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A Publication of Belmont Village for Residents, Staff, Family and Friends

**July 2016** 



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# Bradlee Foerschner Executive Director



They say, "A picture is worth a thousand words." But for me, I only have a few hundred to write this article on; something I am quite passionate about: pet therapy.

Regular visits with pets, usually dogs, can have positive physical, emotional, and mental benefits. Some of the physical benefits of pet therapy include lowering blood pressure, lowering heart rate, and reducing overall stress. Emotional benefits are reducing anxiety and depression, decreasing loneliness through increasing social interaction with the pets and their human companions. Additionally, consistent interaction with a pet has been shown to cause an increased release of serotonin and dopamine in the brain, which can help calm and soothe a person's body. This can be helpful for patients with Alzheimer's or dementia, who may have a higher

level of anxiety and agitation as a result of their disease. There are also many mental benefits that are a result of increased mental stimulation, whether it's talking to the pet directly, asking questions to the dog's owner or talking with other residents about the dog. All of these things help to keep the brain active and stimulated, states Director of Rehab Heather Hart of Bermuda Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation.

Belmont Village Thousand Oaks is a pet friendly community and we allow our residents to have pets. We have had many residents with dogs, cats, birds and fish over the years. Additionally, we have many pets that visit the community either as service animals or through friends and families. If your loved one brings their pet to Belmont to visit you and your friends, please remind them that there is a new pet cleanup station located near the service entrance on the north side of the parking lot! We hope this makes your visits easier now that you have a designated spot to take your dog to for relief. Additionally, please be sure to remind your guests that while we love our furry friends, they are not allowed to enter the dining room and should visit from the floor. not on the furniture in the community.







### **Resident Birthdays!**

	20144	
July 1		Edith S.
July 2		Lorna P.
July 8		Alice M.
July 9	)	Jennifer M.
July 1	6	Evelyn R.
July 1	8	Florence N.
July 1	9	Mary T.
July 2	.3	Marie V.
July 2	.9	Roberta P.
July 2	.9	Philip S.
July 3	0	Marvin M.



Pat H.

Put on your best hat for July's Birthday Luncheon on the 29th

### Staff Birthdays!

July 6	Fernando V.
July 11	Brenda G.
July 12	Natalia W.
July 13	Donnie H.
July 16	Jennifher A.
July 18	Nemesia C.
July 22	Rosario L.
July 26	Joaquin C.
July 29	Elisia L.



### **Summer Concert Series Kicks Off With the Masanga Marimbas!**

June held the Belmont Bonanza with heel tappin' country music and lip smackin' good food. Stay tuned for pictures in the July newsletter.

Mark your calendar for Caribbean Nights concert on July 21st. RSVP with the concierge, you don't want to miss this free event!





It's Pajama Bingo! Thanks for the fun, Donnie!







Nemesia Carlson

### **Employee of the Month**

Nemesia has been working at Belmont for two years! She is known for her impeccable uniform and amazing ability to redirect the residents. Her favorite part of working here is being able to enjoy conversations with the residents. Nemesia was born in the Philippines where she pursued a career in the nursing field. She briefly left that field but came back immediately because she knew in her heart that working with the elderly is what she wanted to do. When Nemesia is not at work she loves dancing, playing cards and going to the movies!



# Christa Giraldo Director of Resident Care Services

### **Improving Memory Tips**

When you think of ways to improve memory, do you think of "serious" activities, such as wrestling with the New York Times crossword puzzle or mastering chess strategy? Or do more lighthearted pastimes—hanging out with friends or enjoying a funny movie—come to mind? If you're like most of us, it's probably the former. But countless studies show that a life that's full of friends and fun comes with cognitive benefits.

Humans are highly social animals. We're not meant to survive, let alone thrive, in isolation. Relationships stimulate our brains—in fact, interacting with others may be the best kind of brain exercise.

Research shows that having meaningful relationships and a strong support system are vital not only to emotional health, but also to brain health. In one recent study from the Harvard School of Public Health, for example, researchers found that people with the most active social lives had the slowest rate of memory decline.

