

# THE VILLAGE SPIRIT

VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 1

W I N T E R 2 0 0 8

## HOLIDAYS AT VALLEY VILLAGE



*The Northridge Kiwanis hosted a Christmas Party at Corbin House. Santa brought the gifts, Olive Garden catered the dinner and Coco's (Woodland Hills) topped off the evening with its pies.*



*Clients spruced up for the holidays with a morning at the **Mark Erik's Beauty Lounge** in Northridge. The salon offered complimentary hair styling and manicures. The clients also received a holiday gift bag filled with Paul Mitchell hair products.*



OUR MISSION: VALLEY VILLAGE IS COMMITTED TO ADVANCING THE INTERESTS AND WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## VALLEY VILLAGE

VALLEY VILLAGE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**OFFICERS**

Kitty Cooper  
*President*

Ron Smith  
*Vice President*

Judi Prejean  
*Treasurer*

Steve Beilinson  
*Secretary*

**BOARD MEMBERS**

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Larry Diamond  
Jeffrey Francis  
Ramash Jayakumar  
Leela Kapur  
Marla Kort  
Dr. Himadri M. Patel  
Carson Schreiber

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Fred Chapa

VALLEY VILLAGE  
FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Hon. Dennis P. Zine  
Councilman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
City of Los Angeles

**BOARD MEMBERS**

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*President*

S. Dwight Wheeler  
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Directors  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kitty Cooper



the enormous good that Valley Village does. Our participants, over 100 in the residential program and nearly 260 in our day programs, are active members of the community. They have thriving work, educational and social lives, interacting with their peers and the outstanding, caring, and talented Valley Village staff.

During this past year Valley Village has moved ahead on planning for the future as we confront the issues of aging that have begun affecting some of our participants. As I pointed out last year, an increasing number of our residential participants are being served by Valley Village day programs as well. We continue to plan for a "senior center" to meet the needs of our clients when they are "retired" from their regular day work/activity programs. To address the changing physical needs, we have in place both a nursing home and a continuous nursing facility. However, we foresee a gap at the level of a "skilled nursing facility" (SNF) for those individuals whose medical needs are greater than can be met by our nursing home, yet are not serious enough to qualify for the continuous nursing facility. The SNF Committee of the Board of Directors is looking at options to meet the need as it arises.

We are not alone in recognizing these needs. The nationwide population of individuals with developmental disabilities is living into old age at a rate not previously experienced, so the broader service community is impacted. The Valley Village SNF Committee is working with the North Valley Regional Center and other organizations to determine the poten-

**H**APPY 2008!!! Another year has flown by, but it has been a productive one for Valley Village.

Looking back over the year just completed, I am struck by

tial service need. A part of that assessment is determining what regulatory or legislative changes may be needed to ensure adequate funding for the needed services. Valley Village is active in seeking allies in Sacramento to give effective voice to our clients' needs.

As you can see, we have many challenges ahead and we need your active participation. We are fortunate to have wonderful, selfless members of the professional and business communities who are active members of the Valley Village Board of Directors, but there is a critical need for parent and other family participation. The personal perspective families have on how the organization is working and what is needed to maintain the high quality of service for which Valley Village is known is critical. This year we have been fortunate to add two new Board members who are parents of developmentally disabled children: Marla Kort has a son in one of the Valley Village homes, and Leela Kapur has a daughter still living at home.

One of the things we learned from the survey we did last year is that families would like better communication with Valley Village programs. To address that concern, the board has re-established the Client Services Committee which has already met with the residential programs director and will soon meet with the day programs director. Participation on the Client Services Committee by non-Board members is welcomed and encouraged.

Other Board committees are also in place which are open, and even require, members who are not on the board. Please consider serving on one of the various working committees: Board Development (finding new board members), Bylaws/Policy, Fundraising, and "Showtime! 2008" (the Annual Luncheon). I would be happy to talk with you about what you can do to play an active role in this great organization. Even if the time you have is limited, there's a way for you to participate. Please drop me an email at [KittyCooper@roadrunner.com](mailto:KittyCooper@roadrunner.com). You may also contact Susan Basler, Development Director, at (818) 587-9450 ext. 120 for more information.

**If you would like to have friends or relatives added to our mailing list to receive The Village Spirit, please contact Susan Basler at (818) 587-9450, ext. 120.**



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Fred Chapa



### TIGHT FISCAL YEAR IS ON THE HORIZON

**T**he recent fall out in the California housing market has impacted the

state's yearly income. The resulting drop in revenue to the state is being measured in billions of dollars. The budget for next year (beginning July 1, 2008) will obviously not be able to support even a modest cost of living increase. Even in good times, the state has elected to give very small upward adjustments. With the cost of fuel, food, supplies, and energy continuing to climb, we will have to absorb the increases while trying to maintain our programs.

In the business world a decision to cut expenses is handled by cutting marginal programs, reducing staff overhead by not replacing retiring employees or employees that leave the company. Another procedure is to increase capacity of output using the same employees.

Cutting social service programs that are not covering their expense is done if there are other programs that can be used to provide the service being trimmed. Other times eliminating services causes a severe

burden to the client and we try to maintain these services. Also in other programs there is defined specific staffing to client ratios that is required and in many instances programs are required to provide specific therapies to maintain clients within the program.

Programs like Valley Village that have been in operation for a number of years are operating at full licensing capacity. We are unable to further maximize the number of clients served using the current staff to reduce the cost of services.

We have been keeping a reign over expenses to stay within our budget. As costs continue to rise the only area left to cut is maintenance of properties and equipment. The result would be felt in future years so any cuts would have to be small.

We are very fortunate to have a strong base of support from parents, the community and friends of Valley Village. Thank you for your generosity. Your response to the yearend appeal is gratifying. Along with your support of our annual luncheon fundraiser, the funds raised are much needed. We ask that you continue your support so that Valley Village services can continue with the same attention to care and service.

## CLIENTS ENJOY TRIPS TO AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

As part of the live auction at the Annual Luncheon last June, guests donated over \$4,000 for clients to enjoy trips to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. The buses for the trips were provided by Councilmembers Dennis P. Zine and Wendy J. Greuel.



### EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR 2007

The Client Services Committee developed the Employee Recognition Program which is celebrating its eighth year. The program recently recognized the dedication of Valley Village employees who have given five or more years of service. Employees receive gift certificates from San Fernando Valley restaurants. The following employees were honored in 2007:

#### 5 Years

Ana Rangel  
Heidy Gomez  
Tatyana Samoylenko  
Jesus Galicia  
Ana Rojas  
Marcia Vladez  
Eva Martinez  
Eunice R. Moises  
Arceli Hernandez  
Leyan Sun

#### 10 Years

Christina Gonzalez  
Julie Ippoliti  
Kenneth Roll  
Colleen Roll  
Juana Jerez  
Esther Smith  
Jill Teagardin

#### 15 Years

Craig Conway  
Ian Wynter

#### 20 Years

Dorothy McGuire  
Sean Sullivan  
Ramiro Lozano

#### 25 Years

Fred Chapa



# HERE'S WHO'S HELP

Donor names comprise those who provided support to Valley Village  
from August 1 to December 31, 2007

## 2007 ANNUAL APPEAL

### On Going Operations

Mr. and Mrs. Akana  
Susan Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Barkley  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beilinson  
Brian Blake  
Henry Bronet  
Thelma Bronet  
Eugenie Ruth Boruski  
Gailya Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Bushong  
Adrienne Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Cooper  
Robert & Napua Demers  
Mr. & Mrs. Murray Dorfman  
Glen & Jane Drake  
Thomas & Mary Emerson  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Farris  
Mr. & Mrs. Derrick Fisher  
Norm & Nan Flette  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Freeman  
Mr. & Mrs. David Fung  
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Gazal  
Michael & Frieda Gockel  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Haege  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Harris  
Mr. & Mrs Ed Latto  
Aaron Lazaroff (*In memory  
of Nora Lazaroff*)  
Roger Leach  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Lerner  
Marion Letsch  
Glenna Lotspeich  
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Lovell  
Jean McCalla  
Lawrence Marquart  
Corinne Miller  
Gay Lyn Parrish  
Orestes & Irma Pena  
Mr. & Mrs. Rogelio Pena  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Roemer  
Larry & Marlys Sack  
Mary Sandorf  
Carson Schreiber  
Mary Ellen Searcy  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sharples  
Mr. & Mrs. Osmond Shobu  
Mr. & Mrs. Cornell Smith  
Joan Soper  
Mr. & Mrs. George Stanley  
June Stanton  
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Steimer  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Stewart  
Shirley Sydow

Lyndon Turner  
Michael & Marlene Turner  
(*Matching Gift from Bearsworth  
Communications, Inc.*)  
Mr. & Mrs. Wald  
Ann Walker  
Adell White  
Beverly Withrow  
Aida A. Wittman  
Dr. & Mrs. H. Zakary Zeitlin

### Day Program Expansion

Jean Adams  
Susan Basler  
Mr. & Mrs. David Berger  
Josephine Bird  
Jeannette Cayen  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Chapa  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Cooper  
Elizabeth Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Corkery  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Cowan  
Dick Crouch  
Anita Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Leopoldo Daulo  
Mr. & Mrs. Alfonso Dominguez  
James Domit  
Mr. & Mrs. David Donovan  
Mr. & Mrs. David Eaton  
Greg Farrington  
Craig Ford, D.D.S.  
Darl Gibson  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Goichman  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gorny  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Haege  
Mrs. Donna Harney  
Ann Hill  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hinman  
Ken S. Honbo, M.D.  
Myong Han  
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Ilberman (*In  
honor of Janey Press*)  
Mr. & Mrs. John Kelleher  
Mr. & Mrs. John Kendryna  
Allan Kurtz  
Elayne Landy  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Lerner  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Light  
Nicholas Marechal  
William & Cyndi McAuley  
Robert Murashige &  
Marsha Richards  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenso Nomura  
Mrs. Mary Oliver

Mark Pracher  
Ron & Judi Prejean  
Nancy Rapoport  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Rapp  
Dorri Raskin & Florence Raskin  
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Rector  
Jeffrey S. Robin  
Marsha Rood  
Mr. & Mrs. Rose  
Janet Rosmarin  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Samaniego  
Marion Schwanbeck  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Sears  
William Shepherd  
Mr. & Mrs. Alton Shimabukuro  
Rex & Ida Skinner  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Smith  
Mrs. Strauch  
Bob & Edith Tannenbaum  
Alfredo & Douglas Vasquez  
Mr. and Mrs. Wagner  
Bert & Sam Weiner  
Fred Weiner, D.D.S.  
Charles Weinstein, Ph.D.  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Winston  
Elsie Wolfe  
Councilman Dennis P. Zine

### General Donations

Dr. & Mrs. Call  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Dixon  
Dr. Joseph R. Dorfman  
Mr. & Mrs. Israel Fatooreohi  
Terry Gaddis  
Mr. & Mrs. Galperen  
Darl Gibson  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gorny  
Sue Gunther  
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Haege  
Mr. & Mrs. Pat Joyce  
Lehman Brothers (*Matching Gift  
from Joan Campbell*)  
Sheba Levine  
Isabelle Little  
Joan & Leslie Millard (*Sunland  
Programs*)  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Paster  
Mary Sandorf  
Marion Schwanbeck  
Dorothy Trusty  
Martha Waugh





# ING VALLEY VILLAGE

## IN MEMORIAM

### DONOR(S):

Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Bushong  
Ruth Deel  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Dixon  
Sylvia Dorfman  
Mr. & Mrs. Guenther Engel

Mr. & Mrs. Derrick Fisher  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Freeman  
Russ & Judy Hawthorne

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ingwersen  
Mr. & Mrs. Gunnar Sydow  
Martha Waugh  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

### IN MEMORY OF:

Matthew Kindle  
Kevin Deel  
Helen Sweat  
Eugene Dorfman (husband)  
Dede  
Richard  
Joan Schulman  
Pradhu Rawate  
Eugene Sydow  
Robbie Hawthorne  
Andrew Sandersier  
DeDe Wheeler  
Scott Sandersier  
Eugene Sydow  
Eugene Sydow (brother)  
January  
Richard Felix  
Andrea Schulman  
Kathie Shimarsky

## TRIBUTES

### TO HONOR:

Altano House  
Debbie Broudy  
Kim Deel  
Ed  
David Lazaroff  
Vicki McDonald

### OCCASION:

Happy Birthday  
65<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Mary Sandorf

Birthday

### DONOR(S):

Ruth Deel  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mines  
Mr. & Mrs. Rod Bernsen  
Mr. & Mrs. Guenther Engel  
Aaron Lazaroff  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Arnstein  
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Benjamin  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Broudy  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Feldman  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mines  
Joyce & Bob Rosenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy D. Ross  
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Weintraub  
Evelyn Swanson

## FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT GIFTS ANNUAL APPEAL 2007

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Barkley	Mr. & Mrs. Derrick Fisher
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Behringer	Mr. & Mrs. Ross Goldware
Mr. & Mrs. John Beuerman	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hay
(Matching Gift from ATK )	Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hawthorne
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Bushong	Mr. & Mrs. DuWayne Hodge
Jeanette Campbell	Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Labins
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Coglianese	Mr & Mrs. Dennis McMahon
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Cooper	Larry & Marlys Sack
Faye Deane	Mary Sandorf
Ruth Deel	John Sidenfaden
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Diamond	June Stanton
Dickter Family	Martha Waugh
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Dixon	Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Wheeler
Mr. & Mrs. Guenther Engel	Marc Weisel and Sharon Sackin
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Engel	Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

## FOUNDATION ANNUAL APPEAL 2007 GENERAL DONATIONS

Jeanette Campbell  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Freeman (Guenther Engel's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

*We apologize if your name was omitted. Please call Susan or Anush  
at (818) 587-9450, ext. 120 so we may include your name in  
the next issue of the Village Spirit.*





## ANNUAL BOARD AND FOUNDATION DINNER



Left photo: Brian Blake & Steve & Denise Beilinson; Right photo: Veronica Becerra & Councilman Dennis P. Zine. Brian and Steve are Valley Village Board Members and Dennis is an Honorary Director of the Foundation Board of Directors.



Betty Guzzo & Jeffrey Francis, a Valley Village Board Member.



Above: Leela & Pat Joyce, Ron Prejean & Fred Chapa, Valley Village Executive Director. Leela is a Village Board Member.



Left: Dolores Zimmerman is a Director (I), & June Stanton is the Secretary of the Valley Village Foundation Board of Directors.



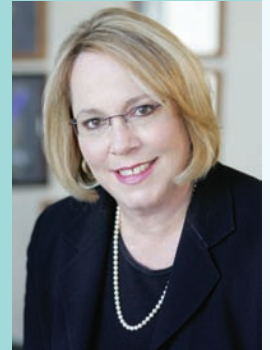
Above Left: Kitty Cooper (center), President of Valley Village Board of Directors, with Steven and Marla Kort. Marla is a Valley Village Board Member.



Left: Laura Engel & Valley Village Board Member Carson Schreiber.

## MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS: JUDI PREJEAN & RON SMITH

Judi Prejean is the senior vice president/regional manager for Bank of the West's Sherman Oaks Commercial Banking Office. She works with middle market companies with revenues between \$5 and \$50 million located in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys and Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. Part of Judi's responsibilities include, developing and implementing marketing plans to ensure customer retention and to establish relations with potential client. She has been with the bank since 1992. In the community, Judi is treasurer for Valley Village's Board of Directors and Valley Village Foundation Board of Directors. She is past president of the Mid Valley Rotary Club. Judi has a bachelor's degree from California State University, Northridge.



Ron Smith enjoys flying and pilots his own Piper Cherokee 200. He has flown across the U.S. on several occasions. Ron is also a licensed glider flyer and uses the Crystal Air Airport in the desert. He enjoys boating as well and recently purchased a 45-foot sail boat. Ron's latest hobbies are getting involved with charities. Since May

2006 he has served on the Inner Circle board of directors and was elected president in January 2007. Ron is vice president on Valley Village's Board of Directors and is an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Northridge, where has served as president and district lieutenant governor. Professionally, Ron is a Certified Insurance Counselor with Northridge Insurance Agency.







# Valley Village Foundation

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Guenther W. Engel

**O**n behalf of the Valley Village Foundation Board of Directors I wish to thank all of you who donated to the Foundation through the yearend appeal. Let me also thank all of you who donated to the Foundation throughout 2007 for your generosity and for your continued unwavering support.

The Foundation reached a new milestone of **\$250,000**, which was from your gifts and donations. Because of this the Board of Directors has decided to start reviewing some of the ways to share the Foundation's income with Valley village. Thoughts of how to do this include a fixed amount, a percentage of income or funding a special need for Valley Village.

Reviewing the past few newsletters, I realize that my message has primarily been about financial planning for the future care of your developmentally disabled children. This was generally conveyed by the use of terms such as estate planning, Living trusts, wills or bequests for parents. Each of these falls under the broad heading of financial planning. There is one other document that is very important for the quality of life and the financial well being of a developmentally disabled person—a *special needs trust*.

On November 7, 2007, New Horizons sponsored a *special needs trust* workshop for parents of New Horizons, Valley Village and Tierra De Sol clients. This excellent workshop was presented by Fred Weitkamp, attorney at law. As part of the workshop, those in attendance were free to ask questions which Weitkamp graciously answered.

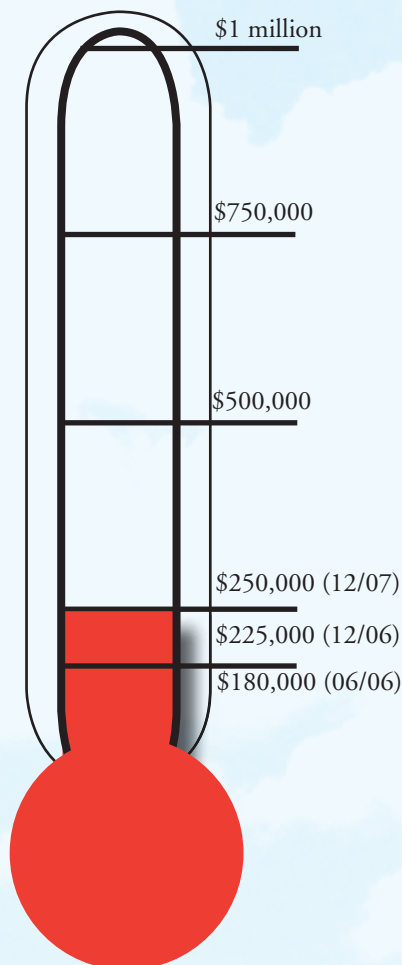
Due to modern medicine and a better level of care and nutrition, people with disabilities are living longer than ever. That is the good news. As I have written about in a previous newsletter articles, the bad news is that, as a general rule, when developmentally disabled people reach the age of 40, they start to exhibit the same aging problems that most people encounter beginning at age 60. Many of our clients, both in the residential program and the day programs, are 40 years of

age or older and the chances are good that they will outlive their parents. As they age their special needs must be provided for. This can be accomplished with a *special needs trust*.

The following statement provides an answer to the question what is a *special needs trust*? The purpose of a *special needs trust* is to provide certain services for a disabled, disadvantaged or handicapped person over and beyond the benefits provide by governmental agencies, while preserving the availability of the government benefits.

A *special needs trust* can be a stand-alone document or it can be incorporated inside a living trust. If you want to learn more about a *special needs trust* call Dick Bartus, at Valley Village (818) 587-9450, ext. 139 or at his home (616) 254-2900. Dick is available for discussions either on the phone or a personal visit to your home. He can answer your questions, help you prepare for a visit with your lawyer, or help you find a lawyer that is experienced with *special needs trust* for developmentally disabled persons and one that will fit your budget. There is no cost for the services Dick provides.

In closing, let me wish you all a belated Happy, Healthy and Prospers New Year.



## SPREADING THE WORD

The Ahmanson Foundation and the Fannie Mae and Savant Knistrom Foundation provided grants in support of the Sunland Project • Judi Prejean donated tickets to the clients so they could attend the Pacific Dance Sport Championship in Torrance • Carson Schreiber, a Valley Village Board Member, was honored by the Association of Professional Fund-raisers, San Fernando Valley Chapter, as Valley Village's Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, and by CSUN with a Volunteer Service Award for his work with the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication. • At the September 27 Board Meeting, Executive Director Fred Chapa gave an operations update. There was also a special presentation on *The Role of Nurses and Occupational Therapists*. Thank you to Fred Matz of Matz Paper and Steve Beilinson for a donation of a television.

# VALLEY VILLAGE

## BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings held in Valley Village's conference room at 20830 Sherman Way unless otherwise noted.

Valley Village Board of Directors  
6:30 p.m.  
January 24, 2008

Valley Village Foundation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 17, 2008 • 6 p.m.

Showtime Annual Luncheon  
June 28, 2008  
Sheraton Universal Hotel



*Councilman Dennis P. Zine honored Susie Glover (red), from Altano House and Winnetka Development Center, as part of National Deaf Awareness Week. The presentation was made in the Los Angeles City Council Chamber. Deaf Awareness Week is the last of September, in commemoration of the first World Congress of the Deaf held that week in 1951. Looking on are Valley Village's Susan Basler, development director (l) & Barbara Smith, QMPR at Altano House.*

# VALLEY VILLAGE

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Winnetka, CA 91306

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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message • Pg. 2
- Executive Directors's Message • Pg. 3
- Here's Who's Helping Valley Village • Pg. 4 - 5
- Valley Village Foundation Pg 7