



Villa Siena Views

Sponsored by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul

OUR COMMUNITY in action

WINTER • SPRING 2023 - 2024



Live by faith and prayer

Dan Varty, a resident
of Villa Siena

MORE ON PAGE 2

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ISSUE:



A message from the Villa Siena Foundation chair Anne Kearney and from our Executive Director Corine Bernard.

MORE ON PAGE 5



Showcasing awards & accomplishments and the generosity of people.

MORE ON PAGE 6



Our annual Winter Wonderland event in December held at Villa Siena.

MORE ON PAGE 7



On Saturday evening September 9, 2023, Villa Siena hosted "A Night at the Kentucky Derby" the annual fall themed fundraising event. Attended by a crowd of nearly 230, participants enjoyed an evening of delicious food, Horse racing, socializing, and fun games.

MORE ON PAGE 3-4

Live by faith and prayer.

DAN VARTY, A RESIDENT OF VILLA SIENA

Dan Varty was born in April 1936 in Oak Park, Illinois, the eldest of three brothers. His father was in the army during WW II and was transferred to California. His parents decided to stay in California after the war, so Dan grew up in Menlo Park.

After college and the Navy, Dan's life took a remarkable turn when he crossed paths with the love of his life, Libby, in the fall of 1960. Their meeting was no ordinary coincidence but a stroke of fate orchestrated by their mothers' matchmaking magic. This blind date was a success, and they were engaged three months later. They sealed their love in marriage in August of 1961. They shared sixty wonderful years and were blessed with two daughters, Ginger and Barbara, two son-in-laws and four grandchildren who reside near Villa Siena in Mountain View.

They lived in Los Altos for thirty years. Dan was a community college instructor, and Libby was a contract manager at NASA Ames. They were active in their church and volunteered in many service activities. In 2000, they sold their Los Altos home and bought a condo in Cupertino and a cabin in Arnold. After retirement in 2002, they spent most of their days in the mountains and continued to be very involved with their faith and volunteering.

Libby's health began to decline rapidly in 2019, and they decided to move her into a care facility. The warmth and sense of community sold them on Villa Siena, and Libby moved in in February 2020. Dan visited her daily, except for the Covid period when visitation was limited. As time passed, Dan formed meaningful connections with staff and residents and was at peace

with Libby's excellent care. In February of 2022, Libby peacefully passed away, leaving a big hole in Dan's and her family's hearts. She had a strong faith and knew she would be with Jesus and in God's presence, which comforts his entire family to this day.



Approximately fourteen months later, Dan longed for daily companionship. Having formed meaningful relationships at Villa Siena, he decided to sell his condo and move into Villa. In the past year, he has deepened his friendships and become involved in many activities here. He especially likes co-leading a Bible study twice a month and participating in another one. He also works at a local food bank twice a month and gets to his mountain cabin at least once a month. Overall, Dan is very happy here and now considers Villa Siena his home.

Dan's mantra is to live by faith and prayer and follow the path God wants him to follow.



Rusty Weekes currently serves as the CEO of "the Weekes Group," a consulting company that works with nonprofit organizations, helping create strategic plans, improve fundraising results, and enhance customer relations. Before starting with Villa Siena, Rusty had extensive experience in fundraising, sales and service training, marketing, and branding. He served as the Executive Director of the Bronco Bench Foundation at Santa Clara University from 2009-2020, during which time he helped raise over \$40MM. Before working at Santa Clara, Weekes worked for 25 years in the cable television industry as Senior Management's VP of Sales for Viacom, TCI, AT&T, RCN, and Comcast. Rusty created and championed programs like Product Knowledge University, a nationally acclaimed program still used today to teach product knowledge to employees who face customers. He was also the driving force behind providing digital service to cable customers nationwide. His leadership led to the introduction of new internet and cable phone services. While in the 'entertainment industry,' Weekes also wrote, produced, and was the talent for several programs that were seen locally and nationally. The credits include Giants Vision, Major League Soccer, and shows for PPV Boxing. Rusty lives in

San Jose and lists his hobbies as golf, fast cars, entertaining, travel, and volunteering. He enjoys day trips to Pebble Beach and Monterey, vacations to Scotland and Lake Tahoe, time with college buddies and extended family, and especially the time he spends with his children Patrick and Kelly, his grandsons Garrett, Gavin, Dutch and Ace, and the love of his life Kerry Daly.



