

Century Villages now on

facebook.

Technically, CVC has had a Facebook presence for a couple years now, but we are stepping up our efforts to add regular content and build a following of supporters that will help sustain and improve our campus for years to come.

We need your help! If you have a Facebook account, please visit our page at www.facebook.com/centuryvillages and click the "Like" button. You will receive updates whenever we make a post, and you and your friends will be able to share in our collective accomplishments.

If you have an interesting story to share or have comment or suggestions for the page, please email us at villageanchor@centuryvillages.org. Thank you for your help in making CVC a thriving community!

Resident Artist Recognition

Century Villages at Cabrillo would like to offer our congratulations to the two Shelter Partnership poetry contest winners that reside here at CVC. Victor DeSimone, who resides at Cabrillo Plaza, won for his beautiful poem entitled "Memories" and Ken Stuart, who also resides at Cabrillo Plaza, for his poem featured in the last edition of The Village Anchor entitled "Wind of Reason." Both Victor and Ken were awarded cash prizes for their submissions and their poems were published in Shelter Partnership's journal honoring Gary Sinese. Gary Sinese is best known for his role as Lt. Dan in Forrest Gump, and was honored for his efforts entertaining and supporting our active duty military personnel as well as veterans and their families at their 24th annual dinner on Thursday, April 25th.

Continues on next page



The Home Depot Helps Out

In their sea of orange shirts, over 200 volunteers from The Home Depot Foundation embarked on our campus ready to work all the while providing a plethora of equipment and supplies to improve the quality of life for our veterans.

In addition to revamping and expanding the existing therapeutic community garden for veterans in the VVRC, VIP, SILS, and RSV programs, volunteers also added numerous amenities to the U.S. VETS Advanced Woman's Program, including a new gazebo, play structures for toddlers, and several interior improvements. Other project areas included: painting and adding new furniture near the Career Center and U.S. VETS Administrative Offices, painting hallways in the Cabrillo Plaza building and a new pedestrian gate guard house to protect volunteers from the elements.

"What a wonderful thing that was to experience yesterday. I was so very pleased for the veterans" said longtime friend of CVC, Carolyn Gaw.

Throughout the day, many veteran residents spent time interacting with the Home Depot volunteers, helping to paint, work in the garden, or just sitting back and giving advice. Many of the Home Depot volunteers expressed gratitude to have had the opportunity to speak with so many veterans who were able to share stories and experiences which added tremendously to the day's activities.

The event was a great success and U.S. VETS and Century Villages would like to thank the Home Depot Foundation for their efforts and making the day so productive and meaningful.

Memories

By: Victor DeSimone

We stood on a field of green grass, marked with stones
Standing guard over the fallen, awaiting their families this day.
Doing our duty in quiet repose, in honor of our comrades who here lay.
The families' sorrow is so clear, within their memories that they hold dear.
Of a different time and place, where they bounced him on their knees
and kissed him on the cheek.

A loss so great, beyond the words we speak, meaning a little to their broken hearts.

The fallen are placed, we raise our last salute
The trumpeter plays taps, as if were a prayer.
Your day is done, rest in peace, rest here.

As long as we grow old, of our faithful friends, we carry our memories.
On fields of green grass marked with stones.

Continued from front page



Surely, Victor and Ken are not the only artists within our community here at CVC so we are currently accepting art submissions to publish here in our newsletter. Whether you are a painter, drawing artist, sculptor, writer, or musician, please submit your art and we may be able to share your talent with the community.

Please email your submissions to villageanchor@centuryvillages.org, or if your art cannot be sent via email, submissions will be accepted at the property management office.

Have You Heard of SCIG?

In conjunction with the Port of Los Angeles, Warren Buffett's Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) has proposed to build the Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) project on the land directly adjacent to the Century Villages at Cabrillo community. The SCIG project will serve as a hub for trucks carrying containers from the Port to offload them onto trains that will ultimately transport those containers elsewhere. Proponents claim that the rail yard will be the greenest in the nation, that it will create thousands of jobs, and that it will help to improve regional air quality by eliminating truck traffic on the 710 freeway. However, many organizations dispute these "benefits" and point to the disproportionate environmental impacts of the project, in particular to West Long Beach neighborhoods and schools bordering the proposed facility.

This project has been nearly a decade in the making and while it now has the clearances to move forward it will likely be delayed by litigation. The City of Long Beach voted unanimously to sue the City of Los Angeles over the project. As Councilman Johnson noted, "Green growth means growing our economy while improving, not degrading, our neighborhoods. That is why L.A.'s proposed SCIG project on the border of Long Beach, which seeks regional growth by sacrificing our neighborhoods, is such a disappointing step backwards." Other organizations, such as the Natural Resources Defense Council, have also threatened litigation.

