalf of the CVC community, we extend sincere gratitude to Nestlé USA and all who participated for making this project possible!



# Catholic Charities Shelter Kick-Off!

By: Jessica Nielsen

Century Villages at Cabrillo and Catholic Charities of Los Angeles hosted a Project Kick-Off event Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Family Shelter I and II projects in Long Beach. The projects, eight years in the making, are to be completed in early 2012, and will help to combat homelessness in the region.

Family Shelters I and II will be a new emergency shelter complex on the west side of the CVC campus. In partnership with Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, the new facilities will replace and expand the existing Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence,

which has operated at CVC since 1998 and served more than 2,000 families over its history. The new shelters will provide more appropriate space for the provision of shelter and supportive services which Catholic Charities provides.

Attendees of the Project Kick-Off event included Supervisor Don Knabe, Councilman James Johnson, Rebecca Matt and George Magnuson from the Department of Housing and Community Development at the State of California, and Lois Starr and Lynn Katano from the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission, all of the key players in the complex.

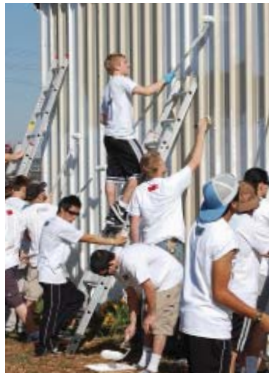
Several residents of the on-site shelter gave heart wrenching testimonies of the praiseworthy treatment they received from Catholic Charities when they were taken

into the shelter from a life on the streets. "This is something we've been waiting for for a very long time," said Vanessa Romain, Director of Programs for Catholic Charities. Thanks to this collaboration, years in the making, lives will be impacted for years to come.



## Rebuilding Together Long Beach at CVC

By: Jessica Nielsen



A big thanks to the 60+ volunteers from Rebuilding Together Long Beach (RTLTB) that came to CVC on April 30<sup>th</sup> to help rejuvenate our campus. Rebuilding Together Long Beach is an affiliate of Rebuilding

Together, the nation's leading nonprofit organization working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize communities. RTLTB works to build partnerships within the community to re-build nonprofit facilities for low income residents, particularly the elderly or those with disabilities, so they may live independently with dignity, in warmth, and safety. All of their services come at no cost to the recipients.

RTLTB volunteers dedicated their Saturday working hard to restore several structures on our campus to their former glory. Projects included: the painting of three storage buildings at the front entrance to the campus, the repair of the flower beds in the KaBOOM! play area so they are more kid-friendly and safe, and the painting of the interior of the U.S. Vets offices. These tasks were labor intensive and have made a marked impact. If you are interested in learning more about RTLTB, visit their website, [rebuildingtogetherlongbeach.org](http://rebuildingtogetherlongbeach.org).

## Letter from the President

Dear Residents,

Greetings! I hope you enjoyed the spring season here at CVC and that your summer is off to a good start.

As you probably know, Century Villages at Cabrillo is the nonprofit organization which owns this very special 26 acre community. We view ourselves as stewards of this community, driven by a mission of combating homelessness, improving the well-being of you, our residents, and restoring hope. In the course of our daily stewardship activities, you can find us doing property management, real estate development, and community development within our campus.

While that may sound nice, what does it really mean to be a steward? Rest assured that is a question we continually ask ourselves and strive to give meaning to. Please allow me to share some ways in which we carry out this stewardship role.

- We seek to provide our residents with outstanding property management services. From collecting rents, to delivering telecommunications services, to maintaining the grounds, to addressing work orders, we are here to serve you. In addition, we seek to provide a housing environment that is rich in available services, including such services as case management, life skills such as parenting and money management, employment development, health care, youth activities, and affordable child care, among many others. When there is a demand for a service which is not currently available, we seek to bring that resource to our community.

- We seek to develop housing and facilities for which there is a need in our community and seek to improve the existing campus environment here at CVC. For instance, we recently broke ground on a

new emergency shelter facility for families (you've probably seen the construction at San Gabriel and Williams). In the future, we hope to develop additional affordable housing on our campus to address the growing needs of families and individuals, including veterans, in our community. Finally, we hope you are enjoying our recent beautification projects including our courtyard improvements (the anchor installation, the fountain, and the new landscaping) as well as our campus entry improvements.

- We seek to build a sense of community by bringing new activities and resources to the campus. For instance, we recently developed a 164 tree fruit orchard that, if properly cared for, will provide a lifetime of enrichment, nutrition, and educational opportunities. Also, we have helped to expand community wide services that are available at our Oasis Community Center, where any resident can benefit from our recurring life skills courses and open computer lab in the afternoon.

