

Providing Love, Care and Hope for Individuals with Disabilities and their Families

## DOTTIE'S NOTES

Every year for the past ten or more years, Villa's Board of Directors has sponsored a staff appreciation dinner in June — and the staff appreciates and enjoys it! This year staff appreciation month has been changed to the month of May and the dinner will be on the 23rd at Mijares Mexican Restaurant from 5 – 7 p.m. There will be special staff awards presented at the dinner. Invitations to staff will be sent in early May. There will also be a number of other events starting with a Cinco de Mayo Potluck on the 5th of May at Noon in the Braun Center. (My contribution will be the tastiest tamales – from Mijares!) On the 5th and 6th the West Region will have two special events for staff.

May 20th will be the 7th annual management-sponsored, prepared and served, staff breakfast at Café Villa (Skandia Hall) starting at 7:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. This once-a-year-only special breakfast includes sausage, French toast, scrambled eggs, fruit, juice and coffee. The team includes great short-order cooks like Kelly White and Michelle Hussen, and the rest of the team do everything else, including buying

the food, and cleaning up afterwards.

A new addition to the staff appreciation month is a Staff Health Fair to be held on May 27th at the ADHC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and at the Braun Center from 2 – 4 p.m. There may be other surprises during the month too. We are looking forward to a fun month in between all the good work the staff does for the students and clients on behalf of Villa Esperanza Services!

The third of the four special needs seminars sponsored by Wells Fargo: **Securing the Future: Trusts and Estate Planning for your Special Needs Family Member** will be held on May 25th from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m., and you are invited to attend. A light dinner will be provided. The May session will be a presentation by Investments and Insurance Professionals, Rich Groscoast and Scott Harris of Wells Fargo Investments, covering assets suitable for funding special needs trusts, tax issues, and charitable giving. To RSVP for the above events, please call Anna Cho at 449-2919, ext. 62.

*Dottie Nelson*

### join us for a free seminar on **Trust & Estate Planning for your Special Needs Family Member**

May 25, 2005 from 4:30 – 6:00pm

Presentation by Investment and Insurance Professionals

Presenters: Rich Groscoast & Scott Harris with Wells Fargo Investments

Braun Center / Villa Esperanza Services  
2116 East Villa Street • Pasadena, CA 91107

A light dinner will be served.

Please RSVP to Anna Cho, Development Office  
(626) 449-2919 ext.62 or [acho@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:acho@villaesperanzaservices.org)



## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 5** Cinco de Mayo: Staff Potluck Lunch, Braun Center
- 5-6** West Region Employee Appreciation Day
- 19** Children and Youth Program: Open House, 6:30 – 7:30pm
- 19** Children and Youth Program: Minimum Day
- 20** 7th Annual Management-sponsored Staff Breakfast at Café Villa (Skandia Hall) 7:30 -9:30 a.m.
- 23** Board Meeting, Braun Center, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- 23** Board-sponsored Staff Appreciation Dinner, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Mijares Mexican Restaurant
- 27** Staff Health Fair, ADHC 11 a.m.-1 p.m., ADHC; 2-4 p.m., Braun Center
- 30** Memorial Day: All Day Programs Closed



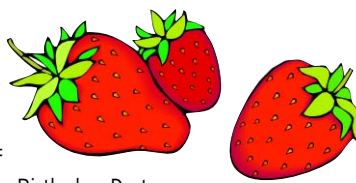
tremendous, quality work they are doing!

### Care Management:

Please join us for a **Health Fair** on Friday, May 27th at ADHC from 11 – 1pm and at the Braun Center from 2 – 4pm in celebration of **Villa's Staff Appreciation Month!**

### ADHC:

As usual, we have some very fun activities this month at ADHC. The week of **May 2nd is National Family Week** and to celebrate it we are encouraging our clients to bring in their family photos and share their memories with us. We will also be celebrating **Cinco de Mayo** that week with refreshments. Other activities to look forward to are **Katherine Hepburn Day on the 12th** and **strawberry tasting on the 18th**. And to cap off the month we plan to have a Barbeque Birthday Party on the 27th at 12pm on the front porch of our building. For information about these activities and more, please contact (626) 398-4435.



### Volunteer:

Thank you to all those who participated in Paramount Studio's Volunteer Day on April 10th. Paramount, along with Villa volunteers and staff, took over the grounds of Villa and made it beautiful with a variety of plants, decorations, and murals. The Viacomplines put so much care and hard work into this project and we are grateful to have had them here!

If you are interested in volunteering in our programs at Villa have an idea for a project, please contact Anna Cho at (626) 449-2919 ext 62 or email her at:

[acho@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:acho@villaesperanzaservices.org)

### Other News:

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Cure Autism Now's Walk Now!** Over 5,000 people from the Los Angeles Area participated at this event. Villa's booth at the Walk was very popular due in large part by the Hug Machine. Our walking team consisted of staff, parents, students, and clients with coordinating Villa shirts. Thanks to Brooke Barrett of our Speech and Language Center for introducing us to this wonderful event.