Throughout the environmental reporting process, CVC has participated by submitting its concerns about the project and the harmful effects it could have on our community. CVC's primary concerns include air quality, light and glare impacts, sound pollution (it will be a 24 hour facility), land use impacts on Century Villages, traffic congestion, and the proposed access to the SCIG. BNSF has proposed to access the SCIG via the Terminal Island cloverleaf that empties onto San Gabriel Avenue, the only way in and out of Century Villages. When the SCIG reaches its peak capacity this street will handle 5,500 trucks per day, nearly 4 trucks per minute. This figure was recently adjusted upward to 8,200 trucks per day, or nearly 6 trucks per minute. This proposed access could have devastating impacts on our community and represents a serious safety and health hazard.

Informative links about the SCIG proposal:

BNSF Site—<http://www.bnsfconnects.com>

LA Weekly—http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/2013/03/toxic_train_los_angeles_harbor.php

Long Beach Business Journal—<http://lbbusinessjournal.com/long-beach-business-journal-newswatch/1405-long-beach-city-council-appeals-bnsf-railyard-project.html>



Space for Summer Fun

If you are having a party, meeting, or any other type of get together this summer there are community rooms available to you here at CVC. For larger events, the old Social Hall, including the patio, is available. Events for 40 persons or less are able to reserve the Valley Room, located in the Family Commons between the basketball court and the Joshua Building. Outside groups and agencies are asked to provide a \$200 deposit that will be returned after the success-

ful completion of the event. In addition, if the event will have more than 75 attendees, CVC requires both residents and outside agencies to provide \$15 per hour for the duration of the event to hire an extra security guard. If interested, please see the staff in the property management office. There you will be able to check the availability for your event's time/date as well as complete the paperwork for the use of the room.

CVC Block Party!



With River Avenue shut down, the first ever block party at Century Villages was born at this year's spring festival. With a twofold theme of "Earth Week" and "Get Moving CVC" volunteers from Century Villages Property Management, CVC interns, Path Ventures, Oasis Community Center and eleven resident volunteers worked tirelessly to entertain over 400 guests.

To keep with the theme of "Get Moving CVC" two bounce houses were provided for the children, one bounce house for the little ones and a SLAM Dunk bounce house for the older children and adults. A game of sharks and minnows was orchestrated by our newest partner on campus, Men Making a Change. Men Making a Change alongside resident volunteers help lead a "Toy Walk" for the children where numerous children danced around the circle hoping for their chance to win a toy. Dozens

of children left with a toy and a smile on their faces.

Also keeping in theme, a resident vs. property management volleyball game took place at the sand volleyball court on campus. The game was in full swing as the children's activities commenced, cheers and laughter could be heard from afar as the residents went on to defeat the staff.

As the games came to an end, Men Making a Change volunteers led several group dances including the "Cha Cha Slide" slide and the "Wobble." Young children to big kids alike danced side by side eagerly anticipating the raffle drawing. Every resident that filled out the resident survey was entered into the drawing, prizes ranging from \$10 gift certificates to the U.S. Vets store to movie tickets and household gift baskets. One lucky winner from American Changing Spirits won the Grand prize: a Google Android Tablet.

Meet Our Staff



Donna
Compliance Specialist

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado with two brothers and driven parents, Donna learned early on that she needed to be tough. Don't let that façade fool you. Secretly, she has a heart of gold and will go way out of her way to help someone in need.

Propelled by her mother, Donna and her brothers were kept busy learning the fine arts. At the age of three Donna began taking ballet lessons. By the age of eight she would add the piano and clarinet to her list of talents. It was during this time that she and her brothers banded together to form a singing group and entered the Kiwanis "Stars of Tomorrow" contest where they took 1st place, twice! They would go on to sing for the returning soldiers of the Vietnam War at the Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Aurora, CO. Here, she saw first-hand the tragedies of war and discovered the joy of providing some solace to those suffering from its aftermath.

Her passion for the arts continued throughout her high school years, as she performed and even choreographed several school musicals. After graduating top in her class at William C. Hinkley High, Donna continued her education at the University of Northern Colorado majoring in Elementary Education.

Post-graduation, in order to gain some teaching experience, Donna had to move to Lisco Nebraska, a rancher town with a population of 63. Although quite a culture shock for an educated, 22-year-old city girl, living away from home for the first time, she adjusted well and learned much from the experience.

Later Donna moved back to Colorado and acquired a position with the State of Colorado Development as a Specialist for Affordable Housing, where she assisted in the funding of affordable housing. By 1992, she met her husband, got married, and one year later her son was born.

In 1998, Donna accepted a position with an affordable housing owner and moved to Sunset Beach, CA. After four years, the owner retired and her position ended. As destiny would have it, she would come to work with us here at CVC as our Compliance Specialist.

During her tenure with us, she has made significant impacts on the lives of many of our residents and staff, as well as some in her own life. In 2011, Donna was diagnosed with diabetes and decided to get healthy. She lost 85 pounds her first year and continues her healthy lifestyle. She finds walking on the beach and participating in charitable walks some of her more gratifying exercise routines. However to relax she enjoys reading books, crocheting, attending art performance shows, and watching her Denver Broncos.

