

## Around the World in a Week

With their passports in hand the children attending the Oasis Community Center (OCC) Summer Camp took a virtual trip around the world during Cultural Diversity week. Monday they chanted God Darg! as they entered Sweden where they sampled meatballs, local sweets, and learned about the Julbock and other customs. Then it was off to Mexico where they enjoyed tasty sweet bread, rice pudding and dove for the candy as the piñata finally broke. The children exclaimed "Gracias Property Office" for offering them a fun-filled day. Next it was to Italy where the children were thrilled to learn that Italians invented the ice cream cone and, of course, they enjoyed a taste of spumoni ice-cream. Thursday they visited Singapore where they tried their luck with chop sticks as they ate roasted duck, noodles, strange and fun fruits, and fortune cookies. They studied the Chinese astrological calendar and



were thrilled to discover they were born in the year of an animal. After a long journey they returned to America where they celebrated the diversity of our country and even shared favorite recipes and food with each other.

This was just one of the fun-filled enrichment themes that was offered to the 30 OCC Summer Campers. The OCC Summer camp was offered free of charge to Century Villages residents thanks to the generous support from our sponsors BNSF Railway Company, Century Villages at Cabrillo, and Adopt-A-Camper donors. If you'd like to learn more about the camp or the OCC's ongoing children's programming, please contact the Oasis Center staff at 562-388-8080 or email us at [oasis@centuryvillages.org](mailto:oasis@centuryvillages.org).



## Sundance

Sundance graduated from the on-site American Indian Changing Spirits (AICS) program in February, 2011. Prior to this accomplishment, the road Sundance travelled to get there was not an easy one. Sundance was born on the Black Feet reservation in Montana and grew up in Alaska. Growing up in Alaska, when he turned 18 he became immersed into the life of a commercial

fisherman. He took on the hard drinking lifestyle of his fellow fishermen and the habit soon progressed into alcoholism.

After losing a few friends to this lifestyle habit, Sundance decided to move to California for a fresh start. Being comfortable by the sea, Sundance settled down in Marina Del Rey. Life was still eventful for him as he landed himself in prison on numerous accounts. After his last offense, Sundance was given the option by the courts to

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## Sundance

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enroll in the AICS program versus serving more jail time. Sundance reluctantly chose this path, and he made it very clear upon his arrival at AICS that he did not want to be there.

Now a graduate of the program, Sundance finds it hard to leave "home" at AICS. The serene, guarded environment of the community made it easier for him to focus on recovery. "AICS gave my life direction," says Sundance. Now Sundance is involved with the Recovery at Sea program; Recovery at Sea is a nonprofit organization that offers clinical outpatient treatment services for those in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse, combined with on-the-job training programs. Members of the program develop maritime job training skills by working on various boat rehabilitation projects. With his background in commercial fishing, Sundance quickly transitioned from volunteer of the program to employee.

You can learn more about the American Indian Changing Spirits program and the Recovery at Sea program online at [www.americanindianchanging-spirits.org](http://www.americanindianchanging-spirits.org) and [www.recoveryatsea.com](http://www.recoveryatsea.com).



## Resident Spotlight: The Pascottinis

Liz met Derlis through a mutual friend. Both were born and raised and still living in Paraguay when they met. Liz and Derlis dated, fell in love and were soon married. A few years into their marriage Derlis lost his job, and with only one income, it became a struggle to pay the bills.

Derlis knew a family friend who had his own business, living in California. He asked him for help and ultimately got a job. Liz and Derlis couldn't miss the opportunity, so they packed their belongings and decided to move to California. The extra income was helpful, but was simply not sufficient. Sadly, his friend's business became unsuccessful and they were placed in another difficult situation.

Liz and Derlis decided to contact the Department of Social Services for assistance. Granted with

a one-time only hotel voucher, it gave them two weeks with a place to sleep. With the little savings they had, it was a small enough cushion for them to get by. Once the two weeks were up, they then contacted the Multi Service Center (MSC) in Long Beach and were given another hotel voucher. Looking for permanent housing, the MSC informed them of Century Villages at Cabrillo.



They started in the PATH transitional housing program for three months, later to be informed of an available apartment at the Family Commons. The pieces were falling into place, Liz and Derlis were elated. They give many thanks to the Department of Social Services and the Multi Service Center for the assistance. Liz feels that the challenges they endured brought them to a better place. Liz, Derlis and their five children are now happy residents of the Family Commons.

## CVC's Got Talent!

With a full house cheering them on, three of Century Villages' young residents performed in the Who Got Next! Talent Show at CVC's Summer Festival. For these very talented girls, with the youngest only four years old, it was an opportunity to show off their talents and prove that hard work and practice does pay off. They danced and sang their hearts out wowing the crowd with their enthusiasm. So much so the audience broke into a dance themselves and everyone young and old clapped along. Some even got up and joined them on stage. The talent show was a great culmination to the already fun-filled day and from the

beaming smiles on the girls faces as they showed off their awards, it appeared to be a success!