We are pleased to announce the **8th Annual Guardian Angels Celebration**. This event celebrates the Angels in our community who move "The Sun, the Moon and the Stars" to support our organization. This year's evening will include fine food and entertainment, and will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 6pm at the Twin Palms Restaurant in Old Town, Pasadena. The honorees this year are: Cynthia Kurtz, Pasadena City Manager; Bob and Judi Moore, parents of client, Mari Moore and active volunteers; and Jim Bruno, councilmember of the City of Westlake Village and his wife, Diane, both supporters of Villa. Look for your invitation in the mail! For more information on this event, please contact Michelle Cox at ext. 28 or email her at:

[mcox@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:mcox@villaesperanzaservices.org)

## DID YOU KNOW...?

Villa has partnered with Twin Palms restaurant for **Villa Nights**. Four evening out of the year will be designated as Villa Nights; Villa will receive 15% of the entire evening's revenue, food and drinks included. **Join us for the launch of Villa Nights on Wednesday, July 6th at Twin Palms in Old Town Pasadena.**

Twin Palms will also donate 15% of the final bill back to Villa anytime you book a party with them; just be sure to mention that you are there because of Villa! The party must be for 15 or more people and it has to be booked through Twin Palms' catering department. For more information, please contact Michelle Cox at ext.28.

We look forward to seeing you at **Villa Night**.

## BIRTHDAY WISHES:

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>02</b> Jamie Robe          | <b>13</b> Mario McLeod      |
| <b>03</b> Beverly Young       | <b>13</b> Sandra Valenzuela |
| <b>05</b> Lidia Pellegrin     | <b>20</b> Norman Pangracs   |
| <b>07</b> Krystle Bagby       | <b>21</b> Lourdes Chico     |
| <b>09</b> Veronica Washington | <b>22</b> Kamille Chan      |
| <b>12</b> Cheryl Franco       | <b>22</b> Judith Mwazo      |



## WISH LIST:

**Children & Youth Program:** small bouncing box cd players, playground balls (boom rubber, athletic), musical instruments. **Dimensions:** Hand Blender, Art supplies, storage boxes **Care Management:** Grocery Vouchers **West Region:** New Computer for vocational **ADHC:** blender



## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

We want to thank everyone who participated in our Social Respite program during the Spring Break. The program was a success and enjoyable for the children who were involved. Thank you Thomas Corona, Nathan Ramey, Shenee Brunston, Janell Lipkin, Christopher Bowman, Ollie Jones, Ray Arranaga, and Jessica Williams for helping make the Spring Break Social Respite program a hit!

Our art therapy program has come to a close this month and the artworks created by our students are spectacular! To showcase these beautiful creations, we will have our **Second Annual Angel Frames Opening on Saturday, July 30 at On Gallery in South Pasadena from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.**

For more information or to help with this project, please contact Michelle Cox at ext. 28.

We welcome new High School Teacher, Maria Espenilla, and Instructional Aides, Darlene Benavidez and Dellyce Ruyamas. Farewell to Instructional Aide in Room 1, Areginae Toney.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Dimensions:

We have some fun field trips coming in May including a trip to Knott's Soak City and to Edwards Movie Theatres. Also, join us at our **Cinco de Mayo Party on the 5th from 11am – 2pm.** Please call ext. 50 for more information.

We welcome client, Miguel Lambrinos to our program as well as new staff, Torri Myles. Farewell to staff, Noemi Kalfayan, who has gone back to the residential program. Thank you for all your hard work!

### Residential:

We had a great time last month at Shakespeare League's performance of Oklahomal and at the Performance Theater hosted by Ability First. **This month our clients will participate in Ability First's Sci-Fi Dance on the 6th.** The event will have many science related activities as well as give us the opportunity to dress up in sci-fi costumes! Also, the Chester House ladies will take a trip to the **L.A. Zoo** this month. Special Olympics practices for the upcoming tournaments will keep most of our clients busy as well as the **Memorial Day Barbeque** at the end of the month.

Have you talked to James Knowles recently? He went camping with his coworkers at R.E.I. to test new camping equipment! Thank you to Mary Louise Jones, Terriane's mother, who donated a television to the Wynn House.

We welcome Norbert Belam to the Villa Apartments. He will be living with Michael Thorn.

### Vocational:

Please join us for our **Spring Picnic at Victory Park** on Friday the 27th from 11am to 1pm!

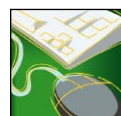
### West Region:

Thank you to ALL our Vocational, Residential and Independent Living Skills staff for their dedication and hard work! Our performance, growth and reputation for quality services in the West Region is due to your teamwork and enthusiasm.

Thank you to Danny Alveraz for your leadership on the water district contract! Thank you also to Jason Kane in Moving Services, Ninay Chan at the Hope Chest and Dan Grabow, our beach supervisor.

We welcome Brett Kalish to the Moving Services crew and farewell to Keith Goodman from our water district crew.

Our ILS program continues to grow with 27 clients shooting to 600 hours potluck! Thanks to all our ILS staff for the



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**Help us save paper!** This newsletter can be sent to your email address by contacting: [acho@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:acho@villaesperanzaservices.org)