

Spring Festival, Rain or Shine!



Over 300 residents came out for the “Let’s Make A Difference” Spring Festival despite the harsh weather conditions on April 13th. The health and fun themed community-wide event offered plenty of activities for everyone young and old. In observation of the health and fun theme, turkey dogs were served fresh off the grill, along with fresh fruit and popcorn.

Residents were able to get their picture taken behind a hand-painted flower photo-op cutout, explore a fire truck and meet local firefighters, pet baby animals in the petting zoo, take home a balloon, dance to a live band, get a free haircut, learn soccer skills, learn yoga, get health screenings, and much more!



Thank you to all of our partners and contributors for their generous donations, without them the event would not have been the success that it was. A special thanks to Costco, Long Beach Youth Soccer Organization, Black Barbers Association, Long Beach Community Action Partnership, Century Villages Property Management, California State University, Long Beach students and faculty, Khemma Zimble, Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma, St. Mary’s Medical Center, and Johnny Maestro & the Mama’s Boys. Join us for the next community-wide event set to take place later this summer!



New Landscaping to Improve Air Quality

On Friday, April 27, 2012, Century Villages at Cabrillo celebrated Arbor Day through the dedication of its Campus Landscape Barrier. The barrier is comprised of 191 carefully selected trees planted along the western perimeter of the CVC campus which borders the 103 Terminal Island Freeway. These trees form a landscape barrier, or “living air filter,” to make the air a little cleaner for residents, visitors and people who work here, including more than 400 children. These particular trees were chosen because they are good at capturing airborne particulates, pollution that is potentially harmful to breathe. Because the leaves of these trees have a relatively high amount of surface area, they have the ability to capture up to 85% of air pollutants. The trucks that travel to and from the local ports, railroads, freeways, factories, and refineries are all sources of airborne particulates near CVC.

Aside from being good “living air filters”, the trees selected are suitable for the Southern California climate and local soil conditions. The trees also feature other desirable qualities such as low Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOC) emissions, an ability to sequester greenhouse gases, low maintenance requirements, and low allergenic output. When the trees mature they will range in height from 25 to 80 feet. In addition to helping capture air pollution, the trees will serve as an aesthetic improvement to the campus and will screen the industrial surroundings to the west. The trees will also help to reduce sound pollution from the freeway that permeates into the campus.



"We've had far too much air pollution and this project is about fighting back," commented 7th District Councilman James Johnson. "These are exciting days and transformative days for West Long Beach."

Councilman James Johnson served as our Master of Ceremonies at the dedication event. The day's festivities were attended by more than 100 guests; featured guests included Port of Long Beach Harbor Commissioner Nick Sramek, Bureau of Community Health Manager Susan Price, Port of Long Beach Environmental Specialist Associate Kirsten Berg, Executive Director of Comprehensive Child Development Tammie Kyle, and Program Facilitator for the Bethune Transitional Center Rhonda Haramis. Our most special guests of honor were the children of Comprehensive Child Development and the Bethune Transitional Center who captivated the audience with both a song and poem.

The Landscape Barrier project was truly a community effort. CVC would like to thank the 45 volunteers, including students and faculty, from Cornelia Connelly High School in Anaheim who helped to plant trees and spread mulch on March 27th. Also, CVC extends its gratitude to the City of Long Beach Green Youth workers who planted scores of trees over the course of two work days at the campus. Finally, CVC would like to especially thank the 20 resident volunteers from the Veterans Village Recovery Center who braved the scorching hot weather on April 20th and volunteered their time to spread mulch around the newly planted landscape barrier trees in preparation for the dedication event on April 27th.

CVC's Landscape Barrier is supported by a grant from the Port of Long Beach Mitigation Grant Program for Schools and Related Sites. In addition, the project received extensive financial and logistical support from the City of Long Beach including an AQMD grant. Through the Adopt-a-Tree fundraising program, the project counts on significant private support including donations from Long Beach Container Terminal, Warren E&P, BNSF Railway, SSA Marine, Thomas Safran & Associates, JPMorganChase Foundation, Meta Housing, 401(k) Advisors, Data Select Systems, EastWest Bank, ICON Builders, Irvine Valley Air Conditioning, and Frenkel & Company, among others.

Resident Spotlight: Ervin Bach

Ervin Bach is a resident of the Cabrillo Plaza, a 200 unit permanent housing complex for veterans here at Century Villages at Cabrillo (CVC). Ervin was born and raised in St. Louis, MO; his father was a brew master for Anheuser- Busch, and subsequently an alcoholic. Growing up in a dysfunctional home, at 18 Ervin decided to enlist in the U.S. Navy where he worked as a ship serviceman barber. Throughout his service, he traveled to many places such as the Mediterranean, Cuba, and Haiti to name a few.



