

Resident to Resident

Still Looking for Retirement!

By Carol Keocheckian

When he was just 12 years old, Stan Bennett and his older brother were orphaned as their parents passed away within a few months of each other. With no immediate family, they came under the care as wards of the State of California. Just before they were to be assigned to an orphanage, a distant relative living in Chicago agreed to take them in. It was a rocky road for all since she was an older lady, never married, with no experience raising teenage boys. Following high school, Stan enrolled at the University of Illinois as an engineering major.

Stan yearned to return to California and upon graduation, hired on with Rocketdyne in Canoga Park. That was the first of several aerospace/aviation jobs that he had—each one giving him experience to prepare for starting his own company.

One Sunday morning, he attended a church in Hollywood and that is where he met his future wife, Patt. In 1964, they were married. She and her parents introduced him to the meaning of family life, which Stan had not experienced for many years. Patt's airline employer enabled them to vacation throughout the world during their initial years of marriage. The first of their two boys was born in 1969 and Patt retired to raise the family. Their older son, Eric, and his family now live in Sacramento. Their younger son, Kevin, and his family are in nearby Calabasas.

After working for several companies in technical sales positions, Stan decided to embark upon his long-held desire to start his own company. The opportunity came in 1978 when he negotiated with his then employer to buy a tiny and neglected piece of their operation. What he purchased was only a file cabinet of engineering drawings and a letter of introduction to the few airline customers that remained. Since the business involved repair of

aircraft parts, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required certification which was not easy for a one-man operation.

Fortunately, a church friend invited him to share a small area of his machine shop and this provided the appearance the FAA needed. The new company, Repairtech, was formed and at age 39, Stan became self-employed—frightening!

Without a weekly paycheck, he took a second deed on their house, put his wife back to work at UCLA and began the arduous task of bringing this miniscule entity to life. Long hours ensued and having two young boys at home also placed demands on his time.

Patt pitched in and provided the needed balance their family needed. She helped with the new company when she could. As time went on, the business began to gain strength. A Van Nuys building was purchased and people were hired. It has now been 42 years since the company was founded. Their younger son, who is also an engineer, has taken over the company and it has flourished under his leadership. Though the pandemic prohibits Stan from going into the Van Nuys office, he continues to work from home.

Stan and Patt are very pleased to call UVTO their home for the last 1-1/2 years. They deeply appreciate the welcoming community they have experienced here and look forward to expanding their circle of friends once the pandemic is gone and normalcy returns.



Village View

3415 Campus Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
<http://communityapps.com/>



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A Thankful Start to the New Year

Thank you for your generous donations to the Employee Appreciation Fund in 2020

I was left with the entire financial responsibility after my wife was laid off due to the pandemic, and now I will be able to buy Christmas gifts for our kids and provide a warm meal.

– Jose Melgar, EVS Waste Management

I am able to send money to my 90-year-old mother for medical treatment and to treat herself with a Christmas gift.

– Magno Cantaro, EVS Custodian

I am able to buy gifts for my kids, provide a good dinner, and save money to celebrate my birthday.

– Graciela Talavera,
Housekeeping Supervisor

Two years ago, before I knew that my sister was going to pass away due to her battle with cancer, I was able to buy a beautiful wig for her and put food on the table for my sister's kids.

– Laura Valencia, EVS Laundry

I am so grateful to the EAF for the immense generosity that they present to our employees every year. With the generous check that I received, I was able to pay off my credit card and put the rest in a savings account to buy a newer car, which I will now be able to do soon due to their help!

This was such a blessing and very much needed. Thank you so much!

– Meena Zulmai, Reception

I am able to send money to Mexico and help my parents with their medical treatments and medications.

– Carolina Estrada Lopez, EVS Laundry

This donation is going to help my family and I, and many more of us because we have never faced anything like COVID before. Hearing all the wonders you have achieved in your lives has truly inspired me to want a brighter future for myself, and has shown me a different perspective to life.

– Jerri Guerra, F&B Server

Weekly Activities		JANUARY 2021 MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS						
Sun	Open Art Studio—all day (AC)	Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
Monday	8:30 Pickle Ball 9:00 Tai Chi (BBC) 10:15 Mobility & Strengthening with Dario (1390) 1:15 Mobility & Strengthening with Chris (1390) 		UVTO Locations			KEY Classes Clubs Committees Fitness/Wellness Recurring Events Sign-up Required Special Events Spiritual	No Live Fitness Classes Today 1:00 Mindful Meditation (Zoom) Meeting ID: 873 6123 9553 Password: bemindful No Meeting Today 	11:30 Wake Up Your Brain (Zoom) ID: 676 735 6805
Tuesday	8:30 Open Tennis (TC) 9:00 Yoga (CH) 10:15 Fit-Tastic Fitness with Dario (1390) 1:15 Chair-based Cardio-Fit with Jeri (1390) 2:00 Beginners French Class (BD) Contact: Clara Knopfler, C221 4:00 Advanced French Class I (BD) Contact: Clara Knopfler, C221	5:00 Vespers with Chaplain Paul Lenderman (1390)	10:00 Literary Club (BR) Contact: Marilyn Thomas, 3364. Limit 10 1:30 Resident Council (Zoom) Contact: Sandee Kane, 2957 3:00 Big History Lecture Series (BR) RSVP: Activities, 3042	10:00 Food & Beverage Comm. (Zoom) Contact: Mario Metzger, 2924 2:00 Geological Wonders (BR) RSVP: Activities, 3042. Limit 9 Class Full	No Window Shoppe Today 9:00 Tech Class with Pat (BD) RSVP: Activities, 3026 10:30 Tech Class with Pat (BD) RSVP: Activities, 3026 No Live Afternoon Fitness 3:00 UVTO Variety Show (1390)	1:00 Watercolor Art Class (AC) Class Full 3:00 Men’s Current Events (LR) Limit 10 5:00 Getting to Know You (GR) Contact: Ricki Glassman, 2962	11:00 Activities Comm. (Zoom) Contact: Jerry Lewi, 2918 Date Change 1:00 Mindful Meditation (Zoom) Meeting ID: 873 6123 9553 Password: bemindful 2:30 Town Hall (1390) 4:30 Shabbat (Zoom) Contact: Elissa Lazarus, 2597 Date Change	11:30 Wake Up Your Brain (Zoom) ID: 676 735 6805
			10:00 Literary Club (Zoom) No Meeting Today 2:00 Film Class (BR) RSVP: Activities, 3042. Limit 9 Class Full	11:00 Getting to Know Us (BBQ) Contact: Ethel Hafner, 4794/Hertha Hollander, 4771 12:00 Wood Crafting Class Session A (AC) RSVP: Activities, 3007 2:00 Great Decisions Group 1 (Zoom) Contact: Jerry Reed, 2951. Limit 9 2:00 Budget & Finance Comm. (Zoom) Contact: Bill Love, 4773	9:00 Tech Class with Pat (BD) RSVP: Activities, 3026 10:00 Window Shoppe (ADP) 10:30 Tech Class with Pat (BD) RSVP: Activities, 3026 2:00 University @ UVTO (Zoom) Contact: Ethel Hafner, 4794	9:30 Wood Crafting Class Session B (AC) RSVP: Activities, 3007 Class Full 11:00 Art Club (LR) Contact: Bonnie Baas, 2850. Limit 10 2:30 Paul Lenderman “Facing Loss in the New Year” (1390) 5:00 Getting to Know You (GR) Contact: Ricki Glassman, 2962	No Live Fitness Classes Today 1:00 Valentine Wreath Class 1 (AC) RSVP: Activities, 3007 Class Full 1:00 Mindful Meditation (Zoom) Meeting ID: 873 6123 9553 Password: bemindful 2:00 Library Comm. (Zoom) Contact: Marilyn Thomas, 3364 2:30 Valentine Wreath Class 2 (AC) RSVP: Activities, 3007 Class Full	11:30 Wake Up Your Brain (Zoom) ID: 676 735 6805
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