"A Night at the Kentucky Derby"

As guests arrived at the Kentucky Derby Night, they were welcomed by Sr. Jean Marie Williams, D.C., and our photographer, who captured moments of the attendees as they entered the event.

Our Kentucky Derby Night was a unique experience, with Villa Siena's courtyard transformed into the iconic Church Hill Downs. The event featured a variety of attractions, including the thrilling Derby Cup Pong Game, Horse Racing, an Event Night raffle, a winner's circle display, a Derby Bar, and more.

The crowd savored a delectable prime rib dinner that Fabian and the VS Dietary Staff provided, complemented by delightful appetizers, side dishes, and enticing southern desserts.

Attendees enthusiastically enjoyed DJ/Singer Ken Sosa's singing entertainment and Bill Wylie's lively caricature art. Additionally, they eagerly purchased raffle tickets, all in hopes of winning the grand prize—a luxurious Napa Valley Vacation package.

The success of the Kentucky Derby Night and the funds raised for the Villa Siena Foundation's mission of supporting residents who have outlived their financial resources would not have been possible without the generous contributions of our donors, sponsors, and the dedicated efforts of our volunteers. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the attendees for making this event a tremendous success!

Thank You to our...

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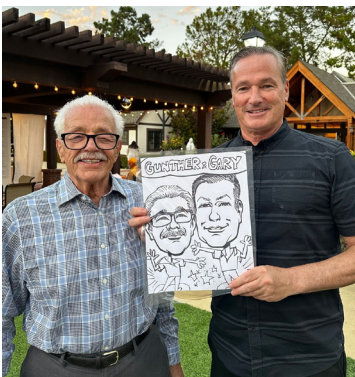
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Claudia Balbuena
Bertha Valdovinos
Marisol Alarcon

VENDORS

Bill Wylie Caricature artist
DJ / Singer Ken Sosa



Thank you to our Villa Siena Foundation Donors



We are truly thankful for all the individuals, businesses, and organizations that support our ongoing mission of the Villa Siena Foundation during 2023. We will remember your generosity in our prayers during the year.

Villa Siena is blessed to have so many people involved in our Mission of serving seniors within our community. We are grateful for the involvement of The Daughters of Charity, our staff and especially our volunteers and supporters who are such a significant part of what we do every day. If it weren't for our supporters, we would not be able to carry out our mission of providing excellent care to those we serve regardless of their financial ability.

On behalf of Villa Siena Thank you!

Corine Bernard
Executive Director
Villa Siena/Villa Siena Foundation

Your generosity and support, especially during these most difficult times, continues to give the residents and their families peace of mind and security, knowing that no matter their financial situation, they will always have a home.

Villa Siena is truly a blessing. Because of you and your altruistic spirit, it will continue to flourish in its ministry of providing physical, emotional, and spiritual nourishment to the residents.

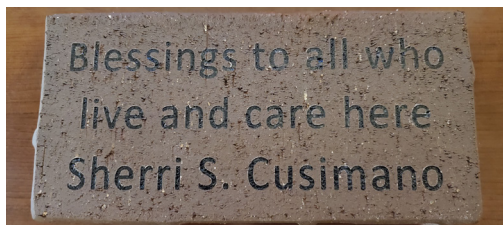
On behalf of the Villa Siena Foundation Board of Directors – Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Anne Kearney
Chair, Villa Siena Foundation Board of Directors

*A complete listing of all our donors is posted on our Villa Siena website at www.villa-siena.org
Members of the Heritage Society and Founders' Circle are also listed on our Donor Wall*

Leave a legacy...

... by sponsoring a memorial brick or a bench in honor or memory of a loved one.



Engraved bricks are beautifully displayed near the fountain next to the St. Louise Chapel. Inscribe the brick with wording of your choice. \$500 per brick.



Benches are located throughout the peaceful grounds and courtyard at Villa Siena. Inscribed bronze plates in honor of your loved one. Costs vary depending on location of the bench.