Across our organization of some 25 professionals, CVC is committed to excellence in stewardship and wishes to create a positive, nurturing environment for you, our resident community! You can help us in these efforts by getting involved and taking pride in your home. After all, this is YOUR community. Come talk to us about your ideas as to how we can improve what we are doing. Do you want to get more involved in the community? We welcome your engagement and would be glad to discuss ways in which you can participate.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and look forward to building an even stronger CVC community in the future.

Warm regards,

Brian D'Andrea

# U.S. Vets Case Manager Says Goodbye to CVC after 8 Years of Service

By Bill Wallace

It is with great sadness, but with the very best wishes that we say goodbye to Mary Haynes as she is leaving in August for northern California to be closer to family and to pursue other opportunities. For the past eight years Mary has served U.S. VETS, the Villages at Cabrillo and most especially the veterans of our community. Starting off as a member of the Americorps program, Mary began her work with us as an intake specialist and in the career center. Her energy, caring nature and organizational skills were quickly realized and she moved into case management working with the Women's ADVANCE program and with the Supportive Housing Team.

After completing her term in Americorps, U.S. VETS—Long Beach was fortunate to attain her services as a case manager working with the Supportive and Permanent Housing and in the Disabled Programs. For the past three years she has been the Disabled Programs Coordinator overseeing Shelter-Plus-Care, PHD and the SILS program.

Her job descriptions don't come close to describing what Mary has done on a daily basis. She has always believed that engaging her clients to be of service and to seek life experience are the keys to living enhanced lives of recovery and independence. She has taken the veterans on countless outings and service projects such as trips to the Getty Museum, Wheelchairs to the Sea and the Access to Sailing program. She has revitalized our veterans' garden, volunteered for the KaBOOM! Playground Project and has represented U.S. VETS by running in the Los Angeles, Long Beach and Orange County Marathons.

Mary is also passionate about education and she has mentored our veterans to pursue their educational goals as well. Mary received her B.A. from UC Irvine in International Relations with a minor concentration in Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies with studies and work in France and Turkey. She also has a certificate from UCLA in Drug and Alcohol Studies and Counseling in preparation for certified with CADAAC. Most recently she graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cal State Long Beach with her Masters in Social Work.

Perhaps Mary's greatest gift was the individual work she did with her clients. Her clinical skills, vast knowledge of resources and her empathic caring nature have touched hundreds of the veterans she worked with. We will all miss Mary and wish her and her family the very best in her future pursuits.



## Meet Our Staff By Jessica Nielsen

### Maurice Bradshaw Maintenance Lead



Maurice was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to a Navy veteran father, however doesn't remember much of his mid-western roots as his parents moved to Los Angeles when he was a toddler. He attended Venice High School, and after graduation decided to enter the work force. Because he likes working with his hands, Maurice went into

the construction field where he worked for numerous employers. In construction he did everything from remodeling night clubs and restaurants in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, to traveling around the country constructing grocery store warehouses.

In 1992 Maurice decided to move to Long Beach as his construction jobs included the Queen Mary in Long Beach and the Sheraton Hotel in Anaheim. Soon after his move he became a father to Maurice Jr. who just graduated high school from Cabrillo High School. Unfortunately,

in 2008, he fell victim to the collapsed economy and Maurice was laid off. During his unemployment he would visit his brother Kevin Bradshaw, another CVC staff member, at CVC and became familiar with the campus. After months of unemployment, Maurice took the position of Community Ambassador for the Family Commons, in the hopes that he would eventually work in maintenance. Less than six months later, Maurice was promoted to Maintenance Lead.

While working as Community Ambassador, Maurice met his wife, Amber Bradshaw, a supportive housing case manager for U.S. Vets, and they were happily married on April 13, 2009. They now have a son, Landon, who is 1 year old, and are expecting another child in November of this year.

Currently, Maurice is the Maintenance Lead for Long Beach Savannah Housing, a shared permanent housing portion of CVC comprised of more than 190 units including homes of service providers such as U.S. Vets and PATH Ventures.

### Brett Morales Director, Property Management



Brett is a California native and the younger of two children. He grew up in Orange County, and throughout his youth was involved in performing arts, singing and acting, and playing various sports.

He and his family traveled abroad often. At the age of 19, Brett spent 2½ years in Cairo, Egypt. It was there that he grew compassion for the injustices of poverty in the world and developed a desire to make a difference, volunteering and performing at charity events.

Brett came back to the States looking for a new apartment. Through his apartment hunting process he ended up not only finding a place to live, but a job as well. This chance encounter has led to over 20 years

in the Property Management field, including experience in marketing and supervision. During the last 4 years of his career, before joining Century Villages at Cabrillo, he supervised affordable housing properties throughout Los Angeles and Santa Barbara Counties.