You've heard that laughter is the best medicine, and that holds true for the brain as well as the body. Unlike emotional responses, which are limited to specific areas of the brain, laughter engages multiple regions across the whole brain.

Furthermore, listening to jokes and working out punchlines activates areas of the brain vital to learning and creativity. Looking for ways to bring more laughter in your life? Start with these basics:

Laugh at yourself. Share your embarrassing moments. The best way to take ourselves less seriously is to talk about the times when we took ourselves too seriously. When you hear laughter, move toward it. Most of the time. people are very happy to share something funny because it gives them an opportunity to laugh again and feed off the humor you find in it. When you hear laughter, seek it out and ask, "What's funny?" Spend time with fun, playful people. These are people who laugh easily—both at themselves and at life's absurdities—and who routinely find the humor in everyday events. Their playful point of view and laughter are contagious.



## Memorial Day, Horse Racing and Marimbas!











# **July 2016**

TH Town Hall

B Bistro

Mind Body Awareness CE Center for Life Enhancement ★ Outing

SA 3rd Floor South Meeting Area

JK Josephine's Kitchen

GR Great Room

THOUSAND OAKS Sunday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Saturday Monday Friday 9:15 Walking Club ★ 9:30 Camarillo Outlets with Tammy★ 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🔥 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 10:30 Spell-a-Thon 10:30 GR Cranium Crunches 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 1:30 Hot Topic with Neil 1:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 🐴 1:30 THI Garden Club with Jose 🔥 3:00 B Men's Social 2:00 B Poker 3:30 TH Bingo with Stefani 3:30 JK Shabbat 7:00 GR Play Jeopardy 7:00 GR Group Crossword 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Movie Independence Day Lunch BBQ 8 9:00 THI Holy Communion 🐴 9:15 Walking Club ★ 9:15 Walking Club ★ 8:30 Breakfast at IHOP and Chumash 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:30 Target Center Outing 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🔥 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 10:30 GR You Be the Judge with Clara Casino Outing ★ 10:30 TH Activity Chat 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 10:30 Fun with Spanish 🔥 10:30 THI Spell-a-Thon 10:30 TH Independence Day with ED 🐴 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 🐴 1:00 TH Bible Study 1:30 B Canasta with Toby 10:30 GR Cranium Crunches 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 10:30 Space: The Final Frontier with Ed 🐴 3:30 GR Knitting with Araksi 1:45 TH Music and Yoga with 2:30 JK Happy Hour with Jimmy 1:30 TH Hot Topic with Neil 1:00 SA Bible Study with Joan 🐴 1:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 🐴 4:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 11:00 JK Two Truths and a Lie 1:30 THE Video Production 🐴 Linda 🐴 1:30 TH Watercolors 🔥 3:00 B Men's Social Brewster 7:00 GR Sing-a-long with Rick 1:30 THE Brain Games with Angel 2:30 New Resident Orientation 2:00 B Poker 3:30 B Social Hour 3:30 TH Bingo with Stefani 3:00 TH Belmont Choir 7:00 Fireworks Outing ★ 3:30 GR Scrabble with Rita 3:00 B Blackjack with Neil 3:30 JK Shabbat 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:00 GR Play Jeopardy 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:00 GR Horse Racing with Donnie 7:00 GR Group Crossword 7:30 TH Monday's Musical 7:00 B Wheel of Fortune with Sue 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 Documentary 7:30 TH Terrific TV Tuesday 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Movie 15 10 9:15 Walking Club★ 9:15 Walking Club★ 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 🐴 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🐴 9:30 Oaks Mall Outing with Tammy 9:00 TH Holy Communion 9:45 Morning Exercise 🔥 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 🔥 10:30 GR Finish That Line with Clara 10:30 Space: The Final Frontier with Ed. 10:30 Resident Council Meeting 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 10:30 Fire Safety Talk with Fire Station 34 10:30 Spell-a-Thon 1:30 B Canasta with Toby 10:45 Lunch Outing to Duke's ★ 1:00 THI Bible Study 10:15 Music with Irby 10:30 GR Cranium Crunches 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 1:45 THI Funtastic Fitness with 11:00 JK Two Truths and a Lie 2:30 JK Happy Hour with Mike 1:00 SA Bible Study with Joan 🐴 1:30 B Short Story Discussion 1:30 TH Hot Topic with Neil 1:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 