In 1972, Ervin decided to visit his brother in California, and 47 years later he's still here. Throughout his adventures in California, he was a member of the first graduating class of the Vidal Sassoon Academy in San Francisco. He first came

to the CVC campus as a client of the Veterans Villages Recovery Center (VVRC). Ervin has successfully gone through the entire continuum of care for veterans here at CVC, first seeking recovery with the VVRC program, then receiving housing and services through our transitional housing program, and finally becoming entirely self-sufficient as a Cabrillo Plaza resident.

Ervin currently works on-site for U.S. Vets as a barber, helping clients look their best when seeking employment. He has been in the business for 43 years, and enjoys giving back to the program that helped him get to where he is today. He is continually pursuing knowledge, attending hair shows and taking college classes to ensure that he is current and well rounded within his field. He also takes a great interest in the arts, with his focus being in photography.

A New Home for the Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence



On Monday, March 19th, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles and Century Villages at Cabrillo celebrated the long anticipated Grand Opening of the expanded Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence. The new shelter complex replaces and expands the existing Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence which has operated at CVC since 1998. The new facility now located just past the entrance of the property at 2194 San Gabriel, features expanded capacity and more appropriate space for the provision of shelter and supportive services for homeless families, including safe and secure family dwellings, shared recreational play space, a community room, counseling offices, a commercial kitchen, and dining facilities.

The main goal of the Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence is to assist families as they transition from the crisis of being homeless to the stability of long-term housing. The program emphasizes setting realistic goals and gaining the resources and skills to become self-sufficient. Families stay 45 days in order to access stable housing. The new complex expands CVC's continuum of supportive housing

which fosters self-sufficiency and independence. As families matriculate from the shelter complex, they are eligible for the various transitional or permanent housing opportunities on the CVC campus.

The Grand Opening was very well attended and featured the Most Reverend Jose Gomez, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Oscar Solis, Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese San Pedro Region, Suja Lowenthal, Vice Mayor of the City of Long Beach, Sean Rogan, Executive Director of the LA County Community Development Commission, Susan Price, Bureau Manager in the City of Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services, along with other local and State officials, Board members, partner agencies, current and former clients of the Elizabeth Ann Seton Residence, and friends and colleagues of both agencies. Vanessa Romain, Director of Programs for Catholic Charities' San Pedro Region, served as Mistress of Ceremonies.

The project cost \$5.0 million and was funded with seven distinct funding sources. CVC and Catholic Charities closed the financing package in December 2010, construction began in January 2011, and the shelters were opened in March 2012. This combined project has been more than eight years in the making, with CVC's original funding application submitted in 2004.

CVC and Catholic Charities would like to thank their capital and service funding partners including Supervisor Don Knabe, the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission, the State of California Department of Housing & Community Development, the City of Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services, the Weingart Foundation, the Ahmanson Foundation, and the Dan Murphy Foundation.

New Community Resource:



A great new resource for residents of West Long Beach has recently opened! Center Space provides a community gathering place for connection, partnership, and sharing.

Every Saturday from 9am to 2pm at Admiral Kidd Park, located at 2125 Santa Fe Avenue, a host of wellness

opportunities are provided. Activities include: a weekly farmers market, hot food vendors, picnic area, zumba classes, soccer clinics, yoga classes for children and adults, nutrition classes, music, open mic performances and volunteer opportunities! For more information such as class schedules visit the website, www.centerspace.org.

Take time to check it out this Saturday!

Social Hall Gets a Make-Over



Forty-nine residents and staff and numerous visitors converged on the Social Hall on Saturday, May 5 and between socializing, eating pizza and snacking on candies, crackers and bottled water, managed to give the Social Hall a complete facial makeover. The Social Hall is a mid-century 4,800 square foot building originating from Century Villages at Cabrillo's (CVC) days as Long Beach Naval Housing. Volunteers applied two coats of new paint, brightening the space for future use by all.

The Social Hall project was made possible through the efforts and donations of Big Sunday and

the coordination of resources by Rebuilding Together Long Beach (RTLb). Special thanks to Amber Bradshaw at U.S. Vets for coordinating the volunteer effort, and a very big thank you to all the volunteers who spent their Saturday beautifying the Social Hall. All participants received a Big Sunday T-Shirt to commemorate the

event and pictures of the day are available at <http://rtlb.shutterfly.com/>. This is the third project RTLb has completed on the CVC campus and we look forward to the upcoming project set to take place in October, 2012.

Stop by the Social Hall and take a look at the big difference a couple coats of paint can make! Remember that anyone can reserve the Social Hall for group activities, stop by the Century Villages Property Management office to check on availability and reservation requirements.

Resident Feedback to Inspire Change at CVC

In April, Century Villages at Cabrillo staff teamed up with California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) students to help collect feedback from residents in the form of a 20-question resident survey. The intention of the survey was to gain an accurate picture of the residents' perceptions about the physical site, property management, available services and amenities, and the on-site programs within which they are participating. We are pleased to report that over 300 residents took the time to carefully complete the survey. These thoughtful

responses helped us gain much needed perspective to ensure that we are providing the best possible service and resources to all residents on-site. We are now inputting the data and will carefully review the results; we are committed to making the changes and improvements suggested. We appreciate the honest feedback, and we are pleased that so many of you feel CVC is a nice place to live. A big thank you to everyone who participated, and stay tuned for detailed results in the next edition of the Village Anchor!