ADULT WORKSHOPS OASIS COMMUNITY CENTER

2112 W. Willard St. 562.388.8080.

Mondays, 9am–10:30am
PARENTING

Tuesdays, 9am–10:30am
PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

Wednesdays, 9am–10:30am
CAREER PLANNING

Thursdays, 9am–10:30am
FINANCIAL LITERACY

Monday–Friday, 3pm–5pm
OPEN COMPUTER LAB

Oasis will be closed to all residents from 11am–3pm for summer camp.

SUMMER CAMPS

July 8–August 2, 9am–3pm
OASIS SUMMER CAMP

Kinder–5th grade please contact Jaylene, 562.388.8082. 6th–12th grade please contact Cherisse, 562.388.8080. Only 15 spots open for each camp so sign up early. Preference is given to those not living in permanent housing.

June 24–August 23, 10am–2pm
PROJECT PLAY

Project play is open to children who reside in the Family Commons and must be entering Kindergarten to participate. For more information please contact Site Director, Pollee Men at 562.786.7125.

Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm, June 17–August 23
CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS AND RECREATION (AGES 5-10)

Extended hours are available from 7-9am and 4-6pm for \$25/week. Field trips are at additional cost. Call the park for registration information.

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.

The Village Anchor Team

Lead: Steve Colman

Editor: Jessica Nielsen

Writers: Donna Ferraro, Victor DeSimone

Cherisse Goodman, Joseph Haywood,
Brett Morales, Melissa Rain, Ken Stuart

Design: Bartek Malecki

HI-FIVE SPORTS CAMP

628 \$105/week. Pan American, 562.570.1660.

Saturdays
PARK CAMPS (AGES 5-12)

El Dorado Park West, 562.570.3225 & Silverado Park, 562.570.1675 (June 17 - August 30).
Stearns Champions Park, 562.570.1685.
Veterans Park, 562.570.1695.

PEE WEE CAMP

\$105/week. Ages 5-8 at Wardlow Park, 562.570.1705.

MUSIC AND ARTS CAMP

\$110/week. Ages 5-12. Whaley Park, 562.570.1710.

June 24–August 30
NATURE KIDS! DISCOVERY CAMP

\$75 Youth (except July 1-5, \$65). \$65 Preschool. Three weekly sessions. Ages 3-8. Call 562.570.1745 for times and reservations.

July 15–August 2, 10am–2pm
RANCHO LOS CERRITOS SUMMER ADVENTURES

\$90/week. Ages 6-11. Three weekly sessions: 562.570.1755.

June 17–August 30
YMCA OF GREATER LONG BEACH

5835 E. Carson St Lakewood, CA 90713. 562.425.7431. Kinder–1st grade \$155/wk. 2nd–6th grade \$165/wk. 7th–9th grade \$175/wk. 10th & up no weekly fee, registration fee of \$35.

7:30am–6:30pm
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF LONG BEACH

Camp is for children ages 6–18. A yearly membership fee of \$15 will be charged for all campers. \$55/wk. 12:00-6:30pm Free.

FAMILY SUMMER EVENTS

May 18–August 31
MOONLIGHT MOVIES ON THE BEACH

Alfredosbeachclub.com. Enjoy a free family movie night on the beach. Please visit the website for specific movie times and locations.

June 23, 1pm
ANNUAL "COOTIES PUP TENT 43" BBQ FOR VETERANS

Grand Lawn at CVC. Veterans Only.

August 2, 8am–12pm
60TH ANNUAL KIDS FISHING RODEO

Belmont Veterans Memorial Park. Kids ages 16 & under, Kids under 12 must be supervised by an adult. For more info please call, Alfredo's Beach Club 562.477.6820

August 10–11, 10am–4pm
GREAT SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST

Granada Beach Boat Ramp. 1 Granada Ave, Long Beach 90802. For more info please visit lbsandcastle.com

June 29, 10am–9pm and June 30th, 10am–6pm
PIRATE INVASION

Belmont Pier. Fun for the whole family! Enjoy sword fights, belly & fire dancers, Parade of Pirates, and much more. For more info please contact Alfredo's Beach Club, 562.477.6820

4TH OF JULY EVENTS

10am–10pm
BELMONT VETERANS MEMORIAL PIER

Adults \$20, kids free. Includes: All day pier pass-BBQ plate w/ beverage and kids zone unlimited access.

VETERANS STADIUM FIREWORKS

500 Lew Davis, Long Beach. Adults \$10. Children (5-11) \$7. Parking is \$5.

Ongoing Meetings—Everyone Is Welcome

TWELVE STEP, ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT (AA)	6:30am, Daily, Social Hall
SELF-HELP RECOVERY MEETING	6pm, Tuesday, VVRC
AA MEETING	7pm, Sunday, Changing Spirits
SATURDAY NIGHT CANDLE LITE (AA)	7:30pm, Saturday, VVRC
CABRILLO CHURCH IN CHRIST	10:30am–12pm, Sunday, Social Hall