Brett joins our team as Director of Property Management. As Director of Property Management, Brett is responsible for supervising the management, maintenance, and enhancement of our community. He is also responsible for establishing and maintaining collaborative relationships with community stakeholders, including HUD, the local Housing Authority, and other funding organizations. Most importantly, he enjoys serving the community.

In his free time Mr. Morales enjoys teaching the Advanced Diver and Instructor SCUBA Diving Programs for the Los Angeles County Underwater Unit and is a volunteer Scientific Diver for the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.

# ACWU Helping Kids Meet Their Goal



By: Ezechias Cyping

All Children World United (ACWU) is a non-profit organization that provides physical education through the game of soccer, nutrition instruction, tutoring, and mentoring programs for youth in the greater Long Beach area. ACWU is dedicated to ensuring the health and well-being of children ages 5 through 17.

Our mission is to use sports as a tool to unite, educate, and instill values that produce winning attitudes in children. Our goal is to bring resources that support athletics, education and healthy lifestyles into schools and communities, empowering children to become a positive influence in the world and productive members of society. ACWU is free of charge to all children, ages 5 through 17.

The ACWU program for the Century Villages community meets at the Grand Lawn across from the Social Hall from 10:00am to 12:00pm on Saturdays. If you're interested in registering contact us at [310-933-4821](tel:310-933-4821), or on our website, [acwu.org](http://acwu.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

## Plastic Bag Ban Effective August 1<sup>st</sup>

By: Jessica Nielsen



Starting August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, the Long Beach City Council voted to ban plastic bags from use in the city. The vote passed 6-2 in December of 2010 with support from the California Supreme Court stating that city governments have the right to

issue such bans without full scale environmental review (Los Angeles Times). Other cities that have approved the ban are: San Francisco, Malibu, Santa Monica, San Jose, Calabasas, and Manhattan Beach. The plastic bag ban will result in a ten cent fee per paper bag provided by the retailer. Reusable bags, like the one pictured above can be found at most major retailers, and can be purchased often under \$2.00 a bag depending on the quality. To avoid the ten cent charge per bag, make sure you start taking your reusable bags with you when you go shopping!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, 4pm–10pm  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY ART WALK**

Downtown Long Beach East Village Arts District. [www.ArtWalkLB.com](http://www.ArtWalkLB.com). Free.

August 20, 12pm–4pm  
**BANNING MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE  
AND NEW EXHIBITION GRAND  
OPENING CELEBRATION**

401 East M Street in Wilmington.  
[www.thebanningmuseum.org](http://www.thebanningmuseum.org). Free.

August 21, 12pm–5pm  
**ROSE PARK BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**

Eighth St. and Orizaba Ave.  
[www.roseparkbluegrass.com](http://www.roseparkbluegrass.com). Free.

August 21, 3pm–7pm  
**SUMMER AND MUSIC SUNDAYS**

Park located at Promenade Square in Long Beach. Free.

September 15, 6pm–7pm  
**CVC COMMUNITY MEETING**

All CVC residents and staff are encouraged to attend! Located at the Social Hall on campus at 2001 River Ave. [www.centuryvillages.org](http://www.centuryvillages.org)

Every Monday, 9am–12pm  
**PARENTING CLASS**

Located on campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel, Long Beach. Free  
Phone: 562-388-8080

Every Tuesday, 9am–12pm  
**LIFE SKILLS CLASS**

Located on campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel, Long Beach. Free  
Phone: 562-388-8080

Every Wednesday, 9am–12pm  
**JOB SKILLS CLASS**

Located on campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel, Long Beach. Free  
Phone: 562-388-8080

Every Thursday, 9am–10:30am  
**FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASS**

Located on campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel, Long Beach. Free  
Phone: 562-388-8080

Every Friday, 10am–4pm  
**FARMERS MARKET**

Located at City Place Center Promenade N. and E. 4th Street .Free [http://www.farmernet.com/events/one-cfm?venue\\_id=841](http://www.farmernet.com/events/one-cfm?venue_id=841)

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Every Month, Rain or Shine, 10am  
**30-MINUTE BEACH CLEANUP**

Located at 1 Granada Ave. in the Belmont Shore area. Free Phone: 562-439-3316  
[www.BeachCleanup.org](http://www.BeachCleanup.org)

## Alcoholics Anonymous & Cocaine Anonymous Century Villages Self Help Meetings Schedule

**ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT (AA)** 6:30am–7:30am, 7 days a week in the Social Hall

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT CAP (AA)** 7:30pm–9pm, Wednesday night in the Social Hall

**NEW LIFE (AA)** 7:30pm–9pm, Friday night in the Social Hall

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE (CA)** 4:30pm–6pm, Saturday in the Social Hall

Everyone is welcome! This is an opportunity for men and women to share their experience and strength in the hope that they may help each other recover from alcoholism and other substances.