

Life+Style

Autumn
September 2023

The Village at Northridge
Independent & Assisted Living



*Your lifestyle
continues here*

Zest
MIND • BODY • SOUL

Your Community Spotlights

Employee Spotlight

Congratulations to our August Employee of the Month, Apolinar "Polo" Alegria! Polo has been with TVN since 2022 as a cook. He is hard working, honest, reliable, passionate, and always positive. We are fortunate to have him at TVN!



Employee Spotlight

Congratulations to our August Employee of the Month, Maria Ramos! Maria has been with SRG since 2017, and at TVN for 7 months as a caregiver. She is reliable, dedicated, and very helpful. We are fortunate to have her at TVN!



Resident Spotlight



Peter Hong was born in Taiwan on February 13th, 1939, where his father was a general surgeon, and his mother a housewife. Peter went to Taiwan University Medical School and graduated in 1964. He passed the board examination of the ECFMG, which allowed him to take an internship in the United States. He then joined the Taiwan military service for 1 year, and then moved to Boston for an internship, followed by a surgical residency in Buffalo New York for 4 years. Peter started practicing surgery in Buffalo in 1972. He had met his wife Gloria in medical school, marrying in 1965, and welcoming David and Catherine to their family. They moved to California in 1978. Peter continued his practice in Northridge until 2004 and is now happily living at The Village at Northridge.

Community Happenings



September



Adventures in Music with Maestro James Domine
Time: 11:30am
Location: IL Living Room

Join us every Friday for an educational music appreciation class led by James Domine, Maestro of the San Fernando Valley Orchestra, and music professor at Pierce College.



Grandparents Day Brunch Buffet
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm
Location: IL Dining Room

AT TVN we are excited to celebrate all our amazing Grandparents with a special brunch buffet that will include a wide variety of everyone's favorite items. RSVPS necessary.



End of Summer Concert
Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm
Location: IL Dining Courtyard Back Turn Around

What better way to end Summer than with a special live performance by "The Ralph Mathis Band" while sipping summer cocktails and appetizers.. RSVPS Necessary.



Centenarian Celebration
Time: 3:00pm
Location: IL Living Room

We are honored to celebrate and recognize the 4 women at TVN who have reached the age of 100 this year. Enjoy their life stories, and photographs of these amazing ladies that call TVN home!



Rosh Hashanah Service
Time: 11:00am
Location: Northridge Room

Cantor Ter will lead a special Rosh Hashanah service at TVN. Enjoy traditional songs, and prayers. Register on Lifeloop.





The Art & Science of WellBeing **Zest. For Life.**

National Healthy Aging Month

Healthy Aging Month is recognized as a time to celebrate life and the positive aspects of growing older. As we age, we become aware that our physical and mental health, as well as dietary and social needs, change over time. However, that doesn't mean you've lost control. You can take charge of your well-being, by taking steps to age with a healthy body and a healthy mind.

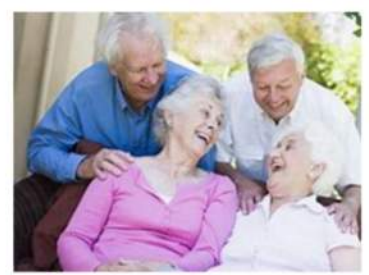
1. **Get Moving** It is important to consult your doctor before exercising. Start slow, know your limitations and modify activities if needed. Adults should aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity each week. Beginning physical activity can be as easy as walking for ten to fifteen minutes for three to four days per week and increasing as you go. Maintaining regular physical activity can help maintain a healthy weight, lower blood pressure, blood cholesterol, and blood sugar levels. Make your physical activity FUN and something you enjoy doing!
2. **Maintain a Healthy Diet** Eat proper portion sizes. Overeating can lead to obesity and increase the risk of diabetes and heart disease. Eat a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables and have them make up half of your plate. Avoid excess processed foods. Stay hydrated—adults should drink between 10–16 cups of water per day, depended on gender, living environment, and activity level.
3. **Stay Social** Try something new by attending online or socially distant in-person classes that interest you. Use technology like Zoom or Facetime to stay in touch with friends and family.
4. **Balance your body and mind** Keep a positive attitude. Keep your mind active by reading or doing puzzles. Keep your body active through stretches and yoga.
5. **Be proactive** Receive regular checkups, physicals and medical tests when needed as many diseases can be prevented when caught early. Don't forget appointments with the dentist and optometrist too. Take vitamins, supplements and medications as prescribed.



