



Gardens Executive Chef Bob Betros partners with three students from the United Culinaricians Club, Cal Poly Pomona in the Gardens kitchen. Students from left are Andria Antoniadis, Simona Wong and Krysjen Fang. The program offers the students a glimpse of the opportunities and challenges of working in a large production facility.

## Future Top Chefs

Gardens Executive Chef, Bob Betros offers an enlightening experience for Culinary Students

"At the Gardens, it's not just about cooking three meals a day but being creative and innovative in the dining experience we bring to residents, and we try to share that with the students."



On the day of service, the students, with Executive Chef Bob, far right, are fully involved in the production, cooking and plating of the meals.

experience and the discovery of a whole other opportunity in food service," says Bob.

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Princess Auguste, the Gardens' Graduate Student-in-Residence joins the residents for meals in the Gardens Social Center. Resident Nicole Mitescu and Princess enjoy a lively conversation.

The Gardens' Graduate Student-in-Residence, Princess Auguste, is working on her masters degree in Biblical Studies at nearby Claremont School of Theology.

## Graduate Student-in-Residence

Continued from page 4

support needs in our local community."

"It's been wonderful," says Princess. She joins the residents for meals and twice a week she makes regular visits to The Villas, the Gardens' Greenhouse® skilled nursing community, where she spends time with residents.

"The residents have so much life experience. I'm learning from them, and they're very interested in my studies," she says. Among those who have spent extra time with Princess to support her biblical studies are a former classics professor, a retired religious studies professor, and a resident who has tutored her in Greek.

"We're grateful to the many residents who have welcomed Princess and so generously shared their friendship and expertise with her," says Maureen.



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A Learning Place

## The New Leaf

February 2017

## A Learning Place

How intergenerational co-education on the Gardens campus benefits students and residents alike.

Step onto the Gardens campus, and you are instantly enveloped in a sense of serenity. But underlying that calming environment is a vibrant community of residents that brims with curiosity, energy and an eagerness to remain engaged in the life of the surrounding communities. That desire to connect is evidenced by the remarkable number of partnerships the Gardens and its residents have forged with local schools, colleges and universities.

"When we get residents together with younger people, it is amazing, and something valuable always comes out of it," says **Andrea Tyck**, Gardens Wellness Director. "It's exciting to be a place where people are always learning."

"Not only do these programs offer an enriching experience for our residents," says Gardens Board Chairman **Curt Morris**, "it is gratifying for us, at the Gardens, to help prepare the workforce of the future by offering an educational experience for students that often brings value well beyond their curricula."

In this issue of *The New Leaf*, we share a sample of these student-focused partnerships.

### Scripps College: Life Stories Class

"It was such an interactive experience," declares Oak Tree Lodge resident **Mae Augarten** about the time she spent last fall with three students from



## The Ups of Downsizing

See invitation on back page.



Scripps College as part of the school's "The Life Story: Life Narrative Project." "We had a wonderful connection." Over the course of four one-

hour-plus meetings, Mae and three other Gardens residents shared stories of family, career, even a little advice, with small groups of students. "I told them mistakes are the way you learn, to take chances and to always try to make changes in the world," says Mae, who the students described as a "firecracker."

According to Scripps psychology professor **Stacey Woods**, the class explores adult development, as interviews draw out each resident's life experiences. "It's a learning opportunity for the students, of course, but we hope the sessions benefit the residents, too, by helping them synthesize the themes of their lives to create a meaningful narrative," she says.

"The final presentations were so compelling," adds Andrea. "It was remarkable what the students learned just by having conversations with the resident." Resident **John Maguire** was "bowled over" by the video they produced about his life. "It was top flight," he says. Resident **Sharon Dannel**'s group also created a video, utilizing photographs Sharon had shared with them during their visits. "They were such wonderful people," says Sharon. "It was so interesting to hear their views on current events."

Perhaps most moving, at the end of the program, was the epiphany

Continued on page 2

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## The New Leaf

Mt. San Antonio Gardens is a nationally accredited Life Care senior community in Claremont and Pomona, California.

*The New Leaf* is a newsletter for friends and family of residents, board and staff, as well as individuals who have inquired about life at the Gardens.

- Penny Maines, Writer
- Sioux Bally-Malool, Heartstone Arts Art Direction and Photography

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