🐴 1:30 TH Brain Games with Angel Annette 🐴 1:15 Matinee Movie Club Chamberlin 1:30 TH Garden Club with Jose 🐴 3:30 GR Knitting with Araksi 3:00 B Men's Social 3:00 B Blackiack with Neil 3:00 JK Summer fun with Stu and Laurie 3:30 GR Scrabble with Rita 3:30 B Social Hour 2:00 B Poker 4:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 3:30 TH Bingo with Stefani 4:00 TH Presidential Race 2016 Discussion 🔥 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:00 B Wheel of Fortune with Sue 3:30 B Social Hour: Welcome Wagon 3:30 JK Shabbat 7:00 GR Horse Racing with Donnie 7:00 GR Sing-a-long with Rick 7:00 GR Play Jeopardy 7:00 GR Group Crossword 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 Documentary 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:00 TH Dementia Support Group 7:30 TH Monday's Musical 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Movie 17 21 18 19 22 23 9:15 Walking Club★ 9:45 Morning Exercise 🐴 9:15 Walking Club ★ 9:00 TH Holy Communion 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🐴 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 9:30 Target Center Outing 9:45 Morning Exercise 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🐴 10:15 SA Low Vision Support Group 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 10:15 B Beading with Laura 10:30 GR You Be the Judge with Clara 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 10:30 Spell-a-Thon 10:30 THE Fun with Spanish 🔥 10:30 Space: The Final Frontier with Ed 🐴 10:30 B Games with Cindy 1:00 THI Bible Study 1:30 B Canasta with Toby 10:30 GR Cranium Crunches 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 11:00 JK Two Truths and a Lie 1:30 B Short Story Discussion 1:30 TH Music with Theresa Stockton 1:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 🐴 1:45 TH Music and Yoga with 1:30 TH Hot Topic with Neil 1:00 SA Bible Study with Joan 🐴 12:00 The Little Mermaid Musical at the 2:30 TH Hearing Clinic with Ron 4:30 Caribbean Nights Summer 1:30 TH Crafter's Corner: Summer door decor 💠 2:30 B Chef Chat 3:00 B Men's Social Linda 🐴 CAP \* 2:00 B Poker 3:30 GR Knitting with Araksi Concert 3:00 B Blackjack with Neil 1:30 THE Brain Games with Angel 3:00 TH Belmont Choir 3:30 TH Bingo with Stefani 3:30 JK Shabbat 4:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 4:00 THE Presidential Race 2016 Discussion 🐴 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 3:30 GR Scrabble with Rita 7:00 GR Group Crossword 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:00 GR Play Jeopardy 7:00 GR Horse Racing with Donnie 7:00 GR Sing-a-long with Rick 7:30 TH Movie 7:00 B Wheel of Fortune with Sue 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 Documentary 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 THE Terrific TV Tuesday 7:30 TH Monday's Musical 7:30 TH Movie 25 26 27 28 29 30 24 10:30 GR Finish That Line with Clara 9:15 Walking Club★ 9:15 Walking Club★ 9:00 TH Holy Communion 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🐴 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 1:30 B Canasta with Toby 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 🔥 9:45 TH Morning Exercise 🐴 10:00 Dodger vs Tampa Bay Baseball 9:45 THI Morning Exercise 🐴 10:30 MBA Challenge Meeting 10:30 GR Cranium Crunches 1:45 TH Funtastic Fitness with Annette 10:30 Fun with Spanish 🐴 10:30 THI Spell-a-Thon 🐴 Game ★ 10:15 Music with Irby 🐴 3:00 TH Belmont Choir 1:00 TH Bible Study 1:30 TH Hot Topic with Neil 11:30 JK Birthday Luncheon 12:00 GR Rick on Piano 10:30 Space: The Final Frontier with Ed 🐴 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 1:30 B Short Story Discussion 2:30 JK Happy Hour with 2 For The 1:00 SA Bible Study with Joan 🐴 1:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 🐴 3:00 B Men's Social 11:00 JK Two Truths and a Lie 3:00 B Iced Coffee & Conversation Show 1:15 Matinee Movie Club 1:30 THI Garden Club with Jose 1:00 THE Drum Circle 3:30 TH Bingo with Stefani 3:30 GR Knitting with Araksi 3:00 B Blackjack with Neil 9:45 Morning Exercise 🔥 2:00 B Poker 3:30 B Social Hour 2:30 THI Brain Games with Angel 7:00 GR Play Jeopardy 10:30 GR You Be the Judge with Clara 4:00 CE Advanced Balance Class 4:00 TH Presidential Race 2016 Discussion 🔥 3:30 JK Shabbat 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 3:30 GR Scrabble with Rita 1:30 B Canasta with Toby 7:30 TH Movie 7:00 GR Sing-a-long with Rick 7:00 TH Dementia Support Group 7:00 GR Group Crossword 7:00 B Wheel of Fortune with Sue 7:30 TH Movie 3:00 TH Belmont Choir 7:30 TH Movie 7:30 TH Monday's Musical 7:00 GR Horse Racing with Donnie 7:00 GR Casual Bingo 7:30 TH Movie