Thanks to the Hope Foundation for putting together the talent show,

for providing over 300 children with backpacks and giveaways, and generally for their help with the festival. This year's Summer Festival and Back-to-School event featured 15 interactive information booths each distributing school supplies, there were health screenings from St. Mary Medical Center's Breathmobile, a balloon artist, face painter, free haircuts, ice cream, Island's hamburgers, pizza, popcorn, and much more. Special thanks goes out to Long Beach Community Action Partnership who provided bouncy houses for the kids and to the US Vets staff who pitched in to cook the hamburgers, School on Wheels for their support with the event, and all the other volunteers who prepared the food, set up, collected donations and worked so hard to make the festival a great event for CVC's residents. One of the guests commented "Thank you so much...the kids had so much fun and I was able to get them ready for school with haircuts and backpacks all at once, I don't have a car and can't afford much so this was just a blessing!"



## Congratulations to our Service Provider and Staff Person of the Year!

Comprehensive Child Development (CCD) and Amber Bradshaw, Programs Assistant for US Vets were honored with service provider and staff person of the year at our recent Partnership Appreciation Luncheon. Both CCD and Amber understand and embrace the mission of Century Villages and exemplify the true meaning of collaboration and partnership in their work. It is truly individuals and agencies like them that go above and beyond for their clients and the community at large that make Century Villages the success it is. Wendy Young of Catholic Charities, Sean Ransom of Path Ventures, Erin Ackerson of Family Services, Mary Scott and Howard Taylor of US Vets, and Diane Barbre of Veterans Village

Recovery Center were also recognized at the event as this year's nominees and should be very proud of their work. Century Villages at Cabrillo Staff and Board value and honor everyone's contribution to the community and, once again, would like to extend thanks to Bethune Transitional School, Catholic Charities, Comprehensive Child Development, American Indian Changing Spirits, City of Long Beach/Multi-Service Center, Family Services, Hope Foundation, Los Angeles Habilitation House, Long Beach Community Action Partnership, New Image Emergency Shelter, Path Ventures, School on Wheels, US Vets, and the Veterans Administration for their ongoing support.

## CVC According to Catherine

My name is Catherine Nock and I have lived here for about 18 months. Century Villages at Cabrillo has been a blessing for me as I would not have had a place to stay while I went thru the treatment program at the VA hospital. I have done many things since I completed the program with the VA. I am in the Advance Woman's Program housing through United States Veterans Initiative. I have taken the advance computer classes at the Oasis Community Center and have learned so much that I can use in the future. I put together a power point presentation for the Women Veterans Stand Down as part of the homework in the class. I didn't get a chance to use it, but I gained experience. Now I know that in the future if needed I will be able to put together a presentation that will be worthy. I also was a model for the fashion show at the stand



down and had a great time doing so. Finally, I participated in the sustainability program for the Oasis Community Center summer camp and got to help with the clean-up that they did.

## Social Hall Restoration

CVC is beginning to plan the restoration of our Social Hall which is in need of some TLC. We appreciate the long history of this space and understand its special significance to many of our residents. We want to hear from you as to how we can improve this space. How do you currently use the space? Do you have any special memories of the space? How can this space better serve your needs? Please visit the property office to complete a short survey. We will be collecting resident responses through the end of October and using this information to restore the Social Hall to its original grandeur and ensure that it meets your needs. If you'd prefer to email us your thoughts, please email us at [FixUpTheSocialHall@centuryvillages.org](mailto:FixUpTheSocialHall@centuryvillages.org).

# Meet Our Staff

**Chris Alderson**  
Quality Assurance Lead



Chris was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts, the son of a petroleum engineer and nurse. At the age of 17 Chris enlisted in the army and was stationed at Fort Bragg. During his three year stint with the 82nd airborne, as a Spec. 4 he worked as a helicopter mechanic and paratrooper. Here he quickly learned of his propensity for mechanics and

passion for knowledge.

Unsure of his career path after the army, Chris decided to move to Northern California to stay with his uncle who encouraged him to go to college and also introduced him to recreational scuba diving. Chris decided to combine his mechanical talents with his new knowledge of diving and pursued a career in Commercial Diving. As a result, he moved to Southern California to attend and subsequently graduate from the College of Oceaneering, San Pedro. After graduation, Chris moved to Houston, Texas to begin his new career as a Commercial Oil Rig Diver/Mechanic. It didn't take long before Chris realized Commercial Diving was not the career he desired. After two years in the industry, he returned to Southern California to continue his education.

In 1988, Chris applied for, and ultimately landed a position with the McDonald Douglas Corporation as a Structural Mechanic on the C-17, Globemaster, an aircraft built for the US Air Force for rapid strategic airlifting of troops and cargo to main operating bases throughout the world. Chris was promoted swiftly to Final Inspector, a position which had him traveling and living in cities such as Amsterdam, Bangkok, Zurich, and Bangladesh. Unfortunately, after 10 years with McDonald Douglas, Boeing bought the company and Chris was one of the more than 48,000 people laid off during the transition.

Chris comes to Century Villages at Cabrillo as a graduate of the US Vets, Veterans In Progress program and Compensated Work Therapy program. His hard work and dedication to CVC has earned him the role of Quality Assurance Lead. In this position, he is responsible for overseeing the janitorial staff and ensuring our community remains a beautiful place to work and live.



## We Salute You!

We, at Century Villages at Cabrillo, would like to take this opportunity to render a warm retirement salute to Willie "Rudy" Linder. After nine years of dedicated service, Rudy has retired from the CVC Maintenance team. During his tenure, Rudy's accomplishments have, indeed, blazed a trail for our future success.



## WORKSHOPS

### OASIS COMMUNITY CENTER

Find us at our new address, 2112 W. Willard St., or call 562.388.8080.

Mondays, 10am–11:30am

### HEALTHY FAMILIES

Mondays, 12:30pm–2pm

### INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS

Tuesdays, 10am–11:30am

### PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

Wednesdays, 10am–11:30am

### CAREER PLANNING

Thursdays, 10am–11:30am

### FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASS

## AFTER SCHOOL

### OASIS COMMUNITY CENTER

Monday–Friday, 3pm–5pm

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Open to school aged children kinder–5<sup>th</sup> grade. For more information call Cherisse Goodman at 562.388.8080.

## FAMILY FUN

### MUSEUM OF LATIN AMERICAN ART

628 Alamitos Ave. Long Beach, CA 90802. Free admission every Sunday.

### LONG BEACH MUSEUM OF ART

2300 E Ocean Blvd., Long Beach 90803. 562.439.2119. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month, Free Art making Workshops 1–3pm.

### BRET HARTE LIBRARY

1595 W Willow St., Long Beach, 90810. 562.570.1044. Free homework assistance, Tuesdays & Thursdays 2pm–7pm, Wednesdays 2pm–6pm, and Saturday 12pm–4pm. Story times: Please call library for various hours

Saturdays

### FARMERS MARKET & CENTER SPACE ADMIRAL KIDD PARK

2125 Sante Fe Ave., Long Beach 90810. Free admission for all: Zumba, yoga, soccer for children and adults, artist, musicians, and more.

## HEALTH

Monday–Saturday

### FREE HEARING TESTS

Jay's Hearing Aid Center. 3740 E 7<sup>th</sup> St. 562.433.6701.

Monday–Thursday

### FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

St. Mary Medical Center. 1027 Linden, Long Beach. 562.491.9811.

## SENIOR CLASSES

Wednesday, 12:30pm–2:30pm

### FREE SWING DANCING CLASSES

Eldorado Park Senior Center. 7550 E. Spring St., Long Beach. 562.570.1771.

Mondays & Wednesdays, 11am–12:30pm

### FREE ART CLASSES

2799 Temple St., Long Beach. 562.981.9500 ext 2223

## HOLIDAY FUN

October 31

### HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT

Belmont Shores, 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Long Beach. Free trick or treat games and activities for the whole family.

October 29, 4pm–6pm

### FAMILY FRIENDLY HAUNTED HOUSE

2045 San Gabriel Ave. (Old Oasis Center). Free and open to ALL residents

December 1, 6pm–9pm

### 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BELMONT CHRISTMAS PARADE

Belmont Shores, 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Long Beach. Free parade for all to enjoy.

December 8, 5pm–7pm

### DAISY AVE CHRISTMAS PARADE

On Daisy Ave. between Hill St. and Pacific Coast Highway. Free for all to enjoy.

## A Village Joined

by Ken Stuart

We are a single village  
in a great nation...

We have joined together  
to better ourselves...

And, with each small victory,  
our entire Union is strengthened...

We hope that the *Village Anchor* is a useful tool for telling your 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 [villageanchor@centuryvillages.org](mailto:villageanchor@centuryvillages.org).

### The Village Anchor Team

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## On Going Meetings—Everyone is welcome

TWELVE STEP, ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT (AA)	6:30am, Daily, Social Hall
WEDNESDAY NIGHT CAP (AA)	7:30pm, Wednesday, Social Hall
NEW LIFE (AA)	7:30pm, Friday, Social Hall
IT TAKES A VILLAGE (CA)	4:30pm, Saturday, Social Hall
SELF-HELP RECOVERY MEETING	6pm, Tuesday, VVRC
CHANGING SPIRITS AA MEETING	7pm, Sunday, Changing Spirits

## Are you registered to vote?!



Make sure your voice is heard this coming November by registering to vote. If you've moved, changed your name or party affiliation you need to re-register. To register online, you need your driver's license or identification card number, the last four digits of your social security number, and your date of birth. Visit: [sos.ca.gov/elections/register-to-vote/](http://sos.ca.gov/elections/register-to-vote/)

If you do not have these items you will need to print, sign and mail your form to the address on the mailing label. Registrations must be submitted online by midnight PST on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you need internet access or assistance printing, please visit the Oasis Community Center, now located at the Sierra Building. For those residents that need to mail in their registration, CVC will provide printing, envelope and postage. For more information visit: [sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_vr.htm](http://sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm)