

VALLEY VILLAGE

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

September 27 • 7 p.m.
General Membership Meeting
Winnetka Adult Day Health Care Center
20835 Sherman Way

October 18 • 6 p.m.
Valley Village Foundation
Board of Directors

October 25 • 6:30 p.m.
Valley Village
Board of Directors

GRANT FUNDS ALLOW VALLEY VILLAGE TO BUY SIX BUSES

A \$350,000 grant from U.S. Department of Transportation allowed Valley Village to buy six buses to replace its aging fleet. Residents of Baird House and members of the Board of Directors take a spin on the first bus to be delivered.



VALLEY VILLAGE
20830 Sherman Way
Winnetka, CA 91306

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THE VILLAGE SPIRIT

VOLUME 19 • NUMBER 3

S U M M E R 2 0 0 7

SHOWTIME!

OVER 550 GUESTS ENJOY 2007 LUNCHEON!

The ballroom at the Sheraton Universal was overflowing with 550 guests who enjoyed an afternoon of shopping, bidding, schmoozing, and entertainment at the Showtime Annual Luncheon on June 23. Comedian Bob Saget, who is best known for his starring role on "Full House" and host of "America's Funniest Home Videos," once again emceed the luncheon. Currently, he is the host of NBC's "1 vs. 100" and in August Saget starred in a one-hour special on HBO, "Bob Saget: That Ain't Right." In January 2007 he released on DVD "Farce of the Penguins." Luncheon's featured celebrity guest was comedian Carlos Mencia, from Comedy Central's "Mind of Mencia." Mencia was enthusiastically received during his energetic, fact-paced and

candid routine. He was hilarious and received a rousing standing ovation at the end of his performance.

"Showtime! 2007 reinforced our belief that with perseverance and belief in the importance of the services we provide, we will succeed," said Kitty Cooper, president of the Valley Village Board of Directors. "Our new partnership with the Leo Buscaglia Foundation and our new event site brought new challenges in planning the event, but the end result was a wonderful and profitable event, and many new friends." Paul Gilbert, president of the Leo Buscaglia Foundation Board said, "The luncheon exceeded my expectations. Everyone I talked with was upbeat and enthusiastic. We look forward to building on the momentum that was generated this year."

(Continued on page six)



State Senator Alex Padilla visits Valley Village and enjoys a friendly chat with Eddie (right); and did some exercise with Joanne (far left). Commenting on his tour, Padilla said, "In my recent visit to Valley Village, I was touched by the dedication of your staff and your strong commitment to help those with developmental challenges."

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

VALLEY VILLAGE

VALLEY VILLAGE
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Vice PresidentJudi Prejean
TreasurerSteve Beilinson
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City of Los Angeles

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Winnetka, CA 91306
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www.valleyvillage.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kitty Cooper



It's summer and the Valley is sizzling! And it's not just the weather. SHOWTIME! 2007 was a huge success. I want to thank all those who worked so hard to produce the fabulous event we all enjoyed.

The planning committee of veterans with a few newcomers did their usual, amazing job. Some pounded the pavement to gather donated items for the baskets, others took charge of the decorations, while still others handled registration. Then there were those who stuffed envelopes, counted and bundled drawing tickets, sold tickets at the Luncheon, and organized and operated the boutique.

I also want to say a special thank you to our new SHOWTIME! partner: *The Leo Buscaglia Foundation*. Through the efforts of members of their Board of Directors, we had some special Live Auction items, and many more sponsorships. Because of this joint effort, we know we've made some new friends for Valley Village and for The Leo Buscaglia Foundation as well.

Another thank you has to go to the many vendors who do business with Valley Village for their support through buying ads in the SHOWTIME! program. And a special thank you to Michael and Marlene Turner who personally contacted many of the vendors and gave them the opportunity to provide their much appreciated support.

As for the program itself, MC Bob Saget did it again! He was so at ease, that despite the size of the room he made us feel like we were in a small club among friends. Not only did he personally participate so graciously, but he brought us the fabulous, first rate stand-up comedian and television star, Carlos Mencia. Carlos was surprised by the audience's energetic response and standing ovation. His jokes were funny and he tailored

his act to let us know that he understood the purpose of our organization. His message of personal responsibility touched us all.

Of course, once again Councilman Dennis P. Zine was the auctioneer extraordinaire. Through his efforts our Live Auction was a great success. The hot item was a day as an extra on a film including lunch with the Director, Chris D'Arenzo. Chris was on hand and offered up the prize to three additional people resulting in a total of \$4,000.

The Luncheon is our major fundraising event for the year, and I particularly want to thank our Title Sponsors: Bank of the West, citi smith barney, Lee Hamer Memorial Charities, Marion Letsch, Ginny Mancini, Telesis Community Credit Union, and Joan Winchell. Their generous support as well as that from the gold, silver and patron sponsors, and other donors is truly appreciated.

As we plan for the future of Valley Village and the changing needs of the people we serve, it is critical that we continue to raise funds beyond those provided by government sources. This is necessary to ensure that our programs are of the high quality that Valley Village was established to provide. The Sunland Adult Day Health Center expansion is the current focus of fundraising, but we are also researching how to meet the needs of our clients as they age.

To accomplish our ambitious agenda, it is vital that we expand the base of individuals who participate in the strategic and event planning, and governance of Valley Village.

Opportunities for learning more about us and getting involved are coming up. Planning for Valley Village SHOWTIME! 2008! has already begun! Also, our general membership meeting will take place on September 27, 2007. At that time Fred Chapa, our Executive Director, and members of his staff will report on the state of Valley Village and its various programs. The membership will also vote on appointments to the Board of Directors.

Please contact Susan Basler, Development Director, for more information on how you can become an active participant.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Guenther Engel

As this newsletter goes to press and summer is nearing an end, I hope that all of you had a safe and enjoyable vacation.

In the last newsletter, the aging of persons who are developmentally disabled was discussed along with John Danner's "60-40" connection." John Danner, you recall, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has over 30 years of experience working with aging, disability and dementia patients including persons that are developmentally disabled. His "60-40" connection" is defined as when a developmentally disabled person reaches the age of 40, he or she, starts to exhibit the same aging problems that most people encounter beginning at age 60.

The aging process of Valley Village's clients and Danner's statements led to two additional subjects that the article covered, namely planning for your child and planning by the Foundation and the Valley Village Board of Directors. What follows is a short update of these two subjects.

As I review the last newsletter I realized that it was primarily addressed to parents of children who are developmentally disabled. I also realized that this newsletter reaches many supporters of

Valley Village and the Foundation who have children that are not developmentally disabled. My offer to all of you is to let us help and guide you toward obtaining the legal documents you should have to protect and secure your children's future as well as your own.

For those of you who have not made any personal or financial plans, our planning coordinator, Dick Bartus, has agreed to work with you. He can be reached at his Valley Village office: (818) 587-9450, ext. 139. Bartus is available for discussions either on the phone or if you wish, a personal visit to your home.

As for our planning, presently two Foundation Board members along with Valley Village Board members are serving on an exploratory committee to identify long-term needs for Valley Village. In addition, two of our board members are on the Sunland Building Committee to monitor the design and construction for Valley Village's Sunland Facility renovation.

Both boards are working together to explore future fundraising projects that will address the problem of our aging population and benefit both the Foundation's Endowment and the future service needs of Valley Village.



IN MEMORY OF:

Elaine Bonet

GIVEN BY:

Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Blum
Joyce Brady
Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Bushong
Jeannette Campbell
Faye Deane
Sylvia Dorfman
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Dun
Mr. & Mrs. Guenther Engel
Judy Hawthorne
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Leventhal
Mr. & Mrs. James Plamenig
June Stanton
Martha Waugh
Eugenia Zeitlin
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

Eugene Sydow
Edith Tannenbaum
Robert Tannenbaum (brother)

IN MEMORY OF:

Dr. William C. Donovan, former
Executive Director, NLARC
Robbie Hawthorne

Nana Hughes
Mark Oliver

GIVEN BY:

Elizabeth & Johnathan Cooper
Mrs. Elaine Abraham
Dalbec Family
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Judy Hawthorne
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Mary Oliver
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Mr. & Mrs. Fred Chapa
Mr. & Mrs. Guenther Engel
June Stanton
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann
Aaron Lazaroff

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.

THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED VALLEY VILLAGE

Donor names comprise those who provided support to Valley Village from May 1 to July 31, 2007

2007 ANNUAL APPEAL

Steve Beilinson and Judi Prejean (Matching gifts from Bank of the West for the Sunland Expansion Project)

GENERAL DONATIONS

Albertsons Grocery
Helen Allan
Mr. & Mrs. George Bartell
Jeannette Butler
Reyna Celestina
Evelina Corpening
Eva Dominguez
Mr. & Mrs. Dorfman
Laura Engel
Terry Gaddis
Carol Goodman
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Gorny
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kort (Archwood House)
Joey Levin (Aaron Kort at Archwood House)
Isabelle Little

Gloria Perez
Prudential Financial
Ralphs Grocery
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Rector
Janet Rosmarin
Mary Sandorf
Kay Shobu
Mr. & Mrs. Sorkin
Dorothy Rossillo-Trusty
Jackie Wardle
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann
Councilman Dennis P. Zine

TRIBUTE TO:

Lisa Bronet
Zackary Zeitlin
Larry Diamond's Birthday and for the ladies at Lurline House
Bobbie & Ben Tadelis 30th Wedding Anniversary
Judy & Harvey Flax 60th Wedding Anniversary
Selma & Marty Stewart 60th Wedding Anniversary
Eddie Freeman
Ross Goldware's 80th Birthday
Our 60th Wedding Anniversary
Laura & Guenther Engel 50th Wedding Anniversary
Bobbie & Ben Tadelis 30th Wedding Anniversary

GIVEN BY:

Joyce Brody
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Bronet
Lilli Diamond
Mr. & Mrs. Rex Elwell
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Goldware
Aaron Lazaroff
Dolly Saget
Mr. & Mrs. Ellery Sorkin
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Stewart
Helen Vestuto
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

FOUNDATION GIFTS:

Judy Hawthorne
Helen Vestuto
Martha Waugh
Aida A. Wittman

2007 LUNCHEON SPONSORS

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Silver: Bearsworth Communications, Inc. • Kitty & Don Cooper • Grubb & Ellis Company • JPL Zoning • Laritech, Inc. • Mike's Roofing • MMP Printing & Digital Graphics • Prudential Financial • Carson Schreiber • Cheryl & John Toffan • UPS • Marc Weisel & Sharon Sackin • Barbara & Dwight Wheeler
Patron: Dorothy & Leroy Bushong Family • Canoga Park / West Hills Chamber of Commerce • George Morreria, Ph.D. • Kelleher & Associates • Madras K. Padmanabhan, M.D. • Northridge Insurance Agency • Susan Sullivan • Suzanne Torgeson

ANNUAL LUNCHEON (Continued from page one)

The festivities began with a boutique with unique clothing, jewelry, purses, chocolates, socks, and body care products, and bidding for beautiful gift baskets.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Dennis P. Zine was the live auctioneer and he whipped up a frenzy of excitement during the bidding for the dining experience package, being an extra for a new independent comedy directed by Chris D'Arenzo, a week at The Golden Door Spa in Escondido, among other items. The best part of the **Live Auction** was when the entire audience bid on sending clients to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Enough money was raised for four trips; the first one is on Saturday, September 8.



Kitty Cooper, President of the Valley Village Board of Directors and Paul Gilbert, President of the Leo Buscaglia Foundation Board.

Boutique Exhibitors

BLIX • BONNIE TOBIN
HERBAN BODY CARE • DANA MILLER
JOY'S CHOCOLATES • JOY SAKATA
PEARLS PLUS • SUSIE WARMBRAND
PEGBOARD HIGHWAY • PAULINE GOLDSTEIN
POSH SOX • ANNE COHEN
SUSIE O'S • SUSAN OVERMAN
VALLEY VILLAGE & LEO BUSCAGLIA FOUNDATION
VOUVA • PRITHI MEGANATHAN
WICK'D BEAN CANDLES • SANDRA ENCINAS

Special thanks to

A/V Masters
Atomic Productions Supplies
Bearsworth Communications, Inc. • Marlene & Michael Turner
MMP • Pam & Kevin Berg
U Frame It • Adrianna Cruz
Mr. B's
San Fernando Valley Jaycees
Photography by Zarek
The members of the Valley Village Board of Directors and Valley Village Foundation Board of Directors
Fred Chapa and the Valley Village staff
Sheraton Universal Hotel • Steve Ciccarella and staff
Vanguard Merchant Services • George Taggart and Brian Pickens
SLACK Incorporated • Peter Slack...OUR SPONSORS, DONORS, ADVERTISERS, GUESTS, AND WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS...

LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

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CAITLAND ALEXANDER
SUSAN BASLER
DICK COOPER
LAURA ENGEL
JOAN FREEMAN
PAUL GILBERT
FLORINE GOODMAN
MELANIE GONZALES
DONNA HARNEY
JUDY HAWTHORNE
CHERYL KOBASHIGAWA
GINNY MANCINI
MARY MCKERNAN
CARSON SCHREIBER
MAXINE SIDENFADEN
JUNE STANTON
MARLENE & MICHAEL TURNER
JACKIE WARDLE
SUSIE WARMBRAND
JOAN WINCHELL
DOLORES ZIMMERMANN

SPECIAL THANK YOU

COUNCILMEMBERS
WENDY GREUEL
DENNIS P. ZINE
FOR PROVIDING THE BUSES TO THE
AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Fred Chapa



MEETING CLIENT NEEDS TODAY AND INTO THE FUTURE

Valley Village is preparing to begin a major renovation on the Sunland Adult

Day Health Center building on Fenwick Street. The major reason for the renovation is to be able to accommodate more non-ambulatory client base.

The center was initially modeled after another Adult Day Health Center Valley Village was already operating in Winnetka. The Sunland Center was set up to serve a mix of ambulatory and non-ambulatory clients. However, when the program opened, all of the clients seeking admission were non-ambulatory. As a result, the program was limited to a maximum of 60 crowded participants, rather than the 80 the building was initially licensed to accept. Each transfer between classrooms created hallways clogged to the point of logjam. Many potential clients have been turned away because they require wheelchairs and there is no room in the current building for additional wheelchair clients.

The renovation will provide just over a thousand square feet of additional space. This added space will allow us to enlarge the classrooms and to expand the hallways to eight feet wide. At the end of the pending renovation, the program will be able to accommodate eighty clients in wheelchairs.

The demographics of the population being served in Sunland are older and more

medically fragile than the clients served in the west valley location. Our nearby nursing home in Sylmar houses twelve wheelchair residents who all started at the Sunland Center, however, we moved some of these clients to the west valley location to ease the overcrowding.

The population census of all of Valley Village's programs has an average age in their mid to late forties. Many of these clients are experiencing medical difficulties that would be expected of people that are twenty years older than their present age.

The Strategic Plan for Valley Village has addressed the needs of clients with beginning medical frailties. All of our homes are intermediate care facilities with nursing and auxiliary medical professionals available to maintain needed health care for the participants. We have one larger nursing home that initially was under-utilized. However, as the clients living in the ICF homes have aged, they have experienced more health problems and are now fully utilizing the nursing home. We are currently participating in a pilot program that provides continuous nursing services at the level of an acute hospital setting in a six-bed home. This program has allowed staff to gain experience and knowledge working with clients living with medical problems beyond those clients served in skilled nursing hospitals.

Over the years, the focus of services has moved from serving children to serving young adults and now to serving middle age clients. Our services have moved from a position of maintaining client health to

now addressing the needs of medically fragile clients. We can now accept new clients with medical conditions that just a few years ago would not have been able to enter Valley Village, due to our lack of experience in working with medically fragile clients. The overall population has gained from our experiences.

We are currently tracking client's skill levels in an internal long-term study, to see if there is a pattern that will give us better insights to serve our population. The most noticeable difference in our residents is their susceptibility to medical problems of a much older population. This was reinforced by a study performed by a group from the University of Irvine for the Harbor Regional Center that pointed out that people with developmental disabilities in their forties and above are experiencing the medical conditions of the general population who are twenty years older. The Board and staff are looking at health needs in the next ten years to determine if it would be prudent to provide a skilled nursing facility that specializes in serving persons with developmental disabilities.

The direction of services being set by Valley Village is in contrast to other providers in the area who are focusing on working to expand full participation of their clients in the community. This is a positive force that will better integrate clients into all aspect of independent living. It is our hope that our services will be in place to help as needed to provide care for clients both in our program and in the other programs who start to need more medical services as they grow older.

Clients Hold a Car Wash at Valley Village



SHOWTIME! ANNUAL LUNCHEON



Councilman Dennis P. Zine with Bank of the West



Guests from Coldwell Banker



Which cards to buy at the Boutique



Councilman Dennis P. Zine thanks Carlos Mencia



Perusing the Live Auction Table



Joan Winchell (standing, second from left) and her guests



Winnetka Neighborhood Council



Bidding on gift baskets and schmoozing



Ginny Mancini (in pink suit) and her guests



Guests enjoying the pre-luncheon festivities



The Patel family and guests



Paul Gilbert (front row, second front right) from citi Smith Barney and his guests.



MC and host Bob Saget



Northridge Kiwanis Club



Comedian Carlos Mencia