Mind



Body



Soul

Connecting with your *Mind, Body & Soul* promotes physical, cognitive and emotional well-being. SRG communities embody the power of Mind, Body, and Soul connectivity through the array of holistic Zest activities offered daily.



Mind

Mindful Meditation with Zest

Meditation has its roots in ancient Eastern traditions, particularly in Hinduism and Buddhism. It was initially practiced as a means to attain spiritual enlightenment and connect with the divine. Over time, meditation spread to different cultures and evolved into various forms, each with its own unique techniques and goals. *Mindfulness Meditation* is a form of meditation involves focusing one's attention on the present moment, observing thoughts and sensations without judgment. It cultivates a state of heightened awareness and helps individuals develop a non-reactive and accepting attitude towards their experiences. Meditation is a powerful practice that offers numerous benefits for the mind, body, and spirit. Whether you choose mindfulness or another form of meditation incorporating meditation into your daily routine can bring about a sense of inner peace, improved mental health, and overall well-being.

Check on Lifeloop or with your Zest team for meditation offerings in your community!



Body

Pilates is a versatile exercise method that offers numerous benefits for individuals of all fitness levels. With its focus on core strength, flexibility, and body awareness, Pilates can improve overall physical and mental well-being.

Whether practiced on a mat in a chair, Pilates provides a comprehensive workout that can be adapted to suit individual needs and goals. So, why not give Pilates a try and experience the transformative effects it can have on your body and mind?



This month try our *ZestFit Core Connection* class to help improve core strength, flexibility, improve balance and reduce risk of injury! *Core Connection* is a *ZestFit Program* designed specifically for you by fitness experts. This class will use a variety of tools such as Pilates balls, yoga blocks, and resistance bands to challenge your body and focus your mind-body connection.



Food for Your Gut

Pre & Probiotics are the key to a balanced gut. And gut health is shaping up to be the next super big breakthrough health frontier, impacting everything from cognitive health and digestion to heart disease and immune system health. Run, do not walk, to gather up these ingredients to experience real change in your sense of health and wellbeing.



Prebiotics

Prebiotics are ingredients that feed the beneficial microflora in your gut. You can have good bacteria, provided by probiotic rich foods, but you have to feed them too. Prebiotics are fibers that humans cannot digest, but are actually fibers your bacteria feed on. Feeding your bacteria enables them to produce compounds called Short Chain Fatty Acids. These include butyrate which is actually fuel for the cells that line your gut. Pretty important as these are a major part of your immune systems, creating a barrier between the outside world (your gut), and your inner world (blood, cells, tissues). Prebiotic rich ingredients in this recipe pack include asparagus, leeks, banana and edamame to name a few!



Probiotics

Probiotics are foods that are rich in (we like to say teaming with) the type of good bacteria your gut needs. They included yogurt, kefir, miso and soy, tempeh and tofu, kombucha, sauerkraut, kimchi and more. All of these foods are created through a fermentation process that allows beneficial bacteria to proliferate. We like to say that we "seed" the gut with probiotic bacteria. We then "feed" these bacteria with prebiotic rich foods. So take a look at the recipes in this pack and pair them with our Prebiotic recipe pack. Then you have the perfect formula for your gut. Now, if you have had any gut issues, or are not used to these fermented foods go easy on them at first. Sometimes it takes a little while to get used to them. But trust me, you need them to thrive!



Centenarian Celebration

We are privileged to live in a time of history during which many people are able to reach the age of 100 and beyond. In fact, there are estimates that indicate that there are over 570,000 centenarians in the world which is truly an astonishing number. In the United States we observe this unique day annually on September 22 which happens to fall on Friday this year. On this day in our SRG communities we celebrate and honor those who have reached the age of 100 and use this day to recognize the rich history and wisdom of our residents. This is a wonderful time to listen to life stories, gather up photographs, and learn from those that have a unique view of the world.

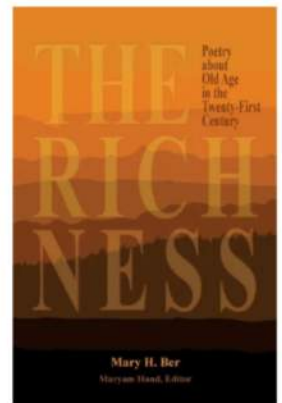


The Richness Virtual Book Discussion



Mary H. Ber, M.A. has been writing poetry since she learned to write at age seven. A classroom teacher of literature and writing for over fifty years, she has also created literary magazines and assisted her students in getting published, thereby helping people bring themselves to voice. She is co-founder of award-winning Moon Journal Press and its editor for thirteen years. Now she lives in a senior retirement home in Tucson, Arizona, where she has been facilitating writing and discussion groups.