Flag Raising Ceremony on Memorial Day

# Dementia Support Group July 12th & 26th, 7 p.m.

This free bi-monthly support group is held on the second and fourth Tuesday evening and is presented by the Alzheimer's Association and Coast Caregiver Resource Center. It is open to caregivers, families, and friends of loved ones with various dementias caused by Alzheimer's, Lewy Body, Parkinson's, vascular, stroke, brain injury, or cancer.

Light refreshments are served. Meetings take place in Town Hall on the 2nd floor. To RSVP, or for more info, contact facilitator Carolyn Kopp, MS, CCRC Family Consultant, at (805) 492-0601.





Summer Concert Above and on an Outing Below







# Amanda Senger Memory Program Coordinator



### **Circle of Friends**

Exercising the mind and body are some of our favorite activities in Circle of Friends. Our residents have a blast getting together to enjoy our activities which are both fun and stimulating. They do this while making friends with our outstanding staff members, residents and family members. Thank you to our families and residents for taking part in our June activities and events! Get ready for our great upcoming July outings, happy hours, exercise classes, mental workouts and much more!

### **Neighborhood News**

June was Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. In June, the Neighborhood learned some new ways to help protect against

further cognitive decline. Scientists now know enough to make two key recommendations. First is that regular physical activity and management of cardiovascular risk factors (diabetes, obesity, smoking and hypertension) have been shown to reduce the risk of cognitive decline and may reduce the risk of dementia. Second is a healthy diet and lifelong learning/cognitive training. If you take these factors it creates a recipe for the greatest benefits. In the Neighborhood we practice both of these factors every day. With physical therapy leading exercise and healthy well-balanced foods at each meal. We also do cognitive training in the form of activities to help boost memory. The Neighborhood will continue to practice these good habits for the rest of the summer!







# Circle of Friends Outings

- Monday, July 4th: No Outing, BBQ Party at the Building
- Wednesday, July 13th: "The Little Mermaid" at TO Civic Arts Plaza (bus leaves at 12:00)
- Monday, July 18th: Picnic at the Beach (bus leaves at 10:30)
- Monday, July 25th: Movie Outing (TBA)





## Fun at the Summer Concert















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### Belmont Village Communities

CALIFORNIA: Burbank, Encino, Hollywood, Rancho Palos Verdes, Westwood, Thousand Oaks, San Jose, Sunnyvale, San Diego, Cardiff by the Sea

ARIZONA: Scottsdale

CHICAGOLAND: Buffalo Grove, Geneva Road, Oak Park, Glenview

SOUTHERN US: Memphis, Nashville,

Louisville, Atlanta—Buckhead and Johns Creek, Dallas, Austin, Houston—West University and

Hunters Creek



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