Sponsorships are tax-deductible and support the Villa Siena Foundation. For more information, please visit our website at www.villa-siena.org or contact Rusty Weekes, Development Director, at 650-318-5802 or Monique Flores, Development Specialist, at (650) 318-5813

Villa Vignettes



THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAY CELEBRATING GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

On Sunday, July 23, 2023, Most Reverend Oscar Cantú, bishop of the Diocese of San Jose, presided at the Eucharist Liturgy in the Chapel of Villa Siena Senior Living Community, Mountain View, in honor of the International Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Villa Siena Residents, Staff, Auxiliary, Daughters of Charity, and some diocesan priests joined him in this Mass. A reception was provided after Mass. This was the second time Bishop Cantú has joined us for this celebration, which we hope will become a tradition.



VOLUNTEERING

This year, the staff of Villa Siena enthusiastically volunteered for two events hosted by the San Jose Sacred Heart Donation Center. They participated in the "Pack a Backpack" event, gathering school supplies and assembling backpacks for children to select from before the start of the school year in August. They also assisted Sacred Heart in distributing Christmas gifts for families. The staff finds great pleasure in giving back to those less fortunate.

DATES FOR OUR 2024 FUNDRAISING EVENTS



Our 13th annual **Bocce Ball Tournament** will take place on **May 13, 2024** at Campo di Bocce in Los Gatos. Go to our website at www.villa-siena.org to register for this event starting in April.

Our Fall Fundraising event theme for 2024 is "**Under The Tuscan Sun.**" Stay tuned for more information.



On December 8th and 9th, 2023, Villa Siena hosted its Winter Wonderland fundraising event. The courtyard underwent a magical transformation with enchanting decorative lights and the presence of 35 Christmas Trees that were sponsored and decorated by different sponsors and residents. Our residents had a delightful time as they gathered with families and friends, creating cherished memories over a delightful spaghetti dinner amidst the festive ambiance. As the evening unfolded, attendees enjoyed sweet treats and warming beverages in our activity room, where the joy of the season was palpable as guests snapped photos with Santa, adding to the magic of the occasion.

All proceeds from this heartwarming fundraiser were directed towards the Villa Siena Foundation's noble mission of supporting residents who have exceeded their financial resources. Gratitude extends to the generous donors, sponsors, tree sponsors, dedicated volunteers, and all attendees for their collective efforts in making this event a resounding success.

Sponsors: Brian & Anne Kearney (Gold), Neal & Sara Callahan, Sharon Udovich, St. Francis High School, AHA Canan Sonuk, Donald Ahlbach

Donations: Louis & Rita Cartalano, Gary & Jennifer Hubback, John Braucher, Diane Regonini, Al & Theresa Casarez, Patricia Humecke, Tom Gaffney, Barbara Kraft & Michael Turay, May Wang, Joan Galli, Nancy Closs, Debra Loomis, Michael & Diane Dilorio

Tree Sponsors: Sharon Udovich, David Beronio, Daughters of Charity, Villa Siena Auxiliary, Anne Chippendale, Patti Knapp, Maureen Kenney, Helen Christenson & Lynn Martuscelli, Michelle Glaser, Anne Kearney, Richard & Shirley Flores, Margaret Price & Mary Ahlbach, Jennifer Astramowicz, Carol Paulson, Neal & Sara Callahan, Barb Scanlon & Dan Varty, A.T. Mike Paioni, Lava Balde, Joan Galli, Anonymous, Melanie Yunk, Diane Rhein, Yvonne Irick, Patricia Humecke, Maria McDonald, Bill & Martha Burns, Beverly Crudo, Accent Care, Tess-Mission College Nursing, Coleen Franzino, Pat Cranston, St. Francis High School



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VILLA SIENA'S VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

OUR VISION:

Inspired by the compassionate healing ministry of Jesus Christ and the mission of the Catholic Church to promote dignity and justice for all people of God, Villa Siena is a values-driven residential and skilled nursing care facility whose administration, employees, and collaborators strive to advance the Mission through idea, influence, and action. As a Daughter of Charity-sponsored ministry, we are faithful to the tradition of service established by our founders, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise De Marillac, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Make a positive difference in the life and human development of individuals and communities.
- Serve seniors' spiritual, physical, social, and emotional needs in a spirit of humility, simplicity, and charity.
- Create an atmosphere of hospitality involvement and concern for our residents, their families, employees, and volunteers.

OUR CORE VALUES:

The Charity of Christ urges us to:

- Respect, quality service, simplicity, advocacy for the poor, and inventiveness to infinity.

Contributing writers, editors, and photographers:

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