The Richness: Poetry about Old Age in the Twenty-First Century is an exploration of both the positive and negative experience of old age, focusing on the often unappreciated perks. The 83-year-old author has written her experiences in easy-to-access poetry. The book is divided into six sections: "Coming Into Old Age," "Moving into the Residential Retirement Home," "Walking through Old Age," "Deepening Spirituality," "Completing Old Age," and "A Note to Caregivers." The first five sections of the book may be read as a simple collection of poems or a kind of poetic autobiography of the author's journey through this stage of her life. The author wrote the poems as she lived them.



Check LifeLoop for September book club dates featuring a zoom guest appearance by Mary Ber discussing her book, "The Richness" and reading her poetry.

The Zest Test

Zest and EmpowerMe are teaming up to bring you "The Zest Test"! The Zest Test is a benchmark cognitive and strength test designed by EmpowerMe with the help of Zest fitness professionals to help identify baseline fitness scores for our residents.

Using a benchmark testing tool is great for identifying areas of opportunity for people to gain strength, balance, and flexibility and decrease fall or injury risk.

Check LifeLoop or with your Zest team for available testing dates!

National Fitness Day - September 25th

National Fitness Day is an annual event celebrated on the last Wednesday of September in many countries around the world. It aims to promote the importance of physical activity and inspire individuals to lead healthier and more active lifestyles. It's important to celebrate our physical activity because of the multitude of benefits it provides. Regular physical activity is crucial for maintaining good health and well-being. It has numerous benefits, including: improved physical health, mental well-being, weight management, increased energy levels, and provides social interaction. You can celebrate National Fitness day by joining one of the many physical fitness classes provided on your Zest Calendar or by setting personal fitness goals and committing to a regular exercise routine.

Ways to Celebrate National Fitness Day

1. Try a new fitness class: Step out of your comfort zone and try something new. ZestFit offers new fitness classes monthly!
2. Try a fitness challenge with your friends: something as simple as a step challenge or workout challenge can be a fun way to motivate each other!
3. Create a playlist for your exercise routine: nothing compliments a good work out like the perfect music to keep you motivated.
4. Take your workout outdoors: keep the environment fresh and change up your workout scene.
5. Set personal fitness goals: Take this opportunity to set some or reevaluate your personal fitness goals.
6. Have a FreshZest meal: Try something new with out healthy FreshZest menu options!
7. Treat yourself to a wellness day: Take the day and indulge in a day focused on you and your wellness! Schedule in an exercise class or a fitness appointment, make time for a well balanced meal, maybe even treat yourself to a haircut, a pedicure, or a massage!

Resident Birthdays

September Resident Birthdays

Joan L. - 8th
Joline B. - 9th
Francine T. - 11th
Janice L. - 12th
Eugenia P. - 15th
Louise R. - 16th
James B. - 20th
Carol S. - 22nd
Marvin F. - 23rd
Anna L. - 25th
Rosalie S. - 29th
Barbara W. - 30th



Rosalie, Joan, Louise,
Janice, and Carol



James, and Louise



Eugenia, Louise, Carol, Janice,
Francine, and Rosalie

A word from our Executive Director

It's September!! For many it marks the end of summer, but September is actually one of the most awesome months on the calendar. On September 22nd is the fall equinox! This means that the day and night hours are roughly the same. From here on out the daylight hours will begin to get shorter. Enjoy your TVN September, we have lots of activities planned, and we will also be recognizing both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Tom Rekowski – Executive Director



Staff Directory

Tom Rekowski
Executive Director

Miguel Lopez
Executive Chef

Satina Warner
HR Business Partner

Steven Rubio
Maintenance Director

Lynda Wiggins
Business Office
Director

Georgina Fasi
Dining Room Manager

Mary Rose Okahata,
LVN
Director of Assisted
Living

Leigh Ikeda
Housekeeping Director

Maridy S. Curry
Director of Sales

Karla Medina
Zest Director

Nicole Wessel
Director of Sales

The
VILLAGE
AT NORTHRIDGE

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For over 35 years, we've been developing and operating award-winning senior living communities throughout the United States. Although we're known for our distinctive designs and innovative amenities, SRG communities are fueled by passion. We're truly driven by the desire to create environments that enhance the quality of people's lives - now and in the future.