Meet Our Staff

Ken Stuart Maintenance Lead

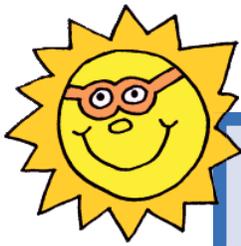


Ken was born in Compton, California, and grew up in La Mirada, California with three siblings. At the age of 17, Ken decided to leave high school early, take his GED and join the navy. It was 1977 when he began his military career as a medical support team member with the Fleet Marine Force (FMF). During the first 4 years of service, Ken provided medical support during Operation Eagle Claw (Iranian Hostage Crisis). After honorably completing his service, Ken attained his nursing license and worked as a trauma nurse at the Fountain Valley Medical Center. During this time he married his first wife and had two beautiful children two years apart; Kevin born in 1987 and Kelly in 1989.

After the AIDS scare of the mid 80's, Ken determined the safeguards at the hospital were not adequate, so he re-enlisted into the navy to attend the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois to begin his education in engineering. After his schooling, Ken served 6 years on the USS Jarrett FFG-33 during Earnest Will Operations in the Persian Gulf and Operation Desert Shield/Storm. In 1992, Ken was promoted to Chief Petty Officer and served 2 years as an Advanced Electronics and Propulsions Engineer instructor and was then promoted to Chief of Curriculum Development for all of the US Navy's engineering schools. After close to 15 years of honorable military service, Ken returned home to take care of his ailing son and start his own business.

Over the years Ken has utilized his engineering, electrical and supervisory skills he gained during his military career, but his passion really lies more with the arts. Ken is an accomplished writer, poet, and musician. He was a top 10 blogger on Myspace, and had a following of more than 60,000 people listening to his music and spoken word poetry. Ken is a graduate of the US Vets Veterans in Progress program; today he serves as Maintenance Lead overseeing the maintenance of our CVC building, a 54 unit transitional housing complex for veterans.

Summer Youth Programming



School is out June 14th and there will be special summer programming and activities for youth at the Oasis Community Center and Project PLAY!

Stop by the Oasis Center located at 2045 San Gabriel, next to the Kaboom playground, or call **562-388-8082** to register school-aged children for the Oasis Summer Camp by June 14th. For youth living at Family Commons, register for the Project PLAY Summer Camp by stopping by the Valley B building or call **562-506-8677**. Both Summer Camps will run June 18th through August 17th, Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

A FREE summer lunch program is available for ALL children/youth ages 1–18yrs in the Pacific building, located at 2200 W. Willard in the Family Commons, from 11am to 12pm on a first come, first serve basis.

Vet Store Increases Hours



The Vet Store, an on-site convenience store that's run and operated by US Vets, has increased its hours of availability just in time for summer. The Vet Store will now be available Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm and Saturday from 11am to 6pm; the store is closed on Sundays. The Vet Store is located at 2220 W. Williams, and transactions can be made using cash, debit card, MasterCard, and Visa.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Tuesday, 6pm–7pm DOUBLE TRUDGERS MEETING

Dual diagnosis support group. On campus at South Administration at 2001 River. Free. Phone: 562-388-8104

2nd Saturday of every month, 4pm–10pm 2ND SATURDAY ART WALK

Downtown Long Beach East Village Arts District. www.ArtWalkLB.com. Free.

Every Friday, 10am–4pm FARMERS MARKET

City Place Center Promenade N. and E. 4th Street. Free. www.farmernet.com

3rd 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

Every Saturday, 9am–2pm CENTER SPACE AND FARMERS MARKET

Admiral Kidd Park. 2125 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach. Free. www.centerspacelb.org

1st Friday of Every Month, 5:30pm–6:30pm FIRST BOOKS AT FIRST FRIDAYS

Dana Brand Library. 3680 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach. Free. www.jamesjohnsonlb.com

4th Saturday of Every Month, 1am–12:30pm WE HARTE B.A.R.K

Kids read aloud to volunteer dogs. Bret Harte Library. 1595 W. Willow St., Long Beach. Free. www.jamesjohnson.com

Class hours changed for summer! (June 1st–August 30th)

Every Monday, 10am–11am PARENTING CLASS

On campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel. Free. Call 562-388-8080.

Every Tuesday, 10am–11am PERSONAL ENRICHMENT CLASS

On campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel. Free. Call 562-388-8080.

Every Wednesday, 10am–11am CAREER PLANNING CLASS

On campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel. Free. Call 562-388-8080.

Every Thursday, 10am–11am FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASS

On campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel. Free. Call 562-388-8080.

June 18th–August 17th Monday–Friday, 10am–2pm OASIS SUMMER CAMP

On campus at the Oasis Center at 2045 San Gabriel. Free. Call 562-388-8